THE HOBBIT BOOK CLUB
*Gifted and Talented*

Some of our book loving Year 7 and 8 Girls are enjoying studying J.R.R. Tolkien's best selling writing this term. This is in preparation for writing their own stories for a "KTC Book of Fiction". Students are also developing their higher order thinking skills, with one girl commenting, "I now can't read a book the same again". We can't wait to read their work later in the term.

A SINGLE SHARD BOOK CLUB
*High School join Primary School Boys*

Some of our Year 6 to 8 boys are joining together each week to study a 'A Single Shard', a medal winning book by Linda Park. As part of our Gifted and Talented programme these boys are also studying higher order thinking skills while analysing the book. At the same time the boys are starting to write their own short stories and we’re looking to reading them at the end of term, as they become co-authors of their own book.

LEARNING FOR LEADERSHIP
*Year 9 Boys Shine*

Seven Year 9 boys have taken part this term in our Learning for Leadership programme. The Year 8 Girls will also be receiving this Gifted and Talented programme this term.
PRIMARY TEACHERS GET EVEN MORE TALENTED
One to One ‘Differentiation for the Most Able’ Training Sessions

All general studies teachers in the primary school received one to one training with practical strategies how to differentiate lessons for the most able.

Miss Rudansky commented, “The one-on-one training allowed for me to further improve my skills in developing differentiated lessons. From this, it is hoped that students will be given the opportunity to be challenged and to thrive within the classroom.”

Miss Greenhalgh shared…

“The workshop gave me the confidence to experiment with new ideas in the classroom that enable students to show what they have learnt in a variety of ways to suit ability levels. The enthusiastic feedback I received from students after the lesson proved how important it is to differentiate, so all children can reach their potential in a lesson.”

LEARNING TALENTS POSTER COMPETITIONS
High School Girls and Boys Express what Talented Learning Looks Like

Miss Waugh ran an engaging competition in art where year 8 students produced marketing posters to express what they believe are the desired learning talents so students can achieve their full potential in all subjects. Talents chosen included being an: Active Listener, Effective Participator, Independent Enquirer, Creative Thinker, Reflective Learner, Self-Manager, Evaluator, Analyser, Encyclopaedic and Perseverance. Winners will be announced soon.
DEMONSTRATING TALENTS THROUGH THE GIFT OF ART PHOTOGRAPHY
Shaina Krinsky Year 12 Interview with Mr Tidd

What inspired you to take these photographs? I have always loved scenic photography. One day when I took a photo of the beach I decided to teach myself a Photoshop technique (called Motion Blur) and wallah, out came a gorgeous photo. So after hearing great feedback from comments on my online post, I decided to create a piece of art, through a collage of these images.

How long did it take? I began to get up at 4.30-5.30am in the morning and bus down to the beach. Because every sunrise shows off different colours and shades I continuously went down to the beach early in the morning to capture every possible colour of sunrise I could get. The total process took me around 7 months to complete.

How did you learn to take such amazing photographs?

My first ever experience of real photography was at work experience with the well-known photographer Nadine Saacks.

Ever since then I kept on practicing and eventually found a love towards it, continuing to upgrade my equipment so I could capture even better photos.

Most of my knowledge of the camera is self-taught through trial and error or even from YouTube clips. However in January early this year, I won a competition, and was rewarded with a free diploma course from The Photography Institute, which I still continue to do until this day. I have learnt so much from it and continue to learn from it as I progress through the course.

How do you plan to use them? When I had my first think about where to print to them, many people suggested Charring Cross Photo, because I DO have amazing parents they were happy to pay whatever it took, because they wanted to hang it up in my house, for everyone to see. When I first heard this I couldn't really believe it, because who would have thought that a year 12 art project would be printed and mounted for an actual display in the house.

Are you happy with the results? The printing process, took a bit of time, as I had to do many sample prints to make sure they would come out perfectly. When doing this at Charring Cross Photo, I did experience some difficulties, being that some of them were coming out slightly blurry. But I took the chance. I printed one image in its large size, ready for the collage and I was thrilled with the outcomes, as the blurriness disappeared. After seeing my printed and mounted work for the first time in its collages, placed on a big table, I was amazed. I just never thought it would come out exactly how I wanted it.
GIFTED & TALENTED NEWS

Primary Student Representative Council
The Primary School SRE have been involved in some ‘Blue Sky Thinking’, coming up with ideas of what they would like to contribute to create the ‘perfect school’. They will be presenting their ideas to key members of staff soon.

Potentially Gifted Mentoring
Both Primary and High School students who have been identified as potentially gifted and needing some support will receive mentoring this term and next. They will bring back to teachers an action plan outlining their goals, challenges, options to achieve their goal and what motivates them.

EDGE ~ “Extended, Differentiation & Gifted Education” Afternoon for All
During the teacher professional development day all High School teachers worked in co-curricular faculties to start to plan an exciting afternoon of activities for our Gifted and Talented EDGE afternoon for all high school students next term.

G&T EASY LEARNING IDEA

Evaluation Wheel
Draw a circle and mark it into sections to represent different indications, e.g. skills used, actions completed. Colour each segment in the inner circle proportionately to show how successfully the indicator was met – colouring a tip of the wedge represents it being hardly met; the whole wedge represents it being completely met. The outer wedge can be filled in with comments or suggestions for improvement.

TED TALK OF THE TERM

Every Kid Needs a Champion? By Rita Pierson
Rita Pierson, a teacher for 40 years, once heard a colleague say, “They don't pay me to like the kids." Her response: "Kids don't learn from people they don't like." A rousing call to educators to believe in their students and connect with them on a real, human, personal level. You can copy and paste this URL:
https://www.ted.com/talks/rita_pierson_every_kid_needs_a_champion?

Or simply click on the image below to be taken to the website to watch…

Rita Pierson:
Every kid needs a champion