

Wiseman lecture series

At the Cardinal Wiseman Sixth Form we run the 'Wiseman Lecture Series' during the Autumn and Spring term.

This is a great opportunity for our Sixth Form students, to listen to a 45min session (inclusive of Q&A), where speakers from different professional backgrounds, give up their time to come to our school and deliver insights of their job role and their educational and career path.

The aim is to enrich and widen knowledge to our Y12 and Y13 students of the many professions out there and have them benefit from listening to the life journey our speakers have embarked on, by sharing their education path, the A-Levels they studied and how it has led them to their profession today; the career path they were able to undertake, but also inform students of any other opportunity it could have led to, if any.

It is surprising how careers they may not consider can still be a learning curve when attending these talks, which is why we value these lectures.

Although we aim to invite speakers from professions related to our A-Level subjects, we also try to expand to widen our students awareness.



Speakers may come from backgrounds such as Medicine, Law, Engineering, Banking, Army, Construction, Creative Arts, Life Science, etc..

Furthermore, attending these lectures can play a vital part when students will need to write their UCAS Personal Statement, where

universities pay a big importance of any extra-curricular activity attended by the student and related to the course they apply to.

Lectures run on Mondays (excluding exams days) at 3:30pm in the school Main Hall.

Above:
Lecture on past and present influential engineers

Below:
Lecture on careers in the RAF



Wider Learning in the Sixth Form

A Day at Jesus College, University of Cambridge

On the 15th of September 10 of our Y13 students, aspiring to study at Cambridge had the opportunity to visit one of their colleges, Jesus College.

A magnificent agenda was planned for the day. Students had the opportunity to get full insights of what the Cambridge application process entails and were delivered a presentation by the Entry Administrator for STEM and Human Sciences courses. They also had the chance to have their Personal Statements reviewed by Jesus College Ambassadors, undergraduate students themselves – some on their first year and some on their second or above – whom also shared their admission and interviews experiences; lastly, the Entry Administrators arranged for a live



mock interview to give students a real idea of what their interviews are about and the type of questions they should expect.

Furthermore, students given a tour of the different colleges and had the experience of dining both lunch and supper at Jesus College, making this a full 360 experience before heading back home! What a GREAT day it was indeed!



Trip to Imperial College London

Twice a year we have the fantastic opportunity to take our Y12 students to STEM orientated talks and/or Taster Lecture at Imperial College London.

Both events take place during the Autumn Term, one related to Bioengineering and the other to Mechanical Engineering.

At the Bioengineering event, our students have the chance to be introduced to the Department, by the Entry Administrator, explaining the different roots such courses could lead to and what the entry requirements are. They are then shared a taster lecture by a professor, as well as Flash Talks by other Imperial Professors briefly sharing

what they do and teach in 15min talks. All followed by a Q&A session with both Professors and undergraduate students.

At the Mechanical Engineering event, our students have the opportunity to attend 4 technical presentations from PhD students on projects they are leading, these span from topics such as 'Where to build your space hotel?' or 'Why do we use water to fight fires?'

Both events are incredibly enriching and most of the times our students use these as extra learning to further research and consequently mention on their UCAS Personal Statements when applying for university in Y13.

These in person extra curricular activities are useful for students in Y12 to understand if a degree in STEM is truly what they wish to embark on.



UCAS and Careers Conference Week

We are incredibly proud of our yearly event, the 'UCAS and Careers Conference Week'.



It takes place on the last week of June, after the Y12 mock exams, and it is a week fully dedicated to our Y12 students in preparation to their final year, to support them concretise their future path, may this be towards higher education, apprenticeships or embark on the professional path.

During UCAS and Careers Conference Week, students have a series of planned talks and activities to attend:

- Universities delivering talks on why it is important to go to uni and what this experience offers;
- Talk on apprenticeships and the program offered by the company visiting us
- Meet the Wiseman Alumni, where they have the chance to hear what the 1st year of university is like
- Meet the Professionals, where they have the chance to attend two 20min carousel style presentations from their chosen speakers, which come from professional backgrounds such as Accounting, Law, Doctorate, Criminal Justice, Project Management, Creative Art, etc..
- Mock interviews with a full guide on expectations and dress code; this is a school day dedicated on students being interviewed by professional from different background to support them with upcoming interviews they will come across during Y13, may these be for universities or for a job/apprenticeship opportunity.
- Possible trips to companies that may offer apprenticeships schemes.



WildHearts Global Youth Summit

In early November 2024 eight of our Y13 students had the opportunity to take part in a Global Youth Summit organised by WildHearts Group, in partnership with well-known companies such as Siemens, Nestle and BNP Paribas to name a few.



Our winning students receiving their Award at Westminster Palace

WildHearts Group stands for any business idea for a good cause and purpose, to create a global social change in the most deprived countries in the world. Through the Global Youth Summit they offer students a chance to create a 'business idea' that can positively impact communities, whilst considering factors such as Sustainability and Employability.

Our students divided into two groups, each preparing a presentation on a topic that would impact their community. They had the opportunity to attend a workshop at one of the Partners' London's headquarter, and were provided resources to prepare their presentation, later to be presented in front of the Partners and WildHearts. This was an amazing opportunity for our students to be exposed to.

We are very proud to say that one of our groups' project won the competition, and back in July

WildHearts invited us at Westminster Palace for the Award Ceremony, hosted in collaboration with the Partners, whom were handing the certificates. Here a few testimonials from our amazing Alumni!

'Taking part in the WildHearts project was an incredible experience that helped me develop a wide range of valuable skills. I improved my research and communication abilities, particularly when reaching out to external organisations such as the job centre, and gained confidence in presenting to unfamiliar audiences—so much so that our team actually won the competition. The project also gave me the opportunity to network with influential professionals including solicitors at magic circle law firms, building connections that could prove useful for future career opportunities. Overall, it was a highly rewarding experience that not only enhanced my professional skill set but also looks fantastic on LinkedIn!'

'The WildHearts programme was an incredible opportunity to challenge ourselves and grow. Working closely with teachers and peers, we created countless memorable moments through the intense rehearsals and collaborative activities. It helped me build confidence in public speaking, improve my interviewing skills, and develop my communication, teamwork, and networking abilities. Along the way, we met many inspiring people who opened up new opportunities for us. We were proud to contribute our initiative to the school and hope that our cohort found it helpful, and that future students will benefit from it as well.'



Trip to MACE



In June we had the fantastic opportunity to visit Mace Construction's Data Centre in North Acton.

15 of our Y12 students, with an interest in Engineering, Architecture or Quantity Surveying, had the opportunity to spend an afternoon on site to learn about Mace and the Projects it runs. They had the chance to meet members of the Mace team delivering a talk on the Apprenticeships and Graduate schemes they offer, as well as disclosing what it means to work for such a global construction company, and the different roles and tasks they had; from working in Health & Safety, Sustainability, to being a Construction Manager or a Quantity Surveyor, giving space for a Q&A session and creating an interactive conversation with the students.

They also took us on a site walk, with all the PPE gear on, and gave us full view of what they build and put in place in a Data Centre. Ending the site walk with a treat on a construction hoist, taking us over 40m high to admire the cooling system built at the top and explain how this works.

It was an incredible experience and a great day enjoyed by all!

'The trip was really insightful into the applied world of physics, where having an electrical engineer describe how the data centre was powered by substations and how transformers contributed reminded me closely of things I had heard in my classroom. Going there to see it and hear about it from the people making it opened my eyes to how closely linked theory is with practise.'

Below: Students on a Data Centre site walk

