

DECEMBER 18, 2025

ST MARGARET WARD



# TRINITY TIMES



## CHRISTMAS FAIR

Today, we were decorating Christmas cards for patients at Haywood Hospital. This was great fun, made better by the fact that we knew they were going to make someone's holiday a little brighter.  
- Lydia, Yr 13



## Decorating Biscuits

We all enjoyed a festive time making cute winter biscuits! I made a snow fairy gradient cookie and there was even a Grinch cookie! - Sofia, Yr 13

MERRY  
CHRISTMAS

## Christmas Ornament Decorating

It was a nice and calming activity and helped me to feel relaxed! I am having an amazing time with my best friend, we were making and decorating our own Christmas ornaments and we drew the Grinch finally enjoying the Christmas spirit. - Anisah, Yr 13





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## Loughborough University Trip

At Loughborough, we had the opportunity to attend lectures and visit the whole campus to see what university life was like. I attended the Psychology and Creative Writing lectures, where I learnt a lot about the courses they offer and how it differs from other universities. Overall, this experience was very important as it gave us a first-hand experience of the course, allowing us to see if it met our expectations. - Maisie, Yr 13



SEPTEMBER 19, 2025



**04**  
SEPTEMBER

ST MARGARET WARD CATHOLIC ACADEMY

Please reach out if you are interested! You will inspire many!  
Free lunch is provided from 1:30pm - 2:30pm

### WHY NOT YOU?

MADE IN STOKE 2025

**WHY**

We know that university isn't the right route for everyone, nor is it the only route to success

**NOT**

That is why we invite you to our alumni event! We want to show our students that success is not defined in a certain way, and that there is a place for everyone. We are not limited by living in Stoke, but empowered.

**YOU?**



### MADE IN STOKE, 2025

On Thursday 4th of September, the Sixth Form student-led event, Made in Stoke, was presented to the Year 11's. Made In Stoke aims to raise the aspirations of the children of Stoke by showing them different career and educational pathways previous students have gone into and the success of people from Stoke-on-Trent. We were honoured to be able to have 5 fantastic keynote speakers in attendance; Sam Oakes, Dr Nicola Brough, Darren Bedson, Charlotte Jones and Sonya Farrall. The event was an absolute success with the Sixth Form receiving positive feedback and many of our Year 11's being inspired by these incredible professionals! - Rosanna, Yr 13



## NATIONAL LITERACY TRUST



On Tuesday 23rd September, Madison Longshaw and myself, along with our fellow Youth Ambassadors, were invited to attend the National Literacy Trust staff away day in London. We were given presentations on research, upcoming events and plans of the NLT. We even got the opportunity to run our own Youth Ambassador workshop where we presented to other NLT members about our role as Youth Ambassadors and how our feedback aims to provide the NLT with a young person's perspective, helping to build awareness of the NLT, particularly to young audiences, to encourage reading for pleasure amongst young people. The staff away day was such an incredible meeting as talking to so many fantastic organisation members and seeing the future of NLT made it an absolute pleasure to attend! - Rosanna, Yr 13



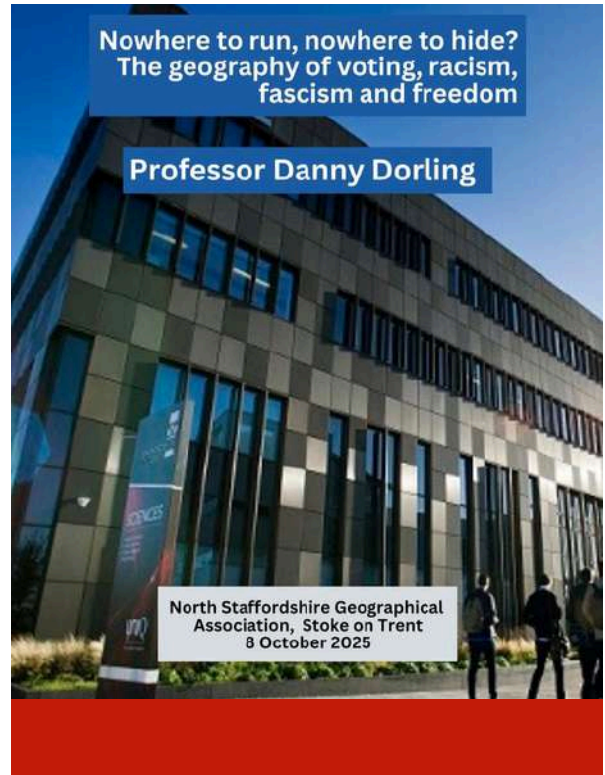
## VISITING SANDYFORD FIRE STATION

On Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> September, the Sixth Form attended a road safety workshop at Sandyford Fire Station. During the event, we took part in sessions about hazard perception, driving with friends, drink and drug awareness, and vehicle safety checks. We also learned about safety around HGVs (Heavy Goods Vehicles), including blind spots, safe following and overtaking. - Mariya, Yr 13



## DANNY DORLING LECTURE

On the 8th of October, Professor Danny Dorling, who is a Geography Professor from the University of Oxford, visited the Trinity Sixth Form to speak to the students about geopolitics and how voting patterns, in general elections and referendums, such as the Brexit referendum, affect people's economic situations. We asked him if he thought that social class and voting is a thing of the past, and he said that during the 1950s and 1960s, if people had a labour job, a working class job, they voted Labour, but if they were a Lawyer, for example, and had a middle class job, they voted Conservative. Overall, Danny was very informative and educated the students well about their geopolitical queries. - Izzy, Yr 13



## PHILOSOPHY LECTURE

We had the delightful opportunity to partake in lectures over a 6-week period, learning about the origins of philosophy and icons such as Socrates, Plato and Aristotle. It was incredibly inclusive, ranging from Year 9's even to sixth form. We also had the opportunity to present a brief poster about our chosen topic, which made us lean into challenging aspects! Overall, we had a great time. - Dewmi, Yr 13



### • QUERY TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR EDUCATION

Adam Jogee, the MP for Newcastle-under-Lyme, wrote a Christmas card to me, to thank me for asking him if he has any plans to change the way that teachers are trained, so they will know how to identify autism in students, particularly in girls, since autism in girls isn't noticed until secondary school/post-16 education/university. However, in boys, it is noticed much earlier. Also, he e-mailed it to David Williams, the MP for Stoke-on-Trent North and Kidsgrove, and the Department for Education, so hopefully, this proposal will soon be discussed in Parliament. - Izzy, Yr 13

## GEOPOLITICS DISCUSSION

The geopolitics talk regarding the history and future of North Korea was an incredibly insightful and thought-provoking one, and was given by Mr Bland. He began with North Korea's international relationships, and this led to a discussion about how these came to be and how they might change in the future. Following this, we explored the stagnancy of the nation's economy which rises and falls around an undesirable cycle of poverty and autocratic control. As a result of this, questions arose as to what influence the North Koreans actually have on an international basis, plus how/why the peculiar standards imposed on the culture are perpetuated in a time where technology poses a greater threat to the stability of the nation as opposed to nuclear weaponry. We highly recommend listening in to the upcoming talks, or simply exploring the world of geopolitics for yourself! - Fiker, Yr 12



## KEELE STEPS2MED TALK

I heard about Keele University's Steps2Medicine programme from a previous article written by a former Y13 student who had taken the same path in her Medicine journey and quickly applied in late September. The programme is designed to increase diversity of participation when it comes to making a competitive and informed application to Medicine, which is undoubtedly one of the most common, yet difficult applications to make to university. Our first session consisted of a series of talks from professionals who came from a range of fields and stages in their medical journeys, which ended with an explanation as to how the programme will look moving forward, plus the ways we will be able to apply ourselves to a medical setting. This is incredibly beneficial for those of us whose career paths remain undefined, or who benefit from extra support when it comes to preparing for milestones such as the UCAT exam, or interviews, which are guaranteed provided that the course is followed to completion. I would recommend students who are considering a medical pathway to not only apply, but to alleviate future pressures by practicing key skills in advance, such as writing an application that conveys truth and passion, which will be needed for your application to the programme itself. Good luck! - Fiker, Yr 12





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## Law Internship

My participation in this internship allowed me to embark upon a week of completely accessible, interactive learning with invaluable teamwork skills, communication skills, and interview skills- but most importantly to me: with a unique sense of what it means to work in a career for oneself. I gained this new perspective on the world of work- that just as much as you should train yourself to fit the role you want, you should also ensure that role fits you, and is sustainable for your own person. The Cleary Gottlieb National Literacy Trust internship, through its guest speakers and career-based workshops, has been fundamental in helping me recognise that; as well as equipping me with professional connections and advice applicable to all areas of work and study. Was it difficult, breaking my holiday routine to participate in such a programme? Of course- but I am so glad that I had this opportunity and took it, all the same. - Talya, Yr 12



- **Cambridge Interview**

On 9<sup>th</sup> December, I had the opportunity to attend a Cambridge interview at Pembroke College for History and Politics. It was a fascinating experience to visit a college with such a rich history and academic tradition, and the interview itself was both challenging and engaging. I stayed overnight at the college, which allowed me to experience student life firsthand, from trying the college food to exploring the city and its historic surroundings. The students were incredibly welcoming and supportive, helping to create a relaxed and encouraging atmosphere that made the experience truly memorable. - Madie, Yr 13



# MEDICINE INTERVIEWS

Preparing and sitting the MMI interview was daunting. The structure was rather eccentric and there isn't much guidance online. I paced around the kitchen, practicing answers in my head just before the interview. They always sounded articulate in my mind, however when I started preparing out loud, it was a different beast. The process started on time with a briefing session. I was able to see all the candidates on camera, they all looked as nervous as I felt (and looked, I'm sure). Once the interview started, it was very fast paced, moving through different breakout rooms, eight minutes each. Some interviewers are friendly, some are trained to make you second guess yourself which I fell prey to, stumbling over my answer as she just looked bored. Every breakout room, I went in with the mindset that this is a new person who I hadn't had a chance to mess up the interaction with yet. It helped me keep going. By the end of it though, my throat hurt. I'm not certain how well it went. Overall, the challenge of having to communicate in such a high stakes environment knowing that this was the culmination of all the work I'd put in so far, was scary but also rewarding. I learned quite a bit about myself by talking instead of thinking. In the same uncomfortable way that staring at yourself in the mirror forces you to see yourself as the person you are outside of your head, so too does having your own voice. As a writer by nature, the act of speaking was intriguing. - Zaynah, Yr 13

In reference to my interviews, they were both enjoyable yet terrifying. The concept of my work to this point being judged in 20 minutes is a truly scary thought. However, it was still enjoyable as deep ethical and social questions could be queried and discussed. This was done as to assess whether I, as a person, was a good fit for the university/ medicine course and to see if I had the making to be a good doctor. - Krishna, Yr 13

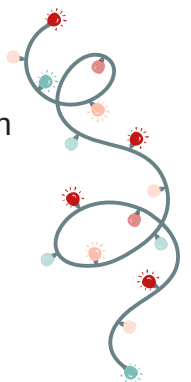


## OFFERS



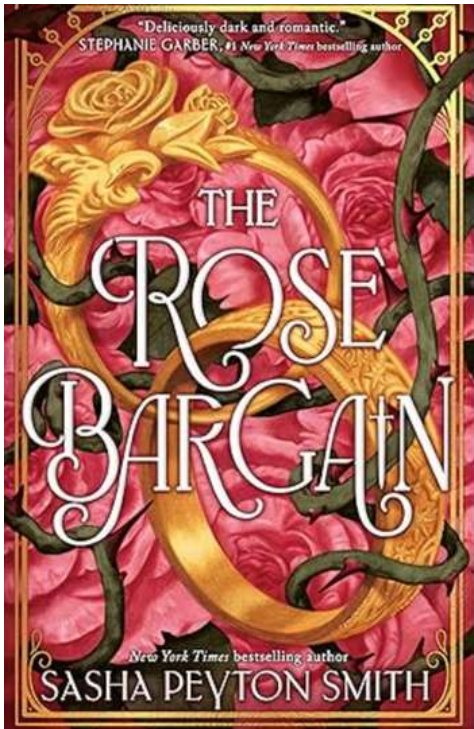
- Birmingham - Mariyam
- Cardiff - Yoyo
- Derby - Achim and Sarah
- Edinburgh - Madie
- Exeter - Madie
- Hull - Maisie
- Keele - Maisie, Rosanna, Achim, Sarah, Angela, Lydia R, Mariyam
- Lancaster - Maisie
- Lincoln - Yoyo
- Liverpool - Rosanna
- Liverpool John Moores - Maisie

- Manchester - Rosanna
- Manchester Metropolitan - Rosanna, Sarah, Yoyo
- Portsmouth - Yoyo
- Reading - Maisie
- Staffordshire - Angela, Joel, Sarah
- Warwick - Madie
- Wolverhampton - Mariyam
- York - Madie and Rosanna





# Book Reviews

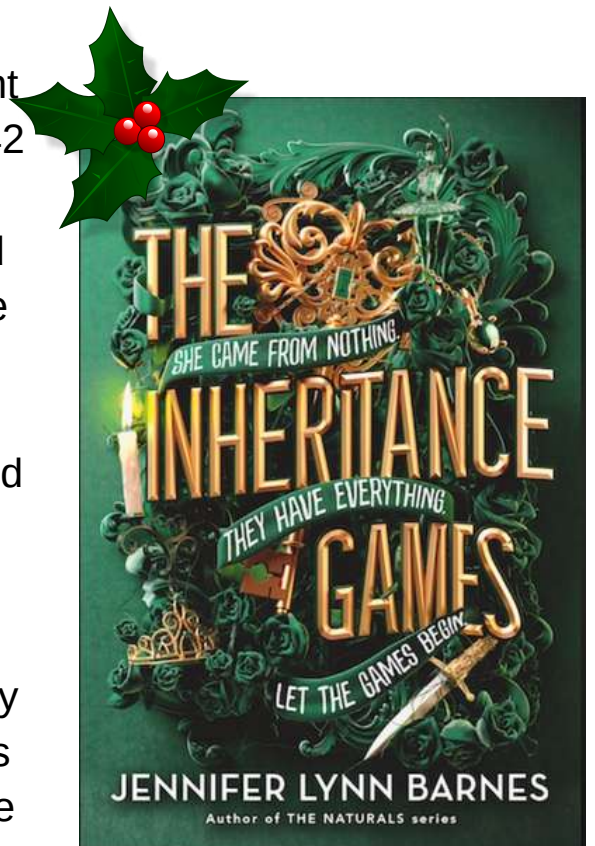


It is an excellent book with amazing twists, in-depth characters, a strong romance, and had various conversations. I would recommend it greatly and it has an upcoming sequel. The main character is strong and hardworking. The various characters work together. There's no character that is pointless. It is a lovely book which creates a scenario of what if England had an immortal faerie queen and if girls had to compete for her son's heart as a rebellion boils underneath? Overall, it is fantastic. - Dang Li,

Yr 12

The Inheritance Games is a book that hooks you right from the beginning. It starts with mystery right from the beginning, when Avery Grambs inherits 42 billion dollars from a billionaire who she doesn't know. Later, she is caught up in a dangerous and intriguing mystery which she has to solve with the help of the Hawthorne brothers, who are the grandsons of the billionaire. One of the best elements of the book is the constant plot twists and puzzles, as well as the complex nature of the Hawthorne brothers. Their interactions add immense depth to the storyline. There is also a subtle romance subplot which helps keep the story interesting and they add an emotional storyline as well as drama to the book. Overall, the inheritance games is an exciting, smart and addictive read. -

Summayah, Yr 12





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