Harris Church of England Academy

Summer Term 2, July 2025 www.harris.covmat.org

As we reach the end of another remarkable term at Harris Church of England Academy, I find myself reflecting on the incredible achievements that have defined these past few months. Our students have truly embraced every opportunity to grow, learn, and shine both within our school and beyond.

While many of our Year 10 students ventured out into the world of work during Work Experience Week, others took part in a range of engaging and enriching activities right here in school which was wonderful to see. We were delighted to welcome Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service to Harris recently for an engaging and informative visit, providing our students with valuable insights into this vital public service.

The summer term has been particularly special for our creative and performing arts students. Our whole school production of 'Bugsy Malone' was nothing short of spectacular, showcasing the incredible talent we have across all year groups. The musicians, singers and dancers of Harris also joined the festivities around the corner at 'Brookefest,' Brooke school's summer festival, demonstrating the wonderful community spirit that exists between our local schools.

Our students continue to achieve remarkable things beyond the classroom. Three of our students—Sofie H, Derek A, and Oliver F—were selected to have their work displayed in the Balcony Gallery, a public space that welcomes visitors to the library, museum, and art gallery. Their creative work will be admired by the local community over the coming weeks. Additionally, a huge congratulations to Gracie and Olivier who have made it through to the finals of 'Rugby's Got Talent.'

The sporting achievements this term have been equally impressive. Our Summer Enrichment Day in July proved to be an unforgettable experience for students and staff alike. Another highlight was our eagerly anticipated Swimming Gala, expertly organised once again by Mr Herbert, Head of PE. Our students have also supported primary pupils in SSP Cricket and Athletics Events, demonstrating their leadership and community spirit.

This year has seen another successful cohort of students take on the challenge of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award at both Bronze and Silver level, while 19 of our Year 7 students took part in a Jamie Oliver Guinness World Record attempt for the biggest cooking lesson. Our enthusiastic Year 9 and 10 German students also took part in the Careers with German conference at the University of Birmingham, and 100 Year 8 students participated in workshops at Rugby's 'Festival on the Close.'

I'm particularly proud of our students' charitable efforts, during lenton house charity week. Congratulations also to our Year 10 students who have been selected as our prefects and leadership team.

As we prepare for the new academic year, I look forward to welcoming everyone back to school in September. Have a restful summer. God bless.

Mrs R Harrison



Harmonious Aspirational Responsible Respectful Inspirational Sociable

Term Dates

Term Dates 2024/2025

Training Day	**1st September**		
Training Day	**2nd September**		
Autumn Term 1	**Y7 Only:** 3rd September 2025	To	23rd October 2025
Autumn Term 1	**All Yr Groups Back:** 4th September 2025	To	23rd October 2025
Training Day	**24th October 2025**		
Autumn Term 2	3rd November 2025	To	19th December 2025
Training Day	**5th January 2026**		
Spring Term 1	6th January 2026	To	13th February 2026
Training Day	**23rd February 2026**		
Spring Term 2	24 February 2026	To	27th March 2026
Summer Term 1	13th April 2026	To	22nd May 2026
Summer Term 2	1st June 2026	To	17th July 2026
Additional Days when school is closed:			
Bank Holiday	**4th May 2026**		



Forthcoming Events

	September		**October**
3	Y7 Only	2	Y7 SEND coffee Afternoon
4	Whole School Return	6 - 17	Y8 Assessments
8	School Photos	10	Y8 Rise Workshops
8 - 12	Y7 Assessments	14	Y11 Moulton College Assembly - Sign up only
8 - 12	Y8-Y10 Targeted Assessments	24	Teacher Training Day
9 - 19	Inter School Art Exhibition @ Rugby Art Gallery		
10	Y8 Capital One Workshop		
17	Y8 Space Centre Trip		
18	Y7 - Y11 Flu Vaccinations		
18	Y7 Settlin in Parents Evening		
25	Open Evening		
25	Y11 RFSS Assembly		
26	Macmillan Coffee Morning		

Student Praise

Elsa G was picked to compete in a Warwickshire schools competition in June. She gained 1st Place in both pole vault and long jump beating all other U17 students from schools across the whole of warwickshire. She also achieved 2 amazing PBs, jumping a height of 2.50m in pole vault and 4.66m in long jump. Elsa also achieved a gold medal in Pole Vault at the Midlands Championships and at the Warwickshire County Championships she gained gold for Pole Vault and silver for Long Jump.

Congratulations to Sophie H who has been awarded distinction, grade 4 piano.

Congratulations to Kezia B who has passed grade 4 cello.

Guiness World Record

19 of our Year 7 students took part in a Jamie Oliver Guinness World Record attempt for the biggest cooking lesson. The aim was for 9000 students to be making pasta at the same time. The students enjoyed themselves. See pictures below.



The Jamie Oliver cooking session was great fun. We got to learn how to cook pasta and sauce whilst doing something fun. It was great to see Jamie Oliver and his cooking school because it showed lots of other people who love to cook. It has inspired me to learn new recipes and learn to cook more complex things.
S Roberts

My experience of the guinness world record attempt was very fun and enjoyable. I made homemade pasta with a tomato sauce. Jaimie olivers chefs was helpful and good to work with. I recommend this experience to children who are interested in cooking. I cannot believe i had this opportunity and established a guinness world record.
Faith W



The cooking lesson was very good and it makes me proud to be part of a world record. As well as a great end product, the host ensured we had enough time to catch up if we fell behind. Overall it was a great experience. Joe T.

Student Praise

Congratulations to our Year 10 students who have been selected as our prefects and leadership team.

Head Girl - Hermione R
Head Boy - Satvik S
Deputy Head Girl- Ashley W
Deputy Head Girl - Larissa D S
Deputy Head Boy - Eimantas L

Prefects

- Aidan R
- Aimee H
- Bethany M
- Gabriela T
- Lindon P
- Maciej K
- Caleb N
- David H
- Derick A
- Eimantas
- Zuzanna
- Archie B
- Efetobor M-A
- Elsa G
- Lyra H
- Olivia C-C
- Alicia M
- Annabelle O'B
- Brandon L
- Maria Elena G
- Piranavi K
- Ruby B
- Diya G
- Ella W
- Emily M
- Maisie P
- Oscar R
- Scarlett G
- Ashley W
- Beatrice S
- Calvin K
- Ciara O'K
- Estera C
- Gabrielle A P
- Kimberley L
- Kuba W
- Larissa D S
- lexii-mai T
- Maddie B
- Mariana M
- Olivier W-F
- Tyler R
- Jacob T

Harris whole school production ‘Bugsy Malone’

Drama students at Harris have been working for five months to get ready for two nights of performing our summer 2025 school production of ‘Bugsy Malone.’ On the 15th and 17th of July friends, family and staff attending the hour-long performance of acting, singing and dancing. The students had worked so hard learning lines, rehearsing choreography and practising songs and it all paid off as both performances went brilliantly.

On opening night our lead ‘Bugsy’ was played by Satvik, supported by Emily as Blousey and closing night was played Jack. Both pairs did brilliantly, Jack rehearsing for months with Emily showing real dedication to the character. They were supported by other characters ‘Tallulah,’ played by Poppy, who sang wonderfully both nights and ‘Dandy Dan’ playing on alternate nights by the equally talented Cyrus and Beth. Fat Sam was played by Ella- Rose who was only cast in the role 4 weeks before the show and did an amazing job learning not only the stage directions and new lines in such a short amount of time, but also a solo song! Lastly in our main cast we had the brilliant Elissa who sang, acted and tap danced to bring the character of ‘Fizzy’ to life.

Our support characters and ensemble brought the show to life taking part in all the chorus numbers and scenes, these students showed great dedication to the show, and we were so impressed by how they developed their own characters. Due to a couple of cast re shuffles many students took on roles through out the rehearsal process that they were not originally assigned to be, they took on these roles in a shorter period of time and made them their own with minimum fuss or issue and for that we would like to say a HUGE thank you.

The show required quite few dancers, and we were so impressed back in February but how many students came to the ‘dance call’ and were cast as our dancers. Back in the spring term these students showed up to the dance studio every week for rehearsals and lunchtimes too, to learn quite difficult choreography and become our ‘Fat Sam’s Dancing Girls.’

Also, at the same dance audition we saw four year 7 students, Tilly, Sophie, Orla and Elise who not only could dance but seemed to gel well as group. Along with Madi they became our ‘Fat Sam’s Gang’ a group of bumbling hoodlums, who on both nights of the show did an amazing job on stage with their group dance ‘Bad Guys.’ The girls really impressed us with their dedication to the show week in, week out.

Thank you to all the parents, family and staff who have supported us in this process. It really was a whole school production with so many departments lending a hand, giving time to sell programmes, donating costumes or making props for us, it really has made a difference. And to parents thank you for all your help in supporting our cast, whether it be running lines or re organising your time to pick them up from after school rehearsals, we really appreciate it.

And finally, a huge and well deserved well done and thank you to the ‘Bugsy’ cast 2025, you have been AMAZING!

Watch this space for our 2026 production…

















Bugsy Malone

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Careers with German conference

In June, our enthusiastic Year 9 and 10 German students took part in the Careers with German conference at the University of Birmingham, organised by the Goethe-Institut. The event offered an exciting opportunity to explore how German language skills can open doors to diverse career paths in business, science, tourism, engineering, and beyond. The tour of the campus also gave students a taste of life at university.

Throughout the day, students engaged in interactive workshops, heard from professionals using German in their daily work, and discovered the real-world value of language learning. The highlight of the day was Harris students winning 1st and 3rd place in the Cultural Quiz.







Celebrating Languages: 'Mother Tongue Other Tongue' Competition

We are thrilled to announce that some of our Year 8 language students have taken part in the prestigious Mother Tongue Other Tongue poetry competition – a nationwide celebration of language, culture, and creativity.

This unique competition invites students to explore and express themselves through poetry in two powerful ways: by writing in their mother tongue – the first language spoken at home – or in a language they are learning as their other tongue. The aim is to celebrate the linguistic diversity of the UK and promote multilingualism in schools.

In May, our students crafted original poems that reflect their personal experiences, cultural identities, and growing confidence in languages other than English. From heartfelt verses in Cantonese, Romanian and Polish to imaginative poems in German some entries have been very inspiring. The enthusiasm and talent on display have been truly impressive, and it has been a wonderful opportunity for students to take pride in their heritage languages or showcase their progress in learning a new one.

We are incredibly proud of all the students who entered but unfortunately on this occasion we were not selected as finalists. However, all entries received are displayed in folders alongside the finalists and can be viewed at the exhibition in The Chapterhouse inside Coventry Cathedral until 2 September.

Well done to all our budding poets and linguists!

Mein Hund

Mein Hund
Flink und schnell
Immer bereit, einen Stock zu holen.

Mein Hund
Schwarz und haarig
Wenn sie durch die Luft springt
Sieht sie aus wie eine Fee.

Mein Hund
Weiße Enden ihrer Füße
Schnüffelt an zufälligen Dingen auf der ganzen Straße.

Mein Hund
Ball in ihrem Mund
Immer einen großen Schlamper haben.

Jacob Davis (13) Harris C Of E Academy

~Afrikaans Poem~

By Ava Burton

Afrika is my huis, my gemeenskap, my eie. 'n plek vol vriendelikheid, vrygewigheid en liefde, dit herinner my aan 'n plek bo. die mense gee om en deel altyd, dans en lag asof hulle nie omgee nie.
Ek droom van 'n plek soos my huis, 'n wêreld vol liefde sonder omgee, ek droom dat mense oral vriendelik kan word, sonder stres of bekommernisse, sonder probleme of opskuddings.
Afrika is my huis, 'n onbekende plek, en ek hoop ek kom terug na die plek wat ek huis noem.

~Translated to English~

Africa is my home, my community, my own. a place full of kindness, generosity and love, it reminds me of a place up above. The people are caring and always share, dance and laugh like they don't care.
I dream of a place like my home, a world full of love without a care. I dream that people all over can become kind, with no stresses or worries, no troubles or flurries.
Africa is my home, a place unknown, and I hope I get back to the place I call home.

I like this poem because it reminds me of the people in South Africa and the meaning of the poem represents kindness and generosity.
I wrote this poem in afrikaans because it is the language I learned in South Africa.

Ava Burton, 13, Harris Church of England Academy

Name: Shu Wing Ho Age:13
School: Harris Church Of England Academy

This is important to me because I love cars so much and they have always been a part of my life.

Cantonese:

車真係勁！

Vroom vroom～聲音勁,
架車一嚟, 全場靜。
輪胎轉到飛起咁,
仲有閃燈, 型到震！

紅色、黑色、金色都有,
開住超跑, 梗係威爆！
有尾翼, 仲有大喉,
一踩油門, 聲音夠爆！

坐副駕, 我扮自己開,
聽歌扭爆, 勁有style。
幻想自己過彎甩尾,
賽車場上無人比。

大個一定要買架好,
總之唔喺Tesla。
拉利林寶乜都好。
依家畫住先, 慢慢等,
架夢中車, 遲早會行！

English:

Cars are strong!

Vroom vroom - strong sound,

When the car came, the whole place was quiet.

The tires were spinning like they were flying.

There are also flashing lights, so cool!

Available in red, black, and gold.

Driving a supercar, of course, is powerful!

There's a spoiler, and a big exhaust.

Once you step on the accelerator, the sound is loud enough!

In the passenger seat, I pretend to drive myself.

Listening to music is full of excitement, very stylish.

Imagine yourself drifting.

No one can compare on the racing track.

I must buy a beautiful car when I grow up.

In short, not Tesla.

Ferrari, Lamborghini, or anything.

Now draw for now, wait slowly,

The dream car will come sooner or later!

Festival on the close trip

On Tuesday 24th of June, 100 year 8 students took part in workshops at Rugby's 'Festival on the Close.' The festival is an arts and education festival that takes place on the grounds of Rugby School. The festival aims to bring world-class arts and culture to the local community, offering an opportunity for our students to engage with arts and culture.
Harris students were invited to take part in workshops designed to inspire and empower young people, giving them the opportunity to get creative and try something new. From science experiments to samba percussion, brain dissections to bagpipes, mechanical engineering to meditation, the varied workshops gave Harries students chance to explore a wide range of subjects with world-class artists and practitioners.
Our students really enjoyed the day impartially the band and being able to dance in the sunshine!







Rugby's Got Talent

A huge congratulations to Gracie and Olivier who have made it through to the finals of 'Rugby's Got Talent.'
Both students were chosen when they performed in our March talent showcase 'Harris Has Talent' and were both given places directly into the competition's semi- finals.
Well done and good luck to both Gracie and Olivier!





Warwickshire Music's Wicked Workshop

On June the 17th our talented singing group were invited by Warwickshire Music to a musical workshop at Warwick Arts Centre exploring a medley of songs form the hit musical Wicked. Suzzie Vango and the team at Warwickshire Music gave top vocal tips and guided the students through a rehearsal, culminating in a collaborative performance with various schools from across the district. The auditorium was filled with student performers from Year 7 to year 13 and the sound was impressive.
Well done to all the Harris performers who took part.

