



THRIFTWOOD COLLEGE

KEY STAGE 4 NEWSLETTER



October 2025



MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

On the morning of Friday 26th September, the college hosted a fabulous coffee morning to support Macmillan. A lovely array of cakes, cookies and muffins tempted the staff, parents, students and even ex-students, transforming our hall into a tearoom of the finest standard.

Students worked hard at selling the cakes, managing the sales and calculating change. We even had some budding baristas!

The event raised a total of £260. Thanks to all staff, parents and students who helped or contributed to this important cause.

TUTOR CUP CHALLENGE

The challenge this half term was good fun for everyone. There was a Beat the Goalie challenge and a Bake-Off style cake decorating contest. Both events were live-streamed into classrooms whilst other students designed superhero characters and cheered on their friends. The support for one another and the encouragement given was fabulous.

The class taking the glory and the trophy this time was Lincoln class. We are now anticipating the next challenge, with everything to play for.



Educate Prepare Challenge

ANIMAL FARM AND PETER PAN

Our topic this term is 'Conflict'. In English lessons, students have been reading one of these texts. Peter Pan is set in war time and Animal Farm tackles different types of conflict on many levels. Both texts have provided a stimulus for discussion and deeper character and plot analysis. It has been good to hear students referring to these texts, even out of the classroom and enjoying the stories so much: recent research cites a love of reading to be the silver bullet that will promote best outcomes for children.



Art Exhibition

During the summer break some KS4 students exhibited their art at a venue in Maldon. The theme was 'Water Rivers or Boats'. The results were much admired and sparked interest from the organisers and from the general public. Well done to Tyler, Sienna, Alena, Thomas H, Oscar M Aiden P and Chloe for your superb artworks.

UNIFORM

Uniform for Key Stage 4 is a requirement:
Dark grey trousers or skirt.

White shirt or polo shirt, worn with a choice of burgundy jumper, navy blazer or both, a tie is optional.

Plain black shoes or plain black trainers.

Leggings and hoodies are not acceptable and will be challenged.

All pupils need a PE kit, including suitable footwear.

During November we are holding EHCP meetings to set targets, discuss opportunities for accreditation and plan next steps for the coming year for all students.

Thank you to all those parents who have already given us their views. This is a key part of the process of providing the best outcomes for each student.

If you have not yet contributed your views, please contact us as soon as possible.

College Code

'ENRICH'

Enterprise
Nurture
Respect
Integrity
Compassion
Honesty



Dates

Autumn term continues 3rd November- 19th December 2025
Children in Need non uniform £1 donation 14th November
Inset day 17th November 2025
Christmas buffet and Christmas jumper day 10th December
Spring term begins on 5th January 2026

FOOTBALL

Football continues to be a popular activity at break and lunch, we now have both competitive and quieter paced sessions so that all players can enjoy the fun. Some of our footballers are looking forward to competing against other schools later this term.

THE FIRST HALF TERM HAS BEEN GREAT, YEAR 10 STUDENTS ARE SETTLING IN AND MANY YEAR 11 STUDENTS ARE STEPPING UP TO BE EXCELLENT ROLE MODELS.