

Principal's Newsletter

22 November 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

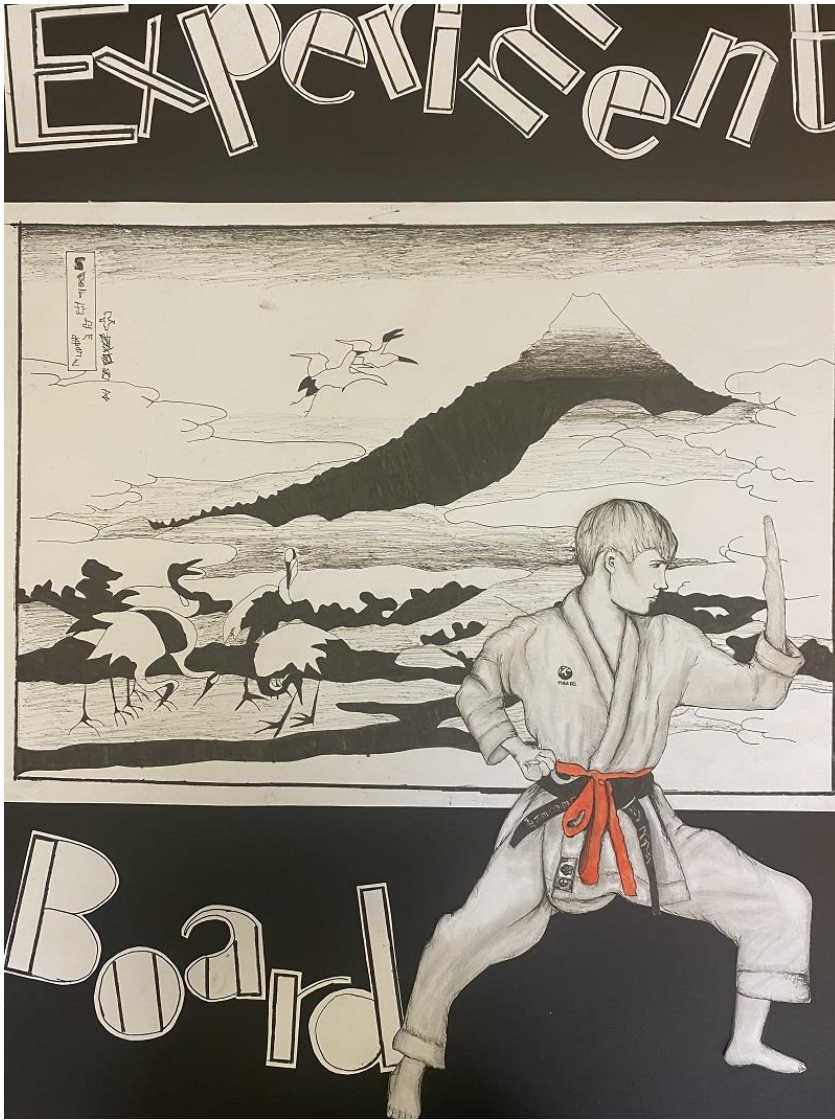
The arrival of the wintry weather this week did not deter the large number of potential Reception parents and carers from attending our Reception Open Evening this week. Open Evenings are always a great opportunity to showcase all the excellent work of both staff and pupils in our primary phase and Wednesday evening was no exception. Many thanks both to staff who volunteered to help for the evening but especially to our pupils who hosted tours around the Prep School and who remain our greatest ambassadors.

Similar thanks to the parents and carers who braved the cold the same evening to attend the Chapter 12 parents' evening, and to the staff and particularly the students who helped in the smooth running of the event. The parental questionnaires revealed some very positive observations about the Sixth Form and we will continue to work on any areas that have scored less highly. Thank you to all parents / carers who complete these parental surveys on the Parents' Evenings as they serve as a valuable source of information for us to keep improving the College.

I am very much looking forward to attending the annual Concert for a Cure at St George's Hall on Sunday afternoon where our Preplings and Chamber choirs will be performing. I'm also looking forward to spending more time with our primary pupils next week at their reflection assemblies and also at their fantastic annual Bedtime Reading Nights, where children come back to school and listen to some of their teachers read them parts of their favourite books.

Whilst I enjoy the singing, reflection and reading in the primary phase, our oldest students will be sitting their mock A' Level examinations next week. Examination time is always a stressful time for families and I thank you in advance for your continued support in ensuring our pupils can achieve their very best. Our website has some useful pages to help support students with their self-study and Sixth Form staff have posted useful revision guidance on Satchel One to support the students with their studies.

Our **artist of the week** this week is Sean L (Ch11)



Based on Sean's Bobbie of karate, walking in the mountains. Inspired by the artist Hokusai.

Pen, ink and pencil.



This week's **musician of the week** is Max M (Ch 9). Chapter 9 have started their Duke of Edinburgh Awards, and with that comes many chances to volunteer for the community. Max has been going to The Watch Factory, a Supported Housing Development in Knowsley, to play guitar for the residents. So far he has completed one week of volunteering, and played a set including a mix of The Beatles, Jimi Hendrix and Jeff Buckley. He is going to continue this for 3 months, altering the set list each time. The choir and orchestra performed at a residential home on their tour of The Rhineland last summer and found it an incredibly rewarding experience and it is fantastic that Max is sharing his talent with the residents of The Watch Factory.

We have received reports from concerned members of the public about the reckless and dangerous driving and parking they have witnessed around the school campus at drop off and collection times, particularly cars stopping on double yellow lines and zig zags outside the school entrances. Please do help us keep children safe, especially now that school is taking

place in semi-nocturnal conditions. Thank you to all our parents and carers who do help us to prioritise the safety of our pupils by taking the time and effort to drive and park safely.

Talking of road safety, pupils in Reception have been busy learning all about this as the EYFS team reports:

This week was Road Safety Week! A very important week in which we learned about the importance of keeping safe on our roads. The children in Reception shared some wonderful strategies including always staying by your adult, waiting for green lights and looking both ways, not once - but twice! We talked about the different road signs that we might see and we practised how to cross a road safely with a Lollipop person and when on zebra crossings! We had a super time learning about being safe!



Advance notice that our **termly parent information evening** will take place on Thursday 5 December at 5.30pm. This is open to all parents. At the meeting, the College Leadership Team will provide information and updates on current issues and future plans and there will also be an opportunity for parents to ask questions and make observations about how we can further improve the school. This term's meeting will take place online via Microsoft Teams and further information on how to register for the event will be included in my next newsletter.

The secondary phase will be holding its annual **service of lessons and carols** at Mossley Hill Parish Church on Tuesday 10 December at 7.00pm. This service is open to all members of the College community but due to the size of the venue, it will not be a requirement for secondary phase pupils to attend. There will of course still be a large number of pupils involved in the service on the 10 December and our musicians are busy preparing.

Our primary pupils are also busy preparing for their Christmas events with Christingle preparations well underway in the Prep School and our Pre Prep children and staff working hard on their Christmas performances.

There is a lot to look forward to in the coming weeks!

Thank you for your continued support. May I wish you and yours a warm and restful weekend.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Haynes." The signature is written in a cursive style with a period at the end.

**Mrs A Haynes
Principal**