



Edition No. 69

# WORKS

Wisdom - Optimism - Resilience - Kindness - Service

February 2022

THE MINSTER SCHOOL  
SWITHWELL

"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as though you were working for the Lord."  
**Colossians 3.23.**



# INTRODUCTION



Happy New Year and welcome to the first edition of our newsletter of 2022. As we move through the Spring term at what feels like high-speed, New Year feels a long time ago. So much has happened this term already, with some external exams and mocks for Year 13 in January, our fantastic school production of Les Miserables performing this week, school trips to Beth Shalom, The Yorkshire Sculpture Park and Geography field trips as well as the usual busy-ness of high-quality learning and teaching happening every day. Since joining the Minster school in September I have been really impressed by the wealth of activities that take place, both inside the classroom and extra-curricular, providing our students with a great breadth of opportunities and enrichment. Hopefully over the next few weeks and months as restrictions continue to be eased, we can return to greater normalcy and look forward to the continuation of these activities and many more besides.

**Claire Mazurkiewicz**  
Assistant Headteacher

---

## UPCOMING KEY DATES

**Covid Vaccinations (Age 12-15)** - Wednesday 9th February 2022

**Year 9 Parents' Evening (Virtual)** - Thursday 10th February 2022

**Inset Day** - Friday 11th February 2022

**School Holidays** - Monday 14th to Friday 18th February 2022

**International Language Day** - Monday 21st February 2022

**Year 10 Ten X Challenge** - Tuesday 22nd and Wednesday 23rd February 2022

**Year 12 Parents' Evening (Virtual)** - Monday 28th February 2022

**Year 7 Parents' Evening (Virtual)** - Thursday 10th March 2022

# YEAR 8 LANGUAGES DAY

On 14th January Year 8 participated in the Y8 Languages Day, an exciting event where they could learn more about languages. Students were working in small groups and at first they had to choose a multilingual team name. Well done to the 'Konnichi-Warriors' and to 'Sabemos todos las idiomas' (Spanish for We know all languages) who won the award for best team names. Students then completed the big Minster languages quiz as a warm up. Round 1 was on general facts about languages and in round 2 they had to match greetings in foreign languages with the correct language. Next up was

the language detectives activity where students were given the same sentence in 8 different languages and had to work out what the different components meant. Well done to the teams 'Hund und Katze' (Poppy, Natasha, Evie, Oscar, Jack and George) who scored most points across these activities in the CR half and well done to 'Comme si comme ça' (Corey, Jude, Alex, Lily, Harriet and Will) who won in the TW half.

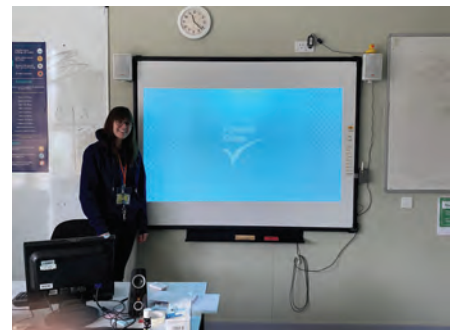
The main part of the day was to learn an exotic language themselves. Students could choose on their table from a list of languages including Japanese, Russian, Arabic, Korean and Greek and then had to research how to say a list of basic phrases in that language and teach those phrases to each other. After learning the phrases, they were then paired up with another table and had to teach them their newly learnt language.

Our students engaged really well in all the different activities and made the language department proud. There was a real buzz about languages in the hall and students went home knowing that they are not limited by the languages we offer at school but that they can learn any language they want. A big thank you also goes to our Y12 super linguists who helped out on the day.



# YEAR 11 CAREERS SEMINARS

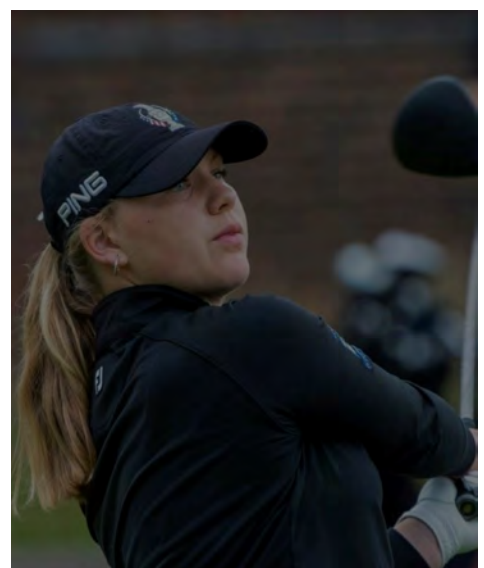
During the spring term our year 11 students have been benefitting from the expertise of various professionals and organisations coming into school to deliver careers seminars in their chosen fields. So far we've run seminars on a number of career paths including the police force, biomedical science and product development as well as different pathways including college, university and apprenticeships. The students are finding these seminars really informative and have come up with some fantastic questions for our professionals.



---

## MADDIE & LIZZIE - ENGLAND GOLF SQUAD

A huge congratulations to 2 of our students who continue to have great golfing successes. Maddie (Year 12) and Lizzie (Year 9) have both shown their talent and commitment over the course of the season. Maddie finished 12th out of 107 in the order of Merit which is a fantastic achievement and both students are now part of the England Golf Squad. Well done.

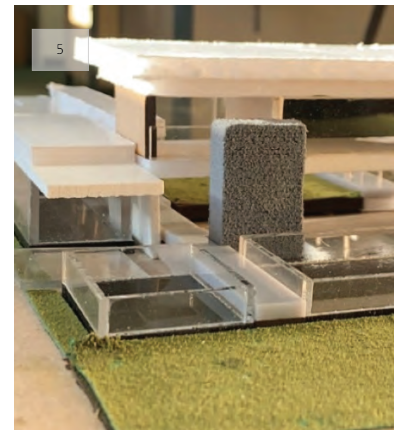
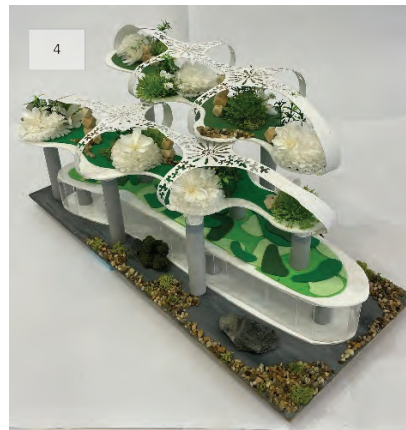
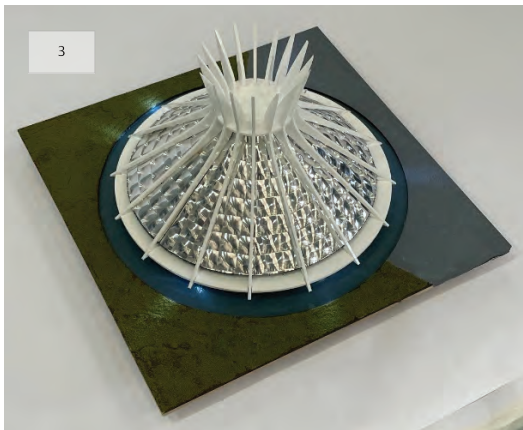




# YEAR 12 ARCHITECTURE MODELLING

Our year 12 Design & Technology students were set a challenge to model an existing piece of architecture to test their model making skills as part of their skill development. Six fantastic architectural models were produced this year.

1. Oliver – Falling Water 1:150
2. Joe – The Royal Atlantis 1:150
3. Ellie – Cathedral of Brasilia 1:200
4. Elizabeth – The Solar Tree Marketplace 1:500
5. Daniel – The Chenglu Villa 1:150
6. Barney - The MO Residence 1:100





# YEAR 10 LANGUAGE LEGENDS



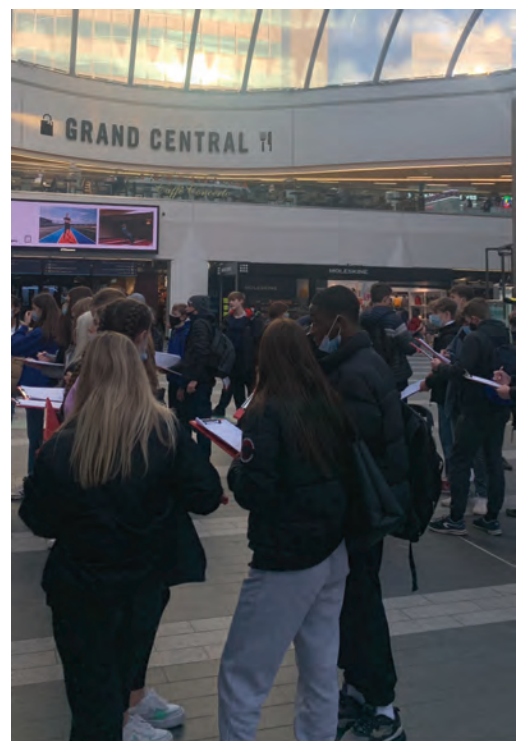
## LA CHANDELEUR

To celebrate the French festival of La Chandeleur, our Minster Y8 and 9 French club assembled to make crêpes ! It was a huge success, with students making and eating their own crêpes. Miam miam !



# YEAR 10 GEOGRAPHY TRIP

In January, the Geography Department had the delight of taking The Minster Students on their first fieldtrip in two years! Year 10 Geographers went to explore the impacts of urban regeneration in Birmingham and completed a range of fieldwork methods in preparation for their OCR GCSE exam in 2023. Students enjoyed completing perception surveys in Brindley Place and The Mailbox, which supported their understanding of the changing land use around the canal. A true highlight was the data collection at the Bullring Shopping Centre, where the students were able to explore and sample the economic changes that have evolved throughout the city. The students were a true delight to accompany and we were really proud of their efforts and positivity! Mrs Summers.



---

# LOWES WONG MUSIC

On 20th January, 6 Year 10 students travelled to Lowes Wong Primary School to perform a programme of music to Yr3 children. Our students appreciated the opportunity to perform to an audience and the primary students loved seeing some friendly faces enjoying playing music!

The performers were: Esme, Ruairi, Luke, Sammy, Lawrence, Maggie.





# REGIONAL INDOOR ATHLETICS

Congratulations to our year 7 and 8 students who competed in the regional indoor athletics competition this week. Not only were there some outstanding performances, but every student showed respect, compassion and kindness to others. Mr Greaves and Mrs Gratton were very proud. Both year 7 girls and boys teams have qualified for the County finals - well done to all involved.



---

## YEAR 8 FOOTBALL SUCCESS

A fantastic 5-1 win for the Year 8 Football Team against East Leake Academy in the quarter finals of the County Cup! Well done boys!





# Y12 REDBRIDGE GROUP VISIT TO OXFORD UNIVERSITY

On Wednesday 2nd February 37 Y12 students visited Oxford University as part of our Redbridge Group work. This was a fabulous opportunity which has left our students feeling well informed and inspired to explore their subjects beyond their specifications. The very early start didn't dampen the students enthusiasm and eagerness to learn as they fully immersed themselves in the admissions and interview workshops. They also had the opportunity to ask current Oxford students questions and enjoyed tours of Magdalen and St Edmund Hall Colleges. A particular highlight of the day was meeting our tour guide, Eve McMullen, who is a Minster alumna and now works as an Outreach Officer for Oxford University after graduating from there last year.





