# EUROPA SECONDARY NEWSLETTER

23rd October 2026

## Europa IRIS Student Conference



On Friday 16th October 2026, we hosted our first Europa IRIS Student Conference, welcoming fellow researchers from both similar and diverse fields. The Europa Student Research Group has been working on a number of Institute for Research In Schools (IRIS) projects over the past year.

Last Friday's conference marked the end of our first research cycle where students presented their work through posters detailing their aims, methods, analysis and conclusions.

Four IRIS research groups from Fitzharrys School also came and presented their work, the discussion around everyone's research and experiences was truly exciting.

We also heard about IRIS's wider work from their project champions as well as what to look forward to this coming year.

Dr. Kristian Harder completed the conference with his keynote presentation on his journey into Particle Physics and a glimpse into his work at the Rutherford Appleton Laboratories.

Huge thanks to everyone for making such a memorable event!

If you are interested in taking part in an IRIS research project, please join us on a **Friday lunchtime in the *Library Study Room*** or contact Rosie Bosse Chitty in the careers Office next door- we would love to have you with us

## Diary

| | |
|---|---|
| Mon 26th-Fri 30th Oct | Half term |
| Mon 2nd Nov | Term starts |
| Wed 4th Nov | U12 (S6) boys football game away |
| Thurs 5th Nov | IB DP Open Event online 7-8.30pm |
| | S1&S2 girls football game away |
| | S3 French Theatre trip to Radley |
| Fri 6th Nov | Singing group workshop in Oxford |
| Thurs 12th Nov | S7 Parent evening - Online |
| Wed 18th Nov | Flu Vaccination |
| | Junior Concert S1-S3 |
| Sat 5th Dec | Christmas Fair |
| Tue 8th Dec | Senior Concert S4-S6 |

### Advanced notice

## Music Soirée dates

**5.30 in the Chapel**

18th November, Wednesday, for S1/2/3+ and the ensembles
8th December, Tuesday, for S4/5/6/7+ and the ensembles

All interested in performing will need to play their pieces to Ms Ognjenovic or Mrs Scaber before the 9th November for the first concert and by the 24th of November for the second Soirée

*Tania & Aggie*

pshe Personal Social Health Education

## 'NAVIGATING THE ONLINE WORLD'

**SHE WORKSHOP 1**

**TUESDAY 17TH NOVEMBER- 6:30PM - SCHUMAN HALL**

**Secondary parents, you are invited to attend the first PSHE workshop on 'Navigating The Online World'.**

**You can be a student in a PCD lesson for an hour!**

**This will allow you to see the way we approach this incredibly important and complicated topic with our students.**

**The session will be an hour.**

**Please fill out the google form if you wish to attend.**

**Feel free to email e.tolson@europaschool.uk if you would like more information.**

**We look forward to seeing you there!**

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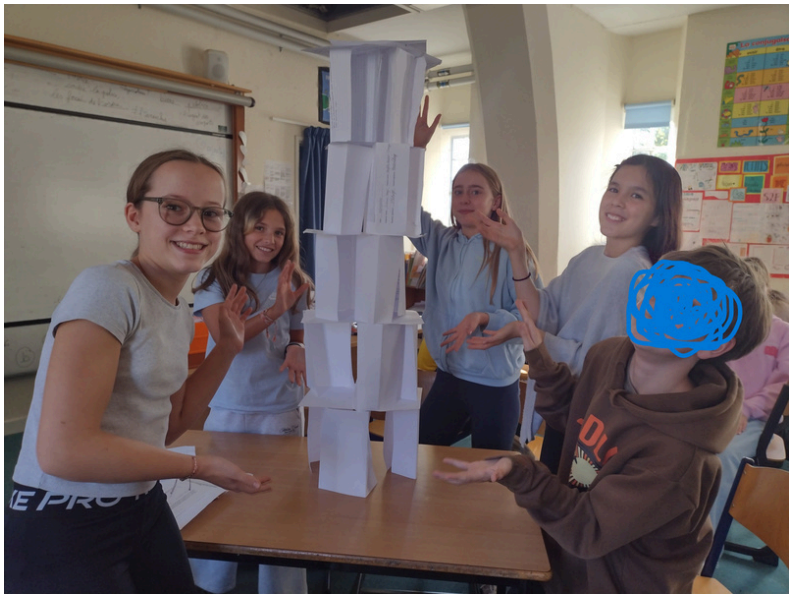
## Stronger Together: The S2F Tower Challenge



In Religion and Ethics the class S2F has been learning about the tower of Babel .

Students got into groups and tried to make the tallest paper tower without any sounds, so no talking.

It was a creative activity to do, and fun to see how hard it was for all the builders.

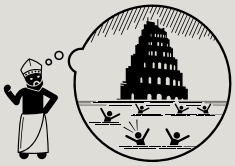
It also showed them how you have to be more patient with others to understand them and that teamwork is essential and important on a large project like this.

Some groups had a good group feeling by making everything clear on what they had to do, but for others towers fell because they weren't working together as a team well or their communication was not good enough.

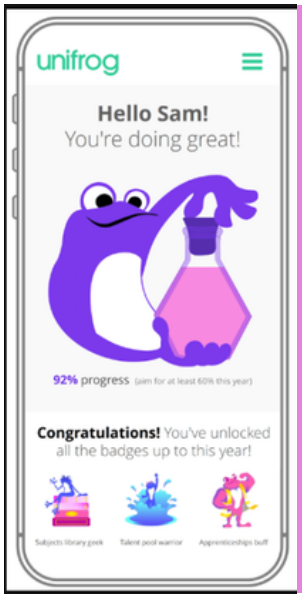
Although it wasn't an easy task, it was a good learning experience and a fun way to learn about the Bible stories.

Congratulations to the winning team with the tallest and strongest tower!

*Izzy S S2F*

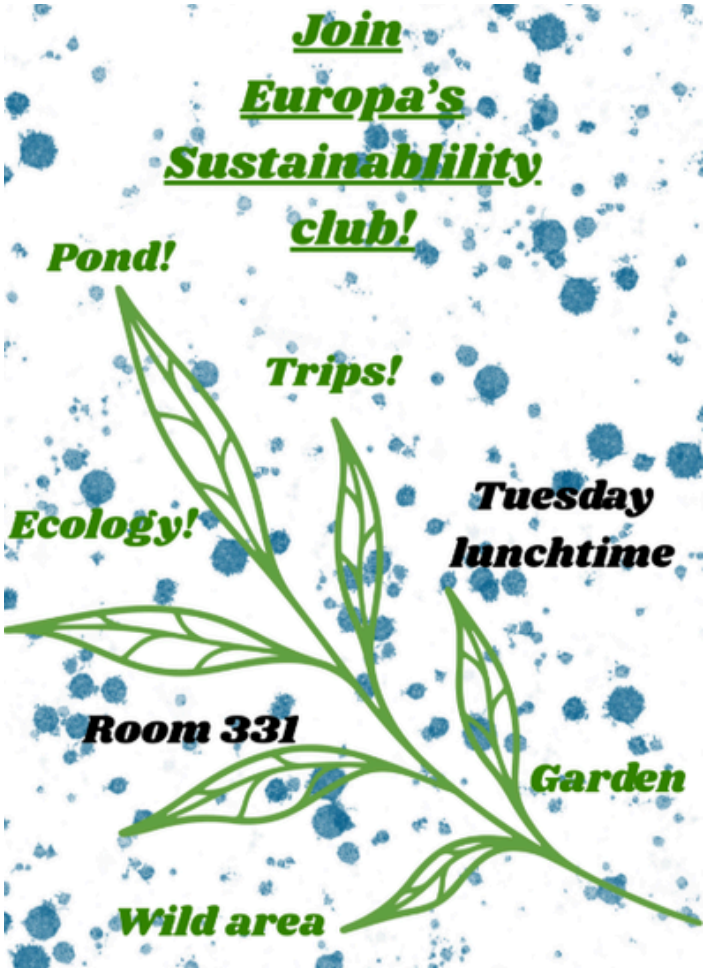


## UNIFROG




**Great news - SSO via Google for unifrog is now live for our school**

**Students can now choose to login via SSO as well as via the username/password method.**



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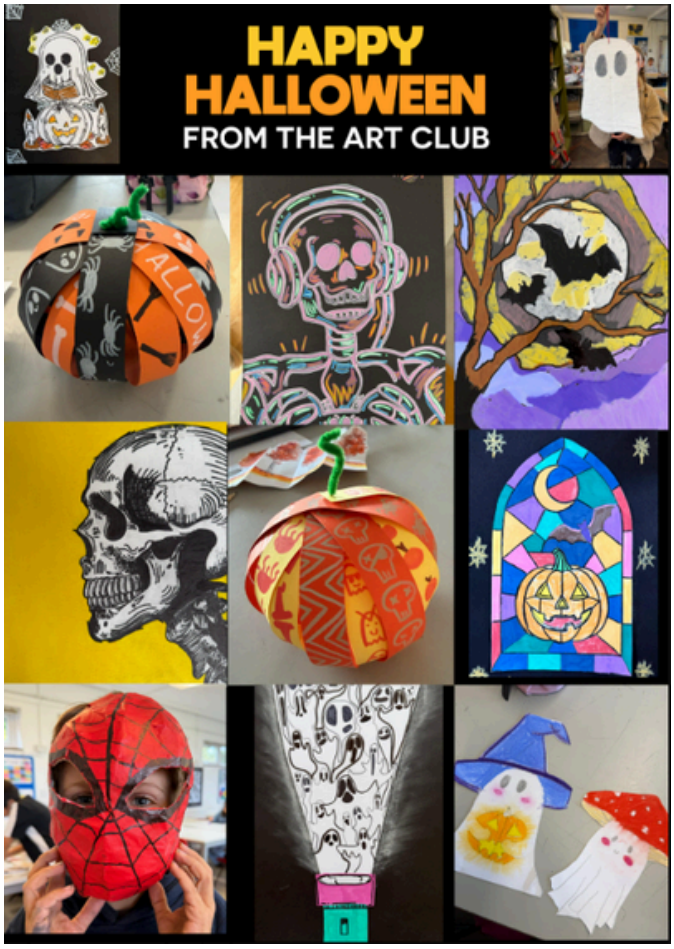
## Wishing Everyone a Restful Half-Term!







## Christmas artwork fundraiser



**Students can create festive designs for Christmas cards and gifts, helping raise funds for the school.**

**Artwork templates are available from Reception.**

**Please return completed templates to Reception by Wednesday, 4th November.**

*Natia*

# PTA News

OCTOBER 2026

Keep in touch on Classlist

Visit the PTA website

## PARENTS' PARTY

The Parents' Party on the 17th October was another great success! After investing in reusable decorations, a crew of parent volunteers transformed the Schuman Hall into "Club Europa" for the night with glowing tables, lights, projections, DJs and bar. All served with a delicious hot buffet brought in from The Swan pub in Sutton Courtenay.

Almost 100 party parents danced the night away from 7pm until midnight on a musical journey of nostalgic Latin, pop, rock and dance anthems. Meanwhile, former students kept the refreshments flowing serving over 200 drinks with tap beer, wines, spirits, cocktails and mocktails on the menu.

If you were there, the crew would love to get your feedback. Want to help with the next party event? Join the Parents' Party WhatsApp group.

SHARE FEEDBACK

JOIN THE GROUP









A big thank you to Brian and his team of volunteers who raised money for the school!

## PTA AGM AND NEW COMMITTEE

The PTA General Assembly Meeting took place on Tuesday 20 October online via Zoom. The annual report and accounts covering the 2024-25 academic year were presented. Alex Merckx who stood down from her co-chair position, a big thank you to her for all her hard work and dedication.

8 trustees were elected: Andreea Radu, Olena-Maria Balta, Bernadette Brent, Gaelle Cane, Anne Cossutta, Gaelle Jamar, Alex Piel and Nada Ranquist, with the new committee set to meet after half-term to allocate roles and responsibilities.

You don't need an official role on the committee to make a big difference for our school community! If you couldn't commit to being a trustee this year but would still like to lend a hand, we would love to welcome you!

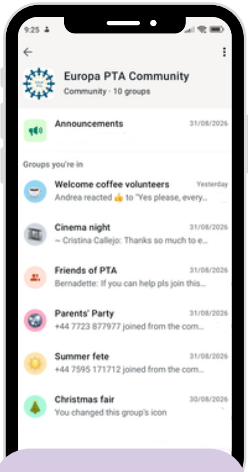
## GET INVOLVED

There are many ways to support the school via the PTA! We know life is busy.

Most of our PTA community members help in small, "bite-sized" ways that fit around work and home life.

For all projects - like the bake sales or the fairs - we form small working groups.

Join our PTA WhatsApp community to get involved (or just see how we work, no pressure!) This community is for anyone who wants to support the PTA in any capacity.




JOIN NOW

Or if you don't like WhatsApp, email committee@europa-pta.org or keep an eye on the newsletter for volunteering opportunities!

## CHRISTMAS FAIR PREP

The Christmas fair on S**aturday 5 December** is one of our biggest fundraisers for the school and it can't happen without our fantastic community. We know everyone is busy so we aim to make volunteering as easy as possible.
We are looking for volunteers (students, parents, guardians, grandparents, ants, uncles, staff, all welcome!) to cover simple, 1.5-hour slots. You don't need to give up your whole day. Pop in, help for a bit, and spend the rest of the time enjoying the fete! If you have a bit more time to dedicate to planning the fair, feel free to join our WhatsApp planning group.

**VIEW THE VOLUNTEERING SLOTS**

**JOIN THE WHATSAPP GROUP**

**WANT TO SELL? BOOK A STALL**

## DIY CLUB

Dates for upcoming DIY sessions are on the website. If you plan to come along, it's useful to let Valerie know ahead of time to help her plan the session and most importantly the snacks!
There is also DIY Whatsapp group.

**VIEW BEFORE AND AFTER PHOTOS**

## CLASS REPS

If you are Class Rep and haven't joined our WhatsApp group yet, please do so here:

**JOIN THE CLASS REPS GROUP**

## LAPTOPS

30 more laptops have been repurposed and delivered from SOFEA to help secondary students with their studies.




**BOOK TICKETS**