

Newsletter

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The Year Ahead

This start of this year has been a particularly challenging one, hopefully the start of the new year will bring a breath of fresh air.

This academic year the school room intends to reach out and engage with the wider community to ensure that the young people who access the school room receive as wide a range of input from the local community as possible.

We have a number of initiatives line up and look forward to sharing them with you.

One of the areas of focus this year for the school room has been raising awareness about Sickle Cell Disease (SCD) as well as supporting schools and young people with this chronic illness.

We reached out to the Sickle Cell Society, who provided us with a range of literature and gift packs that we could share with others.



DESIGN FOR YOURSELF

Do you have a favourite character you want to keep on your bedside? A soft animal friend to snuggle up with? Or maybe, your very own journal/comic to write and draw in?

In this project, **YOU** will be given the chance to use your creativity and imagination to draw and explain a very unique item you would like for **YOURSELF**.

We will then create and give you the item you have described! We will make your unique item as closely as we can to your drawing.

Examples of items:

- Plush toy e.g. of your favourite animal
- Matching bracelets for you and your friend/ jewellery e.g. with your name
- A clay model e.g. of your favourite character
- Painting of something you love
- Origami of animals, flowers etc
- Knitted accessories

Don't be limited to these however!

GET READY TO CREATE!

Please hand in the completed brief sheet to a staff member. Thank you!

(Project run by sixth form students, working together with the School Room Teams at Lewisham and Greenwich NHS trust)

Design for Yourself—Sickle Cell Project

We also ran the Design for Yourself project which is a collaboration with Mithushiga Subaskaran a year 13 student who wanted to make a meaningful contribution in a clinical setting.





Design for Yourself—Sickle Cell Project



Hi! My name is Mithushiga and I'm the founder of The Sickle Cell and Thalassemia project. This project was something I started as a way for students to reach out to young people within local communities in a creative exchange. I wanted to create a space where young people with these chronic health challenges could be creatively inspired by their interests to design items which were personal to them, and then connect their creations with student volunteers who could use their creativity to make these cherished characters a reality.

The hope was that this creative exchange would offer comfort and support to young people as they face their medical challenges and raise awareness of the challenges of living with Sickle Cell Disease and Thalassemia through discussion.

We really hope that these items will provide some comfort and reassurance these young people, reminding them of our support and compassion. During their medical processes.

Thank you to everyone who was involved and helped to bring this project to life! Heather 7 Carly, the QEH School Room Team; Townley students and volunteers; parents but most importantly the young people who showed amazing engagement and enthusiasm with the project.

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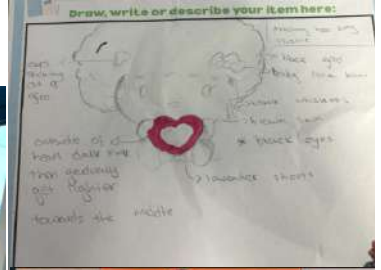
We will then create and give you the item you have described! We will make your unique item as closely as we can to your drawing.

This creative project is a collaboration between Newhaven QE School Room and 6th Form Townley Grammar students. We hope that these bespoke creations will provide comfort, reassurance, and emotional support to young people facing chronic medical challenges.

Please provide accurate contact details so we can inform you once the item is completed.

Young Person's name: _____
 Parent/Carer: _____
 Email: _____
 Tel. no: _____

We kindly request your patience and understanding during the creation period. Each piece is hand-made and requires time. You will be contacted as soon as your item is ready for collection.





Black History Month Celebrations

The theme for this year is "Standing Firm in Power and Pride," which highlights the resilience and strength of the Black community.

This theme emphasizes the contributions of Black individuals and the ongoing commitment to progress and empowerment



Migration Museum

We are very excited to welcome the Migration Museum as a new provider. They offered a brilliant session. Students explored their personal cultural links to other countries and created their own cultural stories. They also looked at the migration stories that other people had shared and looked at their journey's to the United Kingdom.



Black History Month Ward Celebration

The ward celebration was brilliant as usual. Thank you to the Naval College for leading on the arts and crafts activity.

Music was provided by [sweet_tin_sounds](#). A wonderful addition to the celebration that staff and young people enjoyed.



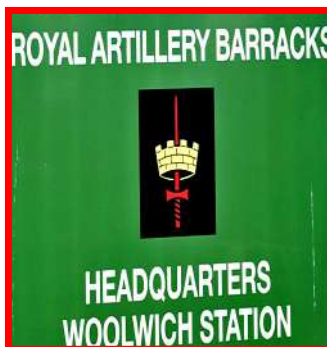
Read for Good Brilliant Box of Books Charity

Thanks to a generation donation of a box of books by the Read for Good charity we are able to continue to provide a varied selection of reading texts.

This allows us the opportunity to continue building on our literacy drive.



Visit to the Royal Artillery Barracks.



We had the fantastic opportunity to visit the Woolwich Army barracks and for them to visit us. The school room is establishing links to ensure that the young people involved with the school room feel part of the community.

We will also be running a Greenwich project in the Spring term that involves the role the barracks have played in the Greenwich Community.



LGT Star Awards 2025

We received a star award for a positive contribution to hospital life.



Winter and Christmas Celebrations on the Ward

Christmas decorations and celebrations are in full swing on the ward. The play specialist, Carol and nurse, Ally were decorators in chief. The ward looks amazing.

The school room received the donation of a Christmas tree that brightened up the room and created a wonderful festive mood.



Old Royal Naval College Christmas Cracker Making 2025 at Queen Elizabeth Hospital School

