

**King Alfred's Academy**  
**Academic Enrichment Newsletter**  
**Autumn Term 2, 2023-24**



Dear Students (and Parents/Carers),

Welcome to the Academic Enrichment Newsletter for the Autumn Break and Term 2!

There are so many opportunities for our students to continue to nurture their intellectual curiosity and independent learning!

For ease of navigation and to avoid repetition, and as most institutions are now offering a mix of both in-person and online events, the Newsletter is divided into three sections:

- (a) [Events and Exhibitions](#) organised by Institutions such as Museums and Academic Bodies – in-person events and online events will be clearly signposted.
- (b) [Websites to explore](#)
- (c) [The Competition Corner](#)

Do make a note of our forthcoming KAAEP Talk (see box below). And don't forget to check out some of the talks and activities from the Wantage Literary Festival this half-term (see p. 2)!

The Academic Enrichment Newsletter is part of the work of the Academic Enrichment Programme (AEP) at King Alfred's, and its aim is to share with the whole school some of the various opportunities on offer in our immediate locality that students can pursue independently. We would like to develop an ever-stronger partnership with our parents in promoting the intellectual development and curiosity of all our students.

Pam Stokell

*Head of Academic Enrichment*

**Date for your Diary**

**KAAEP Talk: The Anthropology of Film and Drama, with Dr Chihab El Khachab**  
**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November, 2023. 6:30 – 8:00pm**  
**King Alfred's Sixth Form Auditorium**

[Dr Chihab El Khachab](#) is a social anthropologist from the University of Oxford, and he specialises in visual and media anthropology. (Anthropology is the study of all things relating to humans – culture, society, biology, evolution.)

Chihab is very excited about coming to our school to talk about his work on the anthropology of media and drama, and he has asked about the films and plays that we use in school, so that he can make his talk even more relevant.

Chihab will also give us an overview of Anthropology as a subject, and I would encourage **all** our students curious to find out more about Anthropology to come along this evening, as anthropology is one of those multi-disciplinary subjects that mix science and the humanities.

Yes, if you love both areas of study, then anthropology might be just what you are looking for! You might not need to choose between one and the other. So come and find out more!



If you would like to book your seats, please go to <https://forms.office.com/r/tLL1argH2g>, or email Pam Stokell at [pstokell@ka.vale-academy.org](mailto:pstokell@ka.vale-academy.org).

## Exhibitions and Events (both in person and/or Livestreamed) from Museums and other Academic Bodies



The banner features the Wantage Literary Festival logo on the left, which includes a stylized 'W' and the text 'Wantage LITERARY FESTIVAL'. On the right, it displays the dates '21 October – 4 November 2023' and the charity number 'Registered Charity No. 1165315'. Below the logo, the text reads 'WELCOME TO THE Wantage Literary Festival... Back with Gusto!'.

### **The Wantage Literary Festival is with us for the Half Term Break (and a little longer)**

*Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> October – Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> November, 2023*

We are incredibly fortunate to have a team of people so enthusiastic about literature that they will work together to bring us a superb literary festival, seeking out world-class speakers on all manner of subjects – the only thing they have in common is that they have written a book, but that book could be on any genre of fiction, and any non-fiction subject.

This year, among the many outstanding speakers we have:

- Will Gompetz, who will be exploring the mindsets of artists, from modern art to the great masters.
- Alex Seaton, who will be taking us on an engaging tour of the history of the NHS
- Dr Marieke Bigg, who will be discussing the concept that medicine is definitely not gender neutral
- Helen Fry, discussing the contribution of women to Civilian and Military Intelligence
- Tom Moorhouse, exploring the life of Hedgehogs and their conservation
- Dr Connor O'Brien, discussing the life of King Alfred in terms of conflict, culture and identity

And so much more – the above is just a taster to some of the talks, There are also organised activities at both the Wantage Museum and the Library, a free Harry Potter trail around the town (you can pick up the trail at the Library).

All talks and activities have age guidance, and there are concession tickets for students.

For more information, and to book your places, please visit: [Wantage Literary Festival | Wantage Oxfordshire](https://www.wantage-literary-festival.co.uk/)

## Livestreamed Event

### **The Language Show – Live!**

*Friday 10<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November, 2023*

I do not normally post things that are not free, but I thought that some of our students and their families might nevertheless be interested, especially as the £11 fee buys access to three days' worth of fascinating talks, tasters, entertainment and events, all online. And you also have three months to catch up on anything that you may have missed. So do take a look at the schedule of speakers and events, because it sounds amazing!

[The Language Show – For language learners, language teachers and everyone who loves languages \(languageshowlive.co.uk\)](https://www.languageshowlive.co.uk/)





## Livestreamed Event

### Young Marine Biologist Summit: Driving Change

**Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> November, 2023, 10am – 4pm**

This summit is aimed at students aged between 13 and 18, but younger children are welcome to watch with their families. This is an online event, and completely free.

Those of you who came along to Dr Bry Wilson's talk on his work as a marine biologist will recall him saying that the world *needs* more marine biologists to research and understand the changes that our planet is undergoing. This summit is all about Ocean Conservation – could you be part of the solution?

You will need to book your place beforehand. To book:

<https://mymba.mba.ac.uk/ems-event-booking-page/young-marine-biologist-summit-driving-change.html>



### The Royal Economics Society Public Annual Lecture: Capitalism, carbon, and colonies – looking back and looking forward, with Professor Wendy Carlin

Last Summer, we were able to take a minibus of A Level Economics Students to the University of Reading, for an Economics Study Day run by the Royal Economic Society. As part of this, our students were able to attend this talk, the Society's Public Annual Lecture, given by Professor Wendy Carlin of University College London (UCL). Professor Carlin is also Research Fellow of the CEPR and external professor at the Santa Fe Institute. Her research is on macroeconomics, institutions and

economic performance, the economics of transition, and evolution of economic research and education. In 2015, she was awarded a CBE for services to economics and public finance and in 2022 elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. And this talk is worth listening to. Find the recording here: [Annual Public Lecture - Royal Economic Society \(res.org.uk\)](https://res.org.uk)



**The Royal Institution**  
Science Lives Here



Yes, the Royal Institution was set up for the dissemination of scientific ideas, but they are careful to appeal to a very broad

range of interests, and their talks are an excellent place to start looking out for those priceless links between subjects that make learning so exciting. (And which will make you stand out from the crowd if you choose to apply to a top-level university.)



### Recorded Talk: The mystery of human and non-human consciousness

Join renowned psychologist and philosopher **Nicholas Humphrey** as he presents his theory of 'phenomenal consciousness' in full for the first time.

Weaving together leading-edge science and personal breakthrough experiences, Nicholas provides a comprehensive look at the evolution of consciousness. You

can watch it here: [How did consciousness evolve? - with Nicholas Humphrey - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...)



### **Recorded Talk: Using maths to expect the unexpected**

Join Kit Yates, in our latest YouTube release, as he explores how, for just as long as we've been making predictions, we've also been getting them wrong. From religious oracles to weather forecasters, the foibles of our own biology can let us down when it comes to making rational inferences about the world around us. Yet in understanding how and why predictions go wrong, lies the

answer to getting our own predictions correct. [Using maths to expect the unexpected – with Kit Yates - YouTube](#)



### **Ten Recorded Talks by female speakers**

This is an excellent selection of talks, from ten different speakers, on topics as diverse as Epigenetics and Antimatter. Dive in and expand your scientific horizons!

[10 mind-blowing science talks by female speakers | Royal Institution \(ri.org\)](#)

Ri Science Podcast



### **And did you know – the Ri has a Podcast!**

Most of those amazing talks which you can watch anytime on the Ri's Youtube channel are also available as podcasts, so you can listen in wherever you are. The link below will take you to the great talk by Lucy Cooke, who will take you on a journey through an array of different animal examples as she explores evolution: [Podcast: How did females evolve? - with Lucy Cooke | Royal Institution \(ri.org\)](#)

And there is lots more at: [Browse our science online | Royal Institution \(ri.org\)](#)

## **The Linnean Society Online Talks**

The Linnean Society of London is the world's oldest active biological society, dating back to 1788. It has a wide and varied programme of talks, and you can also arrange to visit their library at Burlington House, London.

[The Linnean Society | Communicating Nature Since 1788](#)



### **FREE Online talks from the Linnean Society**

Please note that these free online talks have been chosen because they fit in outside of school. Sixth Formers, if you have a study period during the day, it might be worth checking whether you can catch one of their lunch-time talks. Check out the events page online at: [Upcoming Events | The Linnean Society](#)



### **Livestreamed Talk: Tundra Plant Responses to a rapidly warming Climate**

*Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2023, 6:00- 8:00pm*

The Arctic is warming four times faster than the rest of the planet with widespread impacts that are altering carbon cycling, wildlife dynamics and ultimately influencing the the global climate. Tundra vegetation is increasing, and bare ground is decreasing, and where plants were already present,

they are now growing taller.

As the climate warms, the biodiversity of tundra plant communities is shifting in surprising ways. For more information and to book: [The Linnean Society - VeryConnect](#)

## [There are some fabulous museums almost on our doorstep – why not take a look around the University Museums of Oxford?](#)

We are lucky to have some world-class museums just a short bus ride away. However, do check on their websites as many of the exhibitions still require you to book a timed ticket in order to reduce congestion in the galleries.

Take a look at:

[The Ashmolean Museum](#)

[The Weston \(Bodleian\) Library](#)

[The Pitt Rivers Museum](#)

[The History of Science Museum](#) and

[The Natural History Museum](#).

Please note that there are other museums in Oxford, but these five are the University Museums and all are centrally situated within walking distance of one another. For example, you might like to visit the [Soldiers of Oxfordshire Museum](#) in Woodstock, and our Vale and Downland Museum in Wantage.



### [Explore in Person](#)

#### [The Main Exhibition at the Ashmolean - Colour Revolution: Victorian Art, Fashion and Design](#)

*Open now until the 18<sup>th</sup> February 2024*

Somehow, most of us have an idea of Victorian Britain as somewhat monochrome, dull and strait-laced. This exhibition will lead you to rediscover Victorian society as a vibrant colour-filled era – from dazzling dyes used in chic corsets, bold experiments by avant-garde painters, and the flamboyant use of nature's beauty in jewellery.

To book your tickets and find out more, please visit: [COLOUR](#)

[REVOLUTION: VICTORIAN ART, FASHION & DESIGN EXHIBITION | Ashmolean Museum](#)

**Please note: this exhibition has timed tickets, and the tickets are priced at £12.25, with concessions down to £6 for a 12-17-year-old child, and free entry for children under 12.**

### [Explore at Home](#)

#### [Dive into the Ashmolean's Collection of Short Story Videos](#)

This is a great collection of *short* snippets that reveal more about some of the recent exhibitions, as well as some of the hidden stories behind some of the items in the Collections. Stimulating and thought-provoking. Do take a look!

[STORIES | Ashmolean Museum](#)

### [Have you looked at the Home Learning Section?](#)

Ideal for KS3 exploration on a rainy day! Here you will find videos, short articles, photographs and things to make and do, on topics from Ancient Egypt to the Anglo Saxons, as well as jigsaw puzzles, Animal Crossing characters, and art and craft activities to do at home.

[HOME LEARNING | Ashmolean Museum](#)



### [And if you are inspired to see more, then browse through the Ashmolean's Treasures](#)

You might retort that the whole of the Ashmolean Museum is filled with Treasures, so these items that are especially selected as the Museum's Treasures must have great significance indeed, possibly because of their rarity, or the place they held at the time. Do take a look, and then maybe head over to the Museum to see them for real!

[TREASURES | Ashmolean Museum](#)



### [Explore online:](#)

#### [The Ashmolean for Young People](#)

This is a great section to explore, with advice on the sorts of careers that you find within a museum (you might be surprised!!), as well as challenges and other activities to try out at home.

[YOUNG PEOPLE | Ashmolean Museum](#)

### [Explore in Person:](#)

#### [A few of the Free Exhibitions and displays at the Ashmolean:](#)

(Please note: although entry to all of these exhibitions is FREE, it is advisable to book a free general admission ticket in advance. Please book your tickets at: [EXHIBITIONS | Ashmolean Museum](#))



#### **Ashmolean Now: Flora Yukhnovich and Daniel Crews-Chubb**

*Available until January 2024*

Ashmolean NOW is an Exhibition series where contemporary artists are invited to create new work inspired by the Ashmolean's historical collections. The first exhibition is dedicated to contemporary painting. It juxtaposes the work of two London-based painters, Flora Yukhnovich and Daniel Crews-Chubb. You can find out more at: [ASHMOLEAN NOW: FLORA YUKHNOVICH x DANIEL CREWS-CHUBB | Ashmolean Museum](#)

*Gallery 8*



#### **Counterpoint**

*Available until 12<sup>th</sup> November 2023*

The artwork **Counterpoint** was created as a response to the Ashmolean's Chantrey Wall. It faces the imposing display of 16 busts by the sculptor Frances Chantrey representing wealthy, influential figures from the 18th century.

*Opposite the Chantrey Wall, First Floor*



#### **Kabuki Legends**

*Available until 4<sup>th</sup> February 2024*

Japanese artist **Takahashi Hiromitsu** creates dynamic, colourful prints showing exciting moments in kabuki, Japan's traditional dance-drama. Hiromitsu's striking designs are not portraits of actual actors, but visualisations of famous kabuki roles.

*Gallery 29*



#### **Fang Lijun: Portraits and Porcelain**

*Available until 14<sup>th</sup> April 2024*

This exhibition celebrates more than 100 artworks by the contemporary Chinese artist **Fang Lijun**, on loan from his studios in Beijing and Jingdezhen and from private collections. It showcases Fang's paintings and drawings, and also ceramics produced in the last five years.

*Gallery 11*

### [Upcoming events at the Ashmolean:](#)

There are also a number of events. Many of the talks are available both in person and online. DO take a look and see if there is something to tickle your interest at: [EVENTS | Ashmolean Museum](#) (This is one of those websites that is worth keeping an eye on as interesting events come up on a regular basis.)



## From the Soldiers of Oxfordshire Museum

### **Exhibition: The Art of British War Comics**

Available until 30<sup>th</sup> April, 2024

An exciting exhibition looking at the comics that portrayed the war during the War and in the years following. It's a great exhibition to consider the biases and messages that were being promoted to (predominantly) younger people during this time.



### **Recorded Online Talks**

The Soldiers of Oxfordshire Museum has amassed a fantastic collection of recorded talks, with titles including *The Secret Life of Ian Fleming*; *The Pegasus Bridge Story* and *T.E. Lawrence: the Unconventional Warrior*. You can find all three series of talks here:

[Online Talks – Soldiers of Oxfordshire Museum](#)



## Step into the Pitt Rivers Museum

Step into the Pitt Rivers and it is like stepping back in time, into a Museum ages past, where exhibits from all over the world crowd in on you from all sides. But the Pitt Rivers is totally modern in its outlook and seeks to represent the world in all its wonder and diversity. Booking is now only needed if you are attending a special event with limited numbers.

### Explore in Person

In addition to the permanent Exhibitions, do take a look at some of the current temporary exhibitions and displays at the Pitt Rivers:

### **Special Exhibition: Unmasked – Spirit in the City**

Available until 7<sup>th</sup> January 2024



'Masquerade is a public spectacle based on disguise. In the ethnographic museum, masks are presented as if they reveal the mysteries of a culture and its cosmology. But masking has always been current, reflecting the times in which it is performed, and the landscapes - including cities - that masked spirits encounter.

This is what *Unmasked: spirit in the city* investigates. This show combines anthropology and contemporary art to capture the complex emotional stories behind a modern urban masquerade called Agaba. To find out more: [Unmasked: Spirit in the City | Pitt Rivers Museum \(ox.ac.uk\)](#)

In addition, you can watch the film of the making of the Agaba Mask at [Agaba Mask Carving by Tonye Agala - YouTube](#)

### **Display: Native American Portraiture by Shane Balkowitsch**

Available until 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2024



The photographs in this, the first UK exhibition of American ambrotypist Shane Balkowitsch's work, have been selected from a recent acquisition by the Pitt Rivers Museum of forty original plates.

Balkowitsch has set out to create one thousand portraits of Native American people using this historical wet plate photographic process, and to collaborate closely with each sitter on their photographs.

To find out more, visit: [Collaborating with the past | Pitt Rivers Museum \(ox.ac.uk\)](#)



## Na Mele o Hula Kahiko

***Available until 24<sup>th</sup> April 2024***

Find out more about how the tradition of Hula is centred within the Hawaiian landscape and ecosystem, through this display that includes a stunning quilt depicting Hula motifs.

Display Case C.95.A (Ground Floor Court)

## Mo'olelo of the Ahupua'a

***Available until March 2025***

Encounter Hawaiian stories of living, working, playing and learning within a sustainable landscape through this display of paintings by Solomon Enos on the first floor of the museum.

Didcot Case (Lower Gallery)

## His Dark Materials – Trail around the Museum

If you are a fan of Phillip Pullman's *His Dark Materials*, and you watched the BBC HBO TV series, then do pop along to the Pitt Rivers as, dotted all around the galleries, you will find props from the series. To find out more, visit: [His Dark Materials | Pitt Rivers Museum \(ox.ac.uk\)](https://www.pitt-rivers-museum.ox.ac.uk)



## Online Archive: Curious about some of the Past Pitt Rivers Exhibitions that you may have missed?

You will find many of the past exhibitions here: [Past exhibitions | Pitt Rivers Museum \(ox.ac.uk\)](https://www.pitt-rivers-museum.ox.ac.uk)

## Pitt Youth Action Team



Are you wondering what goes on behind the scenes at a vibrant Museum such as the Pitt Rivers? The Pitt Youth Action Team are a group of like-minded young people – typically aged between 16 and 19 – who meet at the Museum once a month. They are offered opportunities to have a real impact on the way the Museum interprets its collections, usually going behind the scenes to advise and consult with staff over exhibition materials, run activities at public events and plan projects. If you would like to know more, please [contact](#) the young people's co-ordinator at the Museum.



## At The History of Science Museum of Oxford:

The Museum is open between 12:00 and 5:00pm Tuesday to Sunday.

### Explore in Person:



### **Exhibition: Step into Lyra's Worlds – props and costumes from the BBC HBO series *His Dark Materials***

Available until December 2023

The History of Science Museum influenced the design of the Alethiometer. Come and discover your Daemon and journey

through the Museum with your daemon guide to discover stories of creative leaders, resourceful adventurers, daring visionaries and ingenious scholars.

There are objects and stories to find as a family in each gallery before you enter the world of Philip Pullman's international best-selling trilogy, *His Dark Materials*. Step into Lyra's study, under a canopy of stars and Dust, to discover props and costumes from the BBC HBO production, including Lyra's alethiometer from the series.

Explore the Museum's intriguing dials and devices that inspired Philip Pullman to create the alethiometer. *Basement Gallery*.

### **Alice in Typhoidland: The Past and Present of Typhoid**

Discover the long history and cutting-edge research behind the typhoid vaccination and its roll-out.

**Discover** how Victorian doctors and scientists helped make typhoid visible and developed the first typhoid vaccines, and **Learn** about the current challenges of typhoid across the world and what researchers in Oxford are doing to tackle it.

To find out more about the Exhibition, visit: [Alice in Typhoidland | History of Science Museum \(ox.ac.uk\)](https://www.historyofsciencemuseum.ox.ac.uk/exhibitions/alice-in-typhoidland)

You will find the Exhibition in the *Basement Gallery*.



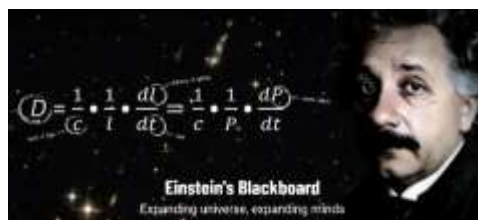
### **Meet Guglielmo Marconi – one of the minds who made the modern world**

Through the work and experiments of Marconi, Radio was born.

This exhibition, housed within this Morris Minor Traveller Van, explains some of Marconi's journey of discovery and its legacy in the terms of radio and microwave physics.

Explore how Marconi's science experiments revolutionised the way that the whole world stays connected.

*Basement Gallery* (You can also explore some the exhibition at home: [Making Waves | History of Science Museum \(ox.ac.uk\)](https://www.historyofsciencemuseum.ox.ac.uk/exhibitions/making-waves))



### **Display and Online Story**

One of the most famous artefacts on display at the History of Science Museum is Einstein's blackboard, hanging high on the wall of the Basement Gallery.

This blackboard is more than a glimpse into the mind of a genius, however: it is a key moment in our understanding of the Cosmos. To find out more, visit the online story

here: [Einstein's Blackboard \(shorthandstories.com\)](https://www.shorthandstories.com/einsteins-blackboard) and, next time you're in Oxford, pop into the museum to see the blackboard for yourself.

## Discover the Collection: Science in the Islamic World

The History of Science Museum houses one of the world's most comprehensive collections of astronomical instruments from the Islamic World.

Ranging from the 800s CE to the present day, these scientific objects were created and used by people living in *lands where the majority religion was — or is — Islam*. While the artisans who made them came from different regions — Europe, Africa, the Middle East and Asia — the objects themselves still share many similar, distinctive characteristics.

And though the instrument makers all lived and worked in the Islamic World, they were not all themselves Muslim. The result is a fascinatingly rich and diverse collection. For more information, please go to: [Science in the Islamic World | History of Science Museum \(ox.ac.uk\)](https://www.hsm.ox.ac.uk/science-in-the-islamic-world)



### Display: on Prayer

This display was curated by the Young Producers volunteer group in collaboration with the Museum Curators. The display employs many of the scientific instruments from the Islamic Science Collection in order to highlight their role within the theme of Prayer. To find out more, please visit [Young Producers Curating Prayer: A display in the Islamic World collection - Inside HSM Oxford](https://www.hsm.ox.ac.uk/young-producers-curating-prayer)

## Online Exhibition: Mirror of the Stars



“Pick up an Astrolabe, and you hold the Universe in your hands.”

Join Museum curators Dr Federica Gigante and Mathilde Daussy-Renaudin to explore how astrolabes mirrored the traditional view of the Earth at the centre of our moving universe. This step-by-step tour of the Exhibition takes you through what astrolabes were and how they were used in so many aspects of everyday life. Visit: [Mirror of the Stars |](https://www.hsm.ox.ac.uk/mirror-of-the-stars)

[History of Science Museum \(ox.ac.uk\)](https://www.hsm.ox.ac.uk)



### Read the Blog: Why our History Matters – a look at the decolonisation project that will explore the origins of the founding collection

Consider the role of museums in general and then explore the origins of some of the key collection artefacts, learn about the way the items were procured and discover some of the hidden voices and stories that lie within them.

[Finding and Founding Blog One Our History Matters | History of Science Museum \(ox.ac.uk\)](https://www.hsm.ox.ac.uk/blog/finding-and-founding)



### Watch again: the collection of recent past talks

Scroll down the page to reach the Museum's Youtube collection of recent past events, which include a talk on Board Games and Mediaeval Medicine, and a discussion on whether science can always be considered “fact”.

[What's on | History of Science Museum \(ox.ac.uk\)](https://www.hsm.ox.ac.uk/whats-on)

You can also go on to take a virtual tour of the galleries at:

[Current Displays and Exhibitions | History of Science Museum \(ox.ac.uk\)](https://www.hsm.ox.ac.uk/current-displays-and-exhibitions)

## And from the Natural History Museum of Oxford:



### **Explore in Person: Exhibition – Tell it to the Birds**

*Available until 2<sup>nd</sup> December, 2023*

With this sound art installation, you are invited to confess a secret into a lichen-scented hemisphere. Custom software then live "translates" your words into birdsong for all to hear — yet only you know the meaning of your song.

Birds sing to communicate with each other. We can only imagine what their own subjective experience of their songs

may be. Although birdsong is not intended for humans, it has long fascinated us, inspiring musicians such as Messiaen, Pink Floyd, and Kate Bush to 'quote' birds in their compositions. Find out more at: [Tell it to the Birds: Jenny Kendler | Oxford University Museum of Natural History](#)



### **The Climate Hope Museum Trail**

*Available until 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023*

Natural and social scientists – including many at the University of Oxford – have contributed to our understanding of climate science and the impacts of climate change on people and the natural world. At the same time, the arts and humanities can help us make sense of how to navigate this change and take meaningful climate action.

This museum trail and digital learning experience is aimed at families and school groups. Learn more about the objects on the trail through videos and interactive digital content. You can also share the objects and stories that give you hope when it comes to climate change.

For more information, visit: [Museum of Climate Hope Trail | Oxford University Museum of Natural History](#)



### **Free, drop-in Crafts session: Make Origami**

*Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> October, 2023 14:00-15:30*

Learn how to make your favourite museum animals **in origami**. Help will be on hand to create a range of origami animals from the very simple to the more challenging.

**For ages 10-14.** This event is **free** but **booking is essential**.

Email [education@oum.ox.ac.uk](mailto:education@oum.ox.ac.uk) to secure your place.



### **Free talk: Unravelling the Purple Emperor**

*Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November, 2023 19:00-20:00*

Does this majestic butterfly really spend its life boozing, fighting and chasing birds? Hear from ecologist and author Matthew Oates.

Entry to this event is free, but [booking is required](#).



### **Museums After Dark**

*Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November, 2023*

Twice a year, the Museum of Natural History and Pitt Rivers open after dark, hosting a range of evening activities. Come face-to-face with specimens and enjoy activities hosted by researchers, creatives, and collections staff.

Experience the Museum of Natural History and Pitt-Rivers Museum as you have never seen them before. Get close up and personal with specimens and artefacts not usually on display under our illuminated dinosaurs to take your own adventure with live music, talks, activities, tours and a bar.

Attractions include Insect handling; Behind-the-scenes tours; Talks; Board games; Crafts; Exhibition tours; Live music performances... and more! Tickets are FREE, but must be booked in advance at [After Dark: Museums Late Night Tickets, Fri 24 Nov 2023 at 19:00 | Eventbrite](#)

## Panel Discussion: Talking about Fair Water

27<sup>th</sup> November 2023, 18:00 – 19:30

A fair water future is where everyone has access to the good quality water needed to survive.



Inequalities in water security are felt around the globe, often in nations in Africa and in South Asia where challenges are greatest and poverty most acute.

What can we do, locally or globally, to help enable good quality water for all? How can we inspire positive action? This live panel discussion brings together experts from multiple backgrounds and diverse perspectives. For more information and to book your FREE tickets, go to: [Talking about Fair](#)

[Water | Oxford University Museum of Natural History](#)



## Free talk: Lorises in Human Landscapes: Ecology, Threats and Conservation

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December, 2023 19:00-20:00

Drop in talk – no need to book.

Can your daily cup of coffee be wildlife-friendly? Coffee farms in Indonesia are a major habitat for slow lorises. Hear all about the threats, diet, home ranges and behaviour of Slow Lorises and how working with farmers feeds into conservation. For more information, **go to:** [Lorises in Human](#)

[Landscapes: Ecology, Threats, and Conservation | Oxford University Museum of Natural History](#)

The Natural History Museum has a number of regular family-friendly events, such as *Science Saturdays*, *Autism-Friendly Openings* and *Family Friendly Sundays*. Do take a look at their website to check out the whole programme of events: [WHAT'S ON | Oxford University Museum of Natural History](#)

If you have not visited the Museum of Natural History in the last 18 months, then it is well worth a visit as there are new displays on biodiversity and the natural world in all the cabinets down the central aisle of the Museum! And they are stunning.

In addition to the couple of events mentioned above, the museum holds regular sessions on object handling. To find out more, head to [WHAT'S ON | Oxford University Museum of Natural History](#) where you will find several pages' worth of events.



## [Young People at the University of Oxford's Museum of Natural History](#)

DO visit this section for ideas of how to get involved (e.g. the regular Youth Forum for ages 16-19) as well as online challenges and resources. Keep an eye on this page as it is updated.

[Young people | Oxford University Museum of Natural History](#)

## [From the Bodleian Libraries](#)

If you find yourself in the city of Oxford, why not take a walk down Broad Street and pop into the Bodleian Library to see one or more of the four Exhibitions listed below. All are FREE to enter, and you do not need to book beforehand.



### **In Person Exhibition: Gifts and Books**

*Available until 29<sup>th</sup> October 2023*

The giving and receiving of gifts is fundamental to human societies. Drawing on material from ancient Sumerian writing tablets to contemporary fiction for children, *Gifts and Books* will explore the importance of gift-giving through books and across time, and how this apparently simple act reveals wider interactions.

Do you have a story about a treasured book you have been given? Then the Bodleian Library would love to hear from you as they are hoping to incorporate lots of individual stories in the exhibition. [Find out more and share your story.](#)



### **In Person Exhibition: Alphabets Alive!**

*Opening on 19<sup>th</sup> July, and available until 21<sup>st</sup> January 2024*

Something magical happens when letters and the book become the raw material of art.

*Alphabets Alive!* brings the magic of books and alphabets to life, featuring more than 150 works inspired by the alphabet – manuscripts, prints, posters, sculptures,

alphabet books and, especially, artists' books in their many shapes, sizes, colours, materials and languages. Find out more: [Alphabets Alive! | Visit the Bodleian Libraries \(ox.ac.uk\)](#)



### **Film: Decolonisation in Motion**

*Various dates: 25<sup>th</sup> October, and 1<sup>st</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> November 2023*

Tickets are FREE, but must be booked in advance .

*Decolonisation in Motion* explores how African decolonisation was imagined and represented at its high point in the 1960s. What hierarchies did the end of colonial rule undo, and which ones remained? How were transnational solidarities forged, and what were their limitations? Who got to tell the story of

decolonisation? Who did they tell it to? What kinds of aesthetic innovations were seen as embodying political transformations?

For more information and to book your FREE tickets, go to : [Decolonisation in Motion | Visit the Bodleian Libraries \(ox.ac.uk\)](#)



### **Special Event: Gifts and Books Day**

*Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2023, 10:00 – 15:30*

A drop-in FREE event. Lots to see and do on this Special Event day, linked to the Exhibition “Gifts and Books”. Enjoy hands-on activities, storytelling, taster talks and readings in this celebration of giving, books and stories. The day includes a “blind date with a book”, where you bring a book that you recommend, wrap it up and write a brief description. Then

exchange it for one that intrigues you.

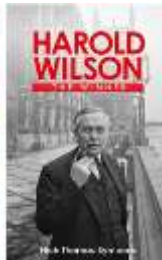
For more information, please go to: [Gifts and Books Day | Visit the Bodleian Libraries \(ox.ac.uk\)](#)



### Free Online Talk: The Dancing Master in Context

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> November, 2023 17:30 – 18:30

In this session, Professor Rebecca Herissone explores what Playford's publishing activities can tell us about how music was incorporated into different social environments in seventeenth-century English society, from the tavern to the concert room to the royal court, and what the writings of people known to have used his books, such as Samuel Pepys, tell us about the role music played in their lives. For more information and to book your free online ticket, please go to: [The Dancing Master in Context | Visit the Bodleian Libraries \(ox.ac.uk\)](#)



### Lecture: Harold Wilson, the Winner

Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2023 17:00-18:30

Join the Rt Hon. Nick Thomas-Symonds MP as he discusses his book, *Harold Wilson: The Winner*, looking at Harold Wilson's political career. The book draws heavily from the Harold Wilson Archive and other archives in the Bodleian Library. For more information and to book your ticket, please visit: [Harold Wilson: The Winner | Visit the Bodleian Libraries \(ox.ac.uk\)](#)

This event is in Person, at the Weston Library.

This is only a selection of the events at the Bodleian. You will find the full list at [Events & Exhibitions | Visit the Bodleian Libraries \(ox.ac.uk\)](#).

## MODERN ART OXFORD

### New Exhibition: Boundary Encounters

Available from 22<sup>nd</sup> July – 29<sup>th</sup> October, 2023  
Modern Art Oxford, Pembroke Street, Oxford.

**Come together for this summer collaboration with artists and communities, featuring new commissions,**

#### residencies and live events.

Modern Art Oxford invites you to relax, reflect and take part as they open up their gallery spaces up for exploration and participation.

**Immerse** yourself in pools of coloured light within Harold Offeh's pavilion. **Listen and touch** sonic sculptures emitting sounds linked to Modern Art Oxford's past created by Julie

Freeman. **Watch, explore and get creative** in Valerie Asimwe Amani's space of care using poetic prompts. **Reminisce** about our collective story so far through a new commission by Deborah Pill and an archive exploring MAO's history of working with local communities and partners. **Share** in the gallery's future by exploring prototypes of exciting upcoming improvements to the gallery building and spaces. **Capture** moments of connection, exchange and community through a new participatory digital drawing project.

Connecting multiple perspectives, histories and wide-ranging areas of interest, *Boundary Encounters* celebrates visitors, staff and artists alike as participants in a continuous exchange.

This is a FREE Exhibition and there's no need to book. To find out more, visit: [Modern Art Oxford](#)



Last Few Days!

## Section 2. Sites to explore online



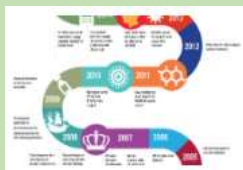
### **Diamond Light Source Learning Resources – loads of stuff for you to explore!**

[Events and Webinars - - Diamond Light Source](#) – a great

archive of loads of the webinars that Diamond Light has held over the years. Once you select the webinar that you are interested in, click on it then read through the description to the bottom of the page, where you will find the webinar recording ready to play.

[Simulations, Animations and Worksheets - - Diamond Light Source](#) –

among these simulations you will find Linac, the workings of the Synchrotron, the Electron Gun and other aspects of the Synchrotron's workings.



[Infographics - - Diamond Light Source](#) – see some of the Infographics that scientists have created to explain some of the concepts that they work with, such as the Electromagnetic Spectrum and how Harwell science is organised

[Audio Highlights - - Diamond Light Source](#) – over the

years, Harwell Scientists have created a number of podcasts about the science that they do at Diamond Light Source.



### **From UK Parliament: resources on race relations legislation**

This site will challenge and develop your thinking skills around racism, equality, discrimination and legislation. It consists of two short videos for you to watch, and there are also some resources with further questions and references for you to download. [Your Story, Our History: Race relations legislation - Parliament UK Education](#)



### **Massolit Education – a wealth of short videos on all sorts of topics**

If you are unsure where to start your Academic Enrichment journey, this is a very good place. With a huge range of educational videos, linked to GCSE and A Level syllabuses, this is a great place to begin exploring your subjects above and beyond your school lessons. Try it! And not just your school subjects, as you will find topics on Law, Politics, Classics and more.

[MASSOLIT - YouTube](#)



### **The Historia Lectures**

The Historia Lectures have been put together for you by a whole host of academics (most are PhD students) who want to talk to you about their research. The range of topics is just amazing! The new series of Historia Lectures is starting in January 2024 and you can register for them in advance, to make sure that you receive details of every single one.

Even better, you can also access recordings of all the previous lectures from 2023. For more information, visit: [Historia Lectures | Faculty of History \(ox.ac.uk\)](#)



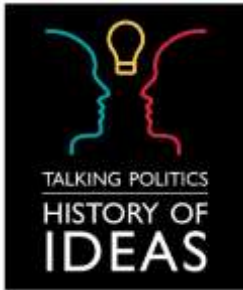
### Call to our Year 12s who are looking for inspiration for an EPQ question; take a look at the Oxford Martin School's past events

The Oxford Martin School is a unique department of the University of Oxford which draws expertise from across the University to work on those Big Problems and Questions that just cannot sit within a single faculty.

In their own words: "Humanity stands at a crossroads; the sheer speed of change across sectors and systems, including technology, population, health and climate, means that we now have the power to destroy possibilities for future generations. Equally, we have the potential to dramatically improve the wellbeing of people across the planet. It is this combination of urgency and optimism that characterises all our work at the Oxford Martin School."

So if you are looking to explore something interdisciplinary, that calls upon both the sciences and the humanities, this is a very good place to start. You will find talks on all manner of topics and subjects. Look up the past events listings. At the top of every title, you will see a link that says "Livestream". This will take you to the recording for that talk.

[Past Events | Oxford Martin School](#)



### A History of Ideas

From the award-winning team of "Talking Politics" comes this superb spin-off series which explores some of the most important thinkers and prominent ideas lying behind modern politics – from Hobbes to Gandhi, from democracy to patriarchy, from revolution to lockdown. David Runciman also talks about the crises – revolutions, wars, depressions, pandemics – that generated these new ways of political thinking.

Do take a look at [History Of Ideas — Talking Politics](#)

[\(talkingpoliticspodcast.com\)](http://talkingpoliticspodcast.com) and download this superb series.

And even better, if you are considering History/Politics/Philosophy/ Sociology at University, then after each episode, the London Review of Books has a some suggestions for further reading to enable you explore further: [Talking Politics: History of Ideas · LRB](#)

### Back Garden Biology (strongly recommended!)

In this fun and informative series Professor Lindsay Turnbull, Professor of Plant Ecology, looks at the biology of the back garden. This series is recorded in a normal garden in England beginning in March 2020 and would be of interest to anyone from age 5+. The series is particularly useful for children missing school who would like to carry on practical work in their own garden and have an expert help them understand the theory behind everyday biology.

Packed with things to see right now, take the edge off your enforced boredom by venturing into the back garden. You can [listen to it as a podcast here](#), or check out the YouTube playlist: [The Number 1 Lawn Detective Agency | Back Garden Biology 19 with Dr Lindsay Turnbull - YouTube](#)







### Activities and Resources from the Ri

Here you will find a wonderful mix of resources and activities, from off-the-shelf masterclasses on maths (eg.



Exploring Serpienski's Triangle) to experiments you can run at home. Covering most of the main areas of science, including how the brain works, this is a site to savour over a number of visits.

[Activities and resources | Royal Institution \(riqb.org\)](http://RoyalInstitution.org)



### Oxford Sparks

This is an online portal that will allow you to engage with some of the exciting scientific developments taking place at Oxford.

Here you will find videos, podcasts, articles and other resources, all linked to the exciting world of cutting-edge research. Enjoy!

[Home - Oxford Sparks](#)

### The Big Questions Biology Podcast from Oxford Sparks



Many of Oxford's Science researchers have worked with the fantastic science communication team at [Oxford Sparks](#) to share more about their research in an accessible way. They have curated a YouTube playlist featuring a wide range of their work with Oxford Sparks, suitable for home learning, and anyone keen to find out more about just how broad biology is. Find out more at:

[Oxford Sparks: Biology - YouTube](#)

### Creative Multilingualism – How languages can help in your career

As a scientist, speaking two other languages brought me a wealth of opportunities that I would not have experienced otherwise. Languages are incredibly valuable in many different ways, and useful. Creative Multilingualism wants to encourage young people in the UK to be ambitious and to think creatively about the career possibilities languages open up.

For those of you considering A Level choices, you might be interested to know that a language is one of the subjects that assists in keeping your options open when it comes to choosing a degree course. And once you have watched the video, do go and explore the rest of the site!

[How languages help in your career | Creative Multilingualism \(ox.ac.uk\)](#)



### Sonic Pi – where Computer Science meets Music

Sonic- Pi is a code-based musical creation and performance tool. It is simple enough to use in the classroom or by yourself at home, but powerful enough to be used by professional musicians. It is free to download, along with a user-friendly tutorial. You can learn to code creatively by composing music in a wide range of genres, from Classical and Jazz to Grime and EDM.

To find out more, visit: [Sonic Pi - The Live Coding Music Synth for Everyone \(sonic-pi.net\)](http://sonic-pi.net)

**Medicine Unboxed – Voices**

This is a fascinating collection of interviews/conversations conducted by Dr Sam Gunlani, Consultant Oncologist, in collaboration with a number of medical practitioners, social scientists, authors, journalists and more. The conversations aim to explore the fragility and wonder of life, human mortality, social justice, science and care as viewed through medicine and the arts.

I think this is a must for anyone interested in the health sector.

[VOICES | Medicineunboxed](#)

**A couple of projects from Zooniverse**

For all those citizen science enthusiasts, here is a small selection to whet your appetite. If none of these grab your attention, then head over to [Projects — Zooniverse](#) where you will find hundreds of other projects, on all sorts of topics, from languages to astrophysics, and from medicine to the Arts. **And did you know that working on Zooniverse projects can count towards the volunteering bit of your D of E qualification?**

**Elephant ID**

Did you know that elephants' ears can be used to identify individuals living in the wild? Knowing elephants' movements, social groups, and lifespans greatly help in designing effective conservation programs for African elephant populations, but this information is very difficult to get without the ability to repeatedly identify individuals. This Zooniverse project, [Elephant ID](#), has four workflows to get an elephant's identifying information from camera trap images through your annotations. By answering questions about each elephant and tracing their unique ear outlines, you can make a significant contribution to elephant conservation! Head on over to [Elephant ID | Zooniverse - People-powered research](#) to lend a hand!

**The Knitting Leaflet Project**

The decades between 1900 and the 1980s saw significant developments in UK knitting and knitwear. Printed for the mass market, pattern leaflets played a leading role in these developments: the Knitting & Crochet Guild's collection of 5000+ digitised leaflets offers Dr Ellie Reed (Brunel University) a unique opportunity to learn more about this role.

The collection is too large for Ellie to survey on her own however, so she needs your help! You will record data from the leaflets by answering questions about what you can see on them. You can also comment on leaflets and share memories via the project Talk boards. Excitingly, the data will also reveal new information about the daily lives of ordinary women, at whom pattern leaflets were targeted.

This project is ground-breaking: never before has data from pattern leaflets been collected in this way! Get involved today at [Knitting Leaflet Project | Zooniverse - People-powered research](#)



### Online Exhibition: We are not Alone – Legacies of Eugenics

This special online exhibition from the British Psychology Association examines the discredited historic research, practices

and beliefs around eugenics.

The Exhibition comes with the warning “Reader discretion is advised: the content of this exhibition contains historic terminology and discussions on eugenics practice, research, and belief that some people find upsetting”.

[Exhibition - 'We are not Alone': Legacies of Eugenics | BPS](#)



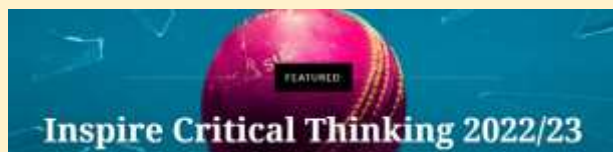
### From Compound Interest: the Chemistry of everyday Chemical Compounds

This is a fantastic website with over 100 pages containing short snippets of chemical wonder, from the chemistry that enables some animals to survive being frozen solid to the chemistry of opium and the colour of poppies, from the discovery of the spike protein on the Covid-19 virus to the chemical changes that underlie our experience of fear. Each section is short, visual and clearly explained. If you are fascinated by the chemistry that surrounds us, this is an excellent site for you!

[Compound Interest – Explorations of everyday chemical compounds \(compoundchem.com\)](#)



### Inspire Critical Thinking, from St John's College Oxford

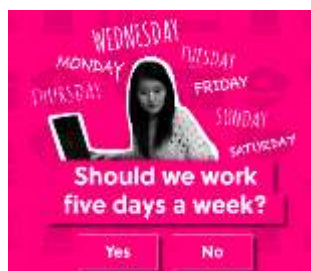


Inspire Digital Our online resource platform for secondary school pupils. Inspire Digital is an interactive resource, with new material, hints and solutions to the questions posted on a regular basis. [Welcome To Inspire Critical Thinking \(sjcinspire.com\)](#)



### Inspire Digital (from St John's College)

If you missed getting on to the Inspire Digital Programme from St John's College Oxford, you can still benefit a great deal from checking out the Super-curricular Resources. Students are welcome to browse the extensive range of super-curricular resources and programmes. [Inspire Digital: Super-curricular Material \(sjcinspire.com\)](#)



Explore is an engaging digital resource from the University of Oxford. As the 'Home of Big Questions', it aims to challenge those from 11 to 18 years

with debates and ideas that go beyond what is covered in the classroom. Big questions tackle complex ideas across a wide range of subjects and reflect the kind of critical thinking students undertake at university. [Explore | The Home of Big Questions](#)



### Springboard Videos – For Years 11, 12 and 13

Discover your new favourite topic with Springboard videos, bringing you cutting-edge research from Oxford's graduate students on topics from climate change and colonialism to microbiomes and mathematical logic. These videos are intended for school pupils in Years 11, 12 and 13. Each offers an introduction to a new topic, plus lots of activities and further resources to explore. [Springboard | University of Oxford](#)

### Selection of Articles recommended by JSTOR Daily

If you enjoy the "[Everything is Amazing](#)" Newsletter, then you will probably enjoy the recommendations from JSTOR Daily – a collection of relatively short articles on all manner of topics, delivered to your email inbox for free. Here is a selection to whet your appetite. You can sign up to JSTOR Daily at: [JSTOR Daily Homepage - JSTOR Daily](#) It's a fantastic way to keep the door open on all subjects, for developing your critical thinking, and for making those valuable connections across different disciplines.



#### Article for you to read: [Genocide in California](#)



Deeply thought-provoking article. The extermination campaigns against the Yuki people, sparked by the California Gold Rush and statehood, weren't termed genocide until the mid-1970s, decades after the crime was defined in the aftermath of the Holocaust.

[Genocide in California - JSTOR Daily](#)

#### Article for you to read: ["Tell me about a complicated man" – A Homer Reading List](#)

The amount of scholarship on Homer and his works can be daunting. The amazing team at JStor Daily have created this introductory reading list to help guide your explorations.

["Tell Me about a Complicated Man": A Homer Reading List - JSTOR Daily](#)



#### Article for you to read: [The Mystery of Crime-Scene Dust](#)



In the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century, forensic scientists began using new technologies to study minute details (heretofore inaccessible) such as the arrangement and make-up of dust.

[The Mystery of Crime-Scene Dust - JSTOR Daily](#)

#### Article for you to read: [Hallowe'en Stories](#)

Why are Victorians the default haunted house, what do ghosts have to do with the imagination, and why do we like to be scared?

Here, JStor Daily have pulled together some of their best Hallowe'en stories, including a look into the Salem witch trials and the obsession with Satanism in nineteenth-century France. No tricks, only treats: all stories contain free links to the supporting academic research on JSTOR. Happy Hallowe'en!

[Halloween Stories - JSTOR Daily](#)



## **Especially for Y10s – Y13s looking to broaden their super curriculum in preparation for University Applications (also great for EPQ ideas!):**

Super-curricular activities are not mandatory. However, they can help you make a competitive application, and prepare you for a challenging academic environment, so we strongly recommend them. Super-curricular participation can enhance your personal statement, give you greater confidence in your subject choice, show that you are serious about your area of study, and give you a wealth of ideas to draw upon in discussions if you're invited to interview. It's likely that you'll develop new ideas and opinions, critical thinking and analytical skills, and an ability to understand new information from different sources – this is all great preparation for succeeding at university. [Super-Curricular Activities \(cam.ac.uk\)](https://www.cam.ac.uk/extra-curricular-activities)



### **The University of Oxford's Digital Resources Hub**

The University of Oxford has compiled the best of its digital resources into a Digital Resources Hub to support learning and exploration. It is helpfully organised by age to help you find the resources that are best suited to your stage in education. They can also help parents and teachers to feed the curiosity of growing minds and inspire them to think broadly. These resources can also enable older students to explore their passions and interests further, and to discover more about Oxford. Go to: [Digital resource hub | University of Oxford](https://www.digitallibrary.ox.ac.uk/)



### **HE+**

This website is for anyone interested in exploring ideas and developing their own critical thinking skills. Each topic is produced by Cambridge postgraduate students and academics at the cutting edge of research in their field. The topics provide guided activities, questions to think about and suggestions for further reading.

It is aimed at older students, but there is absolutely no reason why younger students cannot take a look and start thinking ahead. The main subject pages also give you a quick guide to what it would be like to study the subject at university level and suggest some further resources to check out. Click on a subject icon or search all topics to get started! Visit the HE+ website at <https://www.myheplus.com/>

## **Super Curricular Suggestions from the University of Cambridge:**



Strong applicants to Cambridge and other competitive universities tend to have explored their chosen subject through wider reading outside the classroom, as well as doing very well in their GCSEs and A-levels. We call this sort of exploration 'super-curricular', as it builds on and enhances what you are studying in school. This selection of suggested reading lists and resources has been gathered from the Cambridge departmental and College websites, other universities and other sources on the internet. These lists provide some suggestions for places to start exploring your own interests in your chosen subject independently - you do not need to engage with any of the specific websites, books, podcasts etc mentioned and can easily find your own alternatives. The following lists are

suggestions only. [super-curricular suggestions.pdf \(cam.ac.uk\)](https://www.cam.ac.uk/extra-curricular-activities/super-curricular-suggestions)



### **Trinity College Library Quad**

This is a treasure of super-curricular enrichment: a collection of resources from current Oxford Trinity College Students. The difference here is that all these resources come recommended as having been helpful in preparing for university.

[Library Quad | Trinity College Oxford](https://www.trinity.ox.ac.uk/library-quad)

## Competition Corner

*“Why bother entering competitions? I am probably not going to win anything.”*

And this is very true. But entering academic/educational competitions is an excellent way of stretching your brain and your abilities, and you will learn and hone many skills along the way. Once you are in Year 10+, entering academic competitions and being able to reflect on your experiences is something that will make you stand out in university and high-level apprenticeship applications. So *do* get into the habit of checking the **Competition Corner** of the *KAAEP Newsletter*, or looking online for other competitions. (If you find something, do please let me know so I can share it with others!)

**Year 12 is an important year for this** as the most competitive universities seek out those students with the motivation and enthusiasm to enter academic competitions.

*“It is a great idea to enter a competition in an area that you enjoy or are good at whilst you are still at school. If you win or are placed, that is excellent, but even if you don’t, it demonstrates commitment, interest, drive and immediately differentiates you from others. It looks good on your UCAS Form.”* Student Ladder – Steps to Success.



### **STFC School Science Prize 2023 – For students in Years 7 and 8**

This year, the STFC Rutherford Appleton Laboratory will again be running a **School Science Prize** for students in Years 7 and 8. Everyone who enters will receive an e-certificate, and the overall winner will receive an Amazon Fire 7 tablet.

- To enter the competition, students should write a 500-word essay titled “Why I love science”. STFC have provided a ‘scoring’ sheet [Judging criteria for RAL school science prize 2021 – UKRI](#), to help students when writing their essays.
- There will be a **hybrid celebration of all the entries on Friday 8 December, at 17:30**. Finalists will be asked to record a 3-minute video about / of their entry to share at the celebration. Finalists will also enjoy a special experience, along with their families and their teachers: finalists will be encouraged to join in-person, but it will also be possible to join online.
- **Entries will open on 1 September and we will close at midnight on Tuesday 31 October**. Entries can be submitted either in class sets by teachers, or individual entries by parents, and we will let all students know whether or not they are finalists by Friday 17 November.
- To enter, please upload entries (in .doc, .docx, .pdf, .odt or .txt format) on our entry form: <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/SSP-2023/>. Please make sure that the name and school of the entrant is in the text of the entry, and that the file name is in the format "LastName-FirstName". For example, if the student's name is Sam Smith, and their entry is a pdf, the file should be named "SmithSam.pdf".



### **The Wild Words Eco-Poetry Competition**

This competition is open to anyone 18 and under.

Imagine that you are co-writing a piece of poetry with a tree, or a river, or an insect, or even with the weather. Head out into the outdoors, get to know your co-writer, and then write.

For more information and details of how to submit your entry, please visit [Wild Words | Theatre in the Rough](#)

**Submission deadline: 11.59 pm, Sunday, November 19, 2023.**



### The Oxfordshire Students' Alphabet Design Competition

Students are invited to submit a decorated letter from any alphabet (eg. Latin, Hebrew, Arabic, braille etc.) in A4 or smaller format. The letter can be purely decorative or illustrate an object/animal (eg. J is for Jaguar) or a single-scene narrative (eg. R is for Robbery). All practical techniques are welcome (ink, paint, pencil, fabric, collage, cut-outs, 3-dimensional card, etc.) Entries will be judged on originality and technique in two categories: 13 & under and over 13.



Short-listed entries will be exhibited at the Fine Press Fair, Examination Schools, High Street, Oxford on: December 9th (12-5) and 10th (11-4) 2023. The first prize winners will receive book tokens and will be invited to spend a day printing at the press of a renowned contemporary printer. **Entries (free to enter) to Blackwell's Rare Books, 48- 51 Broad Street, Oxford, OX1 3BQ by December 5th.**



For inspiration – visit the Bodleian's current exhibition: Alphabets Alive! (<https://books-onbooks.com/page/4>) For further information, please contact: [Sian.Wainwright@blackwell.co.uk](mailto:Sian.Wainwright@blackwell.co.uk)



### Film of the Month Competition – any film, any genre, any time of year

This is an ongoing competition for young people aged between 5 and 19. Although it does say “any film”, there are some guidelines that you need to follow. You can submit at any time. The website has guides and resources to support your film-making as well.

If you are interested in the idea, take a look at: [Details of our active competitions. - Film of the Month - Into Film](#)

**KA** KINGALFRED'S  
OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL