

# Connect

ISSUE 135 TERM 6

BUMPER  
ISSUE

FRENCH EXCHANGE

YORKSHIRE RESIDENTIAL

HERCULES PERFORMANCE

SPORT SUCCESS

AND MUCH MORE

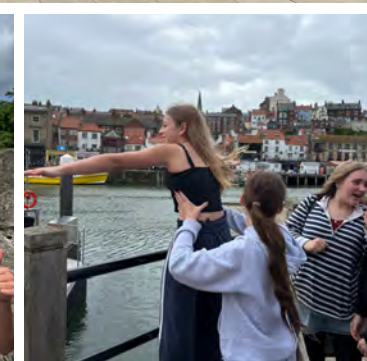
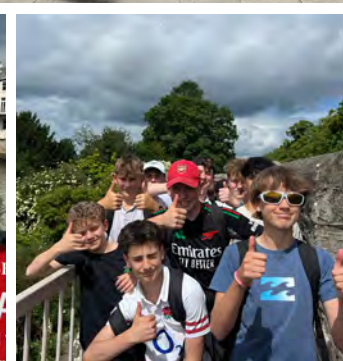


# YORKSHIRE RESIDENTIAL TRIP

The joint Humanities and English residential trip to Yorkshire was a fantastic experience for all! Students explored York's rich history through visits to York Minster, Clifford's Tower, and the York Dungeons, which proved a particular hit.

In Whitby, students studied the local geography and its links to Dracula, visited Whitby Abbey, and enjoyed fish and chips and ice cream. They also visited the RNLI station, where they were fortunate enough to see the lifeboat crew called out to a real emergency.

The final day was spent at Flamingo Land, where students and staff enjoyed the rides and attractions. It was a memorable trip filled with learning, fun, and new experiences.







### BLETCHLEY PARK MATHS TRIP

Our Year 7 students recently visited Bletchley Park, where they enjoyed learning all about the history of mathematics behind the work of the codebreakers during World War II.



### BURGHLEY HOUSE

Our Year 7 students had a fantastic time on our annual Art trip to Burghley House. They took part in a wire sculpture workshop, creating their own dragonfly, explored one of England's finest Elizabethan houses, and discovered the stunning gardens filled with fascinating sculptures.

Students particularly enjoyed learning about the history of the house and William Cecil, creating their wire dragonflies, and uncovering the hidden meanings behind historical portraits. As one student said, "The trip was really fun and a great way to socialise!"



# AWAY HOSTING

"The French Exchange was a very memorable and enjoyable trip. I saw some amazing things and took part in some brilliant activities. I think part of the reason I enjoyed myself so much was that the family was so kind and welcoming. During the six days I was there, I visited Paris three times! I spent two mornings in the French school. While on the trip, I was able to speak with other French students, and I made friends with some Catmose students whom I had never spoken to before. We went to the Musée d'Orsay on the Saturday and on the Sunday we were just exploring the area and doing a bit of shopping. Overall, the trip was very successful, and I can't wait for them to come to England."

Year 8 student, Rosie



## HOME HOSTING

The French exchange was an amazing experience, not only did I build a completely new friendship with my partner, and some of her friends, but I strengthened friendships I already had by the shared experience. It was so interesting seeing how someone my age in another country lived - it's so different. It was also incredibly character building and required me to find confidence and peace in being independent and making a place for myself, especially with the language barrier. Talking of the language barrier, I developed my French hugely in the sense that not only did I expand my vocabulary, but I learnt to tune in, structure in a more casual way, and keep up in conversation; the French talk very fast. Finally, I really enjoyed the experiences and trips we went on, such as Par Astérix, Paris (the Eiffel Tower, Notre Dame, museums), and obviously Harry Potter world on the home leg.

Year 8 student, Minerva



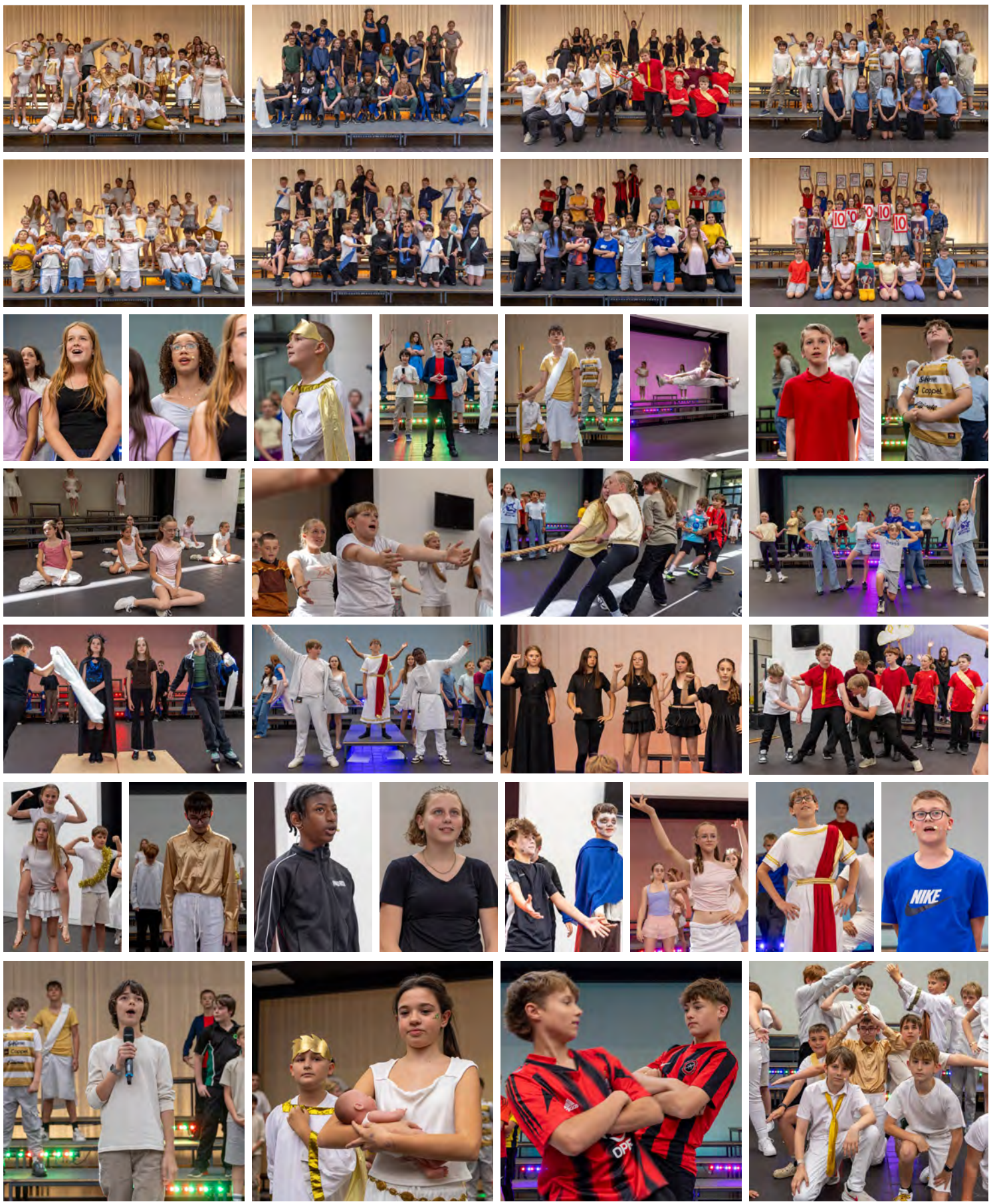






# YEAR 7 HERCULES

Well done to our Year 7 cast of Hercules. They worked really hard over the last few months of the term, following watching the show on the West End, to put on a memorable performance for them and their families who came and supported them.





# NOTTINGHAM UNIVERSITY

94 Year 9 students visited the University of Nottingham as part of our Careers Programme.

The day included campus tours, student finance myth-busting, and Q&A sessions with student ambassadors, giving students a real insight into university life and future opportunities.

One student said: "I enjoyed the day. I learnt the steps to get into university and the qualifications you need. The David Ross Sports Centre was amazing!"

If you'd like support with your child's future pathways, contact our Careers Team at [careers@catmosecollege.com](mailto:careers@catmosecollege.com) or speak to Mrs Meynell at your next Progress Meeting.



## YEAR 10 EMPLOYEE ENCOUNTERS

Our Year 10 students recently took part in our Employer Encounter Experiences, hearing first-hand from professionals across a range of industries about their career journeys and opportunities. A huge thank you to all of our guest speakers for inspiring the next generation.



## Administration Assistant Apprentice

We are looking for a friendly, reliable, and motivated Administration Assistant Apprentice to join our busy school administration team. This role is ideal for a school leaver aged 16 or over who is keen to gain valuable workplace experience while working towards a nationally recognised qualification.

You will play an important role in supporting the day-to-day running of the Admin office and providing a welcoming first point of contact for students, parents, staff, and visitors.

### What will you be doing?

With full training and support from our experienced administration team and an external apprenticeship provider, your duties will include:

- Welcoming visitors and providing a professional and friendly reception service
- Answering telephone calls and responding to routine enquiries in person
- Supporting communication with parents and carers, including sending letters and emails
- Producing documents using Microsoft Word and Excel
- Assisting with general office administration tasks
- Monitoring and maintaining stationery and office supplies
- Working closely with staff across the school to support daily operations

### Who is this role suitable for?

This role is ideal for someone who:

- Is aged 16 or over and keen to start their career
- Has good communication and organisational skills
- Is polite, professional, and willing to learn
- Has a basic understanding of IT or is keen to develop IT skills
- Enjoys working in a team and supporting others

No previous office experience is required.

**THE CLOSING DATE IS 9AM ON FRIDAY 28 AUGUST.**

**APPLY HERE: <https://www.rutlandfederation.com/vacancies/>**







# OAKHAM UNDER 14s FOOTBALL CLUB LEAGUE CHAMPIONS

We are delighted to celebrate the success of a group of Year 9 students who, as part of their U14 football team, have been crowned league champions and added the Chairman's Cup to their achievements this season. The team finished with an outstanding record of 17 wins and 1 draw from 18 matches, making them the only undefeated team across all Leicestershire and Rutland leagues. Congratulations to all the students and coaches involved on a fantastic achievement



# LEICESTERSHIRE & RUTLAND COUNTY DISABILITY ATHLETICS

Congratulations to our students who took part in the Leicestershire and Rutland County Disability Athletics Competition. All students engaged brilliantly in every event they competed in and showed fantastic determination throughout the day. Esme achieved U16 gold medals in the 100m, 200m and long jump, as well as a U16 bronze medal in shot put. Jerome qualified for the 100m final and earned bronze medals in both the 200m and long jump. Alfie reached the 100m final and finished in 8th place. This was a tremendous effort from everyone, especially while competing in challenging wind and rain conditions. We are incredibly proud of all of our athletes.



# HUSKY RACING

Another fantastic BSHRA season for Charlie and his team! Charlie finished 2nd overall in the 2025-26 standings, with six wins and five second places from his 11 counting events, finishing just one win short of the title.

Countless early mornings, dedicated training sessions in Sherwood Forest, and weekends racing around Thetford from November to March made for another memorable season. Well done Charlie, Cinders, Lyra, Sprite, Winnie and Zelda!



# CORBY ATHLETICS

Well done to James, Elliot and Patrick on a fantastic first athletics meet! After joining Corby Athletics Club just a month ago, they represented their club in the Heart of England League across the 100m, 200m, long jump, shot put and 4 x 100m relay. Together, they achieved an impressive collection of 2nd, 3rd and 4th place finishes, helping the club move from 5th to 2nd in the league standings.



# COUNTY ATHLETICS

Congratulations to the 32 students who represented the College at the County Athletics Finals, with medal winners including double gold medallists Mere (Year 7) and Maizie (Year 10). Maizie also claimed the 100m and 200m titles at the Leicestershire & Rutland County Championships and has been selected for the Leicestershire Player Development Group and the Ultimate Rugby Sevens Academy, recognising her outstanding achievements in both athletics and rugby.

# CELEBRATING OUR YOUNG CRICKET CHAMPIONS

Congratulations to Luna, who has been representing Leicestershire U13s, continuing to develop her batting, bowling and wicket-keeping skills against county opposition.

We are also celebrating the success of Anya, Cassidy, Luna, Mia and Shirli (all Year 8), who helped Uppingham Town CC win their local U13 league before being crowned 2026 county champions.

We are incredibly proud of their achievements on the pitch and the support they continue to show to younger players. Well done, everyone!



# EAST MIDLANDS TUMBLING CHAMPIONSHIPS

A huge congratulations to Hector, who proudly represented the East Midlands Region at the UK Tumbling Championships last weekend at Birmingham's Utilita Arena with Loughborough Acrobatics & Gymnastics Club.

After finishing 5th at the England Tumbling Championships last month, Hector narrowly missed out on a bronze medal by just 0.10 points. An incredible achievement—we're so proud of you and wish you the very best of luck for next year!





# VARSITY 2026

Thank you to all the students who have represented the College in the Varsity competition this year.







# YEAR 6 TRANSITION DAY

Year 6 students were welcomed to the College for their transition day. They enjoyed lessons in a range of subjects including maths, Science, performing arts, design technology and sport. We look forward to them joining us in September.

We are delighted to invite prospective students and their families to join us at our Open Evening on **Wednesday 30 September, 5.00 until 7.30pm**, with guided tours of our outstanding facilities and our unique educational offer. Staff and students look forward to welcoming you and giving a flavour of College life and answering any questions you may have.

Our Principal, Stuart Williams, will be giving a presentation during the evening, at 5.45pm and 6.45pm, there is no need to book.

# ROTARY YOUNG ARTIST COMPETITION

Huge congratulations to our talented Art students for their incredible achievements in this year's Rotary Art Competition!

Charlie achieved an outstanding 2nd place in both the Local and District competitions, while Naomi also secured 2nd place at both Local and District level. Robin took 1st place in the Intermediate Local competition, and Lilyana and Chloe were both recognised with a Highly Commended award.

We are incredibly proud of all of your creativity, hard work and success. Well done to everyone involved.



# MFL SPELLING BEE

Our Year 9 and 10 Modern Foreign Languages scholars hosted an exciting Spelling Bee for Year 7, creating an afternoon of fun, learning and friendly competition. They shared their passion for languages, inspiring younger students to embrace new opportunities. Year 7 left feeling motivated, confident and excited about their language-learning journey.



# RUTLAND DISABLED YOUTH FORUM

We are incredibly proud of Year 10 student Esme for representing the Rutland Disabled Youth Forum and sharing her experiences to help improve SEN provision.

Esme said:

"In March, I visited the Houses of Parliament with students from other schools, where two local MPs asked us about our experiences of the current SEN system and how it could be improved. I suggested that schools should have trained staff who can recognise undiagnosed SEN needs, helping families access the right support sooner."



# SPELLING BEE

Congratulations to all our Year 7 students who participated in the Catmose Spelling Bee. Joint first place went to Cameron & Sebastian, second place to Jacob, and in third place to Phoenix. Well done, everyone!



# HEAD STUDENTS FOR THE NEW ACADEMIC YEAR

Congratulations to Harsh and Eva who will be supported in their roles by deputy heads Oliver S, Sophie, Oliver M, Sofia and their team of subject ambassadors and senior prefects.

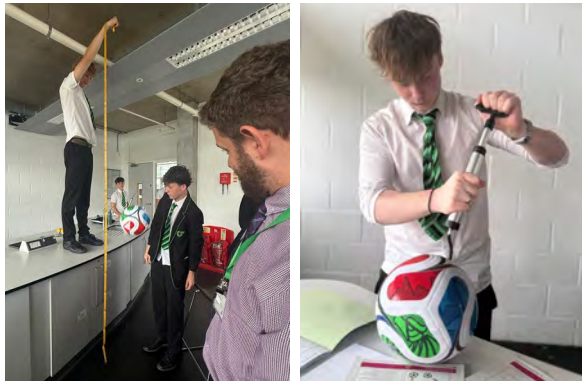


# IMMERSIVE LEARNING: YEAR 10 STEP INTO 1066

Our Year 10 History students stepped back to 1066 as they took part in a re-enactment of the Battle of Hastings to deepen their understanding of the Historic Environment topic for GCSE History.

Students formed Norman and Saxon armies, with Norman troops demonstrating the strengths of their archers, cavalry and infantry. They brought key moments of the battle to life, from William removing his helmet to prove he was alive and inspire his troops, to the famous account of Harold Godwinson being struck in the eye.

A fantastic hands-on learning experience that helped students immerse themselves in one of the most significant battles in English history.



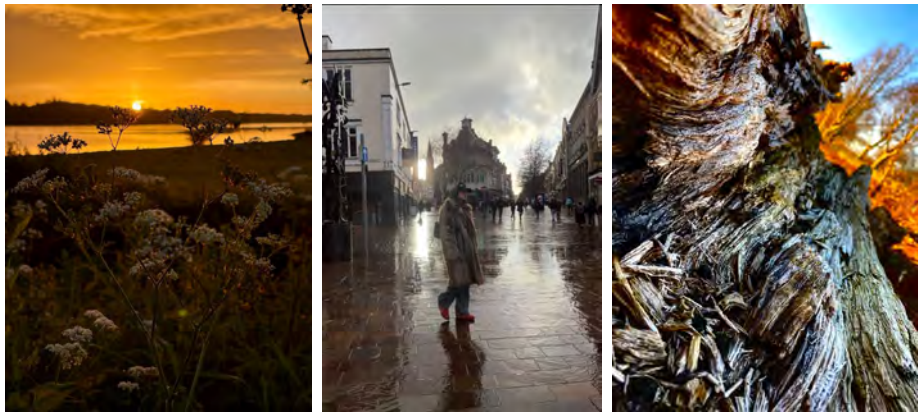
# SCIENCE IN ACTION: TESTING A WORLD CUP FOOTBALL

Our Science class explored how World Cup footballs are tested before being approved for play.

Students learned about checks for size, weight, bounce, pressure, and durability, then tried some of the tests themselves!

A brilliant hands-on lesson combining sport, science, and engineering.





# CAPTURING CREATIVITY, CELEBRATING SUCCESS

Our talented students have been capturing the beauty of Rutland and Leicestershire through the lens! Working in partnership with Bellway East Midlands, students took part in a photography competition, with the winning images now set to be displayed at the Barleywoods showhome. A huge congratulations to everyone who entered, and a special well done to our winners: Abbie (Year 10), Hope (Year 9) and Sebastian (Year 7). A big thank you to Bellway East Midlands for giving our students this fantastic opportunity to showcase their photography and creativity.



# ENGLISH SCHOLARS TRIP TO TOLETHORPE

Our English Scholars enjoyed a trip to Tolethorpe to watch the youth production of Animal Farm. Despite the hot weather, the performance was outstanding and thoroughly enjoyed by everyone.

We were especially proud to see several former English Scholars and Catmose alumni performing in the production. Following the show, our students had the opportunity to take part in an engaging Q&A session with the cast and directors, gaining valuable insight into the production and performance process.

The visit was a wonderful way to round off the year, and we look forward to providing many more exciting opportunities for our English Scholars next year.

# CATMOSE OPEN DOUBLE TABLE TENNIS

Our Year 8 students had a fantastic day at Burton Lazars Farm, exploring the many careers available in agriculture and the food industry. From fieldwork and animal husbandry to meeting sheep and cattle and getting up close to farm machinery, students discovered the skills and people behind modern farming. The day ended with a challenge to identify all the careers involved in producing a simple BLT sandwich, from farmers and vets to food scientists, transport teams and retailers. A brilliant day of hands-on learning that inspired students to think about the many careers that help put food on our tables.





## FAREWELL YEAR 11. ONWARDS TO YOUR NEXT CHAPTER...

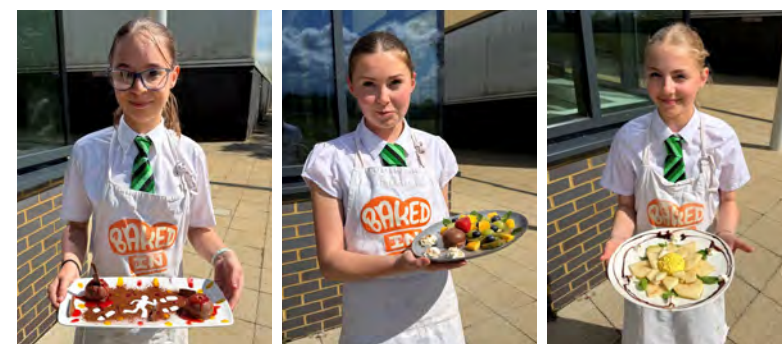


## MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING

After four weeks of auditions, we are delighted to announce the cast for our production of Much Ado About Nothing. We are excited to be taking a company of 33 talented actors to perform at the Key Theatre, Peterborough, as part of the Shakespeare Schools Festival, as well as for local primary schools and their families.

The standard of auditions was exceptionally high, making the decisions incredibly difficult. Year 12 Harington students Anna and Ailee helped with the final auditions for the younger years, which was a particularly challenging process.

The cast bring creativity, skill, commitment and energy, and we can't wait to see what each person contributes to this fantastic ensemble. Every member is invaluable, and we know this will be a rewarding and unforgettable experience for everyone involved.



## TUNNOCKS TEACAKE CREATIONS

Our Year 9 Food students put their creativity to the test in a special presentation challenge, transforming a Tunnock's Teacake into stunning plated designs inspired by the theme of 'Culture and Traditions'.

Using seasonal and locally sourced ingredients, students created some fantastic dishes. Well done to everyone who took part!



# Thank you

to  
The Duke of Edinburgh's Award participants

from

Catmose College

who spent

1599 Hours

volunteering between  
1 April 2025 and 31 March 2026.

We are immensely proud of the dedication, effort and achievement  
of young people making an impact in their community.

The social value of these hours is

£12072

June 2026

# THANK YOU TO ALL OUR DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD VOLUNTEERS

Our students participating in our DoE Awards were recently presented a Volunteer Hour Certificate for 2026 on behalf of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

Social value certificates recognise the fantastic work that our students do for their communities. The certificate also shows a monetary value to students' efforts towards the Volunteering section of their DoE. The statistics revealed that our students clocked up a huge 1599 hours of volunteering as part of their DoE this year, with an estimated total value of £12072.

We know volunteering changes lives, that is why it is such a vital part of our DoE programme. It's more than our students just giving their time; it's about discovering passions, building confidence, and gaining skills that last a lifetime.

You can find out more about The Duke of Edinburgh's Award by visiting our [website](https://www.dofe.org/)





# OPEN EVENING

WEDNESDAY 30 SEPTEMBER  
FROM 5.00 - 7.30PM

Catmose College is an Outstanding School  
Ofsted



## WHAT'S ON



SCAN TO KEEP  
UP-TO-DATE  
WITH EVENTS

### SEPTEMBER 2026

|                                   |                                                                |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Thursday 3</b>                 | Term 1. College opens                                          |
| <b>Monday 21 &amp; Tuesday 22</b> | Year 7 Bushcraft Trip                                          |
| <b>Wednesday 23</b>               | Year 8-11 flu immunisations                                    |
| <b>Friday 25</b>                  | My Future Event (Careers) - Years 9-11 / Years 7-8 (Lunchtime) |
| <b>Wednesday 30</b>               | Year 7 flu immunisations<br><b>OPEN EVENING 5.00-7.30pm</b>    |

### OCTOBER 2026

|                       |                                        |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------------|
| <b>Monday 5-12</b>    | German exchange (Home)                 |
| <b>Thursday 8-10</b>  | Year 10 Drama London residential       |
| <b>Thursday 15-18</b> | Year 9 & 10 Spanish Malaga residential |
| <b>Friday 16</b>      | End of Term 1. College closes          |

### NOVEMBER 2026

|                        |                                                  |
|------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Monday 2</b>        | Term 2. College opens                            |
| <b>Tuesday 3</b>       | Year 7 - 10 individual photographs               |
| <b>Monday 9</b>        | Year 11 Print Workshop Trip                      |
| <b>Tuesday 17</b>      | Rotary Young Chef competition                    |
| <b>Wednesday 18-20</b> | Year 10 PE climbing residential                  |
| <b>Thursday 19</b>     | Year 7 Private Peaceful theatre trip             |
| <b>Thursday 19</b>     | Much Ado About Nothing performance (6.30-7.30pm) |
| <b>Tuesday 24</b>      | Blood Brothers theatre trip                      |
| <b>Thursday 26</b>     | Year 7 & 8 author visit                          |
| <b>Thursday 26</b>     | Presentation Evening for Year 11 (6-8pm)         |
| <b>Monday 30</b>       | Year 11 Business Trip to Cadbury World           |

### DECEMBER 2026

|                     |                                                         |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Thursday 3</b>   | Charlie & the Chocolate Factory performing arts trip    |
| <b>Wednesday 9</b>  | Charlie & the Chocolate Factory performing arts trip    |
| <b>Wednesday 16</b> | Christmas Concert, All Saints' Church Oakham (6.30-8pm) |
| <b>Friday 18</b>    | End of Term 2 College closes                            |