



# THE YARDLEIAN

THE YARDLEYS SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

ISSUE NO.5

JULY 2021

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## 'Keep Troth' a message from our headteacher...

**After many months of school closures it is lovely to see our children back in school.**

It has obviously been a challenging time for everyone due to the disruption caused by the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic. Everyone in the school community has had to face immense challenges such as remote working, caring for children, home schooling and exam cancellations as well looking after their health and safety. Teachers and support staff have worked diligently to provide education and learning resources to our pupils throughout this time either in school or remotely. We know that pupils have missed being in school with their teachers and their friends. We are also aware that many families have faced the pressures of both working in key services and industries whilst looking after their children and their families. We would like to say a huge 'Thank you' to everyone for their work and support during this time. Our traditional school motto is 'Keep Troth' which means to keep faith, even when things may be challenging and difficult. It is in this spirit that as a school community we continue to work together, to support each other and to look forward to better times ahead.

**Brynley Evans - June 2021**



## New headteacher..

After 6 years as Headteacher, and 12 years at the school, Mr. Evans is leaving Yardleys at the end of the summer to become the CEO of Penk Valley Academy Trust in Staffordshire. Mr Evans said: "It has been a real honour and privilege to be Headteacher at Yardleys School. It has also been the most enjoyable and professionally fulfilling time in my educational career. Across the whole school community everyone here genuinely believes in

'working together' for the benefit of the children. This spirit of togetherness helps when we are faced with issues such as Covid or when we are all trying to improve an aspect of the school. Thank you to all pupils, staff, governors and everyone associated with the school for their fantastic work and support throughout my time as head. I would like to wish the new Headteacher, Neil Warner, and everyone at the school all my very best and I look forward to hearing about your many future successes.

**'Keep Troth!'**

The new headteacher from September 2021 will be Mr Neil Warner (right) who was previously a senior leader at Yardleys until 2009 before becoming a successful Headteacher and Director of Education within the Arthur Terry Learning Partnership.

Mr Warner stated: "I am truly delighted to have been given the opportunity to lead the school from September 2021 into the next stage of its development. I know I will be joining a committed, hard-working and excellent school and I am extremely looking forward to working alongside you all. It is evident how much pride everyone - staff, students and governors- have for the school." We would like to formally welcome Mr Warner to Yardleys from September and to wish him the very best as our Headteacher.



## Ofsted inspection 2020...

Just prior to the first lockdown in 2020 Yardleys School underwent an Ofsted inspection.

**The inspectors visited lessons, observed social time and spoke to many staff and pupils around the school.**

**We are delighted that the school received a very positive report and Yardleys has retained its 'Outstanding' status. This is testament to our ethos of 'working together' and the hard work of our school staff together with the support of our pupils, parents and the wider community. The full OFSTED report can be read on the school website.**

**Some of the fantastic comments the school received include:**

- "Inspectors observed pupils' excellent behaviour" ● "Pupils' progress over the past three years has been exceptional"
- "All of the (safeguarding) systems scrutinised by inspectors were marked by their completeness, thoroughness and attention to detail"
- "Expectations of behaviour are extremely high and cover pupils' behaviour both in and out of school"
- "Pupils' attendance is above the national average" ● "Conversations between staff and pupils are warm and frequent"
- "Pupils know that they are cared for" ● "A ban on mobile phones in school has led to more conversation between pupils and far less distraction." ● "Governors play an active role in the leadership of safeguarding"

# staffing UPDATE



At the end of the last academic year (2019-20) Yardleys said farewell to Jill Wilson, who has retired as Business Manager after 14 years. We are deeply grateful to Jill for all of her wonderful work organising many aspects of the school behind the scenes. We are pleased that Jill will continue to support the school as an independent consultant. Two other members of staff, Nozmul Kobir and Tamanna Abdul-Karim have left to take up posts in other schools. This academic year (2020-21) also sees the departure of the following colleagues. Amrik Kaur Tur has retired after over thirty years of service as a science technician. Natalie Clarke, Head of Drama for 16 years, is taking up a new post at Queensbridge School. Ms Kondrat is leaving the science department to take up a new post in Oxfordshire. We would like to thank all those leaving for all their dedication and work at Yardleys over many years and we wish them well for the future.

The following appointments have been made since the last edition of the Yardleian was published. Ms Asghar has joined Yardleys as a Science teacher from September 2020; Gemma Webb became the new Business Manager and a member of the school leadership team; Ms Shan and Mr O'Brien have been appointed the Head of Biology and acting Head of Faculty respectively in science; Ms Ghafoor and Ms Stimpson have been appointed Curriculum Coordinator and Lead Teacher respectively in English; Ms Stringer appointed as Head of Personal Development (PD). We would also like to welcome the following members of staff for September 2021; Ms Duncan and Ms Behreen in English; Ms Hussain and Mr Bakewell in science.

## School governors

The school governors role is to provide overall strategic direction to the school, ensure good financial management and to hold the Headteacher and school leaders to account for the safety and education of pupils. There have been some changes to governance over the last year. Emma Arnott who has served as governor for four years and has been chair this year, is finishing her time with Yardleys. We would like to thank her for all her work and support particularly during this difficult year and for her work with the recruitment of a new headteacher. The school has also welcomed two new governors this year: Robert Johnson, who was Head of Year at Yardleys School for many years and Nicola Cutler, who is a senior leader at a special school. Ms Cutler will be working alongside Gary Neal to support special educational needs provision in the school in their role as link governors. We are also pleased to announce that Adill Hadi has become the school's safeguarding link governor, liaising regularly with our safeguarding lead teachers - Mr Basra and Mr Lawrence. Gemma Webb has been promoted to the position of Company Secretary as part of the governance of Yardleys as an academy trust. In terms of the overall governance structure, a new audit and risk committee has been formed to check any potential risks to the smooth running of the school. All governors remain committed to improving the achievements and life chances of all pupils as well as the continued overall development of Yardleys School.

## Public exams and year 11 leavers

The last two years has seen the cancellation of all public exams due to Covid. As a result our teachers, and in particular the heads of each subject, have worked impressively, often at short notice, to establish a new system of teacher assessment based on continuous pupil work in mock exams, lessons and tests. The last two heads of year 11 - Mr Buckley and Mr Tilley - together with their respective teams of form tutors have also supported their cohorts well during these challenging times. We would also like to thank the year 11s who have worked diligently throughout the process and we wish them 'good luck' with both their final GCSE grades and the next stage in their education.

## Local MP, Jess Phillips visit

Following the tragic murder of Sarah Everard in London this year, pupils in year 9 have been discussing issues around sexual harassment and the safety of girls and women. In June both boys and girls presented their thoughts and an action plan to our local MP, Jess Phillips, who is also the Shadow Minister for Domestic Violence. Jess also looked at similar work that had been done in English writing lessons and discussed this with some year 10 pupils. This work complements lessons about similar issues that pupils study through our Personal Development (PD) course. We would like to thank Jess Phillips for visiting and speaking so engagingly with our pupils. Also our thanks go to the Head of Year 9, Mr Lawrence, for organising the event and for the support provided by Ms Stringer, Ms Stimpson and Ms Yates.



## Knife arch

As part of our personal development curriculum our school link police officers, alongside Stechford Police Neighbourhood Team, attended Yardleys School and conducted a proactive weapons search using a metal detecting 'knife arch'. This was a proactive initiative to highlight the dangers of carrying weapons and the fact that knives or any other weapons have no place in our communities. No weapons of any description were found but the school is never complacent when it comes to being vigilant and educating pupils around such issues of safety for our young people both inside and outside of school.



## IT & audio-visual developments

The school has been able to move ahead with the final stage of its current IT development plan, which will mean that by September all desktop computers across the school will have been upgraded to Windows 10, bringing improved performance and updated security. There are also upgrades planned to audio-visual equipment including the installation of new projectors and interactive whiteboards in several classrooms. A number of new visualisers were also purchased over lockdown for teachers to use at home when recording lessons and for live teaching. These are now being deployed in school to upgrade the older visualisers that are in classrooms as they are of higher definition, and are used extensively by teachers to model work onto a screen for pupils to see and learn from.





## Library news

After being closed all year due to the maintenance of year 'bubbles' Yardleys' Library will hopefully re-open in September and welcome back our students. We also look forward to greeting the new year 7s coming to Yardleys. Exciting things have been happening in the Library and we can't wait for you to see it! We have a host of new books, new shelving and a new user friendly layout. Our library now has a wonderful range of over 12,000 resources which include fiction, non-fiction and graphic novels. Readers of all levels are catered for from the reluctant to the passionate. Advice is on hand to guide, inspire and motivate our students with their reading choices. Our stock is regularly updated and features a wide range of contemporary and classic books, popular authors, prize winning texts and debut novelists. We will also welcome back our wonderful library monitors who look after the library so proudly and diligently.

## Geography fieldwork

In June the Geography fieldwork programme restarted with a year 10 visit to Carding Mill Valley in Church Stretton, Shropshire. On a day of fine weather pupils explored the picturesque valley whilst learning about river systems and associated landscape features. They also carried out fieldwork such as finding the gradient of the river with a clinometer. Pupils commented that they enjoyed the "the nice scenery and going in the river". Other pupils stated that they enjoyed the "different view outside Birmingham" as well as "working with people they don't normally work with." As usual the sheep also featured in pupils' feedback with several saying they enjoyed feeding or being "chased by sheep". However one pupil found "trying to get away from the sheep challenging"! Representatives of the National Trust and members of the public were once again highly complimentary about the positive learning attitudes, manners and behaviour of our pupils. Well done to all! Thanks again goes to Mr Porter and his geography team for organising the trip and to all the other staff who supported. We look forward to hearing from the next fieldwork days that are planned.

## Teacher training

Once again we have had teacher trainees from our partners, the King Edward's Consortium. Sophie Duncan (English) and George Smith (Geography) have been undertaking their teaching placements with us for the vast majority of this year. Sophie is joining us as an English teacher in July and George will be starting at Aldridge School. We wish them all the very best as they embark on their teaching careers.

As well as helping to train new teachers we also have an extensive programme of support and development for all teachers at Yardleys. From September this will include a new two year early career framework which the government has introduced in schools. As well as the extensive training we provide to new teachers we will be working with our local training school – Ark St Albans - with this work. Another key part of training for our teachers is the weekly after-school sessions on Thursday which is mostly given over for subject teams to work together to develop the planning of their curriculum. During Covid another important strand for staff training has been the use of online webinars and online conferences rather than attending in person. Finally another key component of our training is teachers reading widely around their subjects as well as finding out about the latest educational research and evidence based practice. To support this the school has invested in the purchase and set up of a new training library.

## Assessment - optical mark recognition (OMR)

In our ongoing quest for improvements in teaching and learning, as well as in the interests of increased efficiency and reducing teacher workload, we have implemented a new method of assessment into our day to day practice. We have installed an optical mark recognition system (OMR) which automatically marks multiple choice tests. This allows teachers to receive instant feedback on pupils' knowledge and understanding for a particular topic or subject. This has proved highly effective both in lessons but also as part of more formal tests and exams such as in our whole school assessment weeks in December and July.

## Music

At Yardleys pupils normally participate in practical singing lessons as a key part of their music curriculum. Over the last year pupils have, instead, studied various theoretical topics in music. For example they have looked at: different musical genres; the history of music from the prehistoric times to the modern period; world music; music technology and careers in music.

*Pictured right: A stone age flute.*



**Yardleys  
School**  
WORKING TOGETHER FOR A BETTER FUTURE



# homework quizzes

## Frogplay world championships

Yardleys School has been recognised for its outstanding adaptation of FrogPlay to deliver homework quizzes to help pupil learning. The school won first place in the UK School and Student Winners categories. The school was awarded third place in the World School Winners category as one of three schools with the most points gained across the World Leaderboard. This year, Yardleys pupils have already accumulated an impressive 2400 hours of learning and are doing more than any other school in the country. This regular checking of knowledge in each subject helps to prepare pupils for the exams that lie ahead and to remember the core information they need to know. Congratulations to everyone – staff and pupils for all their work in making our homework programme such a success.



## Remote learning and 'catch up'

Our online homework and developing the VLE has improved the learning experience for pupils during lockdowns. For example, pupils have been able to access weekly homework quizzes, recorded lessons and additional resources produced by the school and organisations such as the Oak Academy or the BBC. Yardleys has also started to utilise Clickview to enable staff to share fantastic educational film clips and programmes.

To support 'catch up' from lost learning over the last year the school has provided all pupils with free revision books in English, Maths and Science to be used at home. During the summer term 2021 we are trialling using tutors from the government's National Tutoring programme as well as some of our own teachers providing out of hours tuition. Form Tutors are also supporting 'catch up' and learning recovery now pupils are back in school by providing extra sessions on subjects such as maths and science. We have also used both internal tests and exams as well as those provided by external companies such as GL Tests to assess exactly where children are in their learning so we can better plan and support them in lessons.

## Maths number day

This year our KS3 pupils took part in the NSPCC Number Day and managed to raise £69.08. Students made Number Day posters to celebrate Maths Day and to raise awareness of child abuse with the best posters being awarded prizes. Well done to all who participated and congratulations to the winners.

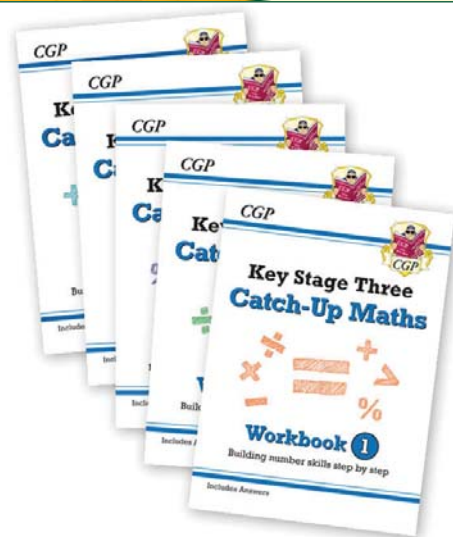


## Yardleys summer school 2020

In 2020 Yardleys organised and facilitated a successful Summer School. All pupils were offered at least one session in school, with many Year 9 and 10 pupils attending multiple sessions in English, Mathematics, Science, History, Geography, Computing, PE, Drama, Media Studies, Religious Education and Art. As always it was great to see children back in school and restarting their studies after so much disruption earlier in the year. Thank you to staff and teachers who volunteered their time over the summer to make this happen. Unfortunately, given the ongoing issues around Covid including the recent increases in infection rates, we are unable to offer face to face summer school provision this year.

## Roof repairs

Visitors, staff and pupils will inevitably have seen the scaffolding surrounding parts of the school in recent months. This is an ongoing project to repair and refurbish the school roof particularly over the main hall and sports facilities. We are aiming for this vital work to be completed by September ready for the new academic year.



## Key Stage Three Catch-Up Maths

# our new neighbours..

## The Olive Primary School

Our new neighbours the Olive Primary School, which is part of the Star Multi Academy Trust, opened their doors to pupils after Easter this year. We have worked with the school to help with managing our different arrival and departure times and we look forward to supporting and working with the school in the future. During the recent Eid festivities this year the Olive School sent over some of their lovely children with a wonderful gift for us. Many thanks again to Olive School staff and children and welcome to the local area!





## Mathematics competition

Recently Farhaan Ahmed took part in World Maths Day and, as a result of his fantastic efforts, he has qualified for the World Maths Day Champions Challenge – a celebration of our top World Maths Day mathletes. The event is an exciting addition to World Maths Day. The event sees the Top 32 students from the regional Year 9+ age group entered into a knockout tournament that is live streamed on Twitch. It is a fantastic way to celebrate and highlight the students' achievement and the first time that top students have the opportunity to directly challenge each other.

In addition, 15 of our pupils achieved a bronze certificate in Mathletics competition and received bronze badges. Well done to all pupils involved.

The pupils are named on the right.

- Imaad ALI
- Ismail ALI
- Zahid ELBOSHRA
- Abdul KHAN BEGUM
- Alisha NAZAKAT
- Zahed ALI
- Daanish CHOUDHRY
- Raabiah BASRI
- Khalil KADER
- Isha MAJJID
- Abdur RAHMAN
- Eliza SAJAD
- Muhammad RAYHAN



## Yardleys virtual open event

In the autumn the school organised a virtual open event on the school VLE/website. Prospective pupils and their parents had the opportunity to see some of the excellent features at Yardleys School including our twin aims of teaching both academic excellence and personal development. Some of the details and highlights of the event included: a welcome message from Mr Tilley, as the next Head of Year 7; some of our pupils describing their experiences of Yardleys School; the many enrichment opportunities that are available at Yardleys; different subjects from the academic curriculum and details of our excellent exam results.



## new prefects



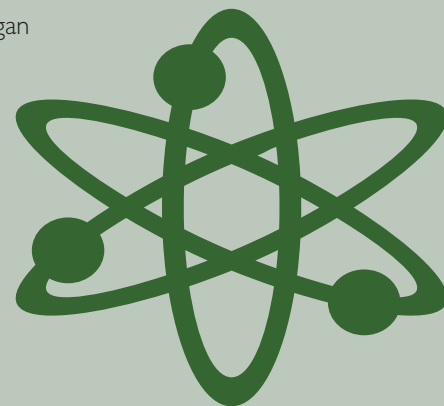
Following applications and interviews we would like to congratulate the following year 10 pupils who have been appointed as school prefects for 2021-22. We look forward to seeing you demonstrating and embodying the school values around the school and in the wider community.

Rafhay Muhammad	10BDJ	Om Patel	10BDJ
Imaan Mazar	10BDJ	Samuel Ali Chodhury	10BDJ
Moiz Hussain	10BYA	Rehan Anwar	10BYA
Usman Hussain	10BYA	Zoya Ali	10BYA
Malaika Javed	10BYA	Laiba Zafar	10BYA
Huzair Islam	10CAJ	Jake Ali	10CAJ
Amina Younis	10CAJ	Toni Tighe	10CAJ
Riam Hassan	10CAJ	Zahida Choudhury	10CAJ
Dina Al-Bulushi	10CAJ	Dorcas Adeyemo	10CNG
Abu Bakr Faqeer	10CNG	Eesa Iffran	10CNG
Leshaye Farrelly-Morgan	10BYA	Usman Safi	10DNJ
Sohaib Iqbal	10DNJ	Haroon Ahmed	10DNJ
Aeysha Yusuf	10DNJ	Huma Mahmood	10DNJ
Vanisha Parmar	10GNM	Kyle Nelson	10GNM
Mariam Zahi	10GNM	Eva Chowdhury	10GNM
Ismail Wajid	10CNG	Sanaa Bi	10CNG
Shunel Ali	10GNM	Amna Hussain	10GNM
Rumaisa Hussain	10GNM	Eishah Maroof	10WER
Subhan Sheikh Muhamma	10GNM	Suleman Safi	10WER
Ikhlaas Sharif	10WER	Ameerun Ahmed	10ZKO
Jamil Ali	10WER	Zainub Hussain	10ZKO
Adam Hussain	10ZKO	Amirah Amin	10CAJ
Elena Gherghisan	10ZKO	Alicia Clements	10CNG
Isra Abbas	10CNG		

## Summer term science awards

This year at Yardleys school, the science faculty has been presenting science awards to hard working and diligent KS3 and KS4 students. The awards are presented each half term and there are winners for scientists at key stage 3 and for each of the three sciences at GCSE which all our pupils study. Congratulations to the pupils that have worked extremely well last half-term and have made their return to school a real success with their eagerness and dedication!

- Esah Hussain (8CEN)
- Sakina Hussain (9SRE)
- Aleenah Khaliq (9SNN)
- Anoosha Nadeem (9SNN)
- Afia Muhammad Begum (8PRJ)
- Leshaye Farrelly-Morgan (10BYA)
- Muhamaad Ismaeel (8CET)
- Isra Abbas (10CNG)
- Fatima Begum (8RXE)



THE  
YARDLEIAN



# sports NEWS

Congratulations to the U13, U14 and U15 indoor cricket teams for making the Birmingham Finals that were to be held at Warwickshire Cricket Club. Unfortunately teams could not attend the finals that they have dominated for the last four years. The U14 rugby team also finished last season undefeated and established themselves as the team to beat. The U13 team continued to develop and recorded their first victory before the school closure. The U15 girls' basketball team reached the Schools Finals and were favourites to come home with the silverware. The U13 girls' basketball team has shown the greatest progress of all teams at Yardleys and were due to play in the finals.

In boys' basketball the U13 and U14 teams reached the Junior NBA playoffs. Again because of Covid many of these competitions could not be completed but we are all eager for a resumption of sporting fixtures in 2021-22. We are also looking forward to the school Sports Day which, due to Covid restrictions, will be held in year groups on the school field in July 2021. The PE team are also working hard to further improve their own skills and expertise in teaching and coaching pupils by attending teacher training sessions such as that provided by Warwickshire Cricket Club recently.



Warwickshire  
County Cricket Club

# careers education

Yardleys School continues to develop its careers provision in line with the national standards known as the Gatsby Benchmarks. Good networking has enabled the school to develop excellent working relationships with some major local and national employers including HSBC, HS2, and PWC. Collaborative work with local colleges has always been a strength in school and the spring term of 2020 was no exception, with Year 10 and Year 11 SEND pupils participating in 'taster days' at two local colleges. Many additional careers-related events were added to the Careers Programme for 2019/20 but were cancelled due to Covid-19. As a result, the school has moved to holding virtual careers events to support our pupils. For example we would like to thank Edmund Grandison and John Thacker for their recent presentation to year 9 pupils on the many different job roles and career opportunities roles that can be found within the Royal Navy.



## Year 11 leavers' destinations

Well done to the 2020 Year 11 leavers, particularly the 98% continuing their studies at a local college or school sixth form. Progression to the next standard was again very good with 66% of total leavers progressing to a Level 3 course. This year, post-16 destinations saw a 33% increase in the number of pupils studying a course related to STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths) with a third of these being girls.



## careers in engineering

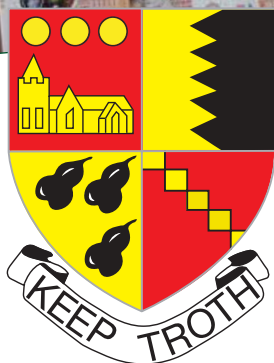
In November, 23 Year 11 pupils attended a virtual presentation on career opportunities in engineering. The presentation was delivered by Adam Tipper, the Managing Director of Next Gen Makers, a local organisation whose mission is to inspire young people to join the engineering sector in the West Midlands. During the webinar pupils learnt about the types of engineering, the pathways available through college/university and listened to apprentices. The presentation looked to address stereotyping of what an engineer looks like, with several girls talking about their jobs and opportunities they had in their careers. At the start, many pupils had little or no interest in a career in engineering; however, after listening to a very informative and inspirational presentation, many changed their minds.





# speakers for school...

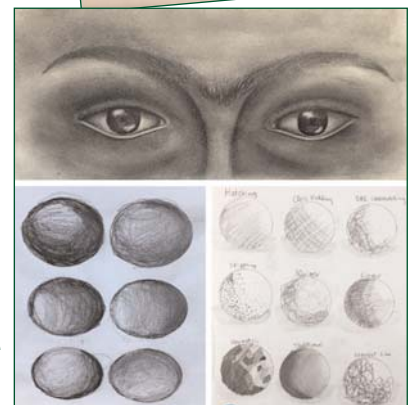
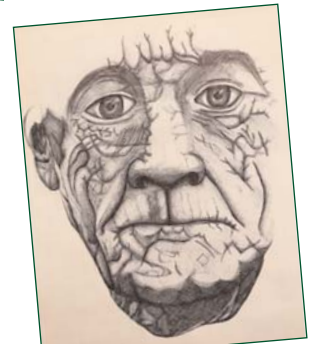
The Year 7 cohort had the opportunity to attend a virtual careers presentation from an employer about the world of work which encouraged them to think about their own careers. The Speaker was Victoria Cleland, Executive Director of Banking, Payments and Innovation for the Bank of England. Ms Cleland talked to students about the history of bank notes and the fact that there are currently 6 x denominations of bank notes in existence: £5, £10, £20, £50 – these are the notes that we are all probably familiar with, plus there are in fact two more which only exist in very small numbers. The £1M (one million pounds) bank note otherwise known as a 'giant' and a £100M (one hundred million pounds) bank note otherwise known as a 'titan'. Students also learnt that the Bank of England is the second largest keeper of gold in the world holding gold worth over £200,000M (two hundred million pounds) second only to the New York Federal Reserve Bank. The Speaker went on to tell the Year group about her own career journey including what she had done at university, and what made her decide to work for the Bank of England. She discussed work/life balance and how it was important to enjoy the job that you are doing. The event finished with an opportunity for students from each Form to ask the Speaker a question. They asked some extremely good questions and have since been complimented by the Speaker, Victoria Cleland on the quality and variety of the questions that they asked. Thank you to Ms Price for organising and of course to Ms Cleland for speaking to our pupils.



BANK OF ENGLAND

# art & design

This is a selection of some of the work from year 11 as well as some of our current pupils. Well done to all the pupils that are represented here and around the school as well as those working so hard on their artistic skills in lessons and at home. Thank you to the art department for all their work in teaching, supporting and inspiring the pupils in developing their creativity and artistic skills.



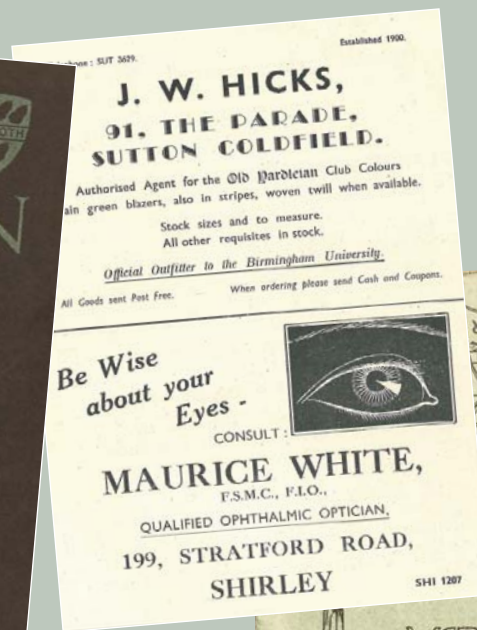
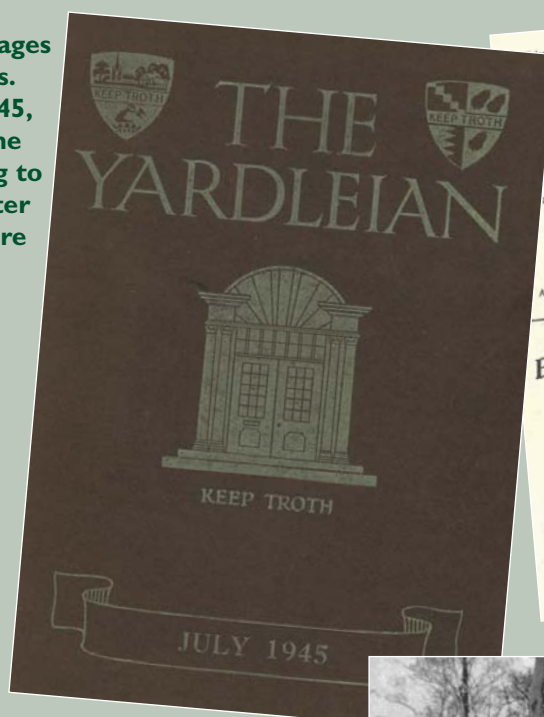
Due to Covid restrictions, students across all year groups have been developing their artistic skills using dry media. These pictures show some of the work completed by year 7-11 pupils in Art and Design lessons at Yardleys School.

# from the YARDLEIAN archives...

Each edition of our Yardleian newsletter will feature some pages and stories from previous years. This edition focuses on July, 1945, 76 years ago, at a time when the Second World War was coming to an end. This is also the time after the Education Act of 1944 where all schools, including Yardleys, began to be funded publicly and open to all children.

## Spam Poem By WP - Form Vb

They call it Spam!  
It tastes like camel,  
It looks like ham –  
They call it Spam;  
It's from Uncle Sam;  
I'm sure it's no mammal.  
They call it Spam,  
It tastes like camel.



## Rugby, 1944-5

The results of this year's ruggar season were not at all in Yardley's favour. All three teams played well throughout the season, and on no account can anyone say that they lacked enthusiasm on the field. This fact was proved in the last game of the season for, after a run of heavy losses, the 1st XV won a very exciting match against Moseley. For this occasion the whole school turned out to watch the match, but I regret to announce not of their own freewill but because they were given the afternoon off to do so.

## A request to Old Yardleians – Textbooks

The school is short of certain textbooks, which the booksellers cannot supply. The Head Master would be glad to receive, either by gift or by purchase, at second hand prices, from former pupils. The books which we most need are: Comparative Atlas; School Bible; French Dictionary; English Dictionary; School Hymn Book; School Certificate Trigonometry – Part I and Elementary Chemistry.

## Our School Ships

### M.S. Panama and M.V. Hindustan

All news of our ships is clouded by the loss of M.S. Panama just before V-E Day. There was only five survivors. Both Captain Fredericksen and Mr Hansen lost their lives. No details have yet been received as to the cause of the disaster. It is barely a year (July 24th, 1944) since the school enjoyed a visit from Captain Fredericksen and Mr Hansen. Mr Hansen was already well known to pupils by his numerous interesting letters. It was good to meet him in person, and the sturdy, jovial, little Captain soon won the hearts of the pupils. It has been a privilege to have known such men, who could have taken the safer and easier course of keeping out of the war by sailing to a neutral port when Denmark fell. Instead, they deliberately chose the dangerous way and served with our Merchant Navy until they gave their lives in serving others. Our sympathy goes out to their wives and families.



## Youth Hostel Association

"Youth Hostelling" is growing in increasing popularity at Yardley. In 1943 we had about a dozen members; This year we have 65. Of these I was surprised to find 42 are girls (Will Yardley's Youth Hostellers one day be ruled by these Amazons?) Wilderhope Manor Youth Hostel is a relic of the days that are gone. Even the nail studded door creaked and groaned as though it had not been opened for a couple of centuries. After supper we went outside and discovered somewhat to our surprise, a sheep that was so tame that it undid someone's bootlace.

