



JULY 2025 | ISSUE 20



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A MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Zoe Ramshaw

As we come to the end of another school year, we want to thank all our students, families, and staff for your continued support, resilience, and dedication. It's been a year full of growth, challenges, and achievements, and we're incredibly proud of everything our school community has accomplished together.

We wish you all a restful and enjoyable summer break, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back in September for a new year full of possibilities!

"Summertime is
always the best of
what might be."

-Charles Bowden



KEW GARDENS TRIP



On July 8th, the Science department organised a whole-school trip to Kew Gardens. After the coach journey, we explored the Palm House and had a walk around the gardens. Students then participated in a series of interactive workshops on plant reproduction. The session ended with manually pollinating flowers, a highlight of the trip.



After a nice picnic, we ventured into the Princess of Wales conservatory, a beautiful collection showcasing diverse plant habitats across 10 different world ecosystems. It was a peaceful, sunny day spent learning in nature; a wonderful way to celebrate the end of the school year!



DUKE OF EDINBURGH

On Thursday the 10th and Friday then 11th of July, our year 9 and 10 students participated in the Duke of Edinburgh bronze award. This consisted of two days of camping, walking and hiking.

On day 1, the first activity once we arrived to Epping Forest was putting up tents in pairs or groups. After that, students explored the area and participated in archery, orienteering, bush craft, team-bonding games, and problem-solving tasks.

To let loose after all their hard work, students took part in a water fight along with staff members. They then cooked their own dinners on the stoves, enjoyed campfire-made popcorn and smores, and even had barbecued sausages and burgers later that evening! At night, we all wound down and prepared for lights out and bedtime, ready for the next day ahead.



On day 2, students put away their tents and gathered their bags together before making their own breakfast, fuel for their walk through the forest. They concluded the walk at Chingford Plain car park and started to make ways back to school.

Congratulations to our hard-working students for showing excellent teamwork, resilience and independence!



GCSE ENGLISH NOTICES

CALLING ALL YEAR 10S GOING INTO YEAR 11!

A reminder that the first two weeks of Year 11 will be the GCSE Spoken language endorsement. Year 11 students will research a topic of their own choice and will create a 3-4 minute presentation which will be assessed on/before September 26th 2025.

What is the spoken language endorsement?

A separate component to students' written exams. A chance for students to present on a topic they feel strongly about, engaging their peers and teachers in debates. Students need to prepare a presentation on a topic agreed by their teacher, for 3-4 minutes and answer questions for 3-4 minutes. To gain higher marks, students should attempt to include some sophisticated and challenging ideas in their presentation. Students can use a PPT or postcard sized notes.

How will it be assessed?

This endorsement will be reported as a separate grade (Pass, Merit, Distinction or Not Classified) and will not contribute to the result of the GCSE English Language qualification.

Please see below links for 3 guides that you may wish to purchase for the summer holidays and for Year 11 in preparation for the May/June exams:

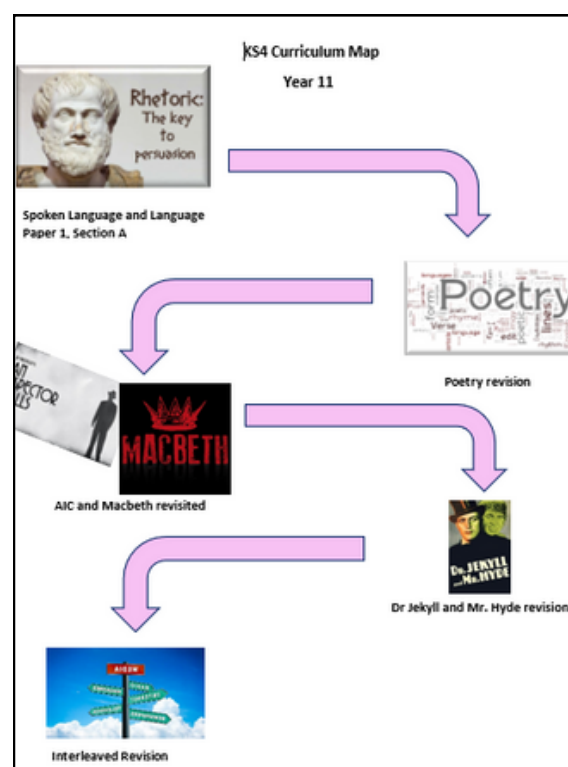
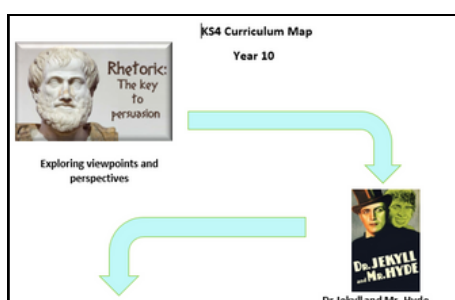
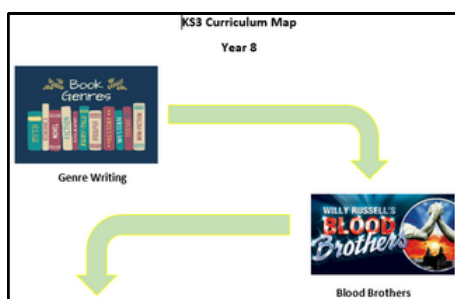
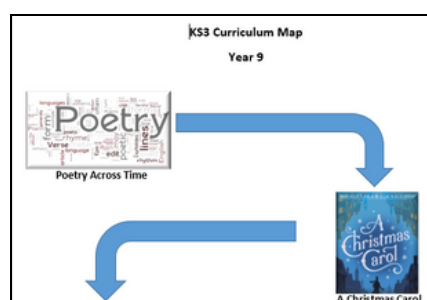
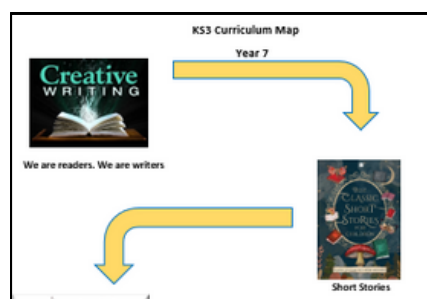
[GCSE English Language Revision](#)

[GCSE English Literature Revision](#)

[A combined revision guide, of both Literature and Language](#)

2025/2026 CURRICULUM MAPS

Below you can see what your child will be studying during the Winter term (Year 7 to 10), or during the entire academic year (Year 11).



IMPORTANT DATES

Orange Tree School Safeguarding Team

If you have any concerns about a child or want to talk to a designated or deputy safeguarding lead, please speak to one of the following:

DSL: Lucy Price

DDSLs: Hayley Hunter, Jake Beeson, Zoe Ramshaw

September 5th, 2025

*First day of school
(soft start 10:30)*

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For more updates, photos and videos, please visit our social media sites:



[@orangetreeschool](https://www.instagram.com/orangetreeschool)



[OTS - Orange Tree School](https://www.facebook.com/OTS-Orange-Tree-School)

ORANGE TREE VALUES

Optimistic
Ready to Learn
Achievement
Nice and kind
Good listening
Effort

Team work
Respectful
Engagement
Empathy and Acceptance



YEAR 7 REWARD TRIP

On July 17th, our Year 7 students received their reward for being the form with the most positive points this term: a day of bowling and arcade games!

It was a very fun day spent with some of their key adults. At the end of the day, they exchanged their arcade tickets for some fidget toys and sweets!



END OF YEAR CELEBRATION



On July 18th, we celebrated the end of the school year. Students enjoyed a bouncy castle, a silent disco, playing their favourite games with their friends, and even a bouncy disco.

After our final assembly when everyone received their certificates and vouchers, we all enjoyed delicious ice creams and music, then said our goodbyes until September!

We hope you all have a wonderful summer ☀️