

## Friday 10th November



### Welcome to this week's newsletter!

Today, the academy marked Remembrance Day with a 2 minute silence. We were very proud of the respect that our entire community showed. Assemblies for all year groups have also been on this topic.

### Non-Uniform Day

Own clothes were the order of the day today as we collected in sweet treats to support fundraising at our Christmas Fayre. Thank you to all of our families who have donated, we collected in an amazing 546 items! For the students that forgot to bring them in today, don't worry as form tutors will be collecting them in again on Monday. The goodies will be the prizes in our chocolate tombola next weekend at the Christmas Market.



### A Visit to the Academy

This week, we welcomed Julius Weinberg to the academy for the first time. Mr Weinberg has recently taken on the role of Chair of the Board of Trustees at Ormiston Academies Trust and is currently enjoying getting to know all of the different academies across the country. As part of his visit, Mr Weinberg had a tour of the site, spent time with senior leaders, popped into a few lessons and spoke to representatives from years 7 – 10. Thank you to everyone who took part – Mr Weinberg really enjoyed finding out more about Flegg.



# Christmas Market Sat 18<sup>th</sup> & Sun 19<sup>th</sup> Nov

We are fast approaching one of our favourite events of the year, the Flegg Event Team Christmas Market. The Event Team have been busy organising the 2 day event that will take place on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> November 10am-4pm.

## Parent and student volunteers needed

The Event Team need student and parent volunteers to help run the various stalls during the weekend. If you are able to volunteer for any amount of time whether it be an hour or a day, please contact Mrs Spooner on 01493 749207 or email [dspooner@fleggoa.co.uk](mailto:dspooner@fleggoa.co.uk). Student permission forms can be collected from the main reception or Mrs Spooners office.

## Flegg's Secret Santa Shop

Tickets are on sale now for our Secret Santa Shop that will only be accessible by students and children at the Christmas Market. Inside the shop, volunteers will be on hand to help students choose and wrap a Christmas present for their parent, grandparent, brother, sister or family member. Students can purchase a from the Event Team who will outside Mrs Spooners office every day next week. Tickets cost £2 each. (picture shows a small selection of the items available)



## Year 9 Principal's Breakfast

Well done to our top HEART points scorers in year 9 who joined me for breakfast this morning.



## Golden Tickets



This week saw the start of our golden tickets. Every lesson, one student wins a golden ticket for displaying a great attitude to learning. We have a few students who have collected more than one ticket this week – here are our top ticket holders with 3 tickets each. Well done to Lexi Stocker, Natasha Turner, Oliver Moore, Lacey Ede and Naomi Anderson.

## Year 11

Our year 11 students continue to make us very proud with the way they are handling the mock exams. They are a fantastic example to the younger students.

## Attendance Corner

Winners of 100% attendance for week beginning 30<sup>th</sup> October are:

|                  |       |
|------------------|-------|
| Taylor, Grace    | 7DHA  |
| Carroll, Indie   | 8LDA  |
| Boon, Dulcie     | 9RPO  |
| Sriharan, Saksha | 10NHA |
| Skoyles, Alfie   | 11MHO |

A very special mention also goes to 11SSA. Mr Sandall's form achieved 100% attendance last week! Well done!

## Student Voice

Congratulations to Noah Achenbach and Evie Savage who have been voted in as the Flegg representatives for Key stages 3 and 4 on the OAT regional student voice panel. We know that both Noah and Evie will be excellent ambassadors for our academy and look forward to hearing about how the projects they will be involved in. This was a democratic vote with students stating who their preferred candidates were. Well done to everyone who put their names forward.



## PSHE

This week students are studying:

Year 7 - Keeping good friendships and avoiding toxic ones.

Year 8 - Love and relationships – Falling in love and dealing with new feelings.

Year 9 - What are the short and long-term consequences of excess alcohol drinking?

Year 10 - What is body positivity and why is this controversial?

## Music Opportunity

Would your child like to come and sing some Christmas carols and songs at the Christmas Fayre? This event is only open to students in year 7, year 8 and year 9 and, as we will be singing very well-known songs, no previous performance experience is needed.

DATE: Saturday 18th November at school

TIME: 11.00am to 11.30am

REHEARSAL: Wednesday 15th November, period 4 in room 29

If your child would like to take part in this event, then please email [fsexton@fleggoa.co.uk](mailto:fsexton@fleggoa.co.uk). Alternatively, your child can pick up a letter from Mrs Sexton or Dr Butler.

## Short Story competition

Congratulations to all students who entered the short story competition, especially our winner, Arden Woods in year 9 who wrote this fabulous piece linked to the image in the picture below. All students who entered will be receiving HEART points and year group winners will be announced in assemblies next week.



### **Mr Linden's Library**

*I warned her about the book.*

*I cannot say that I've achieved much, or done much good in my life, but I can die guilt free in at least this regard. I warned her as she came up to my desk, an almost startling eagerness brightening her eyes. She smiled and shook her head politely, insisting that it wouldn't come to that, of course not. It did, of course. I warned her again after she'd stared at its pages for hours, unmoving and unblinking, for the first time. Once more, she smiled and shook her head; I'll have it returned in time, don't you worry.*

*That wasn't what worried me. I told her, and she smirked at me as if we were sharing some private joke. I warned her again when I saw the first vines begin to crawl from the book and up her, at the time, unscarred arms. I knew it was too late by now, but hope, perhaps desperation, is a strange thing. She gave me that look again, as if she didn't notice the gentle tug of stalk on skin. I'm sure I don't know what you mean. This time, I think she may have been right. That blind, keen shine to her expression did truly seem to mask the growing strength of the plants. It was around then I began to wonder, not for the first time, what the book told those it claimed. Whatever they wanted to hear, I expect. I'd never had the courage to pick it up for myself, though- not after watching all those people be pulled further and further in. The plants did seem strange to me, though. An odd choice. I'd seen it use webs, and barbed wire, and hands, but never foliage. Perhaps there was just something about the patterns and non-patterns of nature's sprawling hand that enthralled her. The thorns that began to dot the vines certainly did an excellent job of trapping her, at least. I wonder if the book even considers its choice of bindings, or if they instinctively manifest as something that will keep the victim interested. Interested or scared.*

*Though, I wouldn't say she ever looked scared. She was curious, and satisfied, and curious all over again. There came a point where she just began to look hungry. If the terror ever did begin to bleed through the ever-thickening greenery, I feel it was the sort that quickly became adrenaline-fuelled bliss. I began to see her less and less in the library. When I did, however, I could see where the book's wooden claws still dug viciously into her flesh, even when its covers were firmly shut. Her hair and eyes grew wild, and I suspected they would soon both mirror the nature of that which held her. I checked in on her, whenever she came along. She seemed to not be truly seeing me when she'd apologise, terribly sorry, I'll have it back to you as soon as possible, and when she'd ask emptily after my husband. I seemed to bore her so. Unsurprisingly, all things considered- I wasn't the book. The last time I saw her must have been just a few days before it all came to a head. She looked so very happy, as if she'd finally finished some great task. She hadn't. No-one is ever done with the book- only it can be finished with you.*

*I can only assume how she died. If you want a proper, honest-to-God account of the facts regarding her body, ask whoever found her, or whoever opened her up. All you'll get from me is speculation. The book began to open on its own, most likely. When she missed and longed and pined for it; it would simply be there. Perhaps, it began to open when she slept. Perhaps she began to think of flicking through its pages even in her dreams. Maybe, that night, it opened wide and eager. The vines clambered from the spaces between the pages, and first found her hands. Her hands, by now, had been marked plenty by their biting, loving embrace. They crept and climbed up her arms, outstretched and waiting, and across her chest and shoulder and around her neck. Brushing her cheeks, softer there, as if kissing her goodbye. It could be that the book would miss her. I think it misses all its victims, in a way- just as you or I would miss a stash of pleasant food when it is eventually depleted. The vines worked their way down her throat, and eyes, and nose, and ears. They filled every part of her that had felt hollow, or cold, or incomplete. They did what she had tried so desperately to do all her life. And so, when she died, she was whole for the very first time.*

*I did warn her about the book*

## History club update from Mr Williams

It has been lovely to welcome so many students to history club watching, reading and discussing all things history! This half term we're looking at some American history, watching parts of *Hamilton the musical*. We meet on a Thursday lunchtime in Room 41 - all are welcome!



This week, a group of students from year 9 worked alongside Mark DeLisser as part of the Norfolk *Echoes From The East* project. They are part of a group of younger singers who have formed a choir to take part in a national Music For Youth competition. The students had a great time and we think the choir has a chance of getting through to the regional finals. The ultimate aim is to perform at the Albert Hall in November but that is a few stages away yet. Fingers crossed!

## Aspiration

Well done to Amelia and Lily who will be performing in the St George's Theatre, Great Yarmouth for their 2023 pantomime...Robin Hood. Amelia will be playing the part of 'Mini Sheriff' and Lilly will be a dancer. We wish them lots of luck!

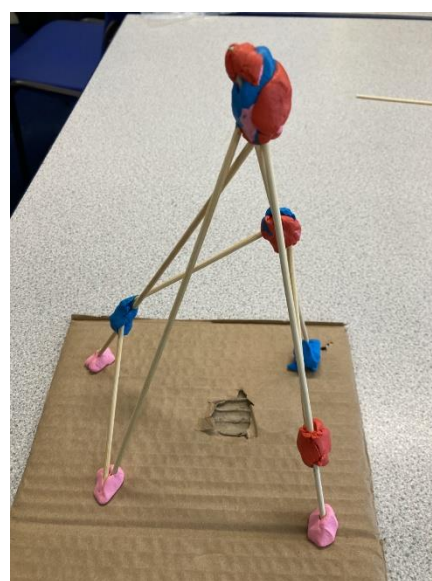
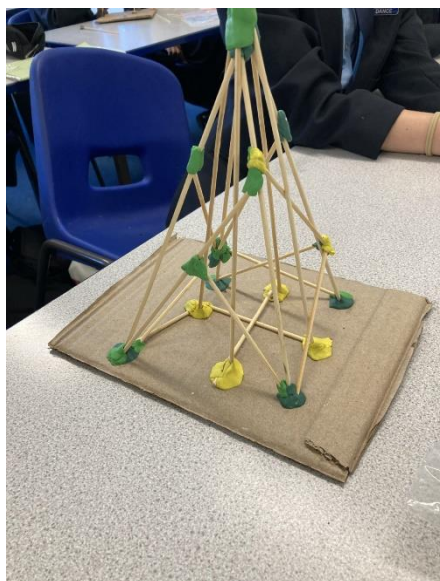


## Excellent Work!

We have been blown away by the work produced by year 11 textile students. The wet felt flowers are beautiful!



Here are some examples of 8C2's earthquake resistant building models from Monday morning's lesson. The whole class participated with enthusiasm and gained a Heart point each. Well done year 8!



### A Sporting Round-up

The U16 girls played against Lynn Grove in the TNorfolk County Cup at home this week. It was always going to be a very difficult game made even harder with a number of key players injured. However, the girls were committed to giving it their best efforts and played as a team. Unfortunately losing 7-0 it is Lynn Grove who progress through to the next round.



On Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November, the year 7 netball team travelled to Venture for the second netball tournament of the season. We got off to a fantastic start winning 4 - 0 against Acle. After each match, the opposition award a player of the match, and this was awarded to Yvonne. Our second game was very close to start with; half time the score was 2-2. During the second half we struggled to progress the ball up the court and for some reason, were unable to get the ball in the net despite several chances.

The final score was 4-2; a win to Venture. Venture awarded Rose-Elia as our player of the match. Our final game was another closely contested match, this time against Lynn Grove. The half-time score was not in our favour seeing a lead of 2-0 to Lynn Grove. Fortunately, during the second half we created more chances, and with some fantastic interceptions were able to take the lead and eventually win 5-4. The player of the match was Elizabeth.

The tournament was a very close finish as the top 3 teams all beat each other and finished on the same amount of points, so it went down to goal difference.  
final standings

1<sup>st</sup> Venture / 2<sup>nd</sup> Flegg / 3<sup>rd</sup> Lynn Grove / 4<sup>th</sup> Acle

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [nationalonline.com](http://nationalonline.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

## What Parents & Carers Need to Know about MICROTRANSACTIONS

Microtransactions (often abbreviated as "MTX") are digital purchases made within an app or game to unlock extra features or additional content such as new levels. A popular sub-set of these are loot boxes, which contain a selection (usually random) of virtual items: from character skins to game-changing equipment like better weapons. Microtransactions (and loot boxes in particular) are now widespread in apps and games, but concerns persist that they normalise gambling and can foster addictive behaviours – especially among younger players.

### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

#### GATEWAY TO GAMBLING?

Microtransactions have been criticised for promoting gambling-adjacent behaviour in children. Research has also suggested that exposure to the loot box system could affect the likelihood of a young person suffering gambling harms later in life: children who purchased or used loot boxes in the last 12 months were found to be more likely to have gambled during the same period, as well.

#### ADDICTIVE NATURE

Microtransactions (and loot boxes especially) could lead to young people displaying compulsive behaviours. Loot boxes are designed to be addictive, and the sought-after prizes they contain are dispensed at random. This means that young gamers might not get what they want straight away, causing them to spend more money as well as additional time gaming.

#### PAYING TO WIN

In many popular games (the FIFA series being a notable example), microtransactions make it far easier to succeed – which is a concern because children can often find it difficult to keep track of their spending. Once a child starts making in-game purchases, they may continue buying to keep up with their friends and other players – sometimes without recognising the mounting real-world cost.

### EXCLUSIVE CONTENT

#### DATA COLLECTION

To allow a young person to complete microtransactions, many app and game developers collect personal data such as their name, address, email, geolocation information, photos, payment details and so on. Even if this data remains secure (which is by no means guaranteed), there's always the chance that it will be used – and possibly sold on to third parties – for marketing purposes.

#### AFFECTING DAILY ROUTINE

Online games tend to revolve around repeated loops of activity that can affect purchasing decisions and potentially influence children's spending patterns. This could lead to your child not only handing over more money but also adjusting their daily routine to match the game's schedule – potentially impacting more important elements of their day, such as homework and family time.

#### SATELLITE SPENDING

If you've linked a payment method like a debit card or a PayPal account to your child's game or app, it's wise to keep a close eye on their microtransactions to ensure they aren't racking up a large bill. Letting a child have access to your card (if they're still too young to have their own) or other means of payment could also lead to them spending beyond the apps and games they normally use.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

#### DO YOUR RESEARCH

It's important to have a serviceable idea of whether the games your child plays use the loot box system (even if it goes by a different name) or include the option of buying items, equipment and so forth. If so, it's crucial to help your child understand that this costs actual money, and that they shouldn't feel pressured into making any purchases.

#### CHAT ABOUT 'CHANCE'

It may help to explain to your child that many microtransactions involve an element of chance: they could pay money and still not get what they want in return. Emphasise that – while not usually costing much individually – these in-app and in-game purchases can soon add up. Talk to your child about how spending their money in a game or app means they have less to use in the real world.

#### (GIFT) CARDS ON THE TABLE

Investing in an in-game currency gift card can be a useful way of helping your child get to grips with budgeting. If you buy, say, a £10 V-bucks Fortnite gift card, monitor how long it takes them to spend it. When they come to you asking for more, you could make it the starting point for a conversation about how quickly that money went and how they could earn their next gift card.

#### STOP SPENDING AT SOURCE

You might decide that the wisest strategy is to remove the potential for spending money on microtransactions. If so, most games, apps and devices have options in their settings to help you manage what your child can spend – or to disable that function altogether, preventing them from buying additional items for their games or boosted functionality for certain apps.

#### WATCH FOR THE SIGNS

If you're worried that your child's passion for a particular game or app may tempt them into habitual spending on microtransactions, it's important to remember the indicators of addictive behaviour: irritability, a lack of concentration and prioritising recreational screen time ahead of homework or mealtimes could all be signs that you need to have a conversation about a more balanced routine.

#### Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid *The Inquirer*, Carly is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant.



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## Attachments

#WeWill Competition

## Dates for your diary

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> November – Christmas Market

Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November – Year 10 Progress Evening

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas Jumper Day

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December – Year 7, 8 & 9 Rewards Trip

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Showcase

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December – Year 11 Rewards Trip

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December – Year 10 Rewards Trip

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December – Last day of term

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January – First day of term

With kind regards,



Mrs Jane Bennett, Principal

## Community Events



**Christmas  
Craft & Gift Fair**  
Something for everyone on your  
Christmas list...  
Plus Raffle, Tombola, Refreshments,  
Kev's Mechanical Music  
& More!  
**St George's Church  
Rollesby**  
**Saturday 2nd December**  
**10am to 2pm**  
Sellers Contact Lisa on:  
07917501349



ORMESBY ST. MARGARET CHURCH  
**CHRISTMAS  
CONCERT**  
WITH THE  
ST. MARY'S SINGERS  
**1ST DEC AT 7.30PM**  
**AT BRACECAMP PARISH HALL**  
TICKETS COST £8 PER PERSON AND WILL INCLUDE  
A GLASS OF MULLED WINE AND A MINCE PIE  
ALL PROCEEDS GO TOWARDS CHURCH FUNDS  
FOR TICKETS CONTACT CATHERINE (732337)  
OR LINDA (730218)



## **#iWillWeek 23 Competition Guidelines**

We have two amazing competitions for you to get involved in to celebrate #iWillWeek's 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Throughout the week the #iWill movement will be hosting a series of scheduled events asking young people to consider the impact of the YSA movement and youth agency, the importance of youth social action work, and explore what an inclusive future looks like.

Our creative mini competitions are an opportunity to take inspiration from these events underpinning the theme 'optimism'.

To be a youth social activist is to be optimistic about the positive difference young people can make when they are supported and empowered to play their part in society to tackle issues that affect local communities and beyond. Optimism gives us hope for a better future. It's this passion that will drive us to continue to help others!

We would like you to incorporate this and anything that makes you hopeful about the future of youth social action when submitting your entries.

### **Designing an Alternative Future Competition**

Taking inspiration from the #iWill movement and the #WeWill programme, we want you to consider how the programmes and communities you support improve environmental issues, look after our well-being, combat poverty, and create an inclusive caring community.

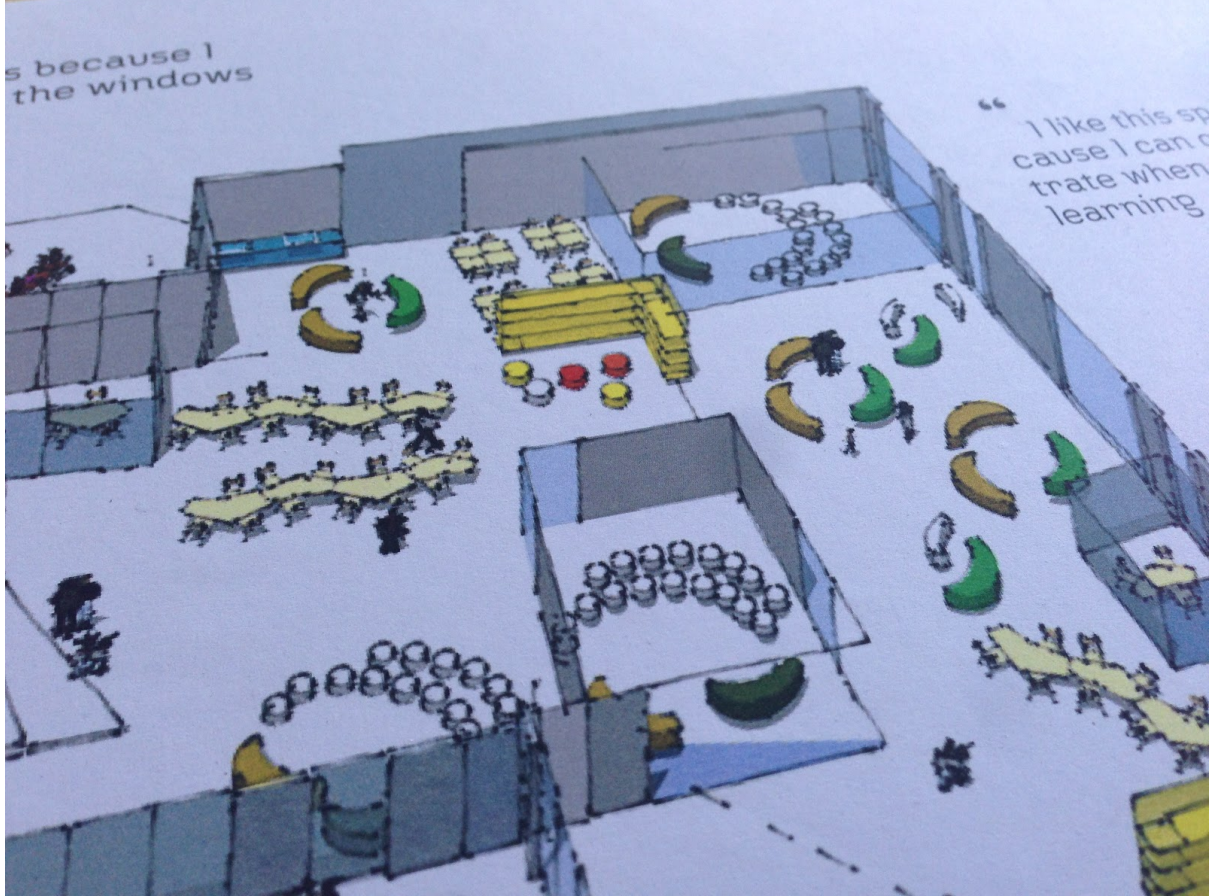
What do these spaces look like? Could you design an alternative school that embodies the quality values that make a positive difference? How would this shape your school environment? What would you do differently?

Below are some images for some inspiration, but remember to be creative! We are looking for a unique thoughtful drawn design that showcases optimism – a school that considers YSA core values.









## Prizes

The winning design will be selected by young people and shared across the Ormiston channels

- The winner will have the opportunity to win a cash prize to make improvements to their school environment
- Secondary – 1<sup>st</sup> place - £400 Runner up - £200
- Primary – 1<sup>st</sup> place - £400 Runner up - £200

## Submission Guidelines:

- Drawings in black ballpoint pen (please avoid biro). If you are using black or HB pencil, please ensure lines are clear and visually bold
- Drawings done in colour pencils need to ensure the colouring/lines are visibly clear
- Drawings in paint are welcomed
- A short summary (no more than 3 sentences providing a description of your school design should be included)
- A4 size – PORTRAIT or LANDSCAPE
- All submissions are to be scanned and emailed over.

### **Please send all entries**

to [geneasaunders@ormistontrust.co.uk](mailto:geneasaunders@ormistontrust.co.uk) Or you can ask a member of staff at your academy to help you. Also, please remember to **include your full name and your academy/school name.**

- ***Deadline date – Thursday 23 November- 2023***
-

## A Letter to Future Me

We are encouraging young people to write a letter to their future selves, in which they are asked to envision a better future and think about how they might make it happen.

Perhaps they might set goals for themselves, make a prediction about the world, and look back at how life has changed and improved. The mission is to look ahead with optimism.

It's important that within the letter the writing touches on subjects exploring themes like **well-being, environmental issues, diversity & inclusion, combating poverty and community.**

This can be submitted as a written entry or an Instagram-style recorded reel.

### Prize:

- All winning entries will be published on the website and further celebrated across our social media platforms

### Submission Guidelines:

- **Written entry** 250-500 words in 1 page Word document single-spaced
- **Instagram-style recorded reel 90-second** recording **must not include your face**. The footage can include references to the themes discussed in the video, such as greenery referencing environmental issues. Recorded videos must include a normal speaking rate of 130 words per minute
- All submissions are to be emailed over.

**Please send all entries to [geneasaunders@ormistontrust.co.uk](mailto:geneasaunders@ormistontrust.co.uk)** Or you can ask a member of staff at your academy to help you. Also, please remember to **include your full name and your academy/school name.**

- **Deadline date – Friday 24 November- 2023**