

NEWS@CAM

CAMBOURNE VC AND SF MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2025



**WE ARE DELIGHTED TO HAVE RECEIVED THE
BRITISH COUNCIL INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS
AWARD 2024-27**

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

We have had a busy start to 2025 at Cambourne with a number of trips out for Art, Maths, DT, Photography and Computer Science and of course there is the ongoing preparation for those students who may be going abroad this year, either to Spain, Germany or Italy... watch this space for updates and pictures of all these trips!

This month our Year 9s have been looking at their options for next year, following on from the informative Options Evening held on the 16th of January. Remember if your child is in Year 9 and you need more information about their options for next year, you can find this on our website: <https://www.cambournevc.org/about-us/Y9-Options.php> or they can of course speak with their teachers.

Our Year 11s have been continuing to work hard with various mocks as they prepare to sit their exams in the summer. Our first cohort of Year 12s also continue to lead the way and are busy preparing for exams with some subjects already sitting their mocks. We are looking forward to sharing feedback during the Year 12 parent consultation in early February.

We've also been busy with recruitment, looking at new staffing opportunities here as well as across the Trust to support our ongoing growth, which will include both a larger Year 7 from September as well as our first ever Year 13. We're thrilled to have received so many strong applications for prospective students wishing to join our Sixth Form in September.

As you can see from the front cover of this News@Cam Miss Ground and I recently attended the British Council International School Award ceremony at the Houses of Parliament in London to proudly receive this recognition for the College again and the opportunities it can provide for all of our students.

With two weeks left until half term, I would like to take the opportunity to wish you all a restful week filled with time to recharge ahead of a busy second half of the year.

Lynn Mayes
Principal

KEY DATES FOR FEBRUARY

Tuesday 4th and Wednesday 5th

Year 11 mocks in Maths and English

Tuesday 4th Feb

Year 9 Vaccinations - Meningitis ACWY & TDP

Thursday 6th Feb

Year 12 Parent Consultation (from 4pm)

Tuesday 11th Feb

Berlin Trip Information evening (6pm)

Thursday 13th Feb

Not just Black & White Art Gallery (Performance Hall 5pm-7pm)

Thursday 13th – Friday 21st Feb

MFL visit to Granada, Spain

Monday 17th – Friday 21st Feb

HALF TERM!

Thursday 27th Feb

Year 10 Parent Consultation (from 4pm)

Subscribe to our calendar for more key dates



INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL AWARD

We are thrilled to announce that Cambourne Village College has been awarded the prestigious British Council International Schools Award. This recognition celebrates our school's commitment to providing students with a wealth of international learning opportunities. The award was presented to Mrs Mayes and International Leader, Miss Ground, during a special ceremony in London at the Houses of Parliament, in acknowledgment of the school's longstanding international partnerships and global engagement.

Over the years, Cambourne Village College has established meaningful partnerships with schools in Germany, Spain, Peru, and Malawi. These connections, alongside collaborative projects with Qatar Foundation International (QFI) and Routes into Languages, have allowed our students to gain invaluable global perspectives. These initiatives have also offered students the chance to explore different languages and cultures, while engaging in projects that promote mutual understanding and cooperation.

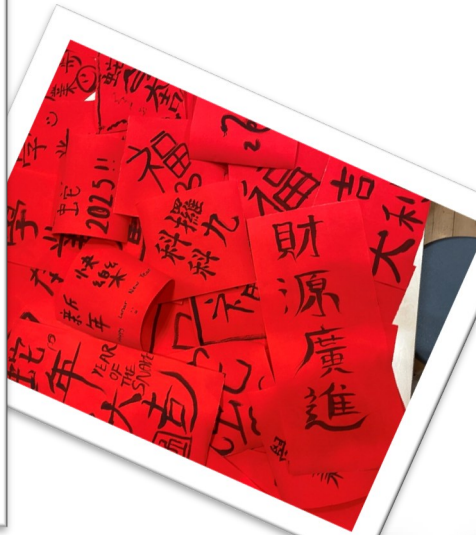


Miss Ground, our International Leader, expressed her pride in receiving this award: *"We are absolutely delighted to have achieved this recognition. It reflects the hard work and dedication of both our students and staff in championing global citizenship. Being part of an international community is fundamental in today's interconnected world, and this award highlights the incredible opportunities our students have to learn from and collaborate with peers across the globe."*

LUNAR NEW YEAR



Our students had a fantastic time taking part in Miss Lam's calligraphy workshop to celebrate the Lunar New Year! Wishing everyone a joyful and prosperous Lunar New Year 2025! 新年快樂



We Need

YOU

WE WILL ROCK YOU - SET/PROPS HELP NEEDED!

We are in need of any old cassette tapes, VHS tapes and vinyl records (with or without sleeves/any size).

If you are able to donate anything at all, please either send them in with your child (they will need to be brought to the music/drama department please) or feel free to drop them into reception.

Quality doesn't matter but please note we will not be able to return these to you upon completion of the production.



GLASS MARBLES

If anyone has any glass marbles that they no longer want, please donate them to the DT Department for attention the DT Technician or bring them to the prep room.

Thank you!

ENRICHMENT

Our weekly lunchtime and after school club timetable:



MONDAY		
LUNCH	Japanese	O12
	Language Leaders (Yr9)	IT03 (WkA)
	Prefects	O11 (WkB)
	Student Council	O11 (WkA)
AFTER SCHOOL	Art (GCSE)	ART01
	Badminton	SH+Gym (LM/KR)
	CamBookWorms	Library Mezz
	DT Studio Club (KS4)	DT
	Football (Yr7/8)	Astro (LY/EH)
	Guitar and Ukulele Group	MU02
	Hong Kong Community Club	Activities Hall
	Maths Clinic (Sixth Form)	SF15
	Maths Paper Society	Y10/11 Dining
	Netball	Courts (HT/GT)
	Orchestra	MU1
	RoboCon 2025	COMP02

TUESDAY		
LUNCH	Eco-Ambassadors Workshop	O16
	History Reading Club	B13
	Perse Coding Challenge	COMP02
	We Are Molecules	O15
AFTER SCHOOL	American Flag Football	Field (LM)
	Basketball	Sports Hall (KR)
	Dance	D Studio (JR)
	Eco Textiles Club	DT06
	Football (Yr9-11)	Astro (GT)
	French Revision (Yr11)	O16
	German Revision Fndn (Yr11)	O16
	Jazz Band	MU03
	Junior Choir	MU01
	Kitchen Garden Club	Food01
	Making History	ART01
	Mental Health Am/ Wellbeing Pre.	P16
	Science Revision (Yr11)	Sc19/ Sc20

WEDNESDAY		
REG	Barbershop	MU01
LUNCH	Language Leaders (Yr9)	IT03 (WkB)
	RoboCon 2025	COMP02
	String Orchestra	MU01
AFTER SCHOOL	Art Club (KS3)	ART01 / 02
	Creative Writing Club	EN17
	Eco Council	O16
	ESOL	P15
	FIXTURES	
	Healthy Relationship Ambass.	P16
	Hockey	Astro (KB)
	Maths Revision (GCSE F)	Link
	Netball (Sixth Form)	Courts (Sixth Formers)
	Sixth Form Netball	Hardcourts
	Table Tennis	Dining H (LY/EH)
	Taking Up Space	Library Mezz
	Translation Bee Club	O13
	Vcert Catch-up	IT04
Volleyball	Sports Hall (HT)	

THURSDAY		
LUNCH	A level History Society	SF1
	German Revision	O16
	Sparx Club	IT03
AFTER SCHOOL	Sixth Form Football	Astro
	Arabic (advanced/intermediate)	P15
	GCSE Art	ART01
	Healthy Relationship Ambass.	P16
	School Production	Main Hall
	Sports Leaders Opps./meetings	Check SL Board
	Young Carers	Link

FRIDAY		
LUNCH	Aspirational Fridays	EN02
	Minecraft Club	COMP01-04
AFTER SCHOOL	Chess Club (WkA)	P17
	Engineering Club (KS4)	DT05/ 06
	Photography (GCSE)	Photo Studio
	Senior Choir	MU01/ 03
	Warhammer Club	P16

FOR PE CLUBS:

Boys – meet at back doors to **orange** changing rooms

Girls – meet at back doors to **green** changing rooms

FOR PE CLUBS: Remember to scan the QR code in the changing rooms to register your attendance for the club.

FOR ALL OTHER CLUBS: Please register with a member of staff



ENRICHMENT



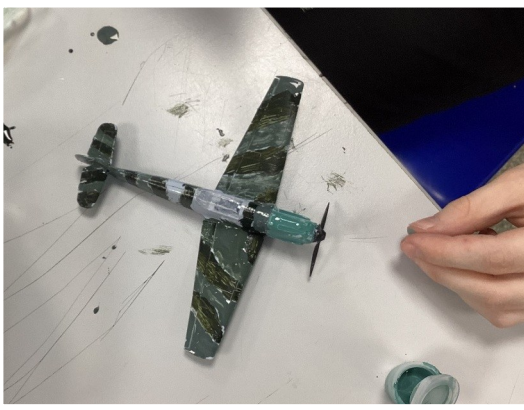
MAKING HISTORY CLUB

Making History Club offers students an opportunity to explore their love of both creativity and history. The students are free to work on which ever project they choose. Some students work on model airplanes, helicopters, ships and tanks. Others create paintings of historical individuals and places. In the summer term students will then present what they have made, prizes will be awarded for projects which demonstrate creativity and are well researched.

'The club is fun, I enjoy being able to learn about history while also being creative'.

'I enjoy making the models, I am currently building a Chinook helicopter'

'The club is amazing, I particularly enjoy being able to build models with my friends'.



Making History Club

- Tuesdays after school
- Any questions? ask Mr Tuominen
- Introduction session 17th December
- Art 02

A club where we make and build models to bring history to life.

If you love arts and crafts or model kits then come along.

In the Summer term you will be able to present what you have been making to earn prizes!



ENRICHMENT

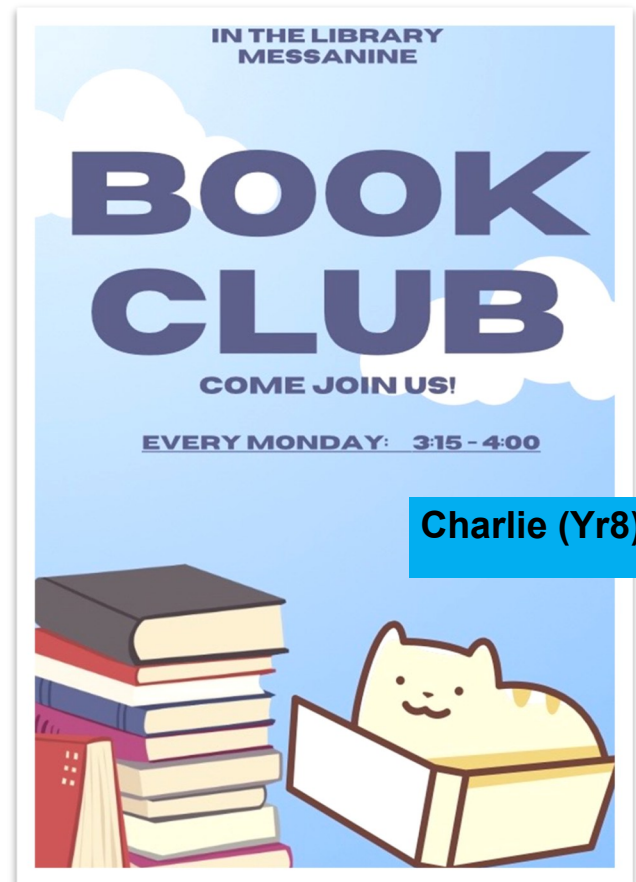
CAMBOOKWORMS

We discuss our favourite books and explore different genres! We also talk about books we hate.

When the shortlist is announced we will review the books nominated for the Carnegie Book Award, and see if we agree with the judges.

Aino (Yr8): I heard that they have a heated argument every session and they are planning a burning ceremony for books they hate! Just kidding, we just chat and have fun talking about books, no pressure, just fun!

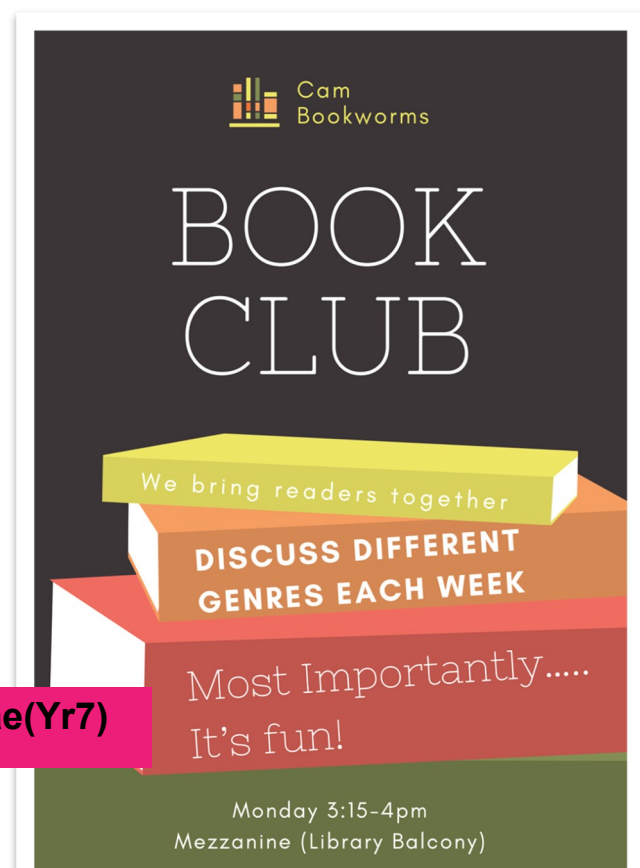
Lorena (Yr8): We connect readers together :) We can explore different genres, everyone is welcome!!! Say your favourites, no matter how popular they are!



Charlie (Yr8)



Pinak (Yr7)



Mae (Yr7)



ENRICHMENT

SPORTS CLUBS



Cambourne Village College is delighted to welcome any students to our enrichment curriculum; in our PE afterschool clubs we offer something for everyone regardless of their ability or experience. In fact, the more students that we have attending our clubs the better as the benefits of doing any physical activity are so positive. Currently, we are offering volleyball, hockey, basketball, football, netball, dodge ball, revision, flag football, badminton and dance and we look to change the activities each term so that we continuously offer a broad and an exciting enrichment programme.

Each club has a warm and welcoming vibe, with lots of expertise from the staff who run each club along with many friendly faces. Some students like to participate, others like to coach, and some students will often do both. Furthermore, the benefits of attending any physical activities are endless, but if you are wanting to have fun, keep active and use the clubs as an opportunity to learn new skills and concepts, then PE enrichment is just right for you!



ENRICHMENT



AMERICAN FLAG FOOTBALL

American Flag Football club is a great club for staying active, making new friends, and having loads of fun! It's an Alternative sport that teaches you the rules of American Football without the contact. Unlike American Football, flag football is all about speed, teamwork, and strategy—without the hard hitting. It's easy to learn and perfect for pupils of all ages and abilities.

Flag Football is an inclusive club, welcoming all abilities! We are hoping to create some teams to take to regional tournaments, so if you are at all interested then please come along, Tuesday afterschool 3-4pm on the astro turf!

Hi, I am **Finley (7V)**, and I love attending after school PE clubs. There are many reasons why I love playing sports and here are a few of them. After school clubs are a great way to socialise with those who you may not socialise with. This can help with my social skills and can make a great stress relief activity. One of my favourite clubs to attend has got to be American Flag Football as there are a range of students from different years and a great host, Miss Mott. Sometimes there can be so many great clubs like hockey and ping pong and it's hard to choose which one! Miss Bingham is an awesome hockey player that can help you learn in the most fun of ways, Miss Mott and Mr Rook are the best badminton hosts! I really enjoy playing sports with my friends after school for all the reasons I've listed, and I hope to see some more students join us!



EUREKA DAY EVENTS



Mid-January a group of Yr9 students and a group of Yr10 attended the Eureka Day event at The Centre for Mathematical Sciences, Cambridge. Here are some accounts of the day from the students who attended.

Shyla (9)

The Eureka Day maths trip was an amazing experience. The day consisted of two talks, competitions, and lots of maths puzzles. We formed teams and competed in a maths race, and we also constructed paper cranes - my group won that one! I particularly enjoyed the talk by Ben Sparks, mathematician and magician. We learnt all about the connection between maths and magic, as well as some cool tricks. It was a fun and memorable learning experience!



Joseph (10)

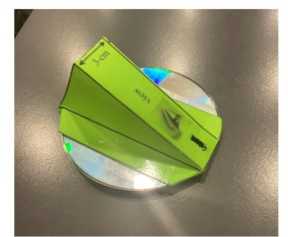
Another trip for us Year 10s calls for another great day out at the Cambridge Maths School. Named 'Eureka Day', we were thrown into a roster of maths-based activities, demonstrating the plethora of paths that maths opens up. Lectures began with systematic thinking in algebra, then culminated by destroying a Taylor Swift CD for science! The demonstrations were memorable (if not sacrilegious!) and have helped me recognise that maths is more than sitting in a classroom. We took home spectrometers made in a taster physics lesson, as well as prizes! For CamVC's second outing, we made sure to compete in the lunchtime maths challenges and brought back another two wins. Well done to everyone's collaborative effort to crack the puzzles – and Shibal and Izzy, who emerged with various maths-related goods! Through working together, and exploring different routes to mathematical sciences, I have returned from the trip with a refreshed outlook.



'I loved hearing about the Lorenz machine. Everything fit so nicely with the computer science I learn at school' – Yat Sum

'Really interesting day rounded off with an unexpected cat!' – Hannah

'It was so rewarding to solve such complicated problems' - John



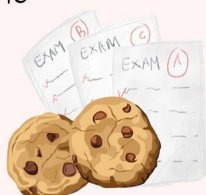
The Maths Paper Society

After school on Mondays in Y11 Dining Hall

3.10 – 4.10pm

All Year 11 welcome

GCSE Papers and biscuits provided.
Stay for an hour and do some practice.
Get help when you need it.
A paper a week is proven to boost your GCSE grade, plus you will get positive points!



Starts Monday 14th October





NOT ART
JUST GALLERY
BLACK
AND
WHITE

13 OF FEBRUARY
PERFORMANCE HALL
5-7PM



FIRST LEGO LEAGUE



We would like to say a huge congratulations to our CamVC students and their teammates in Team Activ8 who participated in the First Lego League Robotics competition in Cambridge and won the Regional Championship. The event was held on 21st January 2025 in Cambridge University in Engineering Department and was organised by IET.

The theme of this year's event is Submerged in which teams are encouraged to use creative thinking to explore the layers of the oceans and bring their learning and ideas to the surface as they "sea" into the future. The teams are judged on Robot design, Robot Game, Innovation project and Core values demonstrated through the season.

13 teams participated from various schools and clubs and Team Activ8 were declared the Regional Champions. They will compete in the National Final to be held in Harrogate in May. The students have been practising the Robot runs and developing their innovation project for the last five months. For their Innovation project the team has developed a low-cost prototype to take under water photos and monitor various parameters to measure the health of oceans. The team has named their innovation project, SenSea. Congratulations to Pinak (7), Pihu (7), Yuteng (8), Abhav (9), Saketh (9), and Srihan (9).



PANATHALON XTEND

We took six CamVC students to the Panathlon Xtend challenge where they competed against six other schools. This event targets children with disabilities and special educational needs and provides access to competitive sport to these children. We all had a fantastic time!



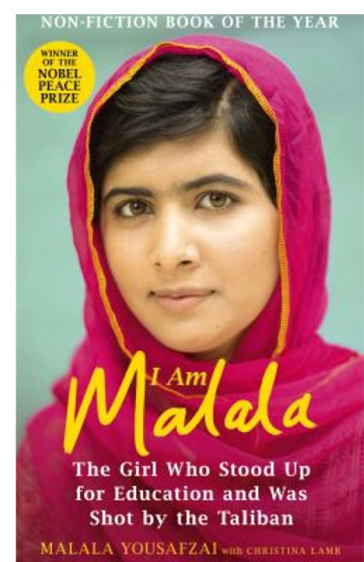
LIBRARY LATEST



Staff Recommendation from Mrs Hearn

The closest thing to flying - Gill Lewis

Two worlds come together in a gripping & magnificent story of friendship, courage & freedom. Two girls separated by a century have more in common than you might expect. Present day: Semira doesn't know where to call home. She and her mother came to England when she was four years old, brought across the desert and the sea by a man who has complete control. Always moving on, always afraid of being caught, she longs for freedom. 1891: Hen knows exactly where to call home. Her stifling mother makes sure of that. But her Aunt Kitty is opening her eyes to a whole new world. A world of animal rights, and votes for women, and riding bicycles! Trapped in a life of behaving like a lady, she longs for freedom. When Semira discovers Hen's diary, she finds the friend she has been desperately seeking. A friend who brings not just comfort, but inspiration to be brave, to fight for her place in the world, and maybe even to uncover the secrets of her own past. Writing the diary changed one girl's life. Reading it changes another. **(Available from our library)**



Pupil Recommendation from Syeda (10V)

I am Malala - Malala Yousafzai

Reading *I am Malala* was a deeply emotional experience for me. The book tells the inspiring story of Malala Yousafzai, who grew up in Pakistan in a region where girls' education was often overlooked. Despite the risks, Malala spoke out passionately for girls' right to go to school, a stance that put her in grave danger. I was especially moved by her incredible bravery when she continued to advocate for education even after being shot by the Taliban. The way she faced such a traumatic event and then used her voice to fight for others was both heart-wrenching and uplifting. Her recovery was a testament to her strength and determination. The book also highlights the harsh realities many girls face in places where education is restricted, making me appreciate the educational opportunities we often take for granted. Malala's story is a powerful reminder of how important education is and how one person's courage can inspire change. It left me with a deeper understanding of the struggles for educational rights and a greater appreciation for the freedoms I have. *I am Malala* is a must-read for everyone; it offers invaluable insights and inspiration that everyone should experience. **(Available from our library)**

ONLINE RESOURCE: The Day

With one third of the human race under 18, what if we started listening to them?

Students now have access to The Day, which is an online children and young people's newspaper and platform dedicated to amplifying the voices of young people. Resources include daily news, quizzes, special reports, photos and videos. You can search by subject or topic according to your interests, and also adjust the reading level to what best suits you. The Day can be accessed through the CATalogue, using the blue tab on the right-hand side of the page. If you'd like to write or produce a video for The Day yourself, please visit: [Student Voices - The Day](#) for an amazing opportunity to get involved!



CAM SCHOOL SHOP

Pen - Black/Blue	20p
Pencil - HB	15p
Colour Pencils x12	75p
Rubber/Eraser	20p
Sharpener	15p
Ruler - 15/30cm	10/20p
Protractor	10p
Highlighter	20p
Flash Cards (Blank) x5	5p
Pencil Case - 15/30cm	50/70p
Post-Its - Med/Large	30/40p



Library School Shop

Did you know that the school library runs a stationary shop which is available every day? Students are able to purchase a range of equipment to support their learning. Payments need to be made in cash.



SIXTH FORM

This has been a busy term for our sixth formers, who are working hard to develop and consolidate their knowledge and skills following assessments and feedback at the end of last term. We've seen several curriculum trips take place, including visits to London Galleries for the Art and Photography students, as Evelina outlines below. The Product Design students had an interesting and purposeful day at the Design Museum in Kensington, and the Computer Science students had a fascinating trip to Bletchley Park to learn about the rich history of their subject.

We have been delighted with the interest in Cambourne Sixth Form from prospective students, and the number of high-quality applications we have received are testament to the hard work of the whole school in growing and consolidating the reputation of the Sixth Form as a place of excellent teaching and learning and exceptional support.

Frankie Rose, Head of Sixth Form

Harry and Aashrita, Sixth Form Council Co-Presidents

The Sixth Form Council has been busy at work this term! We have been creating a wellbeing space, 'The Cove', for students to use if they need to take some quiet time to support their mental health. Devika, our VP for Learning, has been working on a whole-school initiative for peer-to-peer tutoring, and she has also begun to set up subject societies, so that students studying similar subjects can share notes and learning resources together. Ryan, VP for the Environment, has been securing a donation of Trees from the Woodland Trust, that we plan to plant around our site. Arya, has been working on the 'Not Just Black and White' event and exhibition, taking place on 13th February in the Performance Hall, which promises to be an amazing celebration of our school's culture. We are planning a range of events, including a Staff Vs Sixth Formers Quiz later this term to raise money for our Sixth Form Fund!

Art and Photography Trip to London: Evelina

After a very early rise, a group of Y11 and 12 photographers and artists, half-awake scrambled to find their seats in the bus and set off for a London art adventure. A wave of excitement and anticipation overcame everyone once we had reached our wintry destination. We were anxious to discover some of the hidden gems of a very cold and rainy London and experience what inspiration some of its art museums have to offer. For practical reasons, the students were divided into two groups and the A-level art class and the photographers and set out on different itineraries.

The first stop for the Y12 art group was the V&A museum, where we were exposed to creativity from around the world. After appreciating the awe-inspiring massive display halls full of artwork from various cultures and times, we became one with history. Thrilled and exhilarated, we roamed through the halls and stairs of the museum eager to see every painting, every sculpture and every old garment.

After a refreshing lunch break, we set out for the next stop: Courtland Gallery. Walking along the historical streets of London with Victorian buildings towering over us was a memorable moment. Although a smaller museum, Courtland Gallery was equally rich and mesmerising. We enjoyed gazing at ancient paintings and letting ourselves tune out and travel among the brush strokes, taking inspiration for our own artwork.

We finished our trip by visiting a graffiti arcade, next to the River Thames, where we met with the rest of the team and took creative pictures for our projects and portfolios. Finally, we climbed back on our bus ready to head home, satisfied with our short but stimulating adventure.

