

The CUPOLA



non sibi sed omnibus
2016 - 2017 Edition



New Year, New Uniform

Plus:

- Founders' Day
- Meet a Dinner Lady
- Old Scholars' Cup



2016 - 2017 Edition

Con



Old
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Head's Address



After many years of absence we return to a school magazine. The old 'Cupola' was a collection of pupils' work, including art and sports reports.

The name is attractive because it refers to our most distinctive feature with its weather vane recalling the foundation of the school buildings as a founding hospital.

'Cupola' will have a new look and a wider audience. It will be an annual publication for the entire Ackworth School community: students, parents, staff, alumni and friends. 'Cupola' will also help to keep a record of the many good things we do and keep students, parents, and alumni informed.

Winning four national sporting titles in one week has to be the highlight of the year. Two squash and two table tennis schools titles are quite an accomplishment for a small school in West Yorkshire. But this shouldn't obscure the real triumph behind the outstanding results and that is the growing visibility of the school.

Our outreach as a result of table tennis and the development centre has allowed us to promote the school in as many as 12 local primary schools. It has allowed our students to benefit from leadership opportunities they would not normally be exposed to. It has enabled the school to take its place as an agent for social mobility within our community and provides opportunities for real learning for our students. The effect is already clear with increased interest in our scholarship examinations, not necessarily the reason for outreach but certainly a favourable result of it.

The terrorist attacks in London and Manchester have been hard to understand; they affect our civil liberty and have led to increased state control which we have no choice but to accept in exchange for our safety. The Prevent duty introduced by the government has not been widely welcomed and has affected community cohesion. The school has been a rock for some of our

students affected by the bomb blast in Manchester. Ackworth is a wonderful oasis of calm and diversity and is respected and appreciated.

Numbers have risen again this year despite the implications of Brexit and the generally slow improvement to our economic fortunes, particularly in the North of England. Next year will offer the opportunity of reaching a recent high of 500 students.

We have new caterers, Thomas Franks, revolutionising our meals and making sure we eat healthy foods. Catering Staff are receiving training that allows them to advance too.

Our revitalisation of the swimming pool will bring with it, over the next few years, the chance to add to our educational experience for the students and also improve our income raising prospects. The potential is remarkable and we have the staff to bring about the transformation.

I hope that you will enjoy reading about the school as it is today. We have achieved so much and have great things to do next year. Despite a tumultuous year politically and economically we are increasing numbers and gaining momentum.

Our values are enduring and guide us through the uncertainty. Our setting remains unique and the strong bonds of friendship connect all of us!

Finally, I am delighted that Catherine Jackson accepted our challenge of creating a record of our school year. It is an enormous challenge and she has achieved it with aplomb. She has worked tirelessly to extract information and pull this publication together. She would be pleased to hear your views on this new magazine. Please contact her on Catherine.Jackson@ackworthschool.com.



The *Changing Seasons*
at Ackworth
By Sophie Emms

The Senior School



1st Year



3rd Year



2nd Year



4th Year



5th Year

The Sixth Form



Lower Sixth



Upper Sixth

Coram and Senior School House Photos



The adaptation of 'Every Brilliant Thing' represented not only the best piece of theatre produced in any Inter House Drama Festival since I've worked here but also some of the best qualities essential to any successful piece of theatre, professional or amateur, adult or youth: trust among the performers, self-discipline, commitment, creativity and risk taking. That it evoked such a strong emotional response from so many members of the audience is scarcely to be wondered at given the emotionally intelligent connection of the performers to the play. If I wanted to I could find flaws with some elements of the performance, but the power of the interpretation and the passion with which it was played simply made me not want to. As someone who has been involved in professional theatre for many years, I watched Penn's production absolutely knowing that I couldn't have directed it better myself and probably not so well. They have significantly raised the standards of theatre in this school and for that I am profoundly grateful. This is a significant achievement for every single member of the company and in particular for its inspired, reflective, creative and rigorous director: Jenny Morton.

Richard Vergette, Head of Drama

“ the best piece of theatre produced in the Inter House Drama Festival since I've worked here”

Special commendations:

Amelia Logan
Emily Sanderson
Alice Mason
Ben Cawood

Special awards:

Best comic performance - Ed Ducker
Best plot twist - Sophie Emms and Gurney
Most promising performance: Hayley Allen

Best male performance: Dominic Sanderson
Best female performance: Maya Watson

Most original concept: for a sharp, witty and intelligently observed piece of political satire: Mollie Watson and Woolman

Best overall production: Jenny Morton and Penn
Best individual contribution: Misha Van Lelyveld

A Flavour of Inter House Competitions

Inter House Baking



It was a great experience taking part in the Great Ackworth Bake Off. It was a very hectic but fun day.

The icing on the cake was being the winning team, and leading Woolman to victory! We were thrilled that the judges enjoyed our Valentine's tea - we certainly ate the whole lot afterwards.

Ben Cawood, Thea White, Molly Mackenzie

Inter House Music



I really enjoyed singing with the Fothergill House choir for the inter house music competition. I also did it last year and next year I'm going to take a leadership role it within it. We sang a Beatles medley of "Let it be" and "Imagine" accompanied by Matthew Strutt. There were solos and lots of harmonies. Unfortunately we didn't win so next time we need even more in the choir.

Madeleine Easter

and in any
linked here





— Ackworth School —

proudly presents

The Long Service Awards

— *35 years* —

Linda Rushton – Catering

— *25 years* —

Tony Walker – Gardens
Heather Jones – Domestic Administrator
Francis Hickenbottom – Head of Physics

— *10 years* —

Rebecca Stephenson – Admissions & Marketing Secretary
Andrew Hilton – Head of German
Jeffrey Swales – Deputy Head (Academic)
Christine Hodson – Childcare Assistant
Katie Staton – Coram House Teacher
Sharon Brooke – Lunchtime Supervisor
Tracy Foster – Catering
Alison Purdue – Domestic
Paul Meeson – Assistant Warden
Delia Coburn – PA to the Head

"I am struck by the high number of long service awards we have made at Ackworth School. Staff display great loyalty towards the school and many have worked here for longer than 10 years. This is a great advantage to the school because it allows us to retain experience and gives students a sense of permanence,"

Head, Anton Maree

COMINGS AND GOINGS

ARRIVALS

DEPARTURES



Senior School

Sue Allan - Bursar
Joanne Colley - Human Resources
Neil Fitzgerald - EAL
Carol Francis - Head of Special Educational Needs
Elizabeth Hussey - Music
Daniel Jones - Chemistry
Robert Moody - Learning Support
Georgina Turner - Food Technician

Coram

Rachel Dix - Year 2 form teacher
Sindy Dosanjh - Year 2 form teacher
Michael Tattersall - Year 3 form teacher

Shed Court

Shannon Hoyle - specialist learning support mentor

Michael Callister (Boys PE) left in January to take up a teaching position on the Isle of Man.

Rebecca Nicholson (Mathematics) - maternity leave.

Shamima Jogee (Biology) is leaving to relocate to Nuneaton, West Midlands.

Lucy Cruddas (Nursery Manager) is going to Ampleforth College to assume a teaching position.

Will Stover (Coram) is leaving in order to teach in the USA, securing a job in North Carolina.

Diane Parkin (Mathematics) is leaving the school after 11 years in order to take retirement.



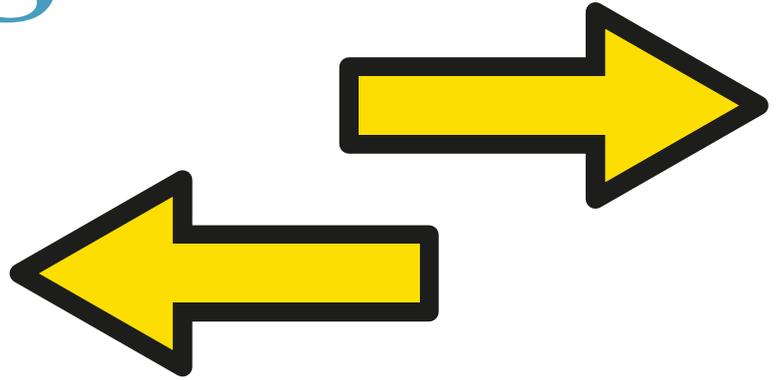
David France (Coram) is finally retiring after 35 years of teaching.

Ian Lenihan (Director of Music) is leaving after being with us for three years to take a position of Head of Music at Gateways School, Harewood.

After 25 years Tom Plant (Head of History) is leaving to take retirement.



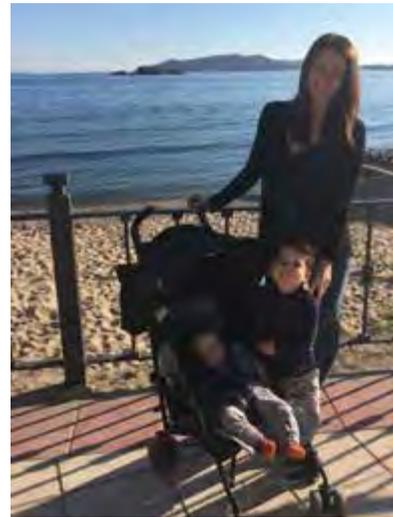
Comings and Goings



Ozzie
gappies
Phoebe
and Claire



Shamima
Jogee
and new
husband
Junaib



Alex
Collingwood
(History and
Assistant Head
of Sixth Form)
with new
arrival Freddie
William Green
on holiday in
Ibiza. Freddie
was born on
October 14th
in Barnsley
hospital,
weighing 7lbs,
14oz and
is pictured
here with big
brother Max.



Rebecca Nicholson (Mathematics
and Duke of Edinburgh) with
William Edward, born 8th May at
Pinderfields, weighing 7lbs 15oz.



At 1.15am on November 25th and on her exact
due date, Helen Batty, (Head of Psychology,
Head of Careers and Biology teacher) pictured
with husband Ed, gave birth to Arthur Andrew
Batty. He weighed in at 6lbs 15oz and was
born at the Friarwood Birth Centre in
Pontefract.

Sally Slater Appointment as Head of Coram

Sally has already made her mark in Coram House since her first appointment 8 years ago. She is well known there for her readiness to help others and engage with everyone she encounters.

She has ambition and a clear vision and is professional and passionate about education. More recently, Sally has been Acting Head in Coram House since January 2017 and we thank her for the excellent job that she has done in this regard.

The School has continued to make significant progress since then, and Sally performed very well in the interview process against a strong field. All those who know her will feel that we are fortunate to be able to appoint a person of her calibre as we seek further development for our future.

We wish Sally every success in her new role and offer her our full support.

David Bunney



Departure of Katharine Elwis

At the beginning of the Spring Term, Head of Coram, Katharine Elwis resigned in order to return to the Isle of Mull and look after her father, whose health was deteriorating. This is the letter she sent to the pupils in Coram House.

We wish her all the best and every possible happiness.

"As you may have noticed, I am no longer in school. The reason I had to dash off is that my Dad suddenly became very ill. His heart started to fail and he needs a lot of care and that is what daughters do. I am afraid, I am not coming back to Coram.

Sometimes in life, we have to make very difficult decisions and leaving you was one of the hardest decisions of my life. You are part of a very special school and you are special. I have grown to know you and recognise the extraordinary qualities each and every one of you has.

The school and your parents plant the seeds of good qualities but it is your job to nurture them so that they help you become fabulous grown ups.

Qualities such as kindness, helpfulness and hard work. And don't forget Growth Mindset - remember to believe in yourself and that through practice and risking failure, you can become more and more intelligent and successful.

Can you promise me two things?

Firstly - keep learning sign language - you never know when you might need it one day.

And secondly - grow up to make a difference in the world - live adventurously!

I hope I will be able to come back and see you on Open Day at the end of next term. Until then work hard and have fun!

I miss you all very much."

Mrs Elwis

Diane Parkin (Mathematics) is leaving the school after 12 years in order to take retirement. Prior to working at Ackworth and taking on the role of a Senior Year Tutor, she had worked for 26 years in the state system and took on the role of a Senior Year Tutor.

"I thought Ackworth a very special place when I first arrived and I still do. It's a family, everyone has a part to play and everyone is equally valued. We are all guardians of the school for the short time that we are here, contributing to Ackworth School's unique history, tradition and heritage. As a result, I feel privileged to have worked at Ackworth. I would like to thank all colleagues, pupils and parents, present and former, whom I have worked alongside, for their friendship and for helping to make my 12 years at Ackworth some of the happiest of my career.

I am leaving with many happy memories."

David France (Coram) is finally retiring after 35 years of teaching.

"He began his teaching at Coram after unwittingly dropping his CV in for some supply work...which lasted 5 years. For the first year he only taught 4 days a week, which the children decided was because he needed a 'onesie day' on a Friday. However, he eventually was sucked into full time teaching. During that time he has nurtured so many children through Pre-Prep and the Prep department with his kindness and gentle manner. We wish David a very happy and fulfilling retirement as he travels the country (and possibly the world) in his camper van with his lovely wife!" (Elizabeth Jordan)

Ian Lenihan (Director of Music) is leaving after being with us for 3 years to take a position of Head of Music at Gateways School, Harewood.

"Ian joined the school in 2014 and one of the first things I noticed about him was his rapport with the pupils. He had a calm, stabilising influence which was evident immediately. He has increased the numbers of pupils taking part particularly in the choir, ensembles and the orchestra. In concerts he is well known for bringing out the best in the pupils - conscious of the occasion, but not making himself centre stage. We will miss him." (Jeffrey Swales)

After 25 years **Tom Plant** (Head of History) is leaving to take retirement. He arrived in 1992 as a history teacher and worked as Housemaster in Boys' School House. In 1995 he became Head of Department and has seen his three children Joseph, Jack and Hester go right through the school. Along with his dog, Orla, Tom will be much missed.

Charity Out School

On July 1st 2016 Dave Kildea began a challenge to run 5km every single day until 18th November (a total of 141 days and 705km) in order to raise funds for the Royal British Legion with his Somme 141 Challenge.

Up until the beginning of September Dave was doing really well and had reached day 63 completing 315km. Unfortunately he then hurt his lower back. He was devastated and so disappointed especially given the support he had already received.

Out of the blue Amy, his daughter (L6th) suggested that she should step in as a substitute so that the challenge could remain on track.

Although she hasn't trained for this, Amy managed to complete 5km every day and continued with true determination until her dad was in a position to take over again.

This is a fantastic example of our school motto "not for oneself but for everyone" and we are extremely proud of our Ackworth Scholar. Well done, Amy.



The donation of 44 bikes by members of the school community in September is helping to make 'Welcome to Yorkshire's' dream of Yorkshire becoming the cycling capital of Europe.

'Welcome to Yorkshire', with the support of the Yorkshire Bank, is opening 'bike libraries' across the county, with an increasing number of donation stations being added as the scheme develops. Unwanted bikes are collected and renovated, then placed in bike libraries for anyone to borrow.

"The scheme arose after the Tour de France two years ago, and 'Welcome to Yorkshire' asked if we would be prepared to be a collection point. We were happy to help and are glad to establish links with 'Welcome to Yorkshire,'" said Michael Atkins, Ackworth's Director of Marketing, Admissions and Communications.

side



Harvey in Shed Court raised over £25 for Red Nose Day by selling sweets



Mia has very kindly donated her hair to the Little Princesses charity @LPTrustUK.



I'm taking on the Aspire Channel Swim 2016, swimming the distance of the Channel over 12 weeks to raise money for Aspire. Every eight hours someone is paralysed by a Spinal Cord Injury and Aspire provides the essential equipment, advice, housing and grants that spinal cord injured people need to live their lives independently. This is a big challenge, but the more I raise, the more of a difference I'll make.

Chloe Millett (Fourth Year)



For the third year running pupils from Ackworth School have helped pack and distribute food hampers for the less privileged in the Wakefield and Pontefract area. Organised by the Rotary Club of Wakefield Chantry and the Community Awareness Programme based in Wakefield this year the ambitious target of 1,000 hampers has been reached. "It was more fun than we thought" commented Will, Josh, Thomas and Max from 3rd year.

Old Scholar's Product Wins An Award!



'Great Taste', the world's most coveted blind-tasted food awards, which celebrates the very best in food and drink, has announced the 'Great Taste' stars of 2016. Out of 10,000 products to be judged, Artemis Brew from Yorkshire was awarded a 1-star Great Taste award for its Cold Brew Coffee.

Judge's description:

"Attractive amber appearance. Well balanced flavours of stewed fruit, particularly prune, giving sweetness and pleasant acidity. An initial refreshing 'hit' makes a memorable, enjoyable impact.

"It is innovative, complex and exciting. Unanimous one star. We all liked this and would probably buy it!"

Judged by over 500 of the most demanding palates, belonging to food critics, chefs, cooks, restaurateurs and producers as well as a whole host of food writers and journalists, 'Great Taste' is widely acknowledged

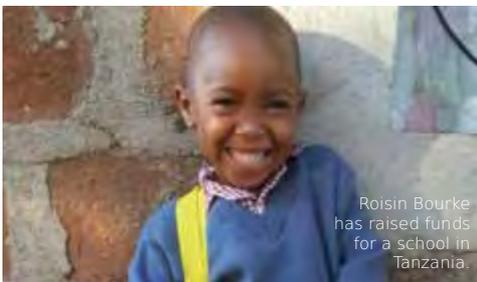
as the most respected food accreditation scheme for artisan and speciality food producers. As well as a badge of honour, the unmistakable black and gold Great Taste label is a signpost to a wonderful tasting product, which has been discovered through hours and hours of blind-tasting by hundreds of judges.

"This is the first time I've entered any product into the Great Taste Awards and to achieve a unanimous award for such a niche product is just amazing. In a competitive, quality driven industry; being the first to achieve this where others haven't is a great recognition of our commitment to quality. Many retailers actively search for new Great Taste awarded products so we're hoping it may open a few more doors for our products," explains Ben Barker, founder of Artemis Brew.

Old Scholar News



Danny Mellor at
Edinburgh Fringe



Roisin Bourke
has raised funds
for a school in
Tanzania.



Old Scholar, Imogen Rohrs, wrote an excellent article in the Telegraph - see below:

'Why sex and relationships education needs to become compulsory in all schools.' Imogen is currently in her 2nd Year at Cardiff University, studying English Literature.

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/education/2017/01/23/sex-relationships-education-needs-become-compulsory-schools/>



In August 2017 I will be climbing Mount Kilimanjaro in aid of Childreach International. Kilimanjaro is the tallest free standing mountain in the world, standing at 5895m above sea level! Since 2011, Childreach have ensured that 20,000 children are able to enjoy one hot meal a day whilst they are at school through their school farming project. More information about the work they do can be found here: <https://www.childreach.org.uk/>

My aim is to raise £2985 which will help to ensure that children have improved access to education, healthcare and protection in Tanzania, Brazil, Nepal, Bangladesh, India and the UK. All donations will be greatly appreciated! Find my online donation page here: <https://mydonate.bt.com/fundraisers/elliebackhouse1> Thank you so much to everyone that has already donated!

Ellie Backhouse



Former student Jack Davies has made his musical debut in London taking a lead role in 'The Braille Legacy' at Charing Cross Theatre, London.

Described by The Guardian as 'bound for great things', Jack, known by his stage name as Jack Wolfe, played Louis Braille, the man who invented Braille which allowed blind people to read. Jack was directed by the acclaimed Thom Southerland and played alongside West End star Jerome Pradon.

Jack got the part as Louis Braille straight from the Mountview Academy of Theatre Arts, London. He has already landed his next job - a six month contract at the National Theatre, where he will be one of the two actors playing the lead role in the Christmas production, 'Pinocchio'.



Since leaving Ackworth in 2009, I attended University in Cardiff, studying Food Science and Technology. Going on to work for Bakkavor, one of the largest chilled food manufactures in the UK. We make a variety of products, including: salads, prepared fruit, prepared veg, wraps, cream cakes, pizza, ready meals, garlic bread, dips and houmous, soups and pasta sauces and cheesecakes. We make these for all the major retailers, in particular M&S, Waitrose and Tesco. We have more than 30 sites across the UK and 20 in countries worldwide from the USA to China, employing more than 19,000 people. In 2013 and 2015 we won Grocer Chilled Own Label Supplier of the Year.

I started working at a site that makes exclusively M&S ready meals. I work in the development department, working to bring new products to the market. Throughout my time working in M&S meals I worked on many different accounts, from Mexican and Vietnamese meals to English classics. I learnt many new skills and managed to experience a whole world of foods working with a mixture of Michelin starred chefs, and a huge array of knowledgeable suppliers. It's hard, yet rewarding work; no day is the same. Some days you might spend 12 hours in a cold factory and others travelling to London for a day of restaurant tastings to find the next big thing. The most

rewarding experience has to be sitting down on Christmas Day, listening to 12 people try a limited edition line that was my project from start to finish, hearing the satisfying silence as everyone enjoys it.

I have since moved on to another site, specialising in Food to Go salads and wraps for Tesco. It's a whole new experience, and a new challenge that I am loving! We supply almost all of the Tesco lunch wraps and several lunch time salads along with more traditional salads such as coleslaw and potato salad.

To anyone who is considering a role in the food industry, I cannot recommend it enough. There is such a broad spectrum of opportunity and challenge that will keep you on your toes. Roles within companies such as Bakkavor include, but are not limited to: Concept Development, Commercial, Finance, Process Development, Operations, Engineering, Technical and QA. It's one of the fastest growing sectors for growth in the UK and I don't know anyone from my university who wants to work in the food industry that struggled to find a job opportunity. We need more young minds to join us!

Sam Biggs



Experience is everything when working in museums. You can be an expert in your chosen field but if you don't know how to hang a picture straight or use databases you can only do half the job. I started volunteering at Yorkshire Sculpture Park while studying History and Music at undergraduate level as something to do over summer. I found the practical skills needed were in some cases more important to employers than academic knowledge. Professionals already working in the sector constantly advised me to find ways to make job applications stand out from the crowd. So I started doing extra volunteering at as many different institutions as possible and getting experience in as many different activities as I could. This practical experience was also essential to being accepted on a Masters course in Museum Studies.

My efforts as a volunteer paid off when I was offered a freelance position at Barnsley Museums where I had volunteered the previous summer. The experience I accumulated doing small volunteer projects and the academic background of the Masters degree undoubtedly suggested a commitment to the field and a knowledge of real-world application. University degrees do help you gain employment, but only if you make your application stand out from the crowd with practical knowledge. I currently work as Collections Assistant at The Green Howards Museum in North Yorkshire looking specifically after their fantastic collection of military uniforms.

Old Scholar Sports

Zoe Uttley





Autumn at Ackworth





Welcome to Ackworth Senior School First Years

And so I sealed my golden choker around my neck as tonight was the night when I'd be sealing the end of an era...

On September 7th 2016 I opened the big blue door into Senior School. I was so excited. Never mind year 5 or 6 or 3 – I was in First Year!

The first day was very tiring – 8 different lessons. They were all fun though. On Thursday I was introduced to two brand new lessons: physics and chemistry. Both were so cool. The first ever lessons in Senior School were soon over and I spent my break relaxing and looking forward to going back.

Going up into the 'big school' was a huge leap for all of us, but a leap we were excited and willing to take!



Grace Dibb (1st Year)



New Year,
New Uniform

Nursery



First table tennis lesson with Chris Parker



Harvest Festival Celebrations



French Lessons



In the forest with Sage and the fairies



Fireworks pictures and celebrating Diwali



Raising money for Crackerjacks Children's Trust

The Spanish Connection

At the beginning of the year we welcomed a group of Spanish students to Ackworth. The students, mostly third year students, came to us from Estudio in Madrid for several weeks.

"This school is very different from Estudio. The first thing is that it is in another language that is not mine and that is very hard. In my first days it was very tiring trying to understand lessons like chemistry, physics or biology that we don't have in our school. In another language and listening all the time to people you don't know is hard, but by the end I really liked it all and now I understand more English so it's not that hard.

In the first week I didn't know it was going to be that different in the hours we have lunch or dinner. In Spain we usually have lunch at 2.30pm or 3pm, and when we had lunch at 1pm I wasn't hungry, but two hours later I was very hungry. The biggest difference was at dinner time (6pm) as we usually have dinner at 9.30pm or 10pm.

My biggest fear when I arrived here was whether the people here would be nice. Now I know that they are very nice and I have a lot of amazing friends here, the ones who make you laugh and smile every day. I didn't want to leave without them, but I had to.

I really like this school and England. I want to come here again and I will come here again."

Alex Saenz

"This is the first time that I have come to England so there are many new things I saw.

One difference between England and Spain is the routine. Here everything is earlier: time to start school, lunch, dinner, time to go to bed etc.

The food here is also very different because in England the weather is worse, so nearly all the food is prepared from the winter.

The schools are also different and the systems are different. In England you have to go to your respective class, while in Spain the teachers go to the class. Also in every school in England they wear a uniform, while in Spain they don't usually.

In England there are much more towns than in Spain, but they are very little, while in Spain the towns are bigger. Also, the towns and cities here in England are much older. The houses in towns are bigger than in Spain too.

Many things are more expensive here in England than in Spain, but others, like sweets and chocolate are cheaper."

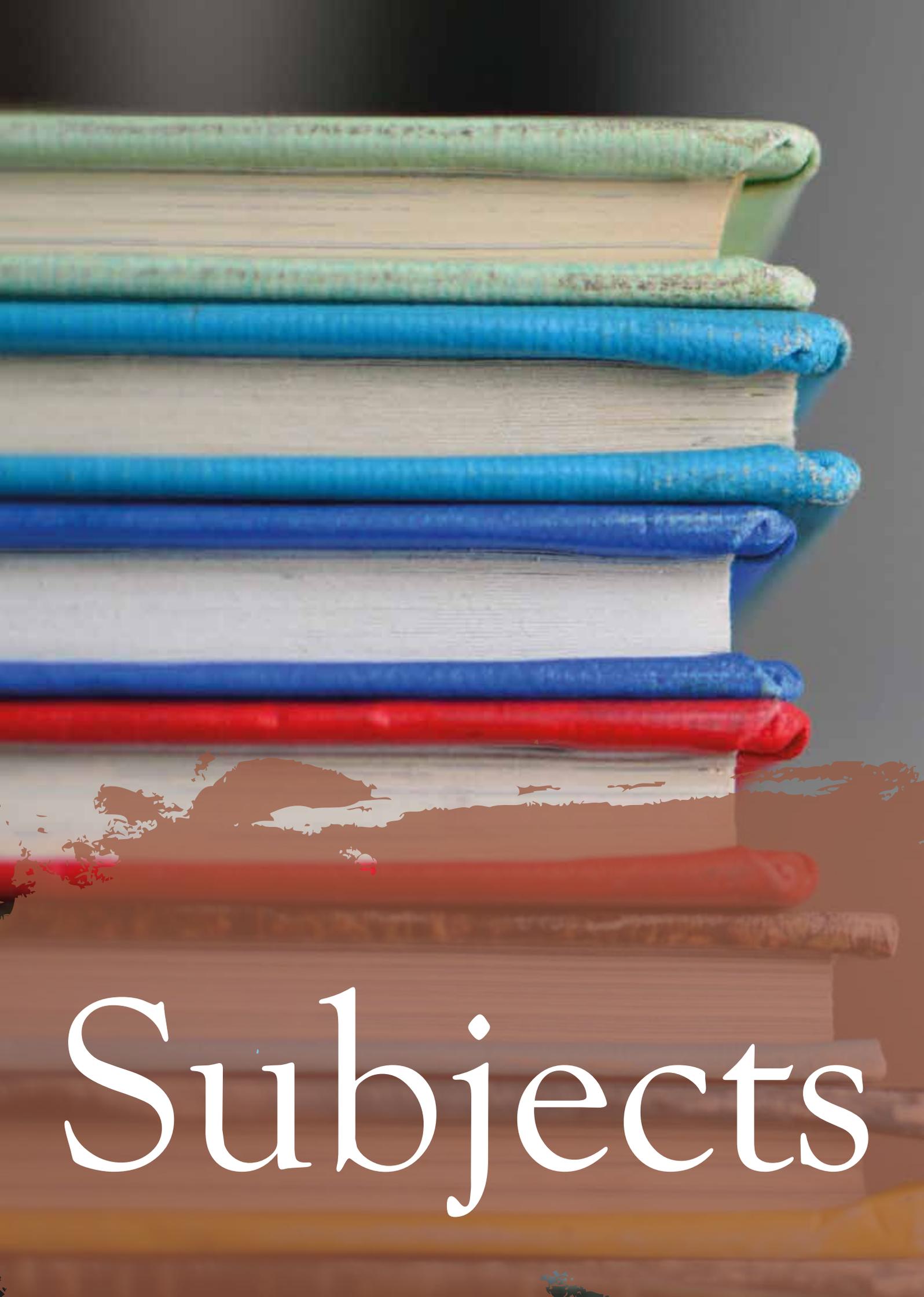
Nicolas Albarracin

"The way that Ackworth School has taken me has been fantastic. Everyone has treated me in a friendly and respectful way. I have made a lot of friends and it has been a once in a lifetime experience. Being a boarder has been great and we had loads of fun. The classrooms, library and dining rooms are great and the food was very nice.

My stay was a great thing and an experience I will not forget."

Lucas Van Oudheusden





Subjects



Geography

The fifth form geographers travelled to Hornsea on the Holderness coast to investigate the processes of longshore drift and erosion, and how human management can change the effects of these processes.

They collected data about how groynes work by measuring the beach depth and gradient at different places along the beach.

They used tangerines to see how sediment is carried by the sea. They also looked at cliff resistance, land-use, wind and wave direction and practised their sketching skills.

It was an absolutely beautiful perfect fieldwork day and we all had fish and chips after our hard work!



Vrai

Faux

French



This term we visited Leeds University for a Language and Business Day for 5th Year pupils where we attended a variety of talks on workshops.

We were delighted that Golvine the French Assistant remained with us this term. She has been teaching in Nursery and Pre prep as well as helping senior school pupils. Golvine leaves us at Christmas to take up a post as a librarian in the French Embassy. We will miss her but wish her well.



Pupils in the first year have started a new interactive course called Studio which they are enjoying.

Elizabeth Rayner, Head of French

Art

The art trip to Paris was an exciting and enjoyable trip during half term. We took in the breath-taking views from the Eiffel Tower, admired the stunning architecture around Ile de Cite on our boat cruise down the Seine, whilst the Louvre, Musee d'Orsay and The Pompidou undoubtedly satisfied our artistic pursuits.

We also saw a busy end to the term with the creation of the back drops and props for the school production 'Grease'.

Sarah Rose, Head of Art



German

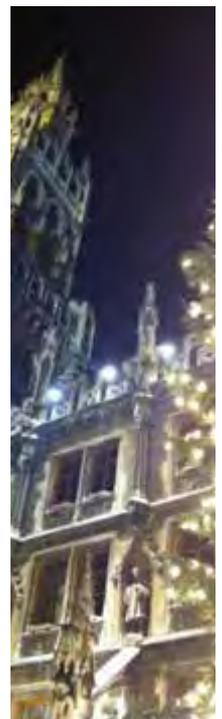
Ja

The German Department

Apart from the normal day to day teaching, the German Department was busily preparing for its trip to Munich at the beginning of the Christmas holidays. The trip's itinerary included visits to Dachau, the Deutsches Museum, the famous Christmas Markets as well as a day trip by train to Salzburg, just over the border in Austria.

In the classroom Second Year pupils established contacts with counterparts at a Grammar School in Műnnerstadt, Germany. Hopefully this will give them an insight into a different culture, make them enthusiastic about learning German and help them to develop their language skills.

Andrew Hilton, Head of German



Drama



When I auditioned for the school production of Grease, I didn't realise the amount of work that was needed to make it the success that it turned out to be. I have been in most of the productions here at Ackworth, yet in all honesty, this has had to be one of the toughest ones I did. However, saying that, I was always going to audition in the first place, as I love a challenge, especially fuelled by my passion for drama and music.

There were three main elements to the success of the production: the acting, the singing and the dancing. The acting and the singing came more naturally to me, as it did for my fellow cast mates, but we all struggled more with the choreography. Although it took what seemed like an endless amount of time to perfect, the dancing was great fun and we all laughed along the way. I found it to be something positive as I tried something new for the first time and it promoted a greater sense of teamwork within the cast as we were all important in supporting the play.

It is always an amazing experience to be in a production, but being in an Ackworth production will be something I'll always miss as it is so much fun. After it's all over, you just want it to carry on. The success of Grease lay in the amazing support of the teachers involved, the teamwork of everybody in the cast and the ever-strong determination to make it perfect every single night. Although some of us, including me, had no clue of the story, we were all able to pull off a production full of soul, energy and plenty of smiles.



Dominic Sanderson (L6)



Sports Table Tennis



This autumn saw the arrival of a new Table Tennis Academy at Ackworth. Preparations had begun before the summer break, but September saw new students all with a special talent.

The students all take part in all mainstream lessons, though generally drop one of their option choices in order to keep up with all the preps.

Training takes place from 4.15pm to 6.15pm, when students break for tea, and resumes at 7.30pm until between 9pm and 9.30pm. Some slots are made available during the school day as well, during, for example some of the games lessons.

England National Coach, Matjaz Sercer said he was delighted to be coaching the young team. "This is an Olympic project for 2020/24. It's very exciting because Ackworth is working with us and making all the training possible.

"We have many of the best Under 16 players from all over England and with this National Academy we have such incredible opportunities."

Originally from Slovenia, Sercer has previously played as part of the Slovenian team, coached the Slovenian national team and coached the Italian national team, before moving to Grantham and then Ackworth as the England national coach.

The students of the Academy say they are very happy to be studying and training at Ackworth. They have high aspirations and with one voice say they are looking forward to the Olympics in the future.

Shayan Siraj (16) came from Leeds Grammar School. He is now ranked 2nd in U16s and 7th in the U18s in the country.

Sam Chesterman (15) moved to Ackworth from Coleridge Community College in Cambridge. He is currently ranked 7th in the U15s.

Mollie Patterson (14) came from Smithdon High School, Hunstanton. Ranked number 8 in Cadets (U15s) she said, "I wanted to come to Ackworth to get a high class training."

Reece Chamdal (15) came from The Cooper School in Bicester. He is ranked 5th in Cadets.

Amirul Hussain (13) from the Waterhead Academy in Oldham is ranked number 1 in Cadets.

Ruby Chan (13) from Harrogate Grammar School is 2nd in the U13 age category.

Jasmin Wong (14) who came to Ackworth from South Hunsley School in the East Riding of Yorkshire wanted to come to Ackworth so she could have more training and less travelling. She is ranked 3rd in Cadets

Sports Asia

2016 was a fantastic year for Asia as she not only won numerous U15s and U17s tournaments but also won the Hull Silver Squash tournament.

She went on to win the Tecnifibre Silver tournament at Edgbaston.

Following this Asia became number 1 in Yorkshire girls U13s and even won her first European tournament in Wales despite having no seeding.

More recently she came 4th in the Gold tournament in Manchester along with going to Dublin for the Irish European tournament - all this at just 11 years old!

In September I played in my first European squash tournament, in which I had no seeding. I won my first match 3-0 and on the same day won 3-2 against the Irish number one. On the following day I won my match 3-2 which took me to the final the following day. In the final I won 3-0 and felt extremely proud of myself for achieving my goal in my first European tournament.



Asia Harris (1st Year)



Sports

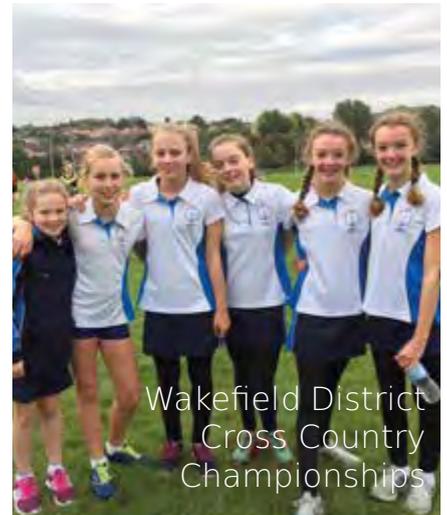
Katie 3rd U17 and Harriet 9th U14 at the Yorkshire biathlon,



Katie qualifies for the national biathlon



Wakefield District Cross Country Championships



Wakefield District Cross Country Championships



Sports Roundup

In the autumn term, 29 football fixtures were played.

The juniors highlight results included winning performances against Repton and Formarke Hall, and also an exciting draw with Bootham. There was some impressive commitment from the first form boys who attended training regularly which helped them really progress. The team is really starting to gel and come together. A special mention is deserved for a Year 6 pupil in Coram, Lucas Coulson who has played twice for the senior school.

The U16s got through to the last 16 of the ISFA national small schools shield after beating Westholme of Blackburn 3-2 in the preceding round.



The 1st XI, led by Nikita Demchenko, recorded three wins over Repton, Rossall and Silcoates and also had several other competitive matches with good performances. The boys trained exceptionally well and the competition for places due to commitment of pupils was especially impressive. The season's top scorer was Dillon Machemba with five goals. There were a number of excellent performances from Sam Raby, Freddie Dewhirst, Cameron Williams, Ben Hopkinson and Tommy Askew amongst others.

The boys have also played seven hockey fixtures so far this academic year, the highlight being the U14s beating Kettlethorpe 3-1 in 11 a-side fixture. Dominic Pierechod was the the goal scorer with a bucket load of goals.

A couple of special mentions are certainly required. Firstly for Faris Khourshid who showed tremendous dedication to school hockey and made significant improvements. Also, Nathan Unwin who showed such a natural ability and continued improvement as a goalkeeper.

Squash again started extremely positively. Unfortunately a number of schools conceded their fixtures against the boys' teams at both U15 and U19 level, however the boys were very grateful to Manchester Grammar who did fulfil their fixture. Both the boys' teams sailed through to the next round of the National Schools competition. The girls U19 had an excellent match against both Kenilworth and Lincoln Minister, winning both matches 3-2, seeing them also through to the next round. A huge well done to Maya Watson on winning her first ever squash match – such a decisive match too.

The first term was a busy one for the table tennis players at Ackworth. The seven academy players trained hard

as well as competing in lots of competitions, locally, nationally and internationally. Internationally, Jasmin travelled to Hungary to represent England under 15s. All players made an impact on the national stage this season with Shayan and Jasmin winning the men's and women's band three singles in Tipton. At the Stockton Junior event, Jasmin won the under 15 title beating Ruby in the final. They teamed up together to win the under 15 team event. Reece and partner Jamie Liu, finished runners up in the under 15 boys' team event. In the under 15 singles Amirul won the event. Shayan partnered Joe Clark to win the under 18 boys' team event. Sam finished runner up in the boys under 18 band one singles. At the Grantham Junior event, Ruby won the under 13 girls and under 18 girls band one singles. Reece won the boys' under 18 band one singles. Shayan managed the semi-finals in the under 18 event.

At the West Yorkshire Schools' Championships at Bradford Grammar, the under 16 Girls beat the hosts 7-1 to qualify for the next round. Mollie, Jasmin and Ruby were joined by Harriet Greenwood (who played her first ever competitive table tennis match). Under 16 boys (Shayan, Amirul, Sam, Reece) qualified for the second round of the competition winning all four of their matches 8:0. Under 19 boys (George, Wembo, Harry, Ben) faced tough opposition against Beckfoot and Bradford Grammar School with Wembo and Ben winning one game each. Coram House, under 11s, won their first fixture against Larks Hill during the first half term but then found the West Yorkshire Schools' competition tough as the boys finished fourth and the girls finished third.

Finally, congratulations to Jasmin Wong who won the Mike Watts Achievement Awards for 2015/16 as she had the biggest increase in ranking points in the under 18 girls, during the season. It shows her hard work in the training hall has been impacting her match form with the excellent wins in competition.



To add to this – obviously Jane Donnelly has started and has made a significant impact. Her positivity and enthusiasm has spread through the department and she is an absolute pleasure to work with. The PGCE students (Phil, Kate, Karen and Liv) have added tremendous value to the department; we are very fortunate to have them with us this year.

6th Form Autumn



The School Officer training weekend has been amazing. I feel like I know my friends a lot better now. I can't wait to see what a difference we will be able to make to the school.

Kiran (UK)

A Quaker Pilgrimage

We embarked on our trek to Kendal bright and early on the Friday morning alongside Mrs Hamill and Mr Roberts, who we were honorarily allowed to call Cindy and Mark to our excitement. Spirits were high despite the foggy grey weather looming above us as we met up with Bootham and The Mount to begin our pilgrimage.

We started our day in a temporary, yet charming, village hall in Sawley to have a short silence and a talk about the history of George Fox and his both literal and spiritual journey. We learned the history behind Fox and how his rebellion against the dominant religion of his time caused Quakerism to become one of the fastest growing religions of the 17th century. After we eagerly consumed our lunch, it was time to climb Pendle Hill, or just 'Pendle' as our guide informed us, as 'pendle' literally means hill anyway! The climb was steep and arduous, and upon reaching the summit, sweaty and exhausted, we realised we actually couldn't see beyond a few metres due to the intense fog surrounding us. After another silence standing huddled together, we took some group photos and started to become more acquainted with students from the other schools. The descent was much easier and the fog even began to clear, revealing the very beautiful countryside of the Lake District. Once we finally reached our quaint little hostel, we settled in, had some dinner and then retired for a hearty night's sleep.

The next day we visited both Swarthmoor Hall, once a

hub of Quaker activity, and Kendal Meeting House to see the Quaker Tapestries. It was amazing to see somewhere that had been so prevalent in Quakerism and being allowed to explore the hall. Its floors were uneven and creaky and made me anxious to walk on, but our guide assured us it was perfectly safe. I remained sceptical. After a short meeting and lunch, we made our way to Kendal Meeting House. The intricate tapestries were all beautifully designed and were the work of 4,000 people over 15 years between 1981 and 1996. Each one depicted something different, from an array of meeting houses to George Fox preaching on Firbank Fell. We were then given free time in Kendal to shop and admire the small town's charm before heading back to our hostel.

On our final day, we very briefly visited Firbank Fell, the very place where George Fox preached to over a thousand people, and is sometimes referred to as 'Fox's Pulpit'. We then congregated for a silent meeting at Brigflatts Meeting House, where Fox and his wife themselves attended meeting. The silence was peaceful, and not suffocating as it sometimes can be in a school situation where you're trying to suppress the rumbling of your stomach! We met some locals, shared cake, and then it was time to say goodbye. Numbers and Facebook details were exchanged until we finally had to depart and leave our fellow pilgrims. The trip was overall a wonderful experience, and I personally have never enjoyed silent meeting more than during this trip.

Leah Goodwin (U6th)



Meet the Head

Born and educated in South Africa, Anton Maree started his teaching career at a large co-educational day school in Johannesburg before moving to King William's College in the Isle of Man and latterly Rossall School in Lancashire, where he was Deputy Head. He joined Ackworth as Head in 2014.

Who/what inspired you to become a teacher?

My mother, Janet Maree, was a Breakthrough to Literacy Specialist in South Africa. Her methods were simple yet revolutionary and she inspired a generation of teachers to help children lacking literacy experience and those with special needs. Her books, the Breakthrough series, have taught literacy to millions of Southern African learners and were translated into nine languages. She was selfless and determined, gained little financial reward for her work and prevailed despite a lack of government investment. She never stopped working and continued to give literacy lessons to young children in the back of her car during her 70s. She continues to inspire me today!

What achievement are you most proud of as Head?

I have made the school more visible within our community, by offering access to our facilities and the strengths of an independent school education. I offer opportunities to children that are life changing whilst continuing to make sure that the school provides an excellent education for all.

What does a successful school look like to you?

Our purpose is to provide an excellent education and that is a primary focus. Schools are measured in accordance with academic performance and we strive to raise our standards. However, success is more aptly measured through other means. The students have a strong sense of social justice, take risks because they are not judged by their peers, integrate easily because they accept one another, are all engaged in the opportunities to learn without much prompting, and don't require much discipline because they appreciate the trust that is bestowed upon them. Essentially those are the hallmarks of a successful school.

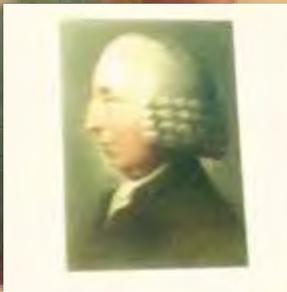
What is the most important quality you want every child to have when they leave your school? And why?

Initiative. The world is changing, fast. Employers are looking for employees who are not afraid to take calculated risks, and who are prepared to challenge themselves, on a daily basis.

Please give 5 words to describe the ethos of your school.

Simplicity, Truth, Equality, Peace and Sustainability

Peace Lecture



David Barclay, freed 28 slaves in 1790 from land he acquired in Jamaica through the settlement of a debt.

The peace lecture was given by Humphrey Barclay on his ancestor David Barclay, a founder of our school. David Barclay was anti-slavery before it was popular and wrote the book 'An Account of the Emancipation of the Slaves of Unity Valley pen, in Jamaica'. David was a devout Quaker who described slavery as 'that horrid traffic' which 'denied equality.' Humphrey Barclay talked about how David had found himself the owner of a slave plantation and 30 slaves. He wanted to do the humane thing, as he felt it morally wrong, and decided to send the slaves to Pennsylvania where they had the opportunity to be housed, educated and find support. Humphrey explained how the slaves must have found freedom a strange concept as it's something they had never known and consequently many refused to get on the ship taking them to Pennsylvania because they suspected they would be sold. However, eventually the slaves were taken to Pennsylvania where they were given freedom and even the second name Barclay. Giving freedom to those slaves was almost reparation for David, for the wrongs others of his race had committed.

The most engaging part of Humphrey Barclay's talk was the story of October Robert Barclay, who was one of the freed slaves. October became an apprentice to a carpenter and married a free women. Humphrey explained that all these years later he had been lucky enough to visit an ancestor of October, Keith Stokes. When they met Keith explained that if David hadn't done what he had, he would never exist. This anecdote seemed to particularly draw the interest of everyone, as it was wonderful to see how one person's good act could have so many positive repercussions. It was inspirational, listening to Humphrey Barclay talk about his ancestor and how David's work and act of equality has affected his life. Overall, the peace lecture was intriguing to listen to and taught us more of an influential man in our school's history.

By Hannah Davis (U6th)

Meet a Student

Ayham Alhalabi

Ruhayba, Syria

Before the war in Syria started my life was beautiful. I was at school in the equivalent of year 10. My results were good and I was working hard – my dream was to become a doctor. Outside school I had a lot of friends and we'd often go swimming and play football together. I had a big, loving family – my parents, two brothers, grandparents, aunties, uncles and cousins. My dad was an antique seller and my mum had just finished a biology degree at Damascus University. I was happy. Then in March 2011 the conflict began.

We used to live in the countryside of Damascus, but there was heavy fighting so my dad decided to move to the centre of Damascus. Life inside Damascus wasn't affected too much in the first year of the conflict. But then it started to become really dangerous.

Despite the fighting my dad didn't want to leave Syria. It was his home. So we stayed. Then everything changed. It was the second year of the war, just after Ramadan and the fighting was really bad; there was a lot of bombing. My grandmother still lived there and she called my father one day and asked him to come and get her to bring her to Damascus. She was scared. When my father was on his way there he was stopped at a checkpoint. He was asked to get out of his car and stand against the wall. He was shot and killed.

I was just about to start medical school but I knew now wasn't the time to pursue my education. I was the man of the house and I knew that at any point we could be killed. So we left in 2013, all of us – my mum, brothers, two aunties, an uncle and three of my cousins and we escaped to Egypt. We rented a flat and tried to start a new life. I was working all day in a restaurant and studying all night

to try to restart my education. Then, four months later, we got some terrible news. My youngest brother Hamza had been diagnosed with leukaemia. The treatment he needed was really expensive and I didn't know how I was going to be able to afford it. I put my education on hold again and took on a second job at a supermarket, working all of the hours I could to pay for my brother's treatment. Then we got lucky.

One day when my brother was in hospital, people from the UN came by. My mother told them our story and they asked us if we would be interested in being resettled to somewhere that my brother could have treatment. Of course we said yes. We went through the application process, through all the interviews and then the phone call came. The United Kingdom was going to accept us as refugees. I'll never forget that moment, that phone call. We were all crying we were so happy.

Two months later in April 2014 we arrived in Bradford. I'd done a lot of research before we came about the British lifestyle, culture and weather, so there weren't too many surprises and my brother started his treatment at the hospital.

My next concern after my brother was how and when I could return to my studies. I went to the local college but they told me they needed to see evidence of my qualifications. I didn't have the evidence so they told me I'd have to start at GCSE level. I didn't know what that meant – initially I thought it was a foundation course to get me into university but then I found out it was a much lower level than I thought. I couldn't believe it; I'd have to start at the bottom all over again. I was very upset and cried all day. After that I didn't want to do anything and I



stopped eating and drinking. Then one day I asked myself if I really wanted to throw away my future. I'd promised my dad that I'd be a doctor one day and I couldn't let him down. I returned to my studies and so far I've passed five GCSEs. Then I'll do my A levels next year.

I've heard it's really competitive to get into medical school in the UK so I've been working on my English and building my CV. I set myself a challenge of learning 10 new English words a day and I've done voluntary work for five or six different organisations. Now I'm helping Syrian refugees who are being resettled here settle into their new lives. I see them and remember what it was like when I first arrived. When I came here I said I wanted to show the British people that I was more than a refugee.

You should know that life is not always black. Sometimes it shows you its beautiful face. I met this face when Ackworth School gave me the scholarship to do A levels with them. I did not believe it at first because most schools rejected my application because of my age. However, Ackworth School was happy to give me this place and help me to complete my studies. I remember when I met them they were concerned about my life, my studies and my family. From the first meeting I have felt another family here. Being at Ackworth means a lot for me. The school is giving me all the support that I need and they worry about me more than I worry about myself. The school has shown me the meaning of the humanity that

has become very rare in our world. I have new friends who support me and help me in my subjects. Despite the age difference between us they treat me as one of them. Ackworth now is my second home and that will not leave my mind forever.

Being resettled here means my family has been reborn; we've come back to life. One of my brothers is hoping to be a lawyer one day and my mum is hoping to do a Masters and then a PhD in biology. She would love to be a biology teacher one day. My youngest brother Hamza is in Year 7 in school. He's doing so much better now. The doctors are hoping that we'll be able to stop his treatment in September.

I miss my friends and family who we've left behind. I think about them every day. You can't forget your land. It'll always be in my heart and I know there are a lot of people like me who need help and a safe place to go to. There are people like my brother Hamza who need urgent medical attention. If we hadn't been able to come to the UK my brother might not have been alive. My family and my future would have been destroyed.

My experience has meant that now I realise nothing is impossible and I'm willing to fight to achieve my dreams. I have a message on my bedroom wall that I wrote to remind myself where I want to be in 10 years' time. It just says "In the future my name will be Dr Ayham".

Ayham

Founders' Day



Founders' Day trip to Yorkshire Wildlife Park

On Founders' Day, some students from Shed Court, including myself, visited Yorkshire Wildlife Park. We went in a minibus and it took around 45 minutes to get there. When we arrived, there were some shops near the main entrance and a café. Then inside there was another food shop and places to sit. We saw some meerkats, lions, wallabies, tigers and giraffes in the first half of the park. After that, we had our lunch, and some people bought chips from the food shop. Then we went round the second part of the park, which had polar bears, lemurs, monkeys, giant otters, owls and a red river hog. My favourite animals were the meerkats, tigers and giraffes. When we had seen all the animals, we went to buy things from the gift shops and have a drink. Then we got on the minibus and came back to Ackworth School.

Hannah Britton, Shed Court



For our Founders' Day walk we visited Bolton Abbey. It's a beautiful walk, with stunning views. Once we arrived, we parked in the car park and met up with the other bus. We set off on our walk and climbed up the hills. Once we had got over the second hill we came across a clearing in the trees and saw a beautiful waterfall. We carried on towards the end of the woods and walked for a little more until we stopped for lunch. Of course, Mr Bailey had his oh so famous Founders' Day sandwich where he put everything in his lunch bag on a sandwich and ate it all together. How does he stomach it?

Once everyone had refuelled we headed back. There were giant sparkly pumpkins hanging from the trees which made a few people a little over excited. Once back at the car park we went to have a look in the shop and stopped to go shopping in Ilkley. Mr Bootyman wanted to get his bread from Betty's Tearooms, but most of us went to Costa or Starbucks.

We got back onto the coaches and headed back to school where we had our traditional bangers and mash for dinner. Then we went to the disco. Once the disco was over we all headed back home, so that we could start school the next day. All back to normal!

Founders' Day by Madeleine Easter (4th Year)



Charity Week Round-up

After being given six charities to choose from, the final votes ended up choosing Mercy Ships - a non-governmental floating hospital, staffed with volunteers who sail to less fortunate countries and provide people with medical care - and Young Minds - a charity that provides resources to young people to promote better mental health.

Charity Week began with a bake sale. Getting there early was a good idea because, little by little, a nervous line began to form that extended to behind the door.

The next event was the auction, where you could see people willing to pay more because they knew the money was going to a good cause. After the auction you could hear students talking about things they bought at the auction purely because the money was going to a charity. The final event of the day was the after school netball tournaments. There were first the girls against boys, where the boys amusingly wore skirts (one of the main reasons I'm sure many people decided to go)! With good effort from both teams the boys ended up winning with a final score of 7-0. Next to play were the female staff vs the male staff. It was a clearly competitive game for both teams, and again the male staff ended up winning the game.

Throughout the 6th form walk we could see the bare beauty of the British countryside, with lights of civilisation in the distance.

Tuesday was Founders' Day and it is a special event to take part in. Knowing that this tradition has taken place for 227 years made the muddy uphill walk more bearable. Throughout the 6th form walk we could see the bare beauty of the British countryside, with lights of civilisation in the distance. The overall view from everyone on the walk was optimistic, even when it started to rain and the wind was blowing persistently into our faces. Fortunately we were still laughing, making new friends and sharing stories. This was only the first part of the day as we had the formal dinner afterwards. The dinner consisted of the classic meal of bangers and mash. The positive energy that we had throughout the walk continued throughout the dinner as we all shared our stories and had conversation mainly revolving around the history of the school. Although the day may have just been a walk and dinner, it was still made into a special event by the

students and staff who joined together to commemorate Ackworth School.

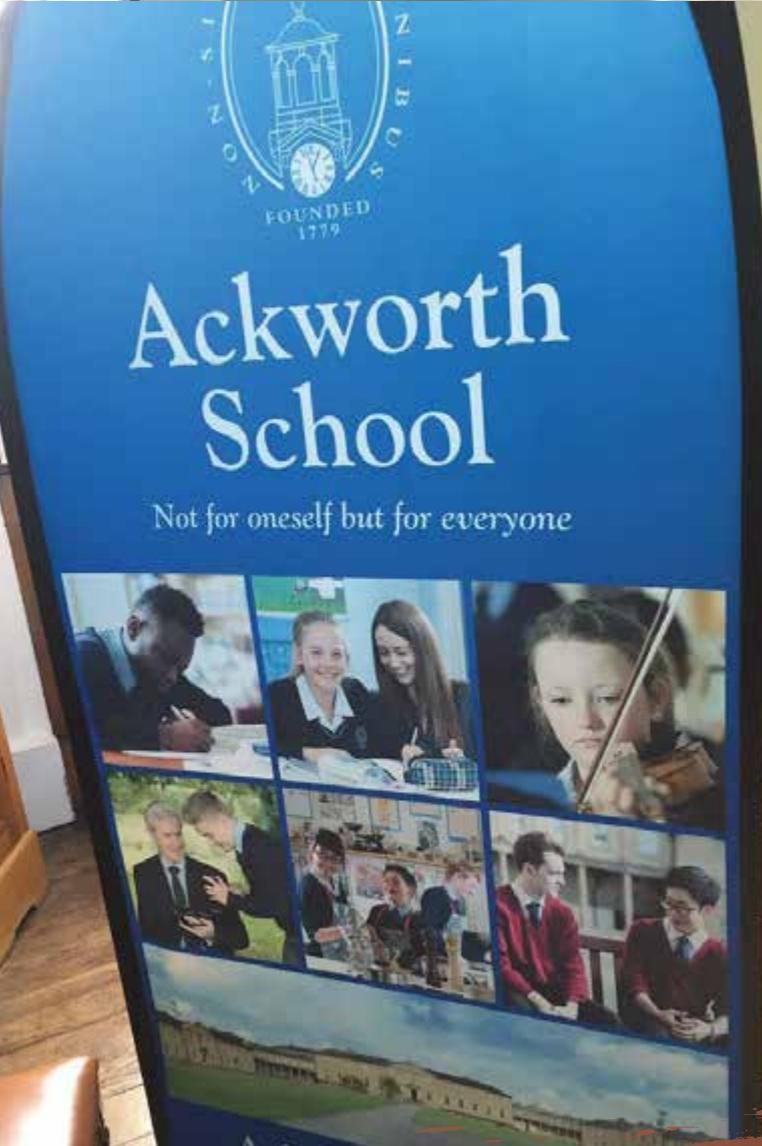
Wednesday continued Charity Week as we were able to buy hotdogs during break, and the money went towards the charities that we had chosen. During lunch break was when we had the stocks out. We got a few selected people to sit in the stocks and people paid money to throw sponges full of water at them or pour a full bucket of water over them. This was probably the most amusing part of the day.

The best part of this day was the Sixth Form Entertainment where students paid an entry fee to go in and watch a production of skits that students put on.

Thursday started with everyone paying £2 so that they could wear their own clothes at school. There was a "How many sweets in the jar?" competition where students paid money to guess how many sweets were in a jar to get the jar of sweets. The best part of this day was the Sixth Form Entertainment where students paid an entry fee to go in and watch a production of skits that students put on. It was hilarious to watch and ended up raising a lot of money for the charities.

The final day of Charity Week was done with an amazing abundance of doughnuts during break where the money for them went to the charities. Then there was the 'matching the teachers to their baby photos' game that students particularly found hilarious. This was the final event of Charity Week and raising money for two very important causes. It was amazing to see so many students give up their time and energy to help raise money for these charities and it couldn't have been accomplished without the help of all the students and staff members involved.

Charity Week Reporter Drew Wallace - Ross (L6th)



Open Morning

Open Morning in October was one of our biggest for a long time, with over 30 families attending, from around Yorkshire and the local area, as well as a number seeking boarding places.

"The success of the morning is testament to the success of our Teaching and Learning and supported by a robust co-curricular programme," said Director of Marketing, Admissions and Communications, Michael Atkins.

"We also welcomed a number of guests who are connected to us via LinkedIn who were keen to meet the Head. They were all very impressed with what they saw and who they met, especially the Lower 6th and 2nd form Tour Guides."

"I really enjoyed guiding on Open Morning as it was a good opportunity for me to represent my school and show everyone how nice it is. I enjoyed meeting new people and getting to answer any questions they had."

"We started off at Centre Library and made our way around school. We visited places such as the Science Departments, the Music Centre, the Language Departments and the Sports Hall. When we had finished the tour I went back to Centre Library and met another family. This time we went on a tour of the boarding house and met a few teachers. After that we headed back to the meeting point and then headed off to our lessons. It was a fantastic experience."

Enya Robinson, Second Year Guide



Clubs and Societies

With over 70 clubs and societies running each week, Ackworth's students have an enormous range of extra-curricular teams and groups to join in with. From Fencing and Archery to Indoor Climbing, all manner of musical clubs, Duke of Edinburgh, Current Affairs and Natural History, European Cinema, Cooking and Manga, life is never boring outside of lessons.

"The huge range of activities we run at the school is something we are incredibly proud of," says Guy Emmett, Deputy Head (Pastoral). "It's something which sets us apart from many other schools and we consider it to be so important. It gives students a sense of belonging and teamwork, which can be very important to the life of the school, especially when new pupils arrive and need a little extra help settling in. They can help build important characteristics such as responsibility, commitment and leadership, but overall, they are fun and provide exciting challenges, helping to develop the full, whole person, not simply the academic side."

Spotlight on Fencing



School's Fencing Coaches

Left to Right: Ian Law, Glenn Cooper and Dave Jerry who sadly passed away earlier this year

Begun in 2000, Ackworth's Fencing Club continues to go from strength to strength.

The club was set up by its first coach Dave Jerry following a letter he sent to the school letting the then Head know that it "was one of the best things the school could do"! Head of Learning Support, Florence Parkinson, was the school's point of contact and a staunch advocate of the Club.

The Club began in the gym, running two one hour sessions – one for the day pupils and one for the boarders. At the end of the first year donations from the PSA enabled the club to buy enough of its own kit for pupils to use. In the second year of its inception, the school started entering pupils in competitions and getting results. Ackworth has seen one of its pupils representing Great Britain in fencing and several representing Yorkshire in the Cadet Winton Cup.

After about five years the club moved from the gym to the Sports Hall, with its own dedicated fencing kit cupboard.

"Fencing is like athletic chess," said Dave Jerry. "It's a game of strategy and tactics and that can overcome physical prowess. It's a game where you can work as an individual as well as part of a team, and that appeals to many people who might not like other sports."

Now, the club is coached by Ian Law with a healthy number of new students beginning each year, and many continuing to return year after year.

This year, the School hosted the Yorkshire Youth Championships in October – the first time this has taken place – seeing entrants from across the county.

Ackworth sisters Katie and Lucy Assassa left the competition with silver medals, while Vincent Yung won the gold.

Well done to Vincent who defeated fencers from Sweden and Denmark





Chess

On Saturday, 24th September, a group of seven chess enthusiasts embarked on a mission.

The setting was delightful. A quaint primary school in the village of Bishopthorpe, on the outskirts of York. The day began with some expert chess coaching. James Adair, an International Chess Master who is only a few points away from becoming a Grand Master, and Lateefah Messam Sparks, a professional chess teacher, presented a chess scenario of an actual chess game to an audience of expectant youngsters who were encouraged to consider the effectiveness of possible moves.

A Swiss-style competition followed – five rounds of chess played against selected opponents. All seven of the Ackworth pupils were placed in the Advanced Group, overseen by James Adair.

A lunch break and a small break between each round ensured that all players had time to recover mentally between games and also allowed them time to take advantage of the homemade refreshments, sandwiches, cakes and other treats which were available.

As the competition developed, nervous excitement ensued – each player calculating their total score after each round and wondering who their next opponent might be. Would they be able to secure a 3-point win or would it be a draw/lose instead? The tension mounted with the overall winner not determined until the final round.

No-one came away disappointed. Chess badges, pencils and certificates were awarded to all participants with two Ackworth pupils managing to secure 4th and 5th places overall. A great day was had by all and, hopefully, a similar event will take place in the future at Ackworth School.

On Saturday, 24th September, I went to a chess competition in York. The day opened with some interesting coaching from James Adair, a world class player, and a professional chess teacher, Lateefah Messam-Sparks. Then there was the first round and lunch. Aside from what we had brought ourselves, refreshments were available to purchase. Then there were four more rounds and an awards presentation, with small breaks in between. The games were all rather close and interesting so I was happy to get a fourth place with three wins, one draw and one loss, the latter player turning out to be the champion. Overall, I found the event well-organised and very enjoyable.

Bohdan Uynohradov 6H

Each player had to play five matches with 3 points for a win, 2 points for a draw and 1 point for a lose. After all my games I had 11 points which gave me 5th place overall. That was extraordinary, I didn't think I could play that well! Although some of the players were only about 10 years of age, which is almost 8 years younger than me, they played very well and made many good moves which I hadn't seen before. The competition helped to improve my chess skills and also taught me that you can't judge someone by their appearance. I hope there will be a chess competition like this in Ackworth soon.

Alan Law 7S



**Boarders' Outing -
Aysgarth Falls**



Old Trafford



Climbing Wall at Leeds



Parkrun



Snowboarding



Personal Safety



Weekend Activities

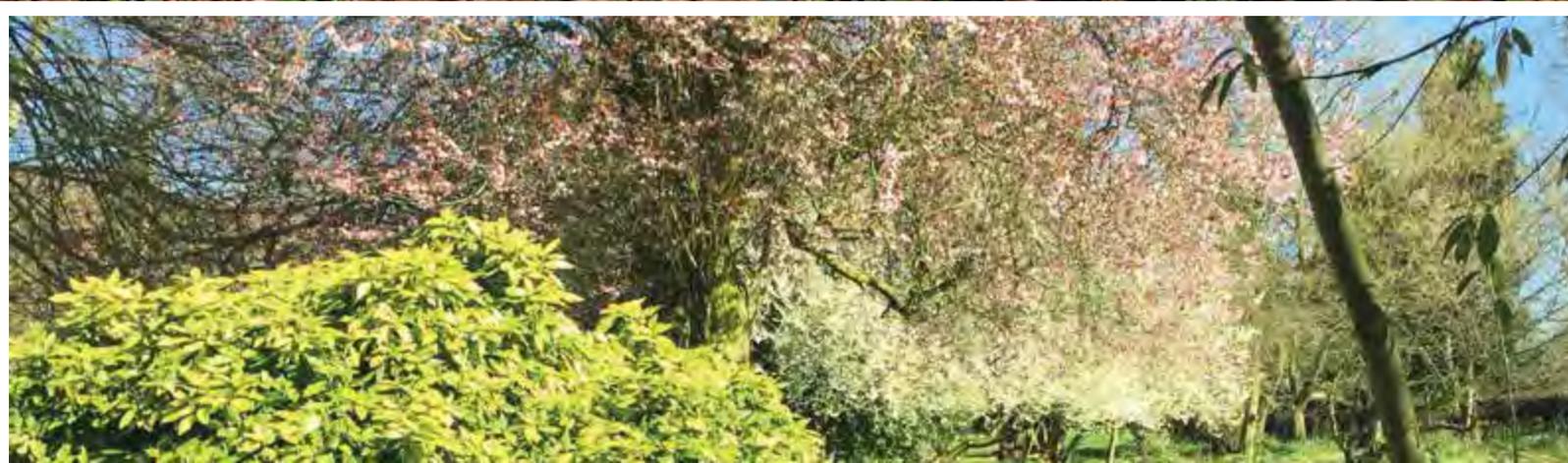
Christmas





Spring

at Ackworth



Meet a Student

Amy

Life in Lower Sixth

The transition into the Sixth Form is a massive leap, both in terms of the higher expectations from the teachers of working, as well as the greater independence needed.

I joined Ackworth School in the first year from Stanley Saint Peter's so I got used to how to work and what was expected of me. I didn't always get it right, but I understood it. The huge leap may appear daunting and may feel quite scary, but I didn't find it too difficult to adapt to. We got a lot of advice as to how to adapt: teachers told us and some of the year above us did so too. I think as long as you listen and take notice of what is said, it is not too bad.



I did think about going to New College, but I wanted to stay with friends and didn't really want the change. You definitely get more support here too. For any student starting in the Sixth Form the best advice possible is to go into it with a positive attitude and determination to do well, because then you know you will do your best.

At A Level in the Sixth Form, you only do three subjects. This is the really good thing about A Levels as you get to pick your favourite subjects to study. The courses of course get harder and the work load does increase in each subject, but as long as you enjoy your chosen subjects and believe you can do well, then you will enjoy it.

I especially like having a study and the toast! It's good to be a real part of the school, but separate too. I like the private time to focus on work and also things like Charity Week.

Being in the Sixth Form gives you responsibility, making you more independent and making you feel more grown up. Overall, although the actual transition is challenging and quite hard, the Sixth Form at Ackworth School is a great experience and isn't as scary as anyone may think, as long as you give increased effort and determination.



Meet a Gardener



Forty Years' Service Presentation

Name: Steven Lee

Age: 58

Job Title: Gardener's assistant

Home: Featherstone

Favourite food: Fish and chips or chicken dinner

Favourite pudding: Jam roly poly and apple crumble

Family: Wife Brenda. Married for 35 years. Three children and 5 grandchildren

Favourite film: 'Sound of Music' and 'Mary Poppins'

Favourite music: 'Elvis - Wooden Heart'

Recently Steven Lee was presented with his 40-year service award. Beginning work at Ackworth in February 1976, his first job was raking the leaves. He began his current role when he took over from the lady gardener at the time when she needed to devote more time to looking after her mother.

The greatest part of his job, he says, is cutting the grass – pretty much a full time job. In the summer time it takes at least 90 per cent of the time, though there's always the borders and weeding to do if required and litter picking and car parking on Open Mornings. At the same time there are jobs to be done inside school from time to time: moving benches out of the Meeting House, or moving tables out of the dining rooms for parties and discos, helping take out the laundry or assembling beds in the boarding houses.

"I've definitely covered some ground over the years. There's a lot of it to cover" he says.

Steve has seen people come and go over the years – he's seen five bursars and he's on to his third head gardener. He has even planted two trees in and around Great Gardens – one to celebrate 25 years' service and one to mark his 30 years' service. "One of them died, but one, a beech tree, survived. It feels good that I actually planted it and it's still there to be seen.

"I feel like I'm part of this place and it's a part of me. I've seen a lot of people move on, but I'm still here."

Steve has seen a lot of changes. "I remember when the roof blew off the swimming pool, and before the Sports Centre was there, there was an old barn. At the back of Garden Villa there used to be a blue shed, though I don't know what there was inside it." Now, he says the students come and talk to him more than they ever used to, and the parents. "That's really nice and makes my day," he says.

Steve says he is not too keen on the winter time – the time when he takes the majority of his holidays – often to Blackpool or more recently Edinburgh. He hates weeding with a passion, but there's no doubt about what his favourite part of the job is: "Cutting the grass! I love it and I love the smell of the grass. It smells like cucumber and makes me want to eat a salad sandwich."

Nursery



The Nursery had an exciting spring term with new topics and new places to visit as well as charitable events. The topic of Colourful Maths provided the Nursery children with learning experiences exploring colour and light, pattern and shape and number rhymes. Curriculum enhancements have included activities celebrating Pancake Day, Chinese New Year, Valentine's Day, Mothers' Day and Easter.

The children took part in a variety of fun, sporty and healthy eating activities for the Sports Relief event and parents generously donated £70 to the cause. Nursery families, staff and children visited Nostell Priory for a 'Woodland Wild Art' session delivered by a National Trust Visitor Experience Officer. The children were provided with the outdoor learning opportunities of creating story sticks, giant art inspired by Andy Goldsworthy and clay 'boggarts' – woodland elves from folklore.

The term ended with a wonderful 'Celebration of Spring' event where Nursery families enjoyed a collection of springtime songs sung by the children and two of the songs were even signed in Makaton.

Coram

Easter Action



Easter Concert



Easter Bonnet Parade



Easter Egg Hunt

Coram

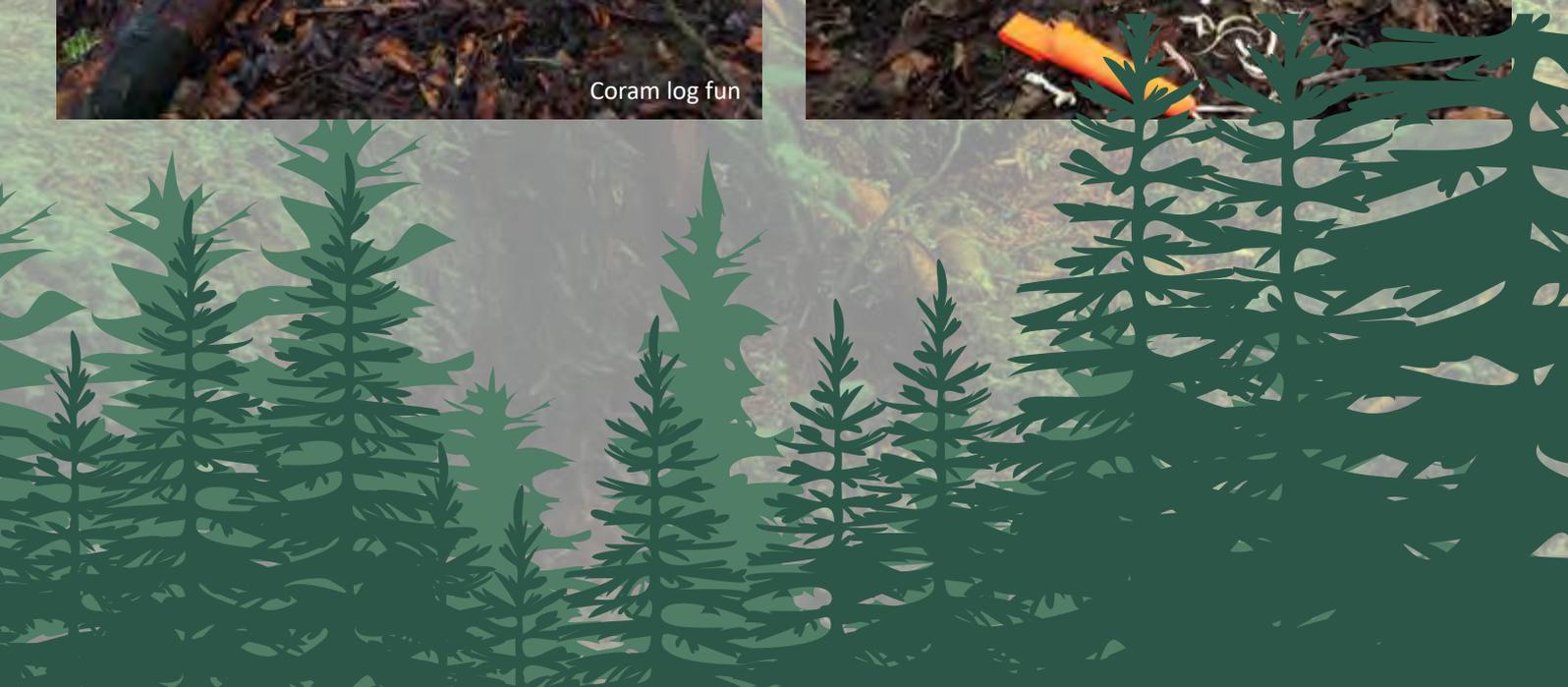
Forest School



Coram log fun



Knives
and fire.
Y4 Forest
School



Coram

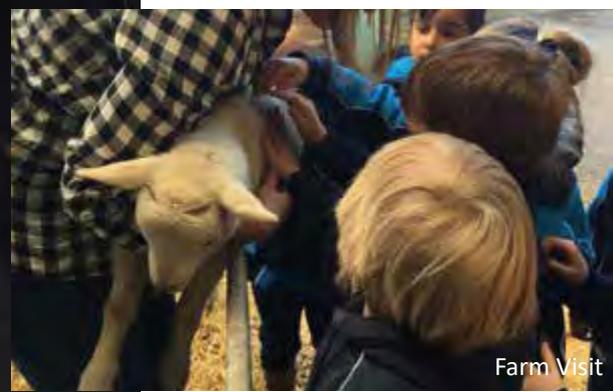
Visits



Weston Park Museum - Learning about mummification



Blackpool Zoo



Farm Visit

Coram



Year Five
Royal National
Lifeguarding
Institute



Happy faces after entrance tests



Year Six bowling



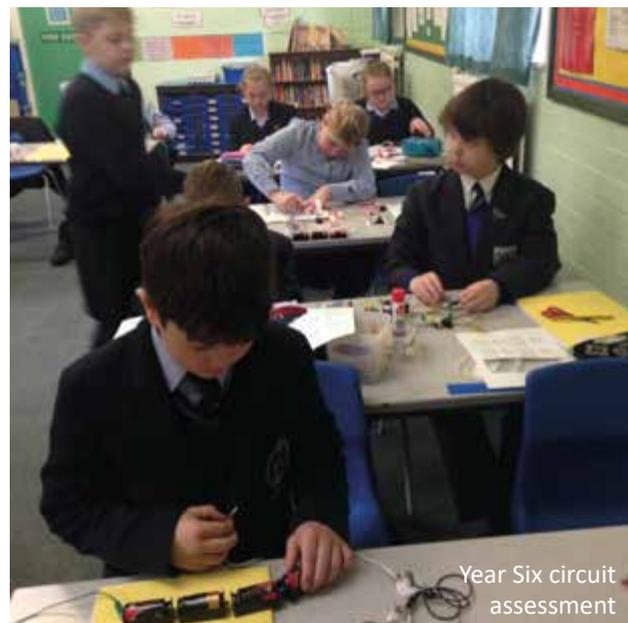
Year Six enjoying
a creative writing
session with
visiting author
Linda Jones



Year Six



Year Six writing a stanza for Ted Hughes' poem 'The Warm and the Cold'



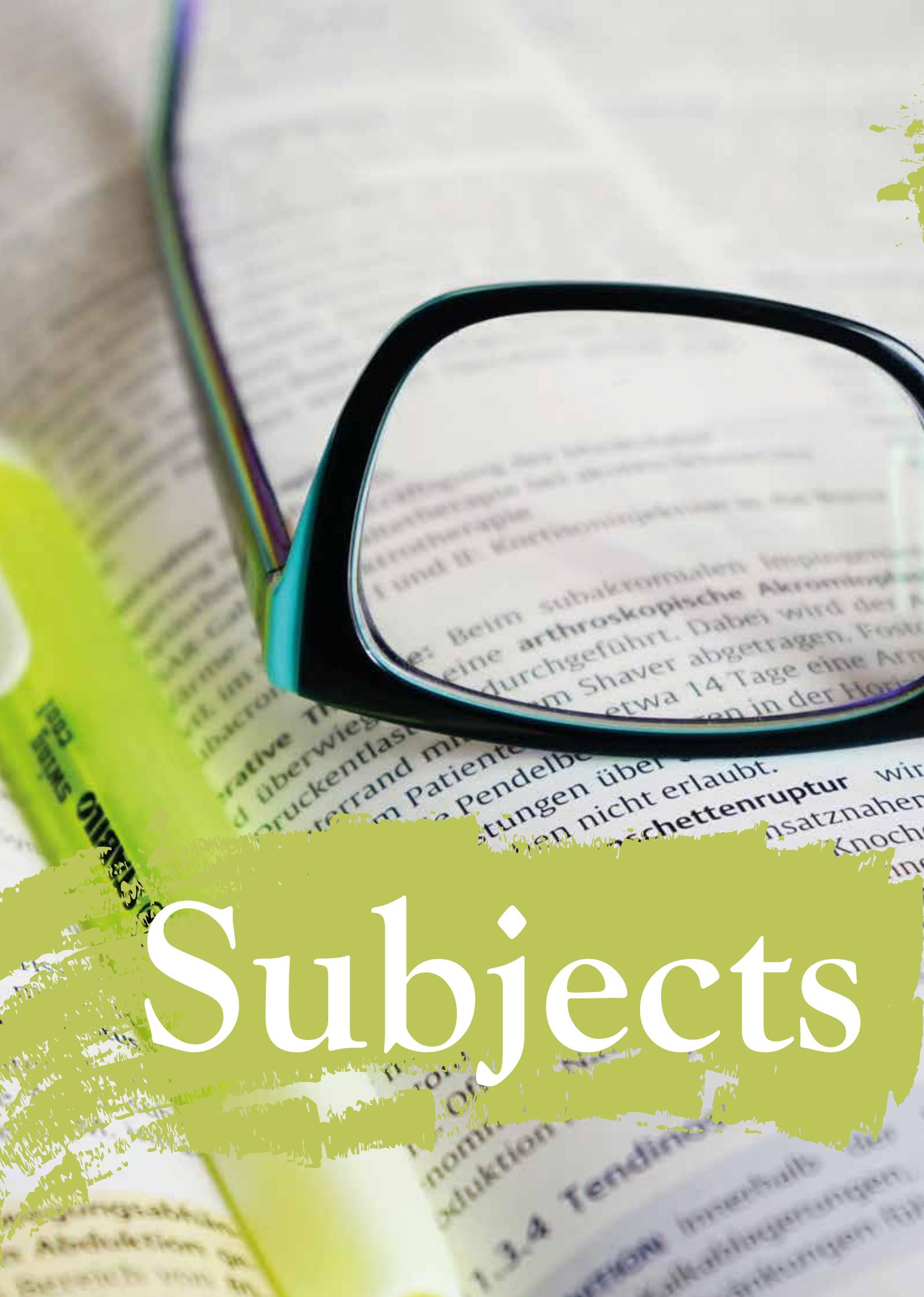
Year Six circuit assessment



Year Six interactive sessions about the Ambulance Service

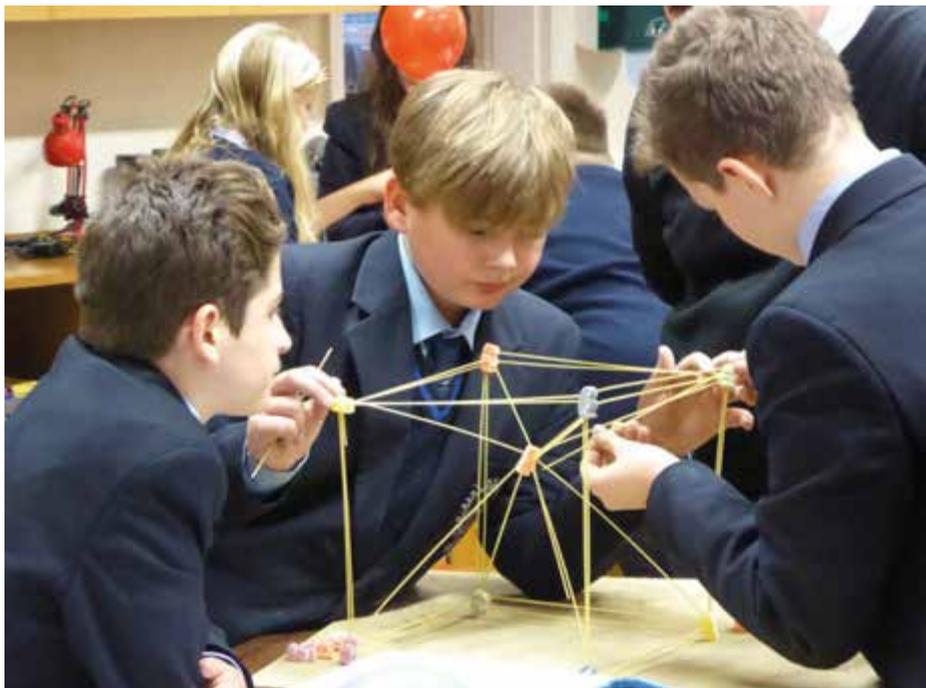


Year Six treat before Senior School entrance tests

A pair of black-rimmed glasses is positioned over a document. A yellow highlighter is visible on the left side, highlighting some text. The document contains German text, including terms like 'subakromales Impingement', 'arthroskopische Akromioplastik', 'Shaver abgetragen', 'etwa 14 Tage eine Arm', 'Pendelbe', 'nicht erlaubt', and 'Schulterruptur'. The word 'Subjects' is written in large white letters on a yellow brushstroke background at the bottom.

Subjects

Design Technology

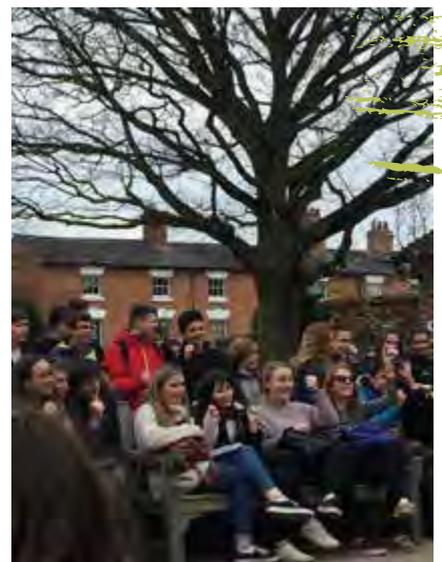


As part of the A-Level coursework studies, the Lower 6th Product Design students visited the Leeds Armouries to gather source material for their jewellery project. The eight students found the experience useful as they were able to explore a broad range of cultural influences.

In March, the school entered three teams in the Rotary Club Technology Tournament held in Featherstone. The teams from the Second Year, Fourth Year and the Lower 6th competed against a number of other local schools in challenges designed to test their Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths skills. All were successful in their challenges and were awarded first place, second place and second place respectively.



English



This has been a busy term for the English Department again, with a variety of trips and visits including a series of lectures for our Sixth form in Stratford on Shakespeare's 'Twelfth Night'. The students were able to learn about Shakespeare's life and times from visiting his birthplace, watch and even participate in open air performances of some key speeches from set texts, and gain some valuable insight into Shakespeare's skill in the creation of the play.

History

Calling all 4th Form
Historians.....

The Great War Debate



Hosted by journalist Fiona Armstrong and GCSE pupils will get the opportunity to listen to and **get involved in a debate** asking:

Did the war at sea, rather than the considerably more notorious trench warfare of the Western front, change the nature of European war?

The event is a great enrichment activity to add to UCAS applications and for those wishing to investigate the topic in more detail.

Date:	8 th March 2017
Time:	15:30 - 17:30 (leave 14:50pm and return for approximately 18:00pm)
Location:	Leeds City Academy, Bedford Field, Woodhouse, Clift, Leeds LS4 2LQ
Panell:	Prof. Haiger Afferbach (University of Leeds), Mark Vesey (Scarborough Maritime Museum) and others!

There are **14 places available** See **Miss Roden** for details.

On Wednesday March 8th Miss Roden took a group of students to a 'Great War Debate'. It was part of a tour that had travelled around England. The question that was being debated was 'Did the war at sea contribute to the way the European war was fought?'

Debating this were four panellists. There was a professor, a historical military expert, a Scarborough heritage museum volunteer and a television presenter. Throughout the debate several questions were asked to clarify the debate. The debate covered the North Sea blockade enforced on Germany by the British, the Scarborough Sea Raid and the Battle of Jutland. After the debate there was an informal meet and greet with the panellists. Through one of the questions asked by another student, the professor debated the naval conflict at Dogger Bank. Overall, the experience was vital in my understanding of World War One.

Rhys Wickham (2nd Year)

Food and Nutrition



IGCSE assessment enjoying
the fruits of their labour

Modern Languages

French

This term we have had a visit from two Leeds University Language Ambassadors who spoke to our Third, Fourth and Fifth Year pupils. The 5th years have been busy preparing for their exams and in particular the oral exams which will take place after the Easter break. We also had a very exciting delivery from the French Embassy - just in time for World Book Day - a box full of French children's books arrived for us to enjoy. The books spent two weeks in the Senior School library before moving to Coram House.

Elizabeth Rayner -
Head of French



German

'The German department returned from a successful trip to Munich in early December. Eight pupils and two staff spent four days in Germany, seeing sights of historical significance such as Dachau, the memorial to Sophie Scholl and Odeonsplatz. We also visited the famous Christmas markets, ascended the Olympic Tower, visited BMW World and the Allianz Arena, home of Bayern Munich. Pupils had the chance to practise their German skills buying food at the Viktualienmarkt and when watching a film at the cinema. Additionally, we enjoyed a day trip by train to Salzburg, Austria, home of The Sound of Music.'

Exam classes this term spent some time preparing for oral examinations, with the 5th Form conducting their tests before the Easter holidays, much to the pupils' relief. Good progress was made by all other year groups, who worked hard throughout a busy term.'

Andrew Hilton - Head of German

Spanish

This term we have been focusing on preparation for the Speaking exam, the scary bit, which they will sit not long after the Easter holiday. Students have been trying to juggle getting their presentations ready whilst completing and learning the Topic Area conversation questions. In addition to that, there have been the past papers to get through as well as trying to finish off the course. We have looked at environmental issues and problems that affect young people in society and will complete the topic of House and Home before they go on study leave.



The Leeds University Ambassadors spoke to 3rd, 4th and 5th year pupils.

Music



Towards the end of a busy spring term the Music Department enjoyed another successful visit to Wakefield Cathedral, with over 90 pupils from both Coram House and the Senior School performing to a packed audience in the Cathedral. The pupils did very well there and there was much praise for the concert from the audience afterwards.

The Boarders' Concert took place on 26th March and featured a lovely variety of music and wonderful performances from the boarding community. The Easter Concert was another opportunity for our young musicians to show off their talents with some magical and moving moments from the orchestra, various choirs, soloists, senior ensemble and string orchestra.



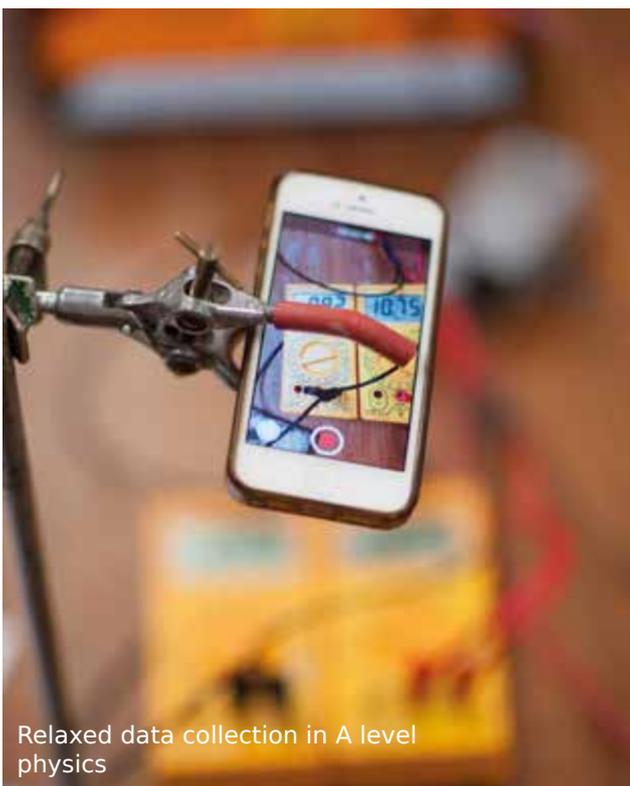
We were thrilled to take over 90 pupils to perform in various vocal and instrumental groups at Wakefield cathedral.

The cathedral was filled to bursting point with a very appreciative audience and everyone involved had a great time.

Science



Coke can machines in first form physics.



Relaxed data collection in A level physics

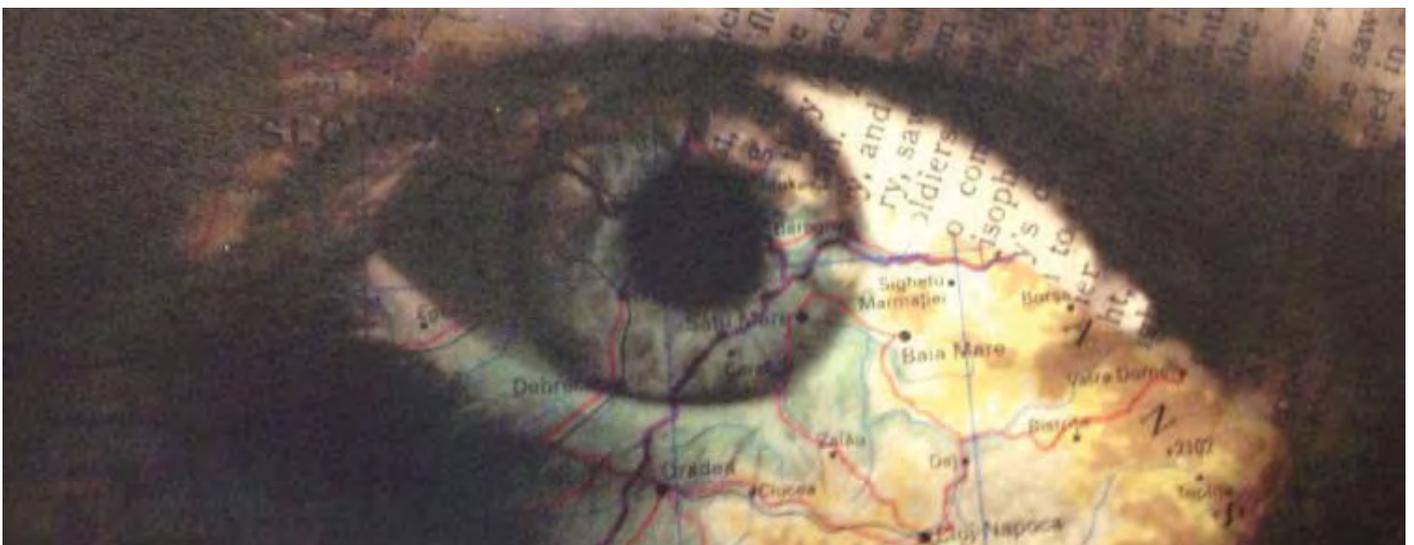


International Centre investigating reflection of light

Art



A Level Art students busy in their studios



Maths

UKMT Intermediate Maths Challenge 2017

Fifty seven pupils from the third, fourth and fifth year took part in the Maths Challenge in February.

Nine pupils gained bronze certificates, seven pupils gained silver certificates and four pupils gained gold certificates.

Four pupils, Eleanor Morris, Josh Dawson, Jamie Dobbie and Kathy Su, went on to the next round.

Well done to all who entered and thank you to Rebecca Nicholson for organising the challenge.

Also, following her excellent performance in the Intermediate Maths Challenge (best in school and through to the Kangaroo round), Kathy has been invited to attend 'The Summer School for Girls' held at Balliol College, Oxford, for 6 days in August. This is a fantastic achievement and great opportunity for Kathy, who I know is really looking forward to going.



International Centre



Trip to Peak District

Sport

Fixture reports: Spring Term

Football

It's been another tough half term for the U13 football team. They've faced some strong opposition and additionally, most of the boys are from the first form. However, they have progressed impressively in the past half term in their teamwork, organisation and their confidence as players, resulting in a close-fought game against Alverthorpe to end the season. Since the start of the term the boys have vastly improved in all aspects of their football. They are progressing at a rapid rate and will certainly be a force to be reckoned with next season. A special mention must be given to three players who have played in every match this season: William Dewhirst, Alex Santiago-Martin and Junior Jafuneh.

It has been a very pleasing term from the U14s as their only match this half term resulted in a big win against a strong GSAL (Grammar School at Leeds) side. They performed well for a squad that hasn't spent much time with each other so far this season, but played like consummate professionals - another strong looking squad for next year.

It was a mixed half term for the U15s, winning a few very difficult games against opposition that was very tough and physical. The last game of the half term produced one of the best games of the season as they ran out 5-3 winners. In the week before that win, they lost a very close game 2-0 at home when they could have been 3-0 up at half time, their finishing letting them down in that game. A few other close results at the start of the term were a testament to their hard work and improved organisation against much stronger teams.

It was a similar story for the First XI this term, with close fought, hard games and some very accomplished play in all of their matches. A close loss to Pathway2Pro football academy was a highlight of the month, with the boys putting in their all against a side who train five times a week and are all semi-professional. They all put in a tough 90-minute display and could have come out the victors, but sadly, it wasn't to be. Hard matches against GSAL and Woodhouse Grove produced some of the feistier affairs of the term, the boys battling hard in these fixtures.

Hockey

There were lots of hockey fixtures in this half term, including a lively performance at the annual Pocklington U14 competition where we faced some much larger schools and came away with fantastic results. The Pocklington tournament showed just how far the boys have progressed in their individual and team game tactics. The school hockey squads have this term been involved in over fifteen matches both in individual fixtures and tournaments and have shown great maturity in their own games and pride in their school and team performances. Highlights included a big win for the U14s away at Hymers College, with a solid and well organised display from the boys, and two solid tournament appearances including a great showing at Pocklington.

Cross Country



Ackworth
out in force
representing
district at West
Yorkshire XC
Championships



Football



U15 win 5-3 last game of season against Woodhouse Grove



Well done to the under 14s boys who won their football fixture 4-0, with goals from Harry, Max, Joe & Ronnie.

Hockey

On Sunday 26th March, Dominic Pierechod and Edward Ducker played in the Northern Qualifiers for the EHC (England Hockey Cup), representing Wakefield Hockey Club. After winning the Yorkshire Qualifiers, Wakefield Hockey Club played the three best hockey clubs in the North. Despite tough competition they managed to win against all of the teams in the tournament and have now qualified for the National Finals.



U12 win hockey fixture at Outwood

Netball



U12 netball girls at district tournament

The U12 girls' team has had netball success in beating Kettlethorpe and winning a number of their games at the district tournament.

The U14s have been the school's most successful netball team this term, going through to the quarter finals at the district tournament and showing real promise for the future.

The four girls playing at district level in this team are: Jade Bashall, Eleanor Kendal Jones, Lucy Kitching and Rachel Swales.

The U15/16 team played three fixtures this term, the highlight being against The Mount, where the score was 31-30 and which saw both dynamic play and outstanding teamwork. The U14s also played this fixture and won an encouraging 16-12.

There was individual sporting success for Katie Assassa who competed in the National Schools Biathlon and finished an impressive 17th overall, achieving personal bests in the swim and the run.



Squash



Sam won the English U15 title recently, Ben Beachill was runner up in the Under 13s after an excellent final, Ben Sockett finished third in the U17 and Asia Harris came third U13 competition. Sam and Ben Beachill have been selected for England for the Home Internationals and Asia is first reserve. A few weeks ago Amber won the French U15 Open.

The National Squash Finals were hosted at the National Squash Centre in Manchester this year. At the beginning of the year, we entered a boys' and girls' team at both U15s and U19s age groups.

The U15s girls were drawn in a very tough group, however did manage to progress to the National Trophy Tournament. The other three teams dominated their group stages and comfortably sailed through to the National Cup Finals.

The U15 girls, led by Amber Copley included Asia Harris, Layla Johnson, Mollie Patterson and Jaspreet Nahal. The prowess of the first three girls is well known, however prior to this year Mollie had never played squash, let alone competitive matches. There is no doubt that Mollie's table tennis background gave her a jump start in squash, but her hard work with late training sessions and commitment to squash has been invaluable and Mollie's squash has improved in leaps and bounds. Jaspreet also joined the U15 team this year at the age of 9 - still only in Coram House!

The girls travelled to Manchester for the trophy Finals on Monday 20th March. They played their semi-final against Millfield and won 5-0. They then progressed through to the finals and played Dame Allan's School. This was a very exciting final and some thrilling squash was played. Amber, Asia and Layla had three impeccable performances and secured a 3-2 win.

On the Tuesday morning, it was the boys' U15s turn - led by Sam Todd who was joined by Ben Sockett, Jordan Stewart and Ben Beachill from the previous year. However, due to this team losing Harry Anderson from the previous year, we needed to find a new player. We

found Jaspreet's brother Akash, who is a mini gem and will certainly have many years of success ahead of him. Again only 11 years old and with much growing still to do, this is no mean feat playing five years above his actual age!

The boys played Langley Park School for Boys in the quarter-finals and won 5-0 with convincing performances all round! Ackworth then drew Gosforth Academy in the semi-finals who threw everything they could at the boys, however this wasn't enough and the boys secured their place in the final with a 3-2 victory. This meant the same final as the previous year - Wycliffe vs Ackworth. Akash started the final with an outstanding and exceptional performance. He lost his first game and went 1-0 down. He then pulled back to 1-1 before losing the third game 2-1. Akash displayed great determination and fight and his composed performance enabled him to finish the match a 3-2 winner. Jordan unfortunately lost his final, leaving the score 1-1. Sam, Ben Sockett and Ben Beachill all went on to win with controlled execution and regained the National Title for the second year running.



On Wednesday 22nd March it was the turn of the boys and girls U19s. The boy's U19s team consisted of Sam Todd, Ben Sockett, Harry Anderson, Millen Randall, Jordan Stewart and Ben Beachill. They beat Wycliffe 4-1 in the quarter-final in an incredibly intense match. The boys then played Harrow in the semi-final and won comfortably before finishing the job in style with a comfortable victory in the Final against Gosforth.

The girls U19s team of Grace Clark, Amber Copley, Asia Harris, Polly Clark and Layla Johnson played Wycombe Abbey in the first round and got off to a flying start. They progressed to the semi-finals where they faced a formidable Wycliffe side. The girls fought incredibly hard and showed admirable determination and resilience, however lost narrowly. They then played Dame Allan's School where they finished the day as they started and secured their title as third in the country.

Table Tennis



Two teams from Ackworth School qualified for the English Schools Table Tennis Event, one in the U16 boys and one in the U16 girls, which took place at Hinckley on Saturday 25th March. The teams competed in three rounds previously beating all before them to earn a spot in the final four.

The U16 girls' team consisted of England internationals, Mollie Patterson, Jasmin Wong and Ruby Chan, who were joined by the Greenwood twins, Harriet and Emily. Harriet and Emily deserve a special mention as they only started playing table tennis when they joined the school in September, but they have played in every round, alternating as the fourth player in the team. The girls have trained extremely hard all year and competed with a smile on their faces, as well as playing girls three years older than themselves.

First match was against Okehampton Community College, in Devon, who also had some strong players including the current England U13 number two. Jasmin got the team off to a good start with victory over Emily Haskell 3-1. Mollie then followed that up with victory against Mari Baldwin 3-0. Zoe Bennett used her experience and power to beat Harriet before Ruby took the fourth match against Megan Brogan. A similar pattern took place in the second half of the match too as Mollie, Jasmin and Ruby all defeated their opponents and the School took an overall 6:2 victory.

Second up was Burlington Danes Academy from London. Mollie, Jasmin and Ruby all picked up three wins each. Emily, replacing Harriet from the first match, struggled with the serves against Hannah Buckley-Smith which meant she was always on the back foot in the points.

However, in her second match against Ayjah Mirjah-Mercer, she re-focused to take the victory 3-0 and leave the overall match score on 7-1.

In the final match, due to previous results, the team knew that a draw would be good enough to give them the title. In addition, Lancaster Girls' Grammar School only had three players, due to one of them leaving early. As a result, Ruby was rested to allow Harriet and Emily to play in the final match. Jasmin started with a tricky game against England number nine (under 15 girl), Alice Dillon, but came through it 3-1. This was followed by a 3-0 win for Mollie, which meant that the title was already Ackworth's as they got two wins for the missing player. Harriet and Emily found the matches just as hard in their game, but Mollie and Jasmin both won to give Ackworth another 6-2 win.

Mollie Patterson said: "We're very happy to win the title. It's important to us and the school. We understand that we have three players of very good standard but we need four in the team and we couldn't have done it without Emily and Harriet."

The U16 boys have four players that have recently had international experience. The U16 team of Shayan Siraj, Jamie Liu, Sam Chesterman and Reece Chamdal, went into the day as clear favourites to take the title. They accepted the challenge and dealt with all that was thrown at them from the other schools. Budworth College (Weymouth), Range High School (Formby) and Ernest Bevin College (Tooting Bec) were all beaten 8-0 by the team. Shayan Siraj said: "We performed well. Our expectations were quite high and we dealt with the pressure well."

Sixth Form

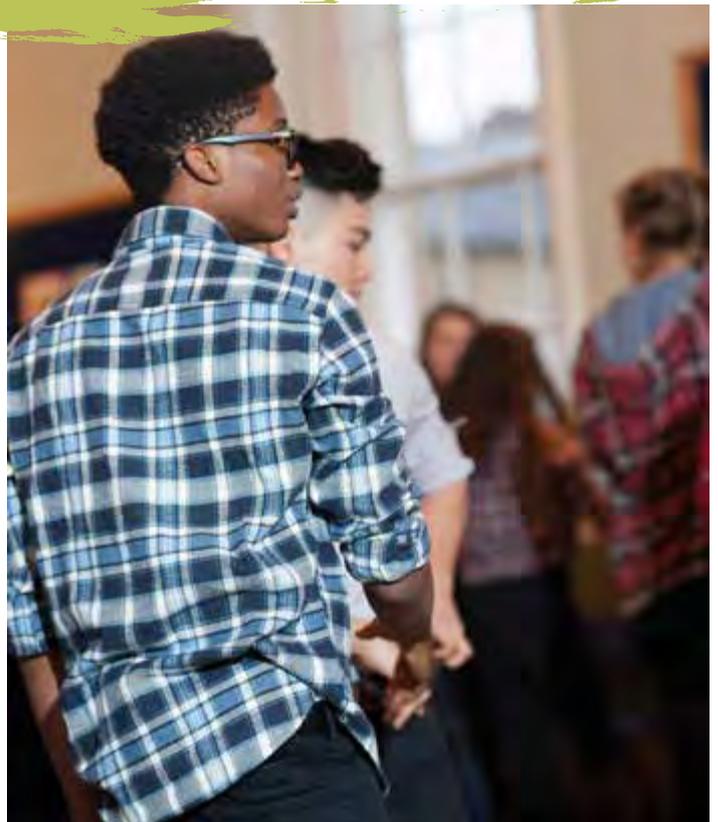
During this term, Sixth Form enrichment was oriented towards the future: their future lives, the professional worlds they might inhabit, and the dangers they may encounter on the way.

We welcomed Jonny Ross, CEO of a Digital Consultancy in Leeds, to talk to us about his experiences in digital entrepreneurialism and the importance of cultivating and effectively utilising our digital identities.

We were really excited to already be planning a summer workshop with the Sixth Form where Jonny will take a hands-on role in helping our students to understand the full range of digital opportunities and how our students can best use these to get ahead in the professional world.



Barn Dancing



Welcome back Kweku



When Kweku Adoboli came back to Ackworth School, he made a lot of people cry.

Some, overcome at hearing his journey over the last five years, cried tears of sadness. Some, angry at the injustice of the institutions and the courts, cried tears of frustration. In refurbishing their memory of the little boy he was, updating that image to accommodate the broad and sharply-cut lines of the man he has now become, some cried tears of delight. Some shared tears, crying tears of empathy, crying because Kweku himself cried. When Kweku came back to Ackworth, he cried a lot. He greeted old teachers long-retired and newly-returned; he greeted people who cared for him when he boarded in Boys' School House; he greeted people who wrote him letters when he was put in prison, people who believed in him and loved him and wanted to let him know that, then as now. People came back to see Kweku, not just to hear him speak but to also demonstrate their commitment to him by giving him their presence.

Kweku is a stocky, powerful man in his late 30s, bearing a voice that is compelling and authoritative, sonorous and deep and rich – but on several occasions, that voice gave way. Meeting these significant figures of his past yanked this man straight back to being that little boy in shorts on his first day at school, marooned in a mizzly Yorkshire, entirely alone, set on his way with a hard handshake from his father. Such memories ambushed him, stalling his rhetoric, the threat of tears subsiding only with patience and control and breath. On some occasions, his tears could not be stemmed: ambushed this time by the entire sixth form, who, marshalled by the Head, surrounded him for a post-talk photo, Kweku hid his face in his hands. Framed in a sea of burgundy jumpers and smiling faces, Kweku wiped away his tears and looked up and smiled for the iPhone.

When Kweku Adoboli came back to Ackworth, he was coming home.

"Remember your responsibilities as a citizen for the conduct of local, national and international affairs," reminds Advices and Queries. "Do not shrink from the time and effort your involvement may demand." We are grateful to Kweku for not shrinking from the time and effort his involvement with us has demanded. On Thursday, February 9th, Kweku shared the journey of his last five years – from Ackworth student to Head

Boy; from directionless undergraduate to UBS intern; from scarcely-credible, astronomic corporate success to arrest, conviction, media notoriety, incarceration. He talked with us about the mistakes he felt he had made and the mistakes he felt that the institutions had made. Kweku did not come to make excuses, but he did come to give reflections and to share the lessons that he has learned. He has learned, for example, that your greatest hope comes at the moment of your greatest despair. He has learned how he wishes he had stood up to his superiors and demanded that they show greater support, that they take greater responsibility. He has learned that the only important thing that you can do in life is make morally-correct choices; that in a post-truth world – where right and wrong no longer seem relevant, when public figures say one thing, do another and no one bats an eyelid – the only ground stable enough to build a future is on the ground of your own moral conviction. He has learned the importance of understanding yourself as a global citizen, a citizen of the world, a citizen reliant on and with responsibilities to others. And he has learned once more how important his time at Ackworth was. 'Non sibi sed omnibus', Kweku kept repeating – 'not for oneself but for each other'. I know what he means: I know what it feels like to grow up in a school, for home to be a boarding house, for a house master to be a father, for a school's rules and traditions and expectations to be the touchstone of your own moral development and journey to identity. Kweku learned how important that history was; how that history propelled him and sustained him into his present; how those words – 'non sibi sed omnibus' – did not just shape his sense of self, but also helped him to retain that sense of who he was and what he stood for, even when everything was crumbling around him. "Look at the people around you," he urged. They are more than friends: "they are your brothers and sisters, your aunts and uncles." They are from Germany and China, Syria and Hong Kong, and they are your family. Kweku has learned the importance of this family, and urged us to be more aware of it, of its potential, of what it can do for us now and in the future – the comfort it offers, the love it provides, the strength it gives us when we are most in need of it.

When Kweku Adoboli came back to Ackworth, he was coming home. What perhaps he hadn't expected to discover was that we were all waiting for him, and always had been. For Kweku – for all of our Old Scholars – thank you. And don't stay away so long next time.

Ali Boucher - Head of Sixth Form

Clubs and Societies



The run club boys having a team stretch after a tough training session



Politics

Fourteen students across second to fifth form have taken part in a Political Literacy Programme, designed to give students an introduction to British Politics and International Relations. They have been working hard to understand the origins of politics and the different political systems that exist across the world, and have dug deeper into the working of our own parliamentary democracy, researching the roles and functions of the various ministers and departments. By studying the Hansard transcripts of debates, they themselves engaged in a mock Parliamentary debate which certainly allowed them greater insight into the challenges and difficulties of developing and challenging Government policy in the House of Parliament.

Fencing

I started fencing in first year but only moved onto the sword I currently use, which is Epee, in the middle of second year. I go to Fencing Club on a Wednesday night which is run by Mrs Jackson and coached by Mr Law.

I took part in a Yorkshire Youth League fencing competition at Cullingworth in Bradford on 26th February. There were two preliminary rounds followed by an elimination round and I competed in 12 matches against both boys and girls from Hymers and Doncaster Fencing Club.

I was really pleased to have won a bronze medal and I am looking forward to the next competition.

Annie Bamford (Third Year)



Fencing Awards Round Up 2016-17



Bronze Foil award to the following:-

Robyn Wickham; Bohdan Vynohradov; Alice Lienig; Lynn Cohen; Yufeng (Branson) Gan.

Silver Foil award to the following:-

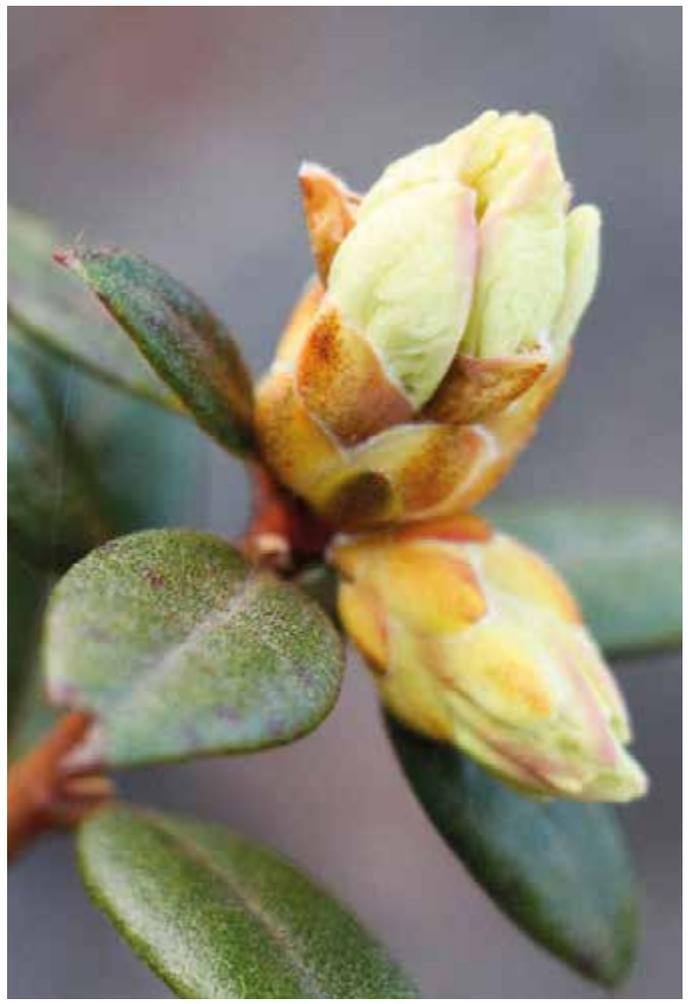
Robyn Wickham; Bohdan Vynohradov; Alice Lienig; Lynn Cohen

Bronze Epee award to the following:-

Lucy Assassa; Annie Bamford

Photography Club





Fothergill Society

The Fothergill Society has been working with the Design Technology Department which have challenged them to 'Stop the Spread'. The students had to imagine that they were charity workers working with a group of primary children in a school in Kenya to improve their general hygiene and stop the spread of infectious diseases.

The task was to encourage them to wash their hands more frequently and to help them understand why this is important in reducing the spread of disease in their community. To do this the students planned and created a working model of a hand washing device that is sustainable and hygienic.

They also produced educational material to encourage the use of their device. All the students involved were eligible for a CREST Discovery Award. This scheme is the British Science Association's flagship programme for young people providing science enrichment activities to inspire and engage 5 to 19 year olds.

Elenar Clark



Fothergill Society has also been taking part in the 'Tenner Challenge', organised with the Economics and Business Studies department. Tenner Challenge provides a highly interactive way for students to develop key skills including creativity, resilience and problem solving, using real money to take calculated risks in business.

Students, working in teams or on their own, were pledged £10 and had one month to set up a business – coming up with an idea of a product or service they could sell and gain first-hand experience of what it is like to be an entrepreneur.

All groups returned a profit. Thomas Wilson set up The Incredible Language Emporium where he offered online language tuition - a fantastic use of technology in today's digital age.

Benjamin Cawood, Harry Dean and Matthew Manders baked and sold cakes to friends and family and to staff and students within school.

Kate-May Taylor, Grace Clark, Polly Clark and Ella Wood bought and sold sweets which that they purchased at discounted prices.

As part of the challenge they had to log their progress every week and could take part in competitions during each of the four weeks of the challenge.

Weekends



Weekends

Haworth



Weekend trip to Haworth for a walking tour and visit to the Bronte Parsonage



Student Views Brexit

"Declare 24th June as the UK's Independence Day!"

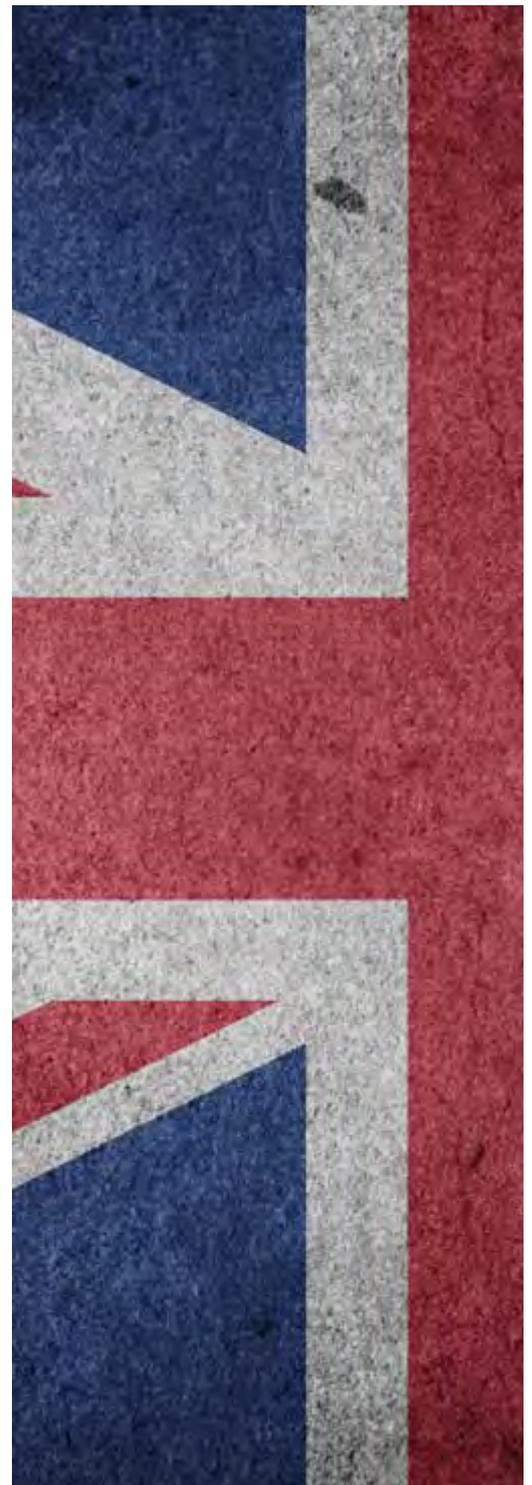
This was the breaking news statement I woke up to on Friday 24th June following the day when the UK voted in or out of the EU. It's safe to say the result will go down like a storm in history. In a time of great uncertainty, Brexit has created a huge storm in England leaving us with one question: will more uncertainty come? In a time where many graduates leave university questioning their prospects, will Brexit lower job offers abroad in European countries? As an A-level student looking at studying abroad I do feel wronged by the older generation and it has left me questioning why? The wave of hatred that followed Brexit only made us young people question whether it is even worth studying.

It cannot be denied a large majority of young people have fuelled their hatred towards the older generation, as a large proportion of 'out votes' were from those 40 plus. This generation has had the cheap mortgages and had more certainty than today's graduates. The older generation does the young an injustice. It is not fair that our future should be spent questioning every decision we make and why should we live in uncertainty, unlike previous generations? At a time when I'm striving to achieve the best grades possible I would much prefer to have a large scope of options for university and have the opportunity to experience various cultures whilst I'm young. Brexit may have just snatched this away from me...

In addition society today is very diverse and England has many different nationalities and faiths. However Brexit has increased racial attacks by 42 per cent. In particular some diners in London are refusing to be served by foreign workers. Children as young as 10 are experiencing racism. As a woman of colour I certainly do feel the anger towards people of different ethnicities has increased. But as a country we must understand immigration is relatively small and those who choose to immigrate serve many services very well. The loss of European workers may prove to be fatal to our services - the NHS for example. Brexit has only divided our nation and the UK works best united. Only then can young people thrive.

The percentage of young people who voted to remain was 75 per cent. This is a staggeringly high percentage and shows young people are engaged in politics and raises the question of whether the voting age should be lowered. If so would we have remained? Unlike our friends the Scottish (who allowed their young people to vote in the independence referendum) Britain didn't engage 16 year olds in the in or out vote. As a young person who is 17 I find my vote could have been valued when this vote writes my future. I find it highly unfair that others can vote towards a future, with which I for one disagree. To me democracy has failed me. The only way my faith can be restored is if young people are at the forefront of Brexit's action plan when Article 47 is triggered. The only slight positive outcome for this is we have a woman prime minister paving the way for more successful women in politics. But really what does the future hold for young people?

Paris Williams (L6th)



Student Views

Hazel Tree

Recently, out of fascination, I've been thinking a lot about happiness. What is it? Does it even exist in the way we think it does, or are we striving for something none of us really understand? What does it mean to be truly happy?



Scientifically speaking, happiness is influenced by four major chemicals in the brain: dopamine, oxytocin, serotonin, and endorphins. Dopamine is said to be responsible for the feeling of anticipation or excitement, while oxytocin is commonly known as the 'cuddle hormone' - released as a result of social bonding such as prolonged eye contact and attentiveness. Serotonin is currently understood by experts as being in control of our overall mood. For example, a large proportion of our serotonin exists in the gut, which explains why we usually feel a little grumpy or irritable when we skip lunch. Finally, endorphins are widely associated with 'fight or flight' responses. They allow us to mask and 'power through' pain, discomfort, and exhaustion.

This is not the answer for which I had been looking, and in recent weeks I've found myself rifling through pages and pages of the nebulous internet, trying to find satisfactory answers, wondering if such answers exist. Aristotle, the Greek philosopher, said "Happiness is the meaning and purpose of life, the whole aim and end of human existence." To me, this was worrying, as I still had absolutely no grasp on what happiness meant to me (even after my obsessive investigation of the subject). If I find it, what happens next? Is that the climax of my life, and does it only get worse from there? Or do I somehow live out the rest of my life in a perpetual state of delirium? As you can probably imagine, this was extremely stressful for an anxiety riddled 16-year-old girl such as myself.

After more desperate searching, this time for some reassurance, I eventually found another quote from Aristotle: "Happiness depends upon ourselves." Amazingly, this offered me some comfort. I have since come to realise that my happiness is a state of mind - an optimistic approach to life itself. I can see how obnoxious it would seem for me to say that I have found the key to eternal happiness, because that is far from the case: for me, happiness is dependent on my experience of pain and sadness and anguish. It is those fleeting moments of contentment and an appreciation of seemingly mundane things in everyday life. It is my little sister crawling into my bed after a bad day because I make her feel safe. It is a baby giggling at me after I stick my tongue out at him while his mother's back is turned. It is a puppy pulling at his lead across the street from me because I'm oh so new and interesting and the world is so exciting. It is reading my favourite book after a hard week at school while the feeling of coming home washes over me. I am now trying to acknowledge more of these moments, because they are the real answers to my incessant questions.

Isabel Johnston-Knight (L6)

Options Evening

It was a great experience going to options evening, and meeting all the teachers so they could explain what we would be doing next year. The evening really helped us to get an understanding of what subjects would be right for us. Overall it was very interesting and helpful evening.

Ben Cawood and Izaak Brindle (Third Year)

Student Successes



Well done to Harvey - who finished 4th, 2nd & 3rd in his recent auto-grass races... beating the 2016 UK



A huge well done to Hannah who has achieved national qualifying times in 200fly and 400IM



Dominic (6th Form) performing at the Rock School Christmas Festival at the Wardrobe in Leeds

Congratulations to Dominic who has passed his Grade 7 Singing Examination with Distinction.

Community Projects

Business and Education Fair



Ackworth School held its inaugural Business and Education Fair on Friday, January 20th. The fair featured over 50 exhibitors, including local and national companies, occupational groups and universities.

The aim of the fair was to expose students to the wide variety of post-school options and encourage them to explore the various pathways to their global and social mobility.

"Ackworth School encourages an entrepreneurial spirit in its students and the Business & Education Fair gives them an opportunity to be pro-active by approaching exhibitors and discussing options", said Head, Anton Maree.

"In addition the fair also provides an opportunity for businesses to network with each other and realise mutual benefits."

Barclays Bank



The Government's Green Paper on charitable status has urged independent schools to do more. There is no better place to do this than within our own community. We have three primary schools in close proximity and two secondary schools less than five minutes away. Years five and nine at these schools and Ackworth School, participated in a Financial Skills Day sponsored by Barclays Bank and they will have taken away with them new lessons and a memory of our School.

Without aspirational opportunities for children, this country will not be able to sustain industry in the future.

Anton Maree

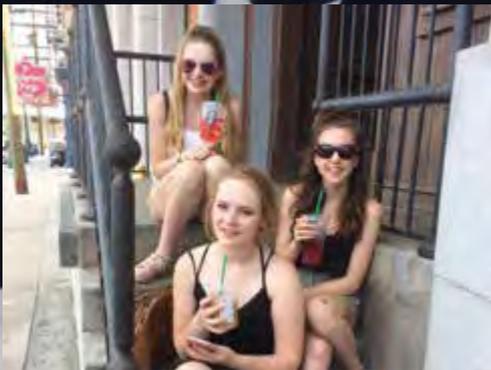
Holiday Trips



Carleton Lodge



Florida



During the Easter holidays we went to Florida on a science trip. We visited the Disney parks and Universal Studios and attended seminars there before enjoying the attractions.

The seminars helped us to gain an understanding of the marine biology behind Disney's award winning aquarium as well as the physics of the forces we experienced on the rollercoasters.

We also visited Kennedy Space Centre and got to meet Mark Lee, a retired astronaut, who gave us an insight into what life in space is really like.

I enjoyed every part of the trip and I'm really glad that I got the chance to go.

Victoria Patel

Sibford



Choir in St Mary's Church Banbury

A group of over 20 staff and pupils travelled to Sibford on the last day of term to join other Quaker schools in a performance of Faure's Requiem. The concert took place in St Mary's Church, Banbury and was a wonderful opportunity to meet pupils and staff from other Quaker schools and to perform a large scale piece of work.

"When we arrived none of us knew what to expect. We all loved the fact that we would be meeting new children and get the chance to sing with them. After a long rehearsal with the other schools we were invited to a social with a school from Ireland called The Friends School Lisburn.

"The next day we went to Banbury and had a walk around the shops and then finished with a great concert in a beautiful church. What a great experience we had."

Lucy Assassa



Friends Schools
Joint Choirs
performing Faure's
Requiem

Hello from Malta



Memories
x

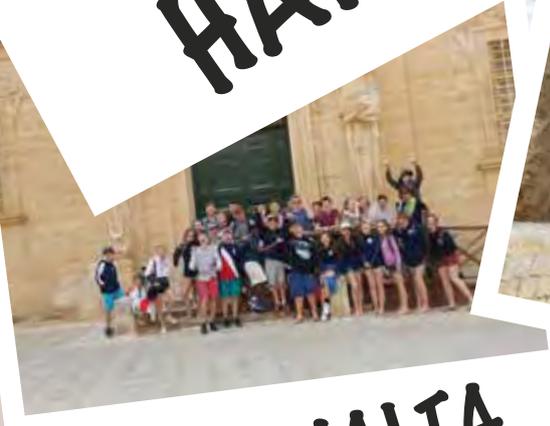
BOYOS.



Jeep ride



!!
D



SMILE

WELCOME TO MALTA



Poses!!



!



On Friday 21st March, a group of boys and girls set off to Malta. Once we touched down, the girls went to play their first netball match against a team from Malta. This was interesting as it was good to see how different teams play.

On the first day, the boys went off to play football while the girls went shopping in the town. After this the girls went to play their second and final match. The Ackworth girls played brilliantly and went on to win by a large margin and then to top off the day we went bowling.

The second day was my favourite as we went on a Jeep safari. Groups of four and five were each assigned a Jeep in which they would spend the day. Whilst on this trip we were able to see some breath-taking sights

and views of the island and we also visited the silent city. Lastly, we hit the track and went go-karting.

The third day was the day of the boat cruise. After spending a few hours on the boat, we reached the blue lagoon. The views were beautiful and we spent the day lying on the beach and relaxing. When we got back the boys had their final fixture and after this we reunited and went out to a local restaurant and had an enjoyable meal.

The last day arrived and it was, sadly, time for us to go home. After stopping off at the aquarium we made our way to the airport and back to Ackworth. Overall I thoroughly enjoyed this trip. I made lots of happy memories and had some great experiences.

*From: Charlotte
Glasby*

Spotlight on Parkrun



Elizabeth Sochacka, Head of the International Centre, regularly takes students from the school to Parkrun at Nostell Priory. Here is a spotlight on one of her favourite activities of the week and one which is increasingly becoming a favourite of many of our students.

'Round about November time last year, we were discussing sports in one of my classes and I mentioned Parkrun – a 5km run which takes place in many venues not only in the UK, but around the world. Some students in that class asked me, 'Can we go?' Well, how could I possibly refuse.... I was so taken by their enthusiasm. I now have a fairly regular group of runners who come as often as they can – there are of course other school events happening on a Saturday morning like football matches, netball matches, a leave weekend lie in etc...

But how did it all start? Where are the Parkruns? Is there one in London? I have been asked these questions several times.

Let's start from the beginning. How did it all start?

Parkrun was founded in 2004 by a man called Paul Sinton-Hewitt who now runs the group that manages the growth of Parkrun around the world. He firmly believes that 'Parkrun's simple concept should – and really can – exist in every town in the world'. He says that no-one should ever have to pay to go running in their community regularly, safely and for fun. This is why Parkruns are never more than 5km as it's a distance anyone can work towards and complete. The format is simple – you register once online, then turn up and take part whenever you want, wherever you want. If you go away, you can still attend the local run in that area.

The first ever event was in a place called Bushy Park, Teddington in the UK where 13 runners got together on 2 October 2004. Including Paul Sinton-Hewitt, there were five volunteers – I should maybe mention at this point that each Parkrun has a team of marshals who come along and ensure the route is safe then stand at various points along the course to make sure runners go in the right direction. They also make encouraging comments and offer smiles along the way. They are volunteers, they do not get paid. When you think of some of the very cold mornings we've had lately...that makes them extremely special people.

In this year, the number of weekly runners exceeded 60,000 for the first time.

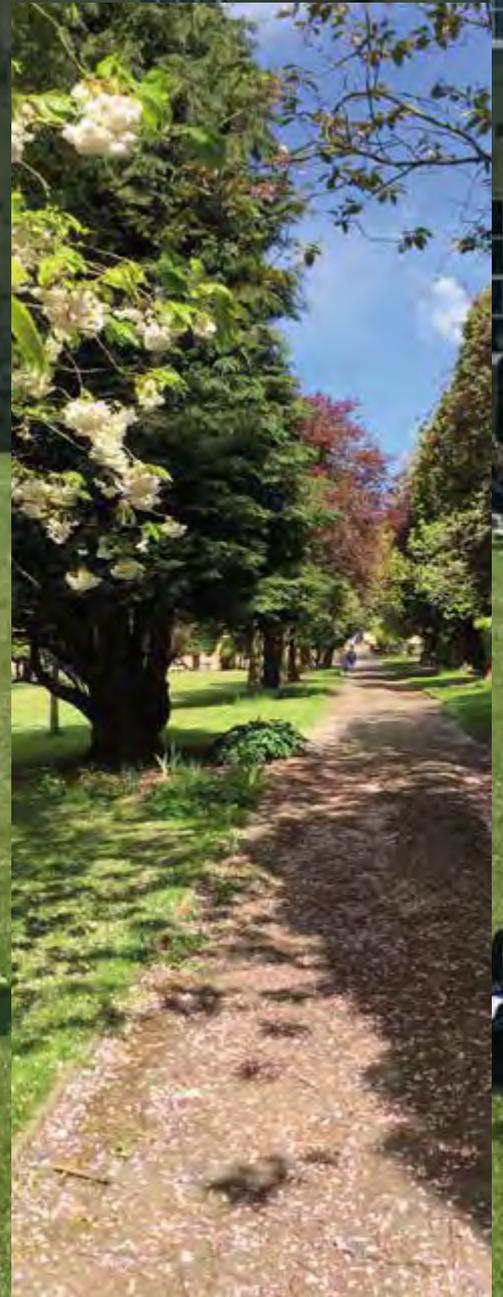
Parkrun has been an inspiration to many people. It is not a race – it is a gentle jog around a local park. Everybody sets off at 9am so there are literally thousands of people doing exactly the same thing as you. It's free – all you need is a pair of trainers. Some people like to improve their time each week; others see completion as a goal. It is suitable for all abilities. Many people have taken their running further and trained for longer distances. It becomes a part of your lifestyle and as all my Parkrunners have said – it's an excellent way to start the day. Running is cheap, you make new friends, you live longer, it boosts your metabolism, it boosts your memory, you can do it anywhere, it keeps your blood pressure where it should be, you sleep better, it can reduce your risk of heart disease, it reduces stress...

After our first run, one of my students said he felt like a new person. Another said they feel a strong sense of community when the volunteer marshals cheer him along, while running with people who bring their dogs or run with their children in pushchairs.

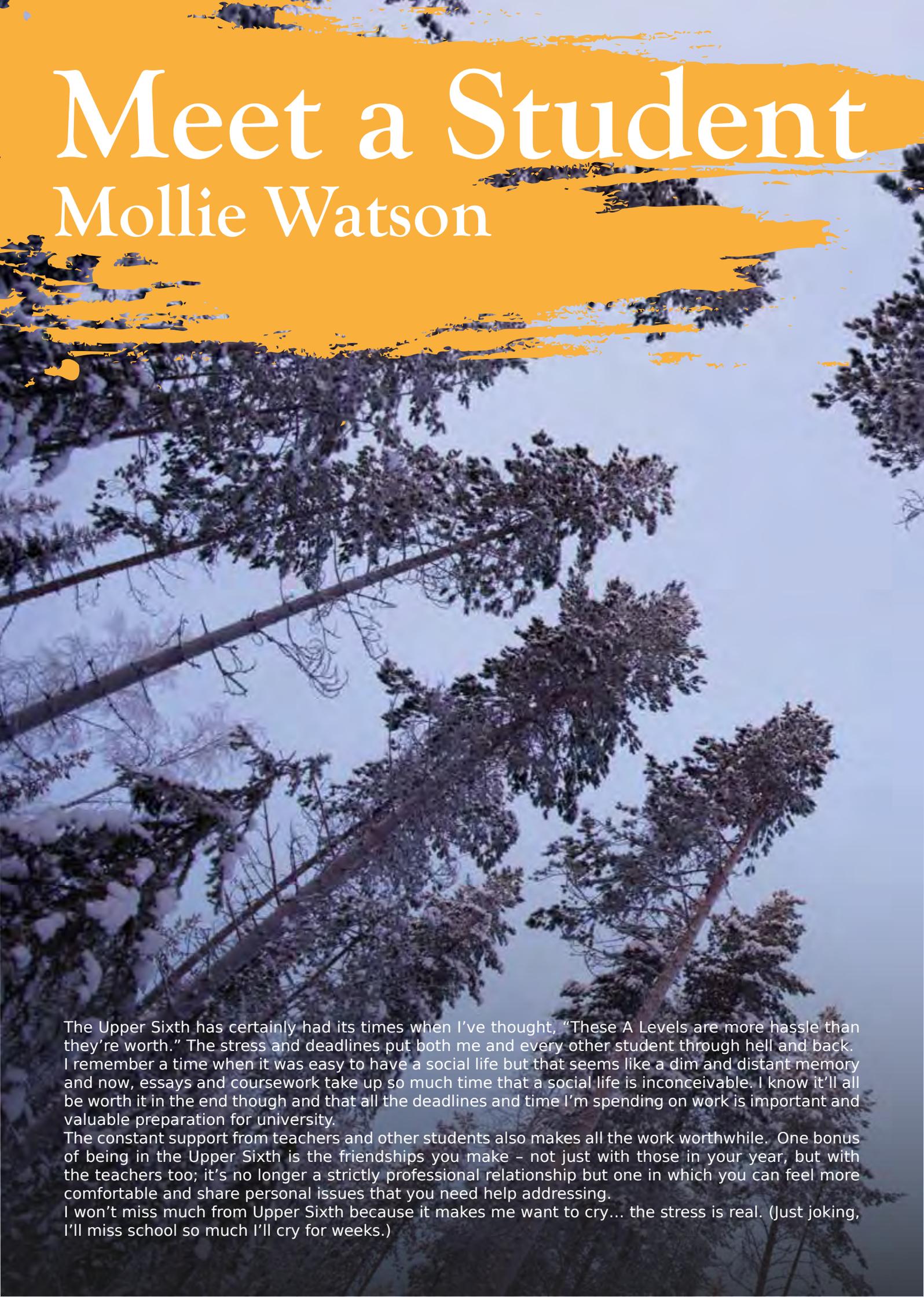
The students who come to this event not only motivate each other, but they motivate me. They make me want to work harder and I thank them for that. I hope some more of you decide to give it a go. Don't be afraid to try something new. If you've ever thought about taking up running, come with us. We are a very supportive group who will make you feel welcome and motivate you. You might enjoy it and realise that you've opened yourself up to a whole new world. Life is for living and trying out new things, making the most of opportunities which come our way. There's something really rewarding about trying new things. The best way to not regret the things you didn't do is to do them.'



Summer at Ackworth







Meet a Student

Mollie Watson

The Upper Sixth has certainly had its times when I've thought, "These A Levels are more hassle than they're worth." The stress and deadlines put both me and every other student through hell and back. I remember a time when it was easy to have a social life but that seems like a dim and distant memory and now, essays and coursework take up so much time that a social life is inconceivable. I know it'll all be worth it in the end though and that all the deadlines and time I'm spending on work is important and valuable preparation for university.

The constant support from teachers and other students also makes all the work worthwhile. One bonus of being in the Upper Sixth is the friendships you make - not just with those in your year, but with the teachers too; it's no longer a strictly professional relationship but one in which you can feel more comfortable and share personal issues that you need help addressing.

I won't miss much from Upper Sixth because it makes me want to cry... the stress is real. (Just joking, I'll miss school so much I'll cry for weeks.)

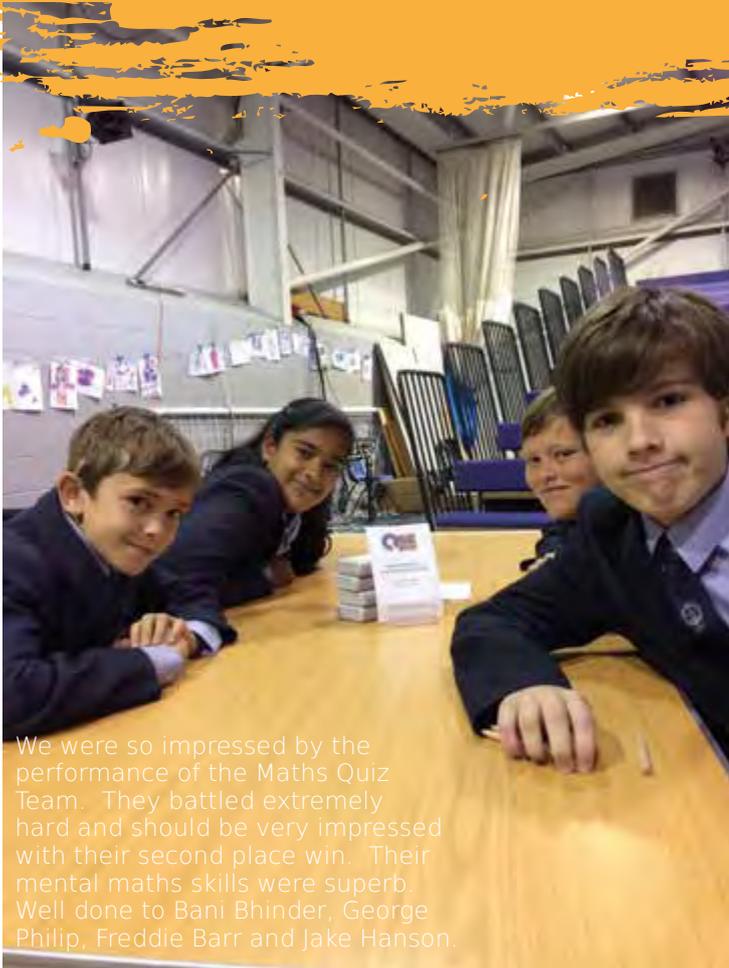
Nursery



This half-term has been full of super learning opportunities, exciting trips, Sports Day and picnic and a Graduation event to end the year. The Nursery curriculum and individual topics continue to be enhanced with exciting activities as the children explored the topic of "To infinity and beyond". The Nursery and their families have visited Yorkshire Wildlife Park for an adventurous day of exploration including a classroom session with an interactive story of "Joey's Journey". The Nursery children have been able to observe duck eggs hatch and then took on the responsibility of the ducklings' care.

The Kindergarten sessions which enable a smooth transition for the children to their Reception class have included "Muddy Mayhem", "Musical Maestros", "Young Einsteins" and a "Bake Off". It was a fantastic opportunity for the children to meet their specialist teachers and experience the facilities of the Senior School. The children also attended a weekly swimming session and each received a certificate of achievement at the end. The Nursery Sports day and picnic was well attended by the Nursery children and their families with exciting races and an ice-cream treat to end the day. This year's Graduation event saw the children recite songs and receive their certificates from the Head. A party for the children was held on the last day of term to celebrate a fantastic year of achievements.

Coram



We were so impressed by the performance of the Maths Quiz Team. They battled extremely hard and should be very impressed with their second place win. Their mental maths skills were superb. Well done to Bani Bhinder, George Philip, Freddie Barr and Jake Hanson.



Coram were joined by five local schools for our interschool cross country. A super team effort resulted in an overall Coram victory in the team event and podium finishes from Charles Broadbent Rockliff (1st Y5 boys), Claudia Cross (2nd Y5 girls) and Ella-Grace Antal-Smith (1st Y6 girls). Thank you to all of our runners and marshals who helped make the event a success.



Coram are looking colourful
#rainbowday #aspergers

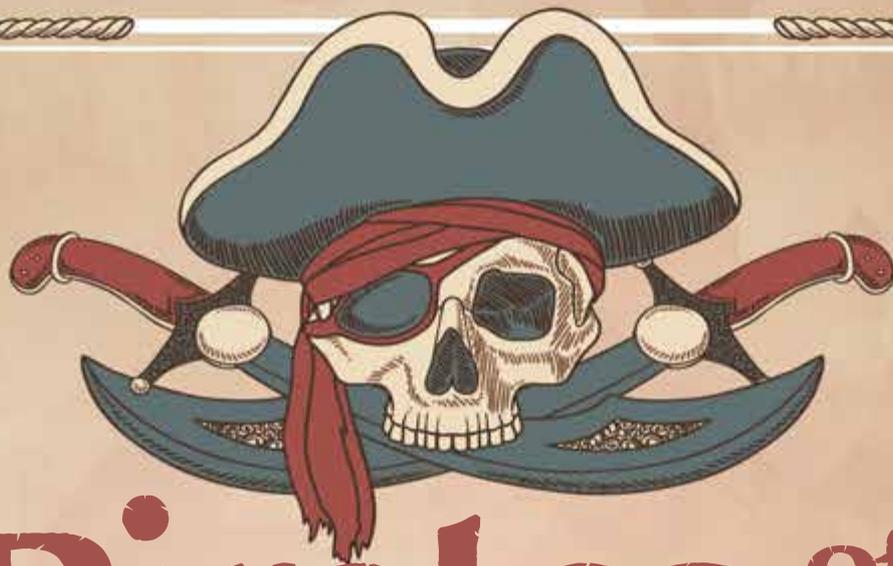
Biathlon Success

Congratulations to the following students who have qualified for the Yorkshire School Biathlon final at Driffield Leisure Centre on Sunday 16 July:

Year 4: Alice Coen, Hannah Moxon, Shanali Patel, Wil Carr, Leo Child, Liam O'Donnell.

Year 5: Abigail Brooke, Claudia Cross, Charles Broadbent Rockliff, Noah Clegg, Ethan Hodkin, Ollie Mountain.

Year 6: Ella-Grace Antal-Smith, Eloise Celino, Dan Bourke, James Bower, Lucas Coulson, Mathew O'Donnell, Alistair O'Regan



Pirates of the Curry Bean



The year six children wowed a packed Fothergill Theatre of family and friends with their performance of 'Pirates of the Curry Bean'. The children danced, acted and sang and the audience were taken along on their amazing swashbuckling adventure. Well done to everyone involved. The retiring collection for Asperger's Awareness raised £184; thank you for your kind generosity.

Coram Reception



Final Reception
Forest School



Reception Forest
School, based
around Julia
Donaldson's story
'Stick Man'!



Reception Art -
African tribal masks!
#topic#allaroundtheworld



Reception had
a fabulous talk
from Ambar's
Mummy, for
our 'Around the
World' topic!



Reception have
loved a talk by
some of our
boarders, about
life in Ukraine!

Coram

Year 1



Coram Year one say a fond farewell to an amazing teacher; Mr France

Coram

Year 2



Year two #Mexico Art work based on Leonora Carrington's artistic pieces. #DreamCatcher.



Year two children enjoying the sun with the ducklings

Coram

Year 3



Coram year three getting to grips with Air Resistance during a Science aeroplane race.

Coram

Year 4



Year four are making Chinese moon cakes



Year four having a lovely time learning how electricity is made

Coram

Year 5



We've worked hard today



Year five learning lots from the West Yorkshire Fire Service



Year five are ready to go back in time to the Victorian kitchens. @ CannonHallFarm

Coram

Year 6



Ben Barker and Katie Staton have undertaken training with the Environment Agency, who wish to use the River Went to measure the population of invertebrates in the stream at specific times. There is an opportunity to set up projects with Coram and local primary schools to rear Mayfly from larvae to Mayfly and release back to the river. Year six carried out a river fieldwork session within the school grounds. They measured the flow of the river and identified the key features of the river on a base map and satellite image. We aim to use our environment in as many of our sessions as possible.



Just leaving Eden Camp after a fantastic trip



Year six exploring Eden Camp



Year six came for a Library visit today and they all got lost in a book

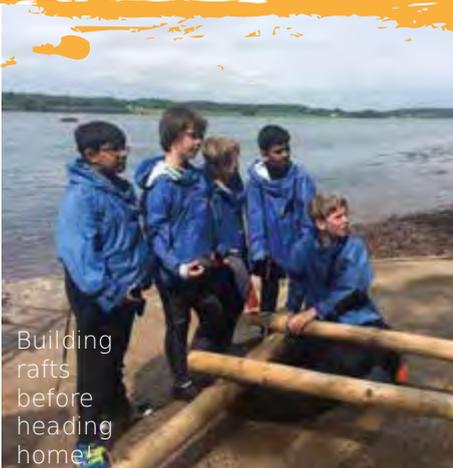
Coram

Fantastic Mr Fox



A large number of years three to six children enjoyed a 'Fantastic' performance of Roald Dahl's 'Fantastic Mr Fox' at Bradford Alhambra on Friday 30th of June. There was music, dancing and a whole lot of laughter!

Coram Residential



Building rafts before heading home!



Getting ready for a day of windsurfing and kayaking!



Quick lunch stop on the way to Plas Menai #coram #residential

Subjects



Psychology



This has been a year of change for the Psychology Department, with Helen Batty going on maternity leave in October 2016 and returning in June 2017. In her absence, the students were ably looked after by Bruce McDowell, and we look forward to welcoming Bruce back in September to split the Psychology teaching. Arthur Batty has already taken part in Psychology lessons, helping students to consider the strengths and limitations of observing babies in order to determine the security of their relationships with their care-givers.

In the Autumn Term, the Lower Sixth students designed and carried out their own studies as part of their introduction to Research Methods. Working in groups, the students considered the question "Does Music Affect Memory?" They tested this idea in a variety of ways and then presented their work to their peers. We concluded that there is no single answer to this question, and that it was different for each individual. The Upper Sixth visited Wakefield Mental Health Museum in order to consolidate their knowledge of Psychopathology. One of the most powerful items on display was a full-sized padded cell which students could walk into; this really allowed the students to consider the ethics of certain methods of restraint for patients with a mental health disorder.

Students have also taken advantage of opportunities to participate in Psychology research carried out by Higher Education Institutions. In February Sarah Asquith, a PhD student from Leeds Beckett University, visited the school

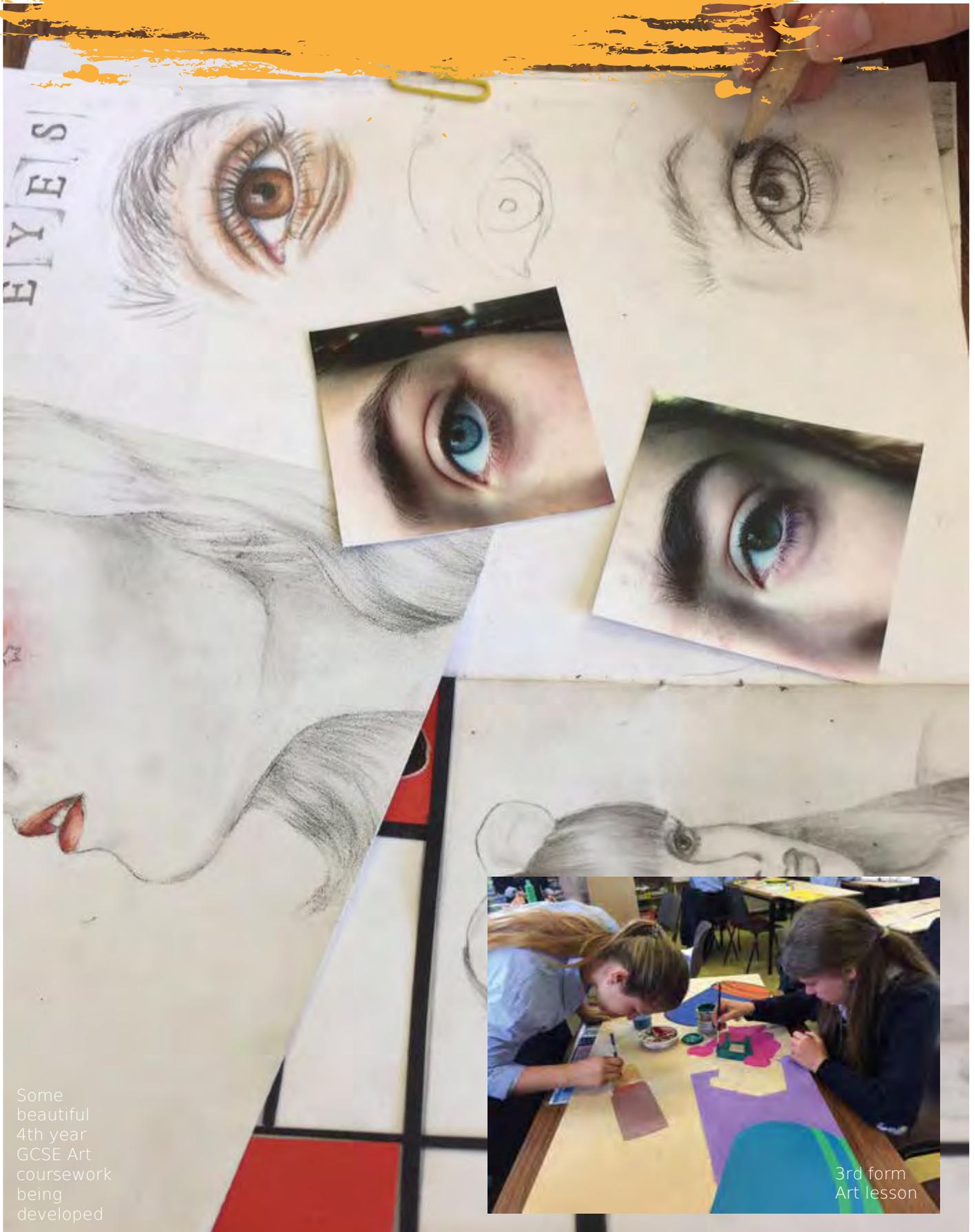
to conduct part of her research into the link between Creativity and Wellbeing. Students from the fourth and lower sixth forms took part in sessions involving paper-and-pen based tasks, and questionnaires. Sarah will revisit the fourth form students in two years' time, to see how their views on creativity and wellbeing have changed. We also look forward to welcoming Leeds Beckett University next year, to run a workshop with the Psychology A level students.

Most recently, the Lower Sixth took part in Project Soothe as part of their work on the Psychodynamic Approach. Project Soothe is run by a team of Clinical and Developmental Psychologists based at the University of Edinburgh. Their mission is to develop a bank of soothing photographs that can be shared with others to improve mental health and wellbeing. Project Soothe is a unique and innovative project that combines world-leading research with public engagement, and the students enjoyed engaging with the research by rating and reviews a series of photographs to help determine which will be used in a clinical setting. Many of the students will also participate by submitting photographs that they consider soothing.

Helen Batty

Head of Careers and Head of Psychology

Art



Some beautiful 4th year GCSE Art coursework being developed

3rd form Art lesson

Biology



Seven lower sixth biologists took part in the Intermediate Biology Olympiad this term, which is a national competition run by the Society of Biology and had 5600 participants this year. All of them did very well and the results are as follows:

Mahdi Yaseen - Commended

Ksenija Dikanovic - Highly Commended

Ellie Williamson - Bronze

Jacob Roberts - Silver

Victoria Patel - Silver

Sam Raby - Silver

Georgia White - Silver but only 1 mark off a Gold!

On Saturday 27th May, the A level Biologists arrived at Blencathra Field Centre near Keswick to start their ecology fieldtrip. After introductions, we explored the centre and then set traps for small mammals. The traps contained straw, various seeds and a piece of apple. The following morning, we opened the traps, finding four field voles and one wood mouse. The animals seemed quite refreshed after spending the night in the relative comfort and safety of the traps and one of the voles seemed to want to join the group. He can be seen in the photograph beside Sam's boots. We then set off to Mosedale to investigate succession on the scree slopes and the effects of burning on the species composition, using both systematic and random sampling methods. Upon our return to the centre, we looked for correlations and analysed the data.

of the methods. Later in the evening, we explored Castlerigg stone circle which was built over 5000 years ago.

On our final fieldwork day, we visited the beautiful beach of St Bees to consider zonation of the truly amazing organisms which inhabit the littoral zone on the rocky shore, catching shrimps, crabs and even a star fish. We then followed the coast South to Drigg where we investigated psammosere succession, using a stratified sampling method. There were clear changes in species composition and abiotic factors as we moved from the embryonic dunes near the sea, through the yellow dunes and finally to the grey dunes further inland. When we returned to centre, we were invited to look at some of the moths captured by one of the other groups. They included the stunning pink Elephant hawk moth and the well camouflaged Buff-tip moth which looks just like a silver birch twig.

The field trip was a great success and it was wonderful to hear the centre staff and other adults commenting on the knowledge, impeccable manners and adventurous spirit shown by the students throughout the course.

Christopher Bailey



Monday was our freshwater day and we went to St John's Beck on a peaceful hill farm about 6 miles from Keswick. We investigated the abundance of invertebrates in pools and riffles, using kick sampling to capture the invertebrates and measuring the velocity, pH and depth of the water at each sampling site. We looked for differences between mean values and we considered some of the strengths and limitations



Business Studies



They gave it some UMPH! Well done to the L6 Business team, coming in the top 6 schools at the UMPH 2017 competition.



Our Brilliant Business students' last lesson - the hard work starts now. Hard work beats talent when talent doesn't work hard.

Ackworth School's lower sixth business students have been working with Ackworth Howard Primary School to create an enterprise and employability skills workshop.

The primary school students were given the challenge of designing their own mobile phone app. They had to consider the key features that make an app successful, their target market for the app and develop promotional materials, with the help of their sixth form business buddy. They presented this to an investor, Anton Maree, Ackworth School's Head, who decided on the app and business he would most likely invest in.

The sixth form students developed the concept of the workshop, led the tasks, developed the activities and materials and facilitated the sessions. A fantastic method of simultaneously expanding students' enterprise skills.

Design Technology



Faraday design challenge day. The task is to design a remote table tennis ball server....product testing on the way!



Reception have been to visit DT again to see more of the outdoor equipment being made! They are so excited!



On the 30th June, the Design & Technology Department organised the second IET Faraday Challenge Day at Ackworth School. The team event is aimed at highlighting Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths.

The entire second form were taken off timetable and were challenged with creating a table tennis ball launcher and spent the day designing, making and testing their ideas. Students were encouraged to record their learning and were asked to create a video log of their day; many of these proved to be as well produced as many of the final practical pieces.

Feedback from the students has been positive and all were not only engaged but enjoying themselves. The following students are to be congratulated on creating the most successful and accurate launcher: Harry Askew, Hannah Newnham, Adam Nixon, and Estelle Nicholson. We are now looking forward to the IET Faraday Challenge Day 2018.

English

On 4th May, the English department took the A Level literature students to a 'Twelfth Night' workshop and production at the Manchester Royal Exchange.

After we arrived at the theatre, we met the casting director and the assistant director of the production we were to see later on, and they explained their process of building their own version of Shakespeare's iconic 'Twelfth Night'. We were then introduced to the actors who were playing Sir Toby Belch and Sir Andrew Aguecheek, who displayed their process of engineering the perfect dramatisation of their characters. They performed scenes from the play with varying amounts of physical movement and expression, and illustrated the difference an acting style can make to the relative success of a performance.

We then had time to go into the city centre for lunch, where we could transfer our notes from the workshop into our books. After lunch, we returned to the theatre for the production, which was wonderful and incredibly helpful for our course, as we got to see different actors' interpretations of their character, and how some characters can be portrayed more sympathetically than we would expect.

It was a brilliant day which we all enjoyed thoroughly.

Isabel Johnston-Knight



Food and Nutrition



Y4 activity in Food making creative adaptation on Chinese moon cakes. The IGCSE students came into the group after their Food and Nutrition exam to answer questions and support Y4.



The Lower Sixth supported the Kindergarten creating their own apple breakfast muffins. Great fun was had by all using tricky techniques for 3 & 4 year olds.

French



In the French department this term we have been preparing for the examinations. All of the pupils did their speaking tests with their class teacher. We have also completed the first year of our new engaging first year course 'Studio' with online front-of-class teaching resources including the Pupil Books on screen, video clips, audio and interactive activities.

"The students in the fourth form French group have been given the opportunity to correspond with a native speaker of French. They have each been paired up with a French student from Collège St. Louis de la Guillotière in Lyon, France. They will hopefully keep in touch and this could perhaps lead to some long-lasting cross-channel friendships!" (Laura Hilton)

"In my French class, we all wrote letters to our own penpals in France about ourselves, where we live and interests. It was really enjoyable being able to practise our French and I look forward to receiving my reply and seeing if we have any similar interests. We all left some contact information at the bottom if we wish to continue our conversations."

Maddie Cooper

German



Following exams pupils in the second and third years worked on projects about famous German speakers and cities in German-speaking countries respectively. This is aimed at increasing geographical and cultural knowledge, an important part of learning a language. Additionally, third and fourth years have read sections of the novel 'Heidi' by Johanna Spyri, in German, using technology to help their understanding.

Many second year pupils remain in contact with pupils from the German school we have links with in Münnerstadt. Hopefully friendships will continue to develop.

Geography



This term the Geography department have been really busy with trips. In the first week we took the Lower Sixth to Sheffield University for a series of lectures related to our new A Level specification.

We also took the Upper Sixth to The Valley of Desolation to complete some essential rivers fieldwork - our last trip with this lovely bunch!

We have taken the third form to Malham to experience limestone environments, and had our best weather in many years! The first form trip to Pickering also took place this term at the end of exam week.

At the beginning of May half term we took the lower sixth Geographers to Shrewsbury for the weekend to practise their fieldwork skills and gain new ones in order to prepare for their Independent Investigation, a new piece of coursework at A Level.

International Centre



International Centre Business Students presenting their Music Festival Proposals.



International Centre students visit Nostell Priory for the afternoon



Music

Taking part in the lunchtime music concert gave me an opportunity to sing one of my grade six songs before my exam in front of friends.

I also thoroughly enjoyed watching the other performances to see how they have all developed their musical skills over the year and the contrast between the different styles of music.

Everyone did extremely well and should be proud of themselves.

Lucas Culff



On Monday 12th June, the Coram Choir took part in the Big Sing Project, run by Opera North. They had worked hard in the weeks leading up to it, learning the work, 'A Little Book of Monsters' and they had two vocal workshops from the Choral Delivery Artist, James Bingham.

The music was difficult, but really enjoyable, and the pupils found themselves singing about 'Cannibal Animals' around the Coram Playground! On the day, we were joined by two other schools, and were accompanied by the world renowned Chamber Orchestra of Opera North. After an afternoon of rehearsals, we were treated to a performance of Peter and the Wolf by Prokofiev, and then it was our turn to perform.

This was a fantastic opportunity to perform alongside professional musicians and conductors, and a really fun experience. The feedback we had was very positive, and the pupils were still buzzing the following day.

"We did lots of fun things with Opera North, but my favourite thing was meeting lots of new friends. We sang about little monsters and eating people! ... It was the first time rehearsing with the other schools, but I enjoyed it very much. We enjoyed practising nearly all afternoon, but at 5pm we had some tea. When it came to the impeccable performance I was excited but a bit nervous. It was our first time working with Opera North but it was really fun!"

Hannah Moxon Year 4

Sports

Cricket

This summer has seen over 25 cricket fixtures from first to fourth year. It has been outstanding to see so many students commit to cricket and we have definitely noticed considerable improvements and developments from a large number of pupils and teams.

Our cricket season finished this year with the Quaker Cricket Festival which was hosted by Leighton Park in Reading. Our team, which was made up of students from third year to sixth year was led by Freddie Dewhirst. We departed on Tuesday 4th July at 8.45am in preparation for the 4-hour journey, to be ready for our 2pm start against Bootham in our first game. This was a very close game and could have easily gone either way, however Bootham managed to knock off Ackworth's total with less than two overs remaining. Our second fixture started shortly after, where the team put in an excellent performance to defeat Sidcot.

Leighton Park put on a fabulous BBQ which the boys thoroughly enjoyed. The rest of the evening was spent playing football and socialising with pupils from the other Quaker Schools.

After breakfast, we played our third and final game against the hosts - Leighton Park. They batted first and scored 201 in their 20 overs, which was facilitated largely due to their opening batsman who scored a fabulous 108 not out. 201 was always going to be a tough chase but the Leighton Park bowling made this challenge even greater. A spirited fight by all the batters took Ackworth to 140 in their allotted overs in reply.

It was a fantastic few days away, and the boys behaved impeccably. This festival has really taken off now, and is something we eagerly await every year - a fabulous experience.

In other cricket news, a special mention must go to Coram's William Cross, who is representing Yorkshire this summer and has done superbly well, scoring runs and taking wickets against all the other big counties. For someone so young, he possesses such a mature head and we are very excited to see how far this young man can go.

Table Tennis

It has been a successful year for the table tennis squad at Ackworth School and this half term hasn't been any different. At the start of the half term, Jamie, Mollie, Ruby and Jasmin travelled with the England team to the Netherlands to compete in the six nations event. Competing against Germany, Netherlands, Sweden, Denmark and Norway, the boys' Under 15 team with Jamie took the top place on the podium with the girls taking a credible bronze. In the singles event, Jasmin performed brilliantly to add another bronze medal. This Under 13 National Championships took place in Kettering with Jamie and Ruby competing there. Jamie was a double gold winner, taking both the U13 boys' singles and doubles title. Ruby won the U13 girls' doubles and finished third in the singles.

Table Tennis is available to all of our students and the Academy has attracted pupils from around the world.



Sports Tours

It is always a pleasure to take Ackworth students on sports tours. They know how to behave and respect the opportunities that are presented to them. On Friday 21st March, a mixed aged group of students left for a sports tour to Malta; the girls had several netball matches booked against some very good home teams. They played brilliantly and went on to win their final match comfortably. The boys enjoyed playing their football fixtures and had their final match on the third day. The whole group thoroughly enjoyed the culture and beautiful scenery as well as forming good friendships, a strengthened rapport with staff and returned with happy memories of very enjoyable experiences.

The Condoover Hall netball trip was once again a great success with our U15s qualifying for the Cup competition and winning four out of six games and finishing fourth overall in the Cup. The girls fought really hard and delivered some excellent performances against some very strong club sides. The U13s qualified for the Plate competition where they performed very well especially on the Sunday to finish second in their group.

Pentathlon and Athletics

Yorkshire Pentathlon hosted a Modern Pentathlon taster day at Ackworth School which included run and shoot activities. The event attracted lots of students from Ackworth and surrounding schools. Ackworth will soon have a regular pentathlon club on Tuesdays starting on 20th June from 5.30 - 7.30pm

Athletics has been very successful once again this year with a number of students in the running to be selected for the Wakefield District team. Outstanding performances have come from Katie Assassa (1500m), Josh Dawson (800m), Hannah Newnham (1500m) and Harriet Metcalfe (800m).

Ackworth hosted the Yorkshire Pentathlon Schools' biathlon (swim and run). We had entries from local primary and secondary schools and the event should become a regular event at our school.

Table Tennis

The Table Tennis Academy players have been competing in lots of tournaments recently, both in England and in Croatia. Over the Easter holidays the squad travelled to Croatia for a training camp followed by the Zagreb Youth Open. Four titles were brought back to England with Jamie Liu winning the U13 boys' singles and team event. Shayan Siraj won the Junior (U18) boys' team event and Amirul Hussain the Cadet (U15) boys' team event. Mollie Patterson and Jasmin Wong were unable to win the Cadet girls' team event and finished runners up. Mollie also won silver in the cadet girls' singles. There was also a silver medal for Ruby Chan in the U13 singles event and Reece Chamdal won the bronze medal in the Cadet boys' singles.

At the Junior (U18) National Cup, the top 10 boys and girls faced each other in an all-play-all round robin. Mollie finished as the runner up with Jasmin winning the bronze in the girls' event. In the same format at the Cadet (U15) National Cup, this time it was Jasmin who got the better of the two, finishing runner up, with Mollie winning the bronze. Jamie took the runner up spot in the boys' event.

At the recent Junior (U18) and Cadet (U15) National Championships held in Medway, Kent, the players returned with the following medals:

- * Cadet Boys' Singles: Amirul Hussain - Silver; Jamie Liu - Bronze
- * Cadet Girls' Singles: Mollie Patterson and Jasmin Wong - Bronze
- * Cadet Boys' Doubles: Sam Chesterman and Amirul Hussain - Gold; Reece Chamdal and Jamie Liu - Bronze
- * Cadet Girls' Doubles: Ruby Chan and Jasmin Wong - Bronze
- * Junior Girls' Team - Silver
- * Junior Boys' Team - Bronze

Cricket

The U15s home match fixture against Hipperholme ended early because of the weather despite a determined bowling display which saw Jon Jo Holden-Stokes picking up a wicket in his third over and bowling tightly throughout the game. Our chase showed a lot of promise despite the rain and there were plenty of positives to take forward.

Hull Collegiate visited Ackworth for another tough fixture for our fourth form. Batting first in a 20 over game, Henry Hackwell batted very positively for 41 until he had to leave with the score on 57-5. After that it was left to the less experienced of the fourth form batsmen to add to the total and they worked exceptionally hard against a very strong bowling attack to reach 98 all out.

In our defence of that target Hull started strongly in their pursuit of 98. We bowled and fielded impeccably and with an inexperienced attack we kept Hull fighting for every run throughout their innings. They unfortunately passed our total with only four overs to go, with yet more positives from our less experienced players.

Nottingham also travelled to Ackworth. Batting first Henry Hackwell continued his great form with the bat, hitting 50 not out and he was ably supported by Jordan Stewart and the rest of the team. This allowed Ackworth to set an imposing total. In defending the target, we bowled with great maturity and highlights came from Reven Singh, Kian Unwin and Henry Hackwell who bowled Nottingham out just short of our score.

On 23rd May, the U13s / U14s travelled to Hill House, who won the toss and elected to bat first. Their opening partnership was broken by Matthew Manders, who sent the Hill House opening batsman's wickets cartwheeling with a superb delivery. We continued to bowl tightly and made runs hard to come by, despite some excellent batting from Hill House. Harry Dean patrolled the boundaries well in the field and kept boundaries to a minimum. Hill House finished their 20 overs on 121.

Matthew Manders and Max Jefferies opened the batting for Ackworth, however Max lost his wicket early after an unlucky edge hit the keeper's foot, bounced up and was taken by the slip fielder. This did not stop Matthew, who went on to score a fine 26 with some outstanding boundary hitting. James Bourke finished the innings on 9 not out and the boys finished 76 for 7 in reply.





Inter House Athletics Trophies

Individual Trophies

- Junior Girls: Harriet Metcalfe
- Intermediate Girls: Lucy Mackenzie
- Senior Girls: Theodora White
- Junior Boys: James Bourke
- Intermediate Boys': Joshua Dawson
- Senior Boys: Okemdi Ahaneku

The McRobert Cup

The 'McRobert Cup for Sporting Achievement' was inaugurated in 1989. The award is presented to acknowledge the commitment and excellence a pupil has shown throughout a year. This includes their commitment to both PE and school sport.

The recipient of this year's award, not just over the course of this year, but over a period of 3 years, has demonstrated great passion and pride when competing for the school, not just in one sport. This individual has never given up trying, regardless of the score or the conditions they were playing in and they have shown excellent commitment to sport at Ackworth School through consistently attending every possible training opportunity.

There have been times where this student has had no previous experience of participating in a particular activity yet this has never deterred them from having

a go and trying their best: a wonderful attitude that I believe many other students should strive to achieve.

They epitomise the phrase 'team player', never complaining when selected to play in a different position from normal, just using this as motivation to work harder and develop their game.

They have become a natural role model within PE and school sport at Ackworth and have led the first team football side competently all year.

It has been an absolute pleasure to work with this pupil and I would like to thank them on behalf of the whole PE department for everything they have done for Ackworth School PE and School Sport this year.

The winner of the McRobert Cup is Nikita Demchenko.





The Alice Greenwood Trophies

The Alice Greenwood Sporting Endeavour Trophies are awarded to a boy and girl who have worked hard in PE and Games lessons. They have consistently attended practices to improve their skills and knowledge and have represented the school in several sports. They have always been encouraging to their peers and have been very reliable and helpful to the PE department throughout the school year.

The winner of this year's boys' award goes to a boy who deserves this more than anyone I can ever think of. I am sure most people are already aware of the horrific leg injury this person suffered, earlier this year in September. It would have been so easy for him to use this as an excuse, but not once this year have we heard this from him. Instead what we witnessed was a determined and persistent attitude; he found solutions to every problem he encountered and this year he has been inspiring and a true role model. In a world, where so many of us find blame or call upon excuses, actually when you stop and reflect at what this person has done and achieved this year and the positivity he has demonstrated, I think you'll agree, Jon Jo Holden-Stokes is the deserved winner of this year's award.

The winner of the girls' award goes to a girl who is always willing to go the extra mile to help with fixtures, coaching and leadership. Throughout the year she has shown tremendous commitment to all sports and clubs that we offer as well as Saturday fixtures. Through her wonderful personality and caring nature she has led hockey, netball and rounders teams on practice nights as well as helping to umpire. This young lady is the epitome of an all-round sports woman. She inspires others in the school and she is a well-deserved winner of The Alice Greenwood Endeavour Trophy. She is, of course Emma Forrester.



orts



6th Form



We have appointed a new Head Boy, Sam Raby and Head Girl, Victoria Patel. The new School Officers are: Jacob Roberts; Branson Gan; Dominic Sanderson; Ksenija Dikanovic; Ellie Williamson and Isabel Johnston-Knight.

"We are fortunate to have so many students with leadership ability. I look forward to working with them this year. I would also like to say thank you to the outgoing school officers who played their part in making this year such a success: Head Boy, Jakob Pfiz; Head Girl, Jasmine Firth; Daisy Squire; Hannah Davis; Kiran Kaur; Nicholas Wang; Nikita Demchenko and Thomas Atkinson.

The Sixth Form took advantage of the post-exam period to enrich their understanding and skills pertaining to careers, university and HE applications. It was a packed two-week period, and apart from attending the UCAS Convention at Leeds Beckett University and receiving guidance from our Careers Department on the UCAS application process and personal statement preparation, we also welcomed many external speakers. Our enrichment period began with Rathbone Investment Management who equipped our students with the tools and knowledge (of banks, credit scores, and investments among many things) required for a successful financial future; Jonny Ross, CEO of the digital marketing agency Jonny Ross Consultancy, returned to demonstrate the importance of social media platforms such as LinkedIn as a means of drawing attention to our students' experiences and abilities, as well as understanding the potential of the platform as a way of securing wider professional opportunities; Graham Edge used all of his experience working in Sales in the Pharmaceutical industry to give valuable advice about interview preparation and technique; and Dominic Ellis, from the National Citizen Service, led a hands-on workshop on public speaking and body confidence. The accumulation of such insights was invaluable, and our students are now in a position to take advantage of the summer holiday to start building up and showcasing their personal and professional portfolios.

Eight students from the Sixth Form also took advantage of a STEM-enrichment trip at the University of Nottingham. The morning was spent with Christina Lee, Associate Professor of Viking Studies, who took us through her latest interdisciplinary research: the astonishing success medieval medicines, recreated from instructions found in Bald's Leechbook (a 9th century medical textbook), have in combatting methicillin-resistant staphylococcus aureus, otherwise known as MRSA, at levels more efficient than any modern-day antibiotic on the market. It was particularly exciting to see such research at the point of wider transition - we are keeping fingers crossed for the results of her funding bid for clinical trials later this year - as well as speaking to an active researcher innovating at the intersection between disciplines. The afternoon was spent on the University of Nottingham Farm, at the edge of the Biosciences campus, with lecturer Matthew Bell, who introduced to us the study of crop agricultures and the global impact such research could have. Students were then given a tour of the robotic dairy at Nottingham's Centre for Dairy Science Innovation by Professor Jean Margerison, who helped us learn more than we could possibly have known about livestock farming, the use of technology to care for the dairy herd, and the tensions that exist between the economic demands of a commercial farm as well as the educational demands of a research institution. We are excited about the future partnerships this outreach can bring to the school, and already have pencilled in a return to Nottingham next year.

6th Form

Stem Challenge



It was a pleasure to welcome four Oxbridge PhD students who facilitated a STEM challenge for our Lower Sixth students in May. These four fellows - with specialisms as diverse as aeronautics, quantum mechanics and neurology - led six groups of students on a series of tasks and challenges rooted in the STEM subjects (science, technology, engineering and maths), examining cryptography, space travel, urban design and the possible uses of gene editing through CRISPR. Culminating in the design and performance of final presentations to the audience as a whole, our students responded fantastically to these hands-on, intellectually challenging tasks, which tested their leadership, teamwork and public speaking skills.



6th Form Special - Voting

With many of our Upper Sixth now eligible to vote for the first time, this half term's Sixth Form Special was an investigation into Party Politics. Political party representatives from the Youth movements of the five main political parties, all aged between 18-25, visited Ackworth: Old Scholar Ali Hyde (Lab), Cambridge undergraduate Tom Moon (Conservative), chair of the Sheffield Young Liberals David Gregg (Lib Dem), York undergraduate Abigail Eatock (UKIP) and Hemsworth student George Scogings (Greens). Speaking in the style of a hustings, each representative pitched their political party to our students, explaining what they stood for and why they themselves were attracted to them joining. Speakers also went to great lengths to explain their party's position on major issues of concern (no easy feat when several party manifestos had not been officially released!), and

why they are relevant to young people voting for the first time. Not only did students learn about the different political groups in the UK, but they also learned the importance of seeking out information and not solely relying on media representations of political parties. It was particularly interesting seeing the points of similarity and difference between the parties - the speaker of the Greens himself being almost stunned in finding himself in total agreement with his UKIP counterpart on the subject of proportional representation. Both sixth formers and politically engaged students in the rest of the school asked questions and joined debate afterwards over tea, and hopefully the event has given some of our students greater confidence when they come to vote in the future.

Meet a Dinner Lady



Rhoda Wortley

Anyone who has ever eaten any food at Ackworth will know Rhoda!

Rhoda Wortley has worked at Ackworth for 31 years, and at 76 years old, is the oldest member of the School community. But not many people know that her relationship with Ackworth School started much earlier in her life

Rhoda joined the kitchen team when she was 45. Before this she had been a silver service waitress in Monk Fryston Hall, so food has been a fundamental part of her life for a very long time.

Before that though, Rhoda spent time at Ackworth as a 15-year-old, living in as a maid to the housekeeper, Miss Williams and her understudy Miss Mackridge. "I took her her morning tea for 6am every day. I lived in the first bedroom on Middle Passage, which at that time was a dormitory room with four bedrooms. Because I was good I went over to the hostel and lived over there for two and a half years. I cleaned the Housekeeper's Room, served staff breakfast - because at that time all staff had breakfast - and then went into the Dining Rooms and laid for lunch. There were four dining rooms then, so it took a little time."

Rhoda remembers one day when she got her alarm set incorrectly. "I got the time wrong and took the housekeeper her tea at 5am rather than 6am. It didn't go down very well," she says.

Rhoda took some time away from Ackworth then in order to get married and have a family. She moved to the village in Ackworth and remembers the shop on the corner where she always used to get her cream buns.

"I enjoy working here. I like mixing with the children, getting to know them and being able to have a laugh and a joke with them. We have heart to hearts sometimes. And you get to know a lot of the children as well as the staff."

Rhoda says she has seen a lot of changes over the years. She remembers that when she first came to work in the kitchens the ladies used to have to serve everything. "We had half moon tables laid out with serving dishes on the tables and knives and forks out. We had the tureens and the head boy and girl served round the tables. Back then, it was more traditional and more formal."

In some ways life has got easier, Rhoda says, with changes like the counters and the salad bars, but like many other jobs, it is harder too and far more high pressure. Rhoda often takes on a 'mother' role, offering advice and support to other members of the kitchen team as well as to pupils. "I've seen a lot of people come and go and I pass on what I've learnt," she says.

Of course, it's not just about meals during term times, the kitchen staff work tirelessly throughout the school holidays as well, serving food for various lettings, the Easter Gathering, other formal events and weddings.

"It's always nice to have a change with different events and I really like meeting different people," says Rhoda. "It's not just about the food any more: Ackworth has become a big part of my life."

Thank you from all of us, Rhoda!

Nursery Sports Day



Coram Sports Day



It was great to see so many parents attending our Sports Day. The weather was kind and we were treated to some fantastic races from Reception to Year 6. In usual fashion the final result was very close: Barclay 104 points, Fry 132 points and Dalton overall champions with 142 points. A fantastic time was had by all.



Senior Sports Day



This year the final results were:

- 4th - Penn - 291 points
- 3rd - Gurney - 301 points
- 2nd - Woolman - 317 points
- 1st - Fothergill - 326 points



Ramadan

At the end of June, Shamima Jogee gave her morning readings on the importance of Ramadan and Eid to her - as a practising Muslim. Here is some of what she had to say:

"June was a very important month in the Islamic calendar; it was the month of Ramadan. Most of the world's 1.6 billion Muslims across the globe will have been fasting during this month; this means that no food or drink must be consumed from before sunrise, known as Subh-sadiq in Arabic, till sunset, known as iftaar. In the UK, this means no food or drink from 1:15 am in the morning until 9:45pm in the evening! Fasting is only compulsory for healthy adults who are able to, so children, people with illnesses such as diabetes and pregnant women for example, do not need to fast. Today is the 24th fast of the month of Ramadhan."

So what is Ramadan actually about?

Fasting is one of the five pillars, or duties, of Islam alongside the testimony of faith, five daily prayers, giving in charity and going for pilgrimage (hajj). Fasting serves several spiritual and social purposes; it reminds you of your human frailty and your dependence on God for sustenance, to show you what it feels like to be hungry and thirsty so you feel compassion for and a duty to help the poor and needy and to reduce the distractions in life so you can more clearly focus on your relationship with God. It is a time of spiritual discipline - contemplation of one's relationship with God, extra prayer, increased charity and intense study of the Quran, the holy book of Islam.

But if that makes it sound super serious and boring, it's really not. It's a time of celebration and joy, to be spent with loved ones. My favourite moment of the day is obviously breaking the fast at sunset where there are all sorts of amazing foods to eat, from samosas and onion bhajis to creamy desserts, but this meal is often shared with immediate and extended family. It's a party every evening! Despite the hardship of fasting for a whole month, there's something really special about knowing that tens of millions of your fellow Muslims around the world are experiencing the same hunger pangs as you and we are all in it together.

What is a typical day like during Ramadan?

Muslims wake up well before dawn to eat the first meal of the day, which has to last till sunset. This time is known as suhoor and in the UK, must be eaten before 1:25 am. After the meal, we then perform the morning prayer and since it's so early, most people will go back to sleep. Muslims can't avoid work or school just because we are fasting but in many Muslim countries, businesses and schools may reduce their hours during the day or close entirely. For the most part though, Muslims go about their daily business as they normally would. There is a catch though; you can't be grumpy, rude or irritable and complain of hunger all day just because you are fasting. You should be behaving like a practising Muslim should on any other day; patient, kind and refraining from all sins, or the fast will not be accepted. We don't get offended by people eating or drinking in front of us so don't feel that you can't do that. Some people choose to give up

activities like listening to music or watching television, often in favour of listening to and reading the Quran. I personally don't watch television or listen to music in this month as I want to spend as much time as I can in prayer and the remembrance of God. When the evening call to prayer is finally made at 9:45 pm, or in my case, the call to prayer on my phone's Muslim prayer app goes off, we break the day's fast. This is known as iftaar time.

It is traditional to break the fast with dates and water, as this is how the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) broke his fast. Some people actually gain weight during Ramadhan as they over indulge in the evening after a period of inactivity during the day but over eating at this point will make it difficult to perform the special evening prayer, which is recited only during this month. If you've ever seen the Muslim prayer, it involves a lot of movement, which would be difficult on a completely full stomach! Men go to the mosque to perform this prayer. Women usually pray at home, I usually pray for an hour or more and stay up until the pre-dawn meal at 1:20 am. Then it's off to bed again, about 2 am for me, for some much needed sleep and the cycle repeats itself again! It's not the hunger and thirst that I struggle with, as I am sensible with my food choices, nor staying calm and polite when fasting, but the disrupted sleep pattern on a working day. I love my sleep and would even class it as a hobby! So, when I come back from school, I prepare my meal then sleep for an hour or two before sunset.

Eid

After Ramadan, as a reward for a month of fasting, God has granted us a day of celebration, called Eid-ul-fitr which translates as "the festival of the breaking of the fast" or Eid for short. Eid is the most important day in the Muslim calendar, a day when people thank God for the willpower and strength given to them during Ramadan. The day is special because it is when Muslims gather to celebrate the happiness one feels after completing an important task. Eid is kind of like the Muslim version of Christmas, in the sense that it's a religious holiday where everyone comes together for big meals with family and friends, exchanges presents and generally has a lovely time. People exchange the Arabic greeting of "Eid Mubarak", which roughly means "happy Eid" or "blessed Eid". The build up to Eid is full of excitement, with delicious sweetmeats being prepared and shopping for clothes as it is traditional to wear new or your best clothes on Eid day. Eid starts with a morning prayer, which men go to the mosque to perform. In keeping with the spirit of Ramadan and thinking of those who are less fortunate than us, each household must also give some money in charity. The afternoon meal is often a feast shared with family and friends. Being Indian, we tend to eat an amazing spicy rice dish called biryani. If you are lucky enough to know anyone celebrating Eid, get yourself an invite, because the food will be incredible and there will be lots to spare. My non-Muslim friends have celebrated Eid with us before and have absolutely loved it but realised that they should definitely not eat anything, including breakfast, before attending an Eid party! I like to buy everyone in my extended family a present, so my favourite part of the day is handing out the gifts, as my younger cousins really look forward to this tradition. I don't look forward to seeing my bank statement after Eid though!

Clubs and Societies



Fothergill Society



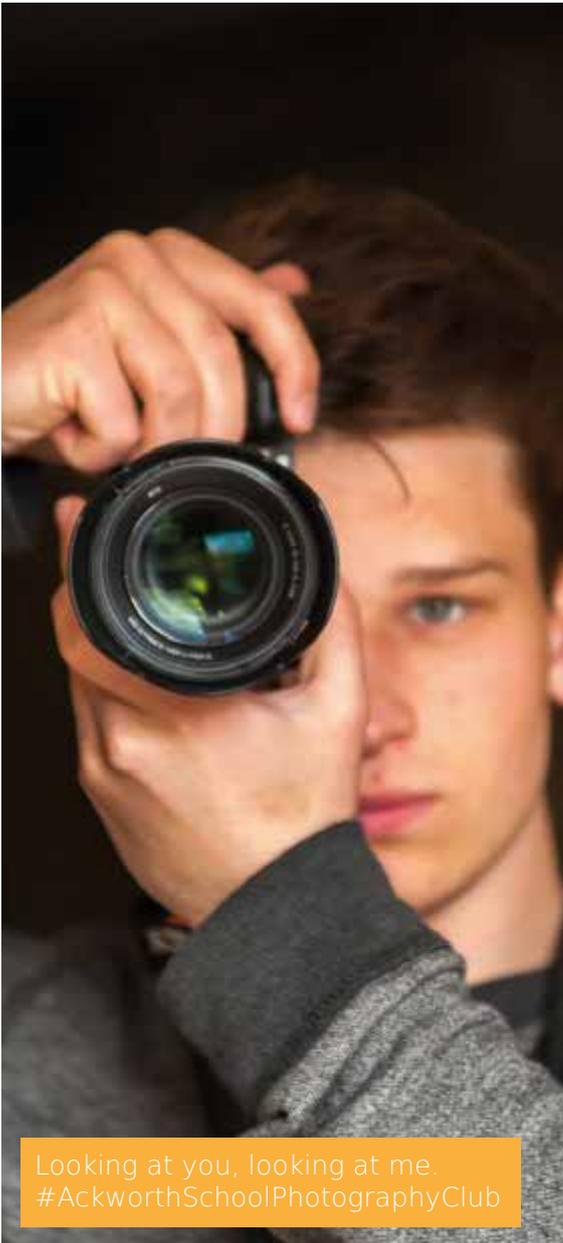
This term the Fothergill Society took part in a cultural exchange with Dong Shan High School in Taipei, Taiwan. Students made a short video about the school, wrote letters about their lives, made postcards of local landmarks and made souvenirs such as badges as part of the exchange. We received key rings with inspirational quotes and video updates on what the students have been doing in Taipei. It has been a fascinating term of learning about another culture and how people learn in different schools.

On Friday 19th May a group of Fothergill Society students went to Eversheds in Leeds to take part in an Enabling Enterprise competition day. During the day students worked in teams with other schools to complete a series of tasks including interviewing Eversheds employees, a tour of the offices and taking part in a debate. We learnt a lot about life in a law firm and how we could get to work in a company such as Eversheds through a variety of different routes.

Next year the Fothergill Society will (amongst other things) be celebrating 20 years of Harry Potter by taking part in a range of lessons more suited to Hogwarts, learning how to teach their own lessons and investigating local history.



A group of students from Mango Learning Express Thailand taking daily lessons @ackworth_school



Looking at you, looking at me.
#AckworthSchoolPhotographyClub



Spotlight

on Duke of Edinburgh



The Duke of Edinburgh's Award was set up by Prince Philip, The Duke of Edinburgh, in 1956 and has therefore just celebrated its 60th Anniversary. The award was initially aimed at boys aged 15 to 18 and in the first 12 months over 7000 boys had enrolled on the scheme. In 1958 girls were allowed to join but the criteria for girls was slightly different and was for girls from 14 to 20. In 1969 a single award was launched for both boys and girls aged from 14 to 21. This was extended to 25 year olds in 1980.

By 2013 around 300,000 young people were taking part in D of E programmes in the UK per year and over 5 million have taken part since its inception.

It takes between six months and two years to complete a level of the award. This depends upon the level and the number of previous awards completed. Participants can start the Bronze award when they are approaching 14, the Silver when they are approaching 15 and the Gold award at 16. Each award is made up of four sections: Volunteering, Skill, Physical and an Expedition. The Gold level also requires participants to undertake a residential activity.

The Duke of Edinburgh's award allows participants to use existing activities such as playing an instrument or being a member of a sports team as a section but also encourages young people to take up new and challenging opportunities.

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award has now spread worldwide with young people taking part in over 144 countries through the Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Association.

Students at Ackworth have been participating in the award for many years and we currently have students undertaking all levels.

Weekends

at Ackworth



During the summer term some of the international students were able to sail in both Rother Valley Country Park and Grimwith reservoir in the Yorkshire Dales. We used Pico dinghies which are quick to prepare and light to handle. There was a steady gentle breeze in Rother Valley and I was impressed at how quickly the students seemed to grasp the techniques needed to turn the boat by tacking and gybing as they sailed across, up and down wind. Although the wind was quite gentle at Grimwith, we were able to build on our skills, practising our capsizing drills and enjoying the beautiful views of the countryside in the largest reservoir in Yorkshire.

Christopher Bailey



York

Junior, Intermediate, Senior Prizes and Gibson Awards

Junior

Hannah Newnham	Art
Emily Sanderson	Biology
Emily Sanderson	Drama
Florence Edwards	Chemistry
Florence Edwards	Geography
Max Cooper	Design Technology
Faris Khourshid	English
Emily Greenwood	French
Emily Greenwood	Physical Education
Emily Greenwood	Physics
Harriet Greenwood	Physics
Harriet Greenwood	Physical Education
Junior Jafuneh	Physical Education
Jasmine Walker	German
Jasmine Walker	Food & Nutrition
Jasmine Walker	Religious Studies
William Dewhirst	History
Ruby Chan	Mathematics
Rhys Wickham	Music
Josephine White	Spanish

Intermediate

Millie Hinchliffe	Art
Joshua Dawson	Biology
Eleanor Morris	Chemistry
Joshua Ward	Design Technology
Hannah Savage	Drama
Abigail Taubman	English
Maisie Waite	French
Harry Dean	French
Harry Dean	Geography
Chloe Millett	German
Madison Cusworth	Food & Nutrition
Alex Watson	History
Jamie Dobbie	Mathematics
Charlotte Whiting	Mathematics
Lucy Assassa	Music
Harry Dickinson	Physical Education
Henry Hackwell	Physics
Martha Hathaway	Religious Studies
Rachel Swales	Spanish

Senior

Francesca Whiting	Business Studies
Francesca Whiting	History
Sam Raby	Chemistry
Sam Raby	Further Mathematics
Khalil Duncan	Design Technology
Eric Reynolds	Economics
Dominic Sanderson	English
Dominic Sanderson	Music
William Day	Geography
William Day	Physical Education
Ksenija Dikanovic	Mathematics
Ksenija Dikanovic	Psychology
Victoria Patel	Psychology
Zoe Ma	Physics
Paris Williams	Religious Studies

Gibson Awards

Florence Edwards
Amelia Logan
Harriet Greenwood
Emily Greenwood
Charlotte Glasby
Jasmine Walker
Josephine White
Ruby Chan
Rhys Wickham
Rachel Swales
Harry Dean
Eleanor Morris
Hannah Savage
Maisie Waite
Joshua Dawson
Alex Watson
Robyn Wickham
Rachel Forrester
Millie Hinchliffe
Lucy Kitching
Abigail Taubman
Madison Cusworth
Henry Hackwell
Leona Clarkson
Martha Hathaway



GCSE & U6th Prizewinners

GCSE Prizewinners

Art:	Abigail Stretton-Moore
Biology:	Callula Tobin
Chemistry:	Callula Tobin
Drama:	Kate-May Taylor
DT:	William Bower
English:	Abigail Stretton-Moore and Lynn Cohen
Food and Nutrition:	Tom Wilks
French:	Callula Tobin
Geography:	Callula Tobin and Emma Forrester
German:	Holly Rice
History:	Callula Tobin
Mathematics:	Emma Forrester
Music:	Amelia Thackeray
PE:	Emma Forrester
Physics:	Harry Anderson
Religious Studies:	Callula Tobin
Spanish:	Eleanor White and Alex Rudkin



U6th Prizewinners

Art:	Leah Goodwin
Biology:	Caitlin Bingham
Business Studies:	Abigail Barrett and Jakob Pfiz
Chemistry:	Lau Yu Hin (Chris)
Drama:	Mollie Watson
Economics:	Lin Chengwei (Lin)
English Literature:	Mollie Watson and Sophie Green
Further Mathematics:	Robbie Henery
Geography:	Georgia Whelan
German:	Tereza Rozumkova
Mathematics:	Lau Yu Hin (Chris)
Music:	Jenny Morton
Physical Education:	Freddie Dewhirst
Psychology:	Tereza Rozumkova
Religious Studies:	Caitlin Bingham

IC Prizewinners

HU	Chen	(Ricardo)	IC Graduation Whole Year
LI	Xi	(Lee)	IC Graduation Whole Year
LI	Yujia		IC Graduation Whole Year
LIANG	Zhengzong	(Jack)	IC Graduation Whole Year
LIU	Hailong	(Jason)	IC Graduation Whole Year
LIU	Yuqing	(Rachel)	IC Graduation Whole Year
QU	Bingyang	(Justin)	IC Graduation Whole Year
Ali	Talib		IC Graduation Whole Year
WANG	Chenyu	(Sam)	IC Graduation Whole Year
WU	Xue	(Ann)	IC Graduation Whole Year
WU	Ziwu	(Alex)	IC Graduation Whole Year
XU	Yonghaoyang	(Kevin)	IC Graduation Whole Year
YANG	Shiqi	(Kevin)	IC Graduation Whole Year



ZHOU	Ruotong	(Eva)	IGCSE Academic Prize	English
ZHOU	Ruotong	(Eva)	IGCSE Academic Prize	Science
ZHOU	Ruotong	(Eva)	IGCSE Academic Prize	Geography
ZHOU	Ruotong	(Eva)	IGCSE Academic Prize	Food & Nutrition
DU	Pu	(Rocky)	IGCSE Academic Prize	Maths
CHAN	Wai Hung	(Vicky)	IGCSE Academic Prize	ESL
WENG	Kaiming	(Kevin)	IGCSE Academic Prize	Physical Education

WANG	Chenyu	(Sam)	IC Academic Prize	ESL Group 1
WANG	Chenyu	(Sam)	IC Academic Prize	Maths
WANG	Chenyu	(Sam)	IC Academic Prize	Biology
HE	Shan	(Roy)	IC Academic Prize	ESL GROUP2
HE	Shan	(Roy)	IC Academic Prize	ESL Group 2
LI	Xi	(Lee)	IC Academic Prize	ESL Group 3
WU	Xue	(Ann)	IC Academic Prize	Physics
WU	Xue	(Ann)	IC Academic Prize	Chemistry
WU	Xue	(Ann)	IC Academic Prize	Art
Ali	Talib		IC Academic Prize	Business Studies
WU	Ziwu	(Alex)	IC Academic Prize	DT
WU	Ziwu	(Alex)	IC Academic Prize	Physical Education





Hockey Trip



Saturday 17th June 2017

An early morning wake up was needed to arrive promptly at Doncaster station, no later than 8.15am which was no hassle for me as every part of me was buzzing with excitement, raring to go. A hum of elated voices could be heard over the warm breeze. The blazing sun was overpowering us, even this early in the morning. It was hilarious and we all found it so amusing that Miss Speake had told us to rush onto the wrong train!

We had no need to worry as, in less than five minutes, the correct train pulled into the station. For the second time that day all 34 of us, teachers and pupils, hastily boarded the departing train and we found our seats swiftly and made ourselves comfortable. We had a perfect seat quite near the toilet and just a carriage away from the food bar, just in case we got peckish. The train journey seemed to fly by. In less than two hours the Virgin train gradually decreased in speed as we pulled into King's Cross station. Another buzz of excitement surged around our carriage. We had arrived!

The initial plan was to catch the yellow tube line to Blackfriars, which was where our hotel was, however we had to catch a series of different tubes to finally arrive at our hotel. This was quite amusing as we were very rushed, so we could make it to the hockey matches on time. Once we had arrived at the hotel, we dropped off any unnecessary bags and hurried out of the Premier Inn. The rush continued until we tubed our way to Stratford. The long walk stretched out to feel as though we were walking for miles on end in the scorching heat; however my tiredness was pushed aside by the feeling of joy and excitement.

We arrived at the Olympic Village! This was my first time visiting the Olympic Village and I was amazed. I couldn't believe I was really here. Just another five minute walk had led us to our destination, the stadium. As we arrived, shouts and cheers from the spectators could be heard. We found our seats and watched the first match. Afterwards our starving stomachs were filled with hotdogs, chips and cold drinks. This was absolutely lush after a day walking in the 31 degree heat.

Following this, a competitive game took place between India and Canada. Our school cheered mainly for India, especially Matthew who was a keen supporter of the Indian team. The next match was England vs Malaysia. This game was immense. I could feel the suspense and tension around the stadium. Shouts and cheers came from all directions supporting the home team, England. This game was tough. England took the lead winning 2-0 however Malaysia made up for the goals and equalled it out to 2-2, then England regained control, acing the score to 7-2. The final score was 7-3 to England. Triumphant, the crowd roared with joy and delight. England had won and qualified for the international finals! The final match to end Saturday was Scotland vs Netherlands. Considering we had Miss Tod as one of our teachers I think it was clear who we were going to cheer for - Scotland. This match was exciting; however it was a disappointment that the Netherlands beat Scotland by just a few goals, although Scotland played very well against a tough opponent.

We were given the chance to have our books signed by a member of the Scottish team. It was very nice to talk to him before we had to rush off to Pizza Express. After we had all finished we returned back to our hotel rooms and settled down for the night. This day had been amazing and I had loved every minute of it and would hope to go again soon. Watching the men's international hockey has inspired me to try harder and hopefully get better.

Sunday 18th June 2017

After a busy day on Saturday, relaxing in bed until 9am came as a welcome relief! We took the tube to Covent Garden which wasn't too busy and was reasonably stress free, for the students anyway. Once in Covent Garden we took shelter from the blazing sun under a shaded building behind all sorts of weird and wonderful street performers. It was an amazing experience to be able to sit and watch the street performers. There was a wide variety of tricks performed and they all seemed very talented.

After lunch we walked to the theatre. It wasn't meant to be far, however it seemed to take forever in the heat. Eventually we made it and patiently lined up outside. I was starting to become very, very excited as it was my first time watching 'Matilda the Musical' and I couldn't wait to see what it was like. As tickets were carefully planted in our hands we made our way up the stairs and found our seats with ease. The whole show was amazing and seeing everybody on stage was wonderful; there was such an astonishing array of talent. As the show finished we took the tube back to the hotel and collected our bags, disappointed that the trip was coming to an end. We walked to our platform and we carefully stepped onto the right train. We were soon at Doncaster and as we departed the train I was tired but overwhelmed by how amazing the whole experience was. I loved it all and would definitely enjoy doing another trip like it. Thank you to the teachers who organised such a special trip and the students who allowed me to have such an amazing time!

Harriet and Emily Greenwood

The Daily Purr

Earlier today 12-year-old Icarus and 43-year-old Daedalus flew out of King Minos' castle. Icarus unfortunately flew too close to the sun and plummeted down to his death.

BOY DIES FROM FLIGHT

Daedalus and Icarus made their escape by getting up early and asking some birds to spare one feather. This continued until they had enough for two pairs of wings. They stuck them together with wax from their candles.

Witnesses say that they saw the boy and father at approximately 6:15 AM this morning flying out of Crete and a boy falling down into the deep blue sea.

Jack, 21 was practising his dives for the upcoming Olympics when he saw the boy plummet. He said "Doing my daily dives took an unexpected turn. I saw a small dainty object in the sky but soon came hurtling down into the water.

"This could have destroyed my career as I am now traumatized of ever going in the water again. Unfortunately, that small dainty object was swallowed by his curiosity."

King Minos 52, King of Crete was awoken by the shrieks of his guards. He said "I do not appreciate being woken up at 6:15 AM. However when I realised that my guards were shrieking I rushed to them."

"They were flying! Going higher and higher by the minute. I have however kept them here for a reason; they have now made me look like I have something to hide. I feel this isn't my fault therefore I give them NO sympathy!"

Stuart, 30, one of Minos' guards, was a witness of this terrible tragedy. He said, "Me and my fellow guards on duty, heard a sound of a young boy (Icarus). I was in shock to see him flying across the sky. So I shouted to King Minos."

"I don't think that Minos was very happy but he needed to see this! I sometimes looked after young Icarus and he was so sweet and charming. I believe he will rest in peace

Faith Butterfield (First Year)

By the sea

A seemingly never-ending rippling blanket of the deepest azure one knows is stretched out in front of you. The horizon is seamed in a sardine-silver and the distant white boats are lulled in by the slight stroking movement of the sea. Every once in a while a screech and a flapping sound can be heard from above, exposing the squabbling seagulls and their never-ending hunger. The glowing medallion in the sky turns their feathery wings into a honeycomb gold. Today the light is oddly bright and the clouds as white as a fresh untouched citron sorbet drift against a sky of the palest blue. Bathed in sunlight, you start to feel the delight tickle on your skin causing a little smile. An opera of the sea washes over you, pleasing your ears and a well-known scent of sunscreen ascends. Mixed with muggy moisture it starts to become a common smell: the smell of summer, holidays and freedom.

The doomed traces of bygone explorers in the hot sand mingle with the crystal clear, invigorating water. Hot encounters cold. Old encounters new. Like a jolly baby elephant strolling after its mother, a little girl wades through the gritty sand that sticks to her tiny legs. It scrubs against her skin like your dearest auntie's scratchy wool pullover but she does not seem to care. Her face is enlightened by joy and her dark pupils are widened to the fullest creating a mesmerizing solar eclipse in her eyes. In her sticky hands she is holding a cone of perfectly rounded, frosty chocolate ice cream. A tiny twitch in the corners of her mouth begins to extend until her utterly white, spikey, sharp baby teeth between huge gaps of rose-like gum are exposed. Full of pride she reaches out to the sky presenting her precious ice cream like a new crowned king would hold his sceptre.

But suddenly the sky is darkly foreboding.

The clouds are grey and wispy, ominous and threatening. Dark and unyielding they smother the warming sun. A spacious smoky carpet bears down and nothing like the fluffy white willow catkin blooms just moments ago. The small ripples grow larger so that the vessels agitate and dwarf. The soothing vague breeze becomes a fierce rustling, loud enough to drown out the screeches and the stroke of the seagull's wings. Like tossed paper in a storm, they tumble as they struggle against the gale: quick flashes of dirty white in the dark grey. Now, cold licks at your face and spreads across your skin like the lacy dew on a winter's morning. You try to shelter your eyes as they start to burn because of the ocean's poignant salty breath.

Aghast at the quick change of scene, the little girl starts to tremble and the cone in her hand begins to swing from side to side; foreshadowing...

Left.

Right.

Left.

Her eyes widen in shock and her mouth broads so that the whole scoop would have fitted in. Her bottom lip starts to dance in jittery movements. A rivulet of vitreous tears forms and pours down her blanching cheeks. Like a stabbed knight she falls on to her wobbling knees, her arm still stretched out in front of her. Her petite fingers clasp around void air in desperation. A frightening stiffness spreads across her body and she just stares at the little gnome hat in the sand. A perfect pointy tip that hides its treasures underneath. A splinter of hope shoots through her body but quickly vanishes as she sees the creamy brown substance slowly seeping out like blood out of a dead body. Behind stays a pathetic little puddle of misery and a little broken heart.

Lynn Cohen (Fifth Year)

Mosaic

Night and Day in Whitby

The shrill of the seagull pierces the quiet of the morning as the sun breaks through the early morning mist like a hot knife through butter. The noise never ceases, begging the question whether they arrange it between themselves so that there is always one on duty to annoy people. As the smell of salt enters my lungs I am in no doubt that this is Whitby Regatta weekend.

Walking along the sea front all my senses come alive from the variety of stimulations that greet me. There are shouts of sheer delight from children crabbing over the harbour wall as their patience pays off and results in a catch, only to be followed by groans of disappointment as the crafty crab jettisons the bait and plops back into the murky brown depths of the North Sea.

As one person's disappointment subsides, giggly screams of panic emerge from their neighbour as they muster courage for their tiny fingers to dodge the sharp pincers of another crab as it scurries along the floor in an attempt to escape. Which is worse, the feel of the slimy smelly shell or the nip from its claws?

In the distance the ding-a-ling, ding-ling, of a shiny brass bell invites trippers for a boat ride around the harbour or a fishing adventure. By now many minds are focused on the delights of eating as opposed to the excitement of crabbing, which can wait till later in the day. Lovely smells of food compete with each other to entice people with their offerings. Will it be burgers and hotdogs, with the strong smell of onions or the sweet sickly aroma of candy floss? For me, there would be no competition. It has to be fish and chips. The aroma of fried fish and thick juicy chips wafts across the narrow harbour road from the Maggie Fish Shop and beckons visitors in through the door for the delights on offer. "Fish, chips and mushy peas", they exclaim with mouths salivating at the prospect of what awaits them. Some are so hungry, that they could eat the human-sized plastic chips, which greets them at the door.

Stepping outside clutching a polystyrene tray containing my feast, I look upwards across the harbour and see the outline of the gothic Whitby Abbey gazing majestically across the town like some regal queen surveying her kingdom. What I wouldn't give to know what she is thinking. Does she approve of the changes that have taken place since her dissolution, or is she longing for those days before her splendour was left in ruins by scavenging hoards sent by a selfish King?

As dusk falls the Abbey takes on a spooky sinister role like a scene from a horror movie and it is easy to imagine Count Dracula stepping ashore during the thunder and lightning of a storm. But tonight the noise is not thunder and lightning, it is the HGV wagons and trailers rumbling along the pier road with their cargo of fairground rides. This is the last night of the regatta and as day-trippers head off home to their own beds, the hardworking fairground staff transform this pier into a thunderous fairground with rides and stalls to cater for everyone.

Within a couple of short hours their work is completed.

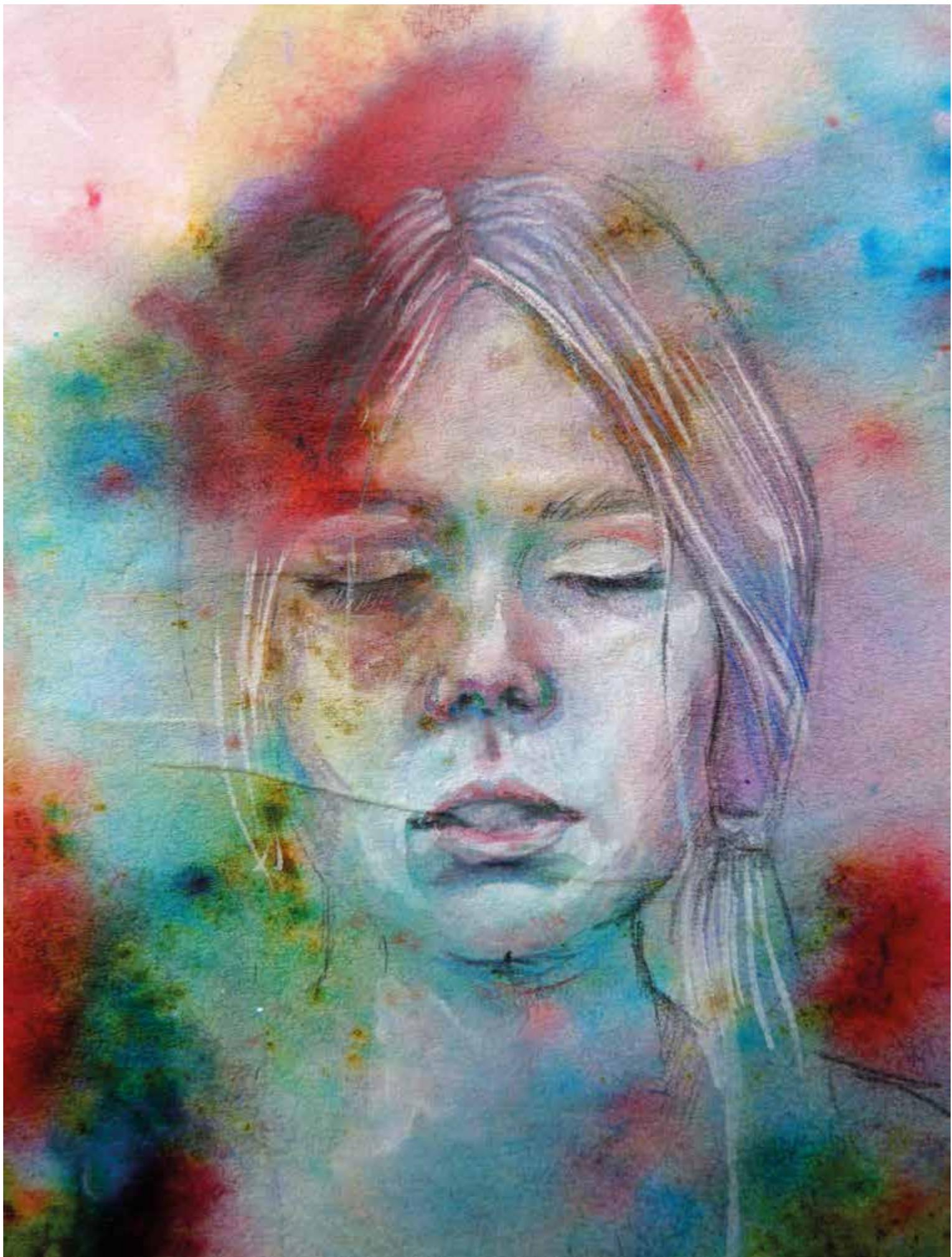
The harbour is now a riotous background of flashing, pulsating lights dancing in time to the loud rock music enticing excited teenagers to spend their money.

The heavy smell of diesel fuel that powers the energy hungry machinery mixes with the heady smells of burgers and candy-floss. Together they make a potent mixture that reacts with the stomach swirling rides and results in many an accident for the unwary.

This is a different Whitby from the one that I entered this morning. Gone are the elderly couples walking equally elderly dogs. Instead, they are replaced by gangs of teenagers and unwilling parents being dragged along by their younger off-spring. Cost-conscious dads envisage their hard earned money disappearing before their eyes in a stream of stomach churning rides and games of so called skill, that offer less chance of success than the Euro Millions. The shrill of the seagull is now lost under the sea of people, even if it is for only a few hours.

Tomorrow will be a new dawn and as the regatta is consigned to memory another event will take its place. Will it be the Goths, with their outlandish array of clothes and make-up or will it be people trying to relive their youth as the Town turns back the clock to the swinging sixties? The truth is, that it doesn't really matter, for this is the variety of sights, sounds and experiences that gives Whitby its endless attraction for me. Magical!

Tom Wilks (Fourth Year)



Mosaic

Grace Elwis
Mixed Media on Paper



Madison Shaw
Mixed Media on Paper

Mosaic



Mosaic

Misha Van Lelyveld
Photo Manipulation



Tereza Rozumkova
Charcoal and Graphite on Paper

Mosaic



Mosaic

Madison Shaw
Gouache on Board



Madison Shaw
Mixed Media on Paper

Mosaic

5th Form

End of year celebrations



Leaving thoughts

Lucas Van Oudheusden

Lucas Van Oudheusden - a short stay student came to us in September and returned for the Summer Term. These are his thoughts on his time at Ackworth.

Some time ago I emailed you to ask you about a scholarship. I still remember when I received your reply saying I had won the scholarship. I jumped and shouted out of happiness, joy and excitement. But my journey had only just begun. I had to work hard, and there were moments when I thought that email would be just an email. Just another dream. There were a lot of things to work out: when, how, how much. All of these were problems. Luckily, seven months later here I am. My dream became true. In my stay here I've made friendships that will last forever, I've learned values and cultures, and most importantly, I've learned how to enjoy the moment. During my stay I only had one issue: time; there's never enough time. Time never stops. I wish I could stop time and turn it back so I could start over and over again this short period of time that I've had to enjoy my dream. But I can't, and that's why I've learnt to appreciate every minute that I've had here, because, after all, making the best out of these months was a question of how I would use my time. Thankfully, my time here was amazing. And I really mean it. I'd wake up every morning excited to meet my friends, to learn more about my subjects that day. I never want to stop feeling that way. Unfortunately my dream has come to its end. I am thankful that you made my dream come true. There are no words to describe how incredibly good my stay at Ackworth School has been and I only wish that I could be able to stay longer. Thank you very much.

Work Experience



Kathy worked in the school Library. She helped Mrs Dean with general librarian tasks such as sorting books and re-organising shelves. She also helped by making some of the displays for Open Day.



Tim and Ronnie spent the week with the PE department helping out in lessons and on fixtures at home and away. They also helped by tidying and sorting the equipment in the battery!

Maddie and Amelia worked as teaching assistants in Coram House. They helped individuals to complete work and worked with different groups on things such as reading and writing.



Millen spent the week at Pontefract Squash Club. His main tasks were, some reception duties, meet and greet, cash handling, shadow squash coach and gym instructors. He also assisted members and cleaned gym machinery.



Amber worked at Bentley Road Veterinary Practice for the week. She was able to observe the vets at work and even got to see a few operations.

Sophie worked at Greenside Veterinary Surgery for the week. She was able to observe the vets at work and even got to see a few operations. Here she is practicing her stitches!



Lewis worked at The Rack Group. He job shadowed various members of staff to gain an insight into sales, assist with putting together job packs, sorting job sheets. He was taken on a tour around the warehouse to gain an insight into what the company does, spent time in finance, to give him an understanding of department purchase ledgers.



Jacob worked at Ripon Farm Services for the week. Some of the tasks he was able to do were observing and shadowing technicians working on tractors and farm equipment. He also took part in things such as checking lights, oil and fuel levels, tyre pressures.

Alex worked at PCTI solutions in Castleford. They provide electronic document management. Some of the tasks she did during the week were, basic admin work in a general office environment such as data entry and reception duties.



Frazer worked for FIT Remuneration Consultants in London. He worked as an assistant consultant and researcher so was able to learn about how the company worked and used databases to complete tasks.

Aimee spent the week at Sandal Dental Care. Here she had the opportunity to observe the dentist carrying out procedures, consultations and treatments. She also did some admin tasks such as receptionist.



Maddie worked at Rycroft Primary Care Centre where she had the opportunity to shadow appointment setting. Gain experience of filing, dealing with records and use of IT.

Jess worked at Sopers of Lincoln, a BMW garage for the week. She gained experience of car show rooms and did admin work such as answering calls and using the ICT system.

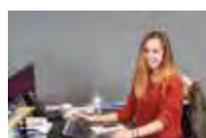


Raj worked at the British Heart Foundation Shop in Pontefract. He was able to assist with sorting deliveries, hanging clothing, stock replenishment, customer service, display work and general housekeeping.



Eleanor worked at Papakata, a company that provides tents for large events and parties. Her main duties included data input of invoices and wages details, post sending, receiving and recording, and attending some meetings.

Maddie worked at Peter Pan Nursery. Her duties included shadowing and assisting staff playing with the children and joining in activities. She also assisted with snack and lunch and clearing away and setting up equipment.



Alice worked for Litestructures, a company who specialises in the design and manufacture of bespoke creative aluminium structures for art and architecture, brand and experiential marketing and sport.

Charlotte worked at Jon Trickett MP's offices. Here she gained an insight into the running of a MP's office. She was able to be involved in various duties such as: Policy work, case work, and constituency concerns ie housing, neighbour disputes.



Askew	Blake	7	Cusworth	Madison	10	Schleich	Jonas	12
Broadbent Rockliff	Isabelle	7	Du	Serena	10	Schroeder	Carlo	12
Butterfield	Faith	7	Easter	Madeleine	10	Tate	Daniel	12
Carr	Archie	7	Fang	Jack	10	Tither	Jessica	12
Celino	Matthew	7	Greenwood	Clara	10	Vynohradov	Bohdan	12
Clayton	Neve	7	Hackwell	Henry	10	Wallace-Ross	Drew	12
Coen	Joseph	7	Harper	Amelie	10	White	Georgia	12
Cooper	Max	7	Hathaway	Martha	10	White	Theodora	12
Copley	Harry	7	Hay	Raviv	10	Whiting	Francesca	12
Dewhurst	William	7	Hodden-Stokes	Jon Jo	10	Williams	Paris	12
Dibb	Grace	7	Joy	Charlotte	10	Williamson	Elle	12
Dickinson	George	7	Kinch	Alexandra	10	Wong	Pak	12
Drewitt	George	7	Kirkland	Frazer	10	Yaseen	Mahdi	12
Ducker	Darcey	7	Koosy	Kirill	10	Ye	Eddie	12
Dyke	Milly	7	Kurfer	Sebastian	10	Zou	Holden	12
Edwards	Florence	7	Langford	Sophie	10	Atkinson	Thomas	13
Edwards	Jasmine	7	Mason	Alice	10	Ba	Carl	13
Gonzalez	Antonio	7	Maturanza	Olivia	10	Barlow	Lloyd	13
Harris	Asia	7	Maxwell-Smith	Lewis	10	Barratt	Abigail	13
Hayar	Jaileen	7	Millett	Chloe	10	Bingham	Caitlin	13
Jafineh	Junior	7	Nixon	Lauren	10	Binimelis	Juan	13
Johnson	Layla	7	Palacio	Enrico	10	Cook	Adam	13
Kaine	Grace	7	Palmer	Ruby	10	Davis	Hannah	13
Khourshid	Zaki	7	Pang	Ronnie	10	Davitaia	Otar	13
Labanavicius	Marius	7	Randell	Millen	10	Denchenko	Nilana	13
Logan	Amelia	7	Rowley	Jessica	10	Dewhurst	Freddie	13
Mackenzie	Molly	7	Singh	Reven	10	Dumann	Lennart	13
Marsden	Louise	7	Socket	Ben	10	Elvis	Grace	13
Martinez-Turnbull	Milly	7	Stewart	Jordan	10	Emms	Matthew	13
Maskill	Harry	7	Su	Kathy	10	Emms	Sophie	13
Miao	Isabella	7	Uswain	Kian	10	Farrah	Abbie	13
Mpofu	David	7	Wagener	Tim-David	10	Finch	Jake	13
Pawson	Elizabeth	7	Ward	Eleanor	10	Firth	Jasmine	13
Roche	Lucy	7	Whiting	Charlotte	10	Goodwin	Leah	13
Roulet	Alexa	7	Yang	Simone	10	Green	Sophie	13
Saher	Evelyn	7	Zhang	James	10	Guo	Sevent	13
Sanderson	Emily	7	Ahaneku	Okemdi	11	Harrison	Grace	13
Saul	Millie-Jane	7	Allen	Lacy	11	Henery	Robbie	13
Woodhouse	George	7	Anderson	Harry	11	Ho	Helen	13
Allen	Hayley	8	Askew	Tommy	11	Iglesias	Marta	13
Askew	Harry	8	Assasa	Katie	11	Kaur	Kiran	13
Bashall	Jade	8	Bower	William	11	Lau	Chris	13
Beachill	Ben	8	Chan	Vicky	11	Law	Alan	13
Bourke	James	8	Chau	Joshua	11	Li	Paula	13
Byfield	Isabelle	8	Cheung	Bruce	11	Lin	Lin	13
Chakravorty	Dylan	8	Cheung	Tom	11	Morton	Jennifer	13
Chan	Ruby	8	Clark	Grace	11	Musorov	Kostya	13
Christie	Ben	8	Clark	Polly	11	Naylor	James	13
Darren	Lucy	8	Cohen	Lyn	11	Pitz	Jakob	13
De Monicault	Jeanne	8	Cui	Robert	11	Raddington	Samantha	13
Demchenko	Matvei	8	Davies	Nimi	11	Robson	Jennie	13
Du	Stefano	8	Dawson	Samuel	11	Rozumkova	Tereza	13
Easter	Genevieve	8	De Abreu	Marlo	11	Shaw	Maddie	13
Finton	Annabel	8	Du	Rocky	11	Squire	Daisy	13
Ghall	Dominic	8	Dyson	Joshua	11	Strasser	Darja	13
Gibbons	Georgia	8	Forester	Emma	11	Strutt	Matthew	13
Glasby	Charlotte	8	Georgiou	Alex	11	Umarov	Danil	13
Greenwood	Emily	8	Gibson	George	11	Van Lelyveld	Misha	13
Greenwood	Harriet	8	Gu	Alvin	11	Wang	Nicholas	13
Hayar	Inderjeet	8	He	Roy	11	Watson	Mollie	13
Hill	Matthew	8	Holliday	Alexander	11	Whelan	Georgia	13
Holliday	Matthew	8	Hopkinson	Ben	11	White	Henry	13
Hussain	Amirul	8	Howden	Olivia	11	Williams	Cameron	13
Khourshid	Faris	8	Hu	Ricardo	11	Zhang	John	13
Kirkland	Mia	8	Jackson	Peter	11	Bolland	Ross	Autism Resource
Lin	Xuewei	8	Ju	Chenxi	11	Britton	Hannah	Autism Resource
Liu	Jamie	8	Leslie	Elliott	11	Carter	Jack	Autism Resource
Mao	Zhiren	8	Li	Sunny	11	Dobbie	Jamie	Autism Resource
Melnik	Mark	8	Li	Lee	11	Gummerson	Dylan	Autism Resource
Metcalf	Harriet	8	Li	Yuja	11	Hickman	Matthew	Autism Resource
Morgan	Hannah	8	Liang	Jack	11	Hygate Wilson	Kai	Autism Resource
Newnham	Hannah	8	Liu	Jason	11	Succoia	Evie	Autism Resource
Nicholson	Estelle	8	Liu	Louis	11	Wallace	Claude	Autism Resource
Nixon	Adam	8	Liu	Rachel	11			
Pearce	Harry	8	Livock	Mac	11			
Robinson	Enya	8	Lok	Jason	11			
Santiago-Martin	Alex	8	Nguyen	Truong	11			
Unwin	Yuhuan	8	Phonhaweewathamachai	Baitong	11			
Walker	Jasmine	8	Powell	Maise	11			
Watkins	Cerys	8	Qu	Justin	11			
White	Josephine	8	Rice	Holly	11			
Wickham	Rhys	8	Rudkin	Alex	11			
Wileman	Ruby	8	Siraj	Shayan	11			
Wilson	Max	8	Stretton-Moore	Abigail	11			
Wilson	Thomas	8	Su	Irvig	11			
Wood	Harrison	8	Talb	Ali	11			
Anderson	Niamh	9	Taylor	Kate-May	11			
Assasa	Lucy	9	Thackeray	Amelia	11			
Bamford	Annie	9	Tobin	Callala	11			
Batte	Charles	9	Wang	Sam	11			
Brindle	Izaak	9	Watson	Maya	11			
Cawood	Benjamin	9	Weng	Kevin	11			
Dawson	Josh	9	White	Eleanor	11			
Dean	Harry	9	Wilks	Tom	11			
Dickinson	Harry	9	Wilson	Hannah	11			
Ducker	Edward	9	Wood	Ella	11			
Forrester	Rachel	9	Wu	Ann	11			
Foster	Oliver	9	Wu	Alex	11			
Harrison	William	9	Xu	Eason	11			
Hinchcliffe	Millie	9	Xu	Kevin	11			
Hodgkiss	George	9	Yang	Kevin	11			
Ingram	Alysha	9	Ye	Luo	11			
Jefferies	Max	9	Ying	Ming	11			
Johnston-Knight	Lulu	9	Yoon Lee	Joo	11			
Kalmina	Evelina	9	Yung	Vincent	11			
Kendall-Jones	Eleanor	9	Zhou	Eva	11			
Kheda	Aaron	9	Alhalabi	Ayham	12			
Kitching	Lucy	9	Al-Turki	Al-Waleed	12			
Lin	Oscar	9	Barlow	Sydney-Jay	12			
Lodge	Thomas	9	Barstow	Luke	12			
Mackenzie	Lucy	9	Chan	Danny	12			
Manders	Matthew	9	Chan	Andrew	12			
Morris	Eleanor	9	Clarke	James	12			
Morton	Joseph	9	Curcan	Elisa	12			
Nicholls	Oliver	9	Davydenko	Viktoria	12			
Novak	Polina	9	Day	William	12			
Patterson	Mollie	9	Dikanovic	Ksenija	12			
Pieterhod	Dominic	9	Duncan	Khalil	12			
Savage	Hannah	9	Edwards	Violet	12			
Stanhope	Harvey	9	Elsworth	Brooke	12			
Swales	Rachel	9	Fogg	Caitlin	12			
Taubman	Abigail	9	Gan	Branson	12			
Taylor	Joseph	9	Harrison	Grace	12			
Todd	Sam	9	Hui	Jason	12			
Van Oudheusden	Lucy	9	Jao	Wenbo	12			
Waite	Maise	9	Johnston-Knight	Isabel	12			
Ward	Joshua	9	Kawasaki	Duka	12			
Watson	Alex	9	Killea	Amey	12			
Wickham	Robyn	9	Lau	Nsomi	12			
Wong	Jasmin	9	Lee	Jerry	12			
Ying	Ronald	9	Lie	Ryan	12			
Yuan	Tian Xing	9	Lieng	Alice	12			
Arrivabene Valent	Leonardo	10	Liu	Phyllis	12			
Baltaras	Arturo	10	Mu	Zhi	12			
Beckwith	Amelia	10	Machamba	Dillon	12			
Bernaldi	Giacomo	10	Ng	Matthew	12			
Carr	Jaja	10	Nguyen	Thanh Nam	12			
Chamdal	Reece	10	Patel	Victoria	12			
Chesterman	Samuel	10	Puchalski	Lukasz	12			
Clapham	Aimee	10	Raby	Sam	12			
Clarkson	Leona	10	Reynolds	Eric	12			
Cooper	Maldaine	10	Roberts	Jacob	12			
Copley	Amber	10						
Copley	Jacob	10						
Culff	Lucas	10						
Cusworth	Madison	10						



The Record

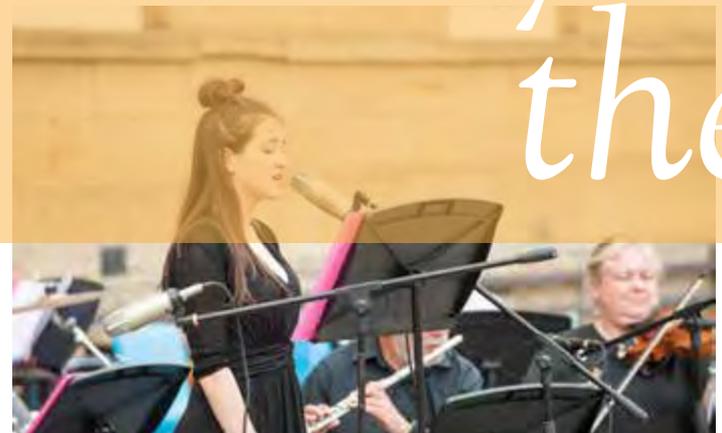
Pupil List

The Record

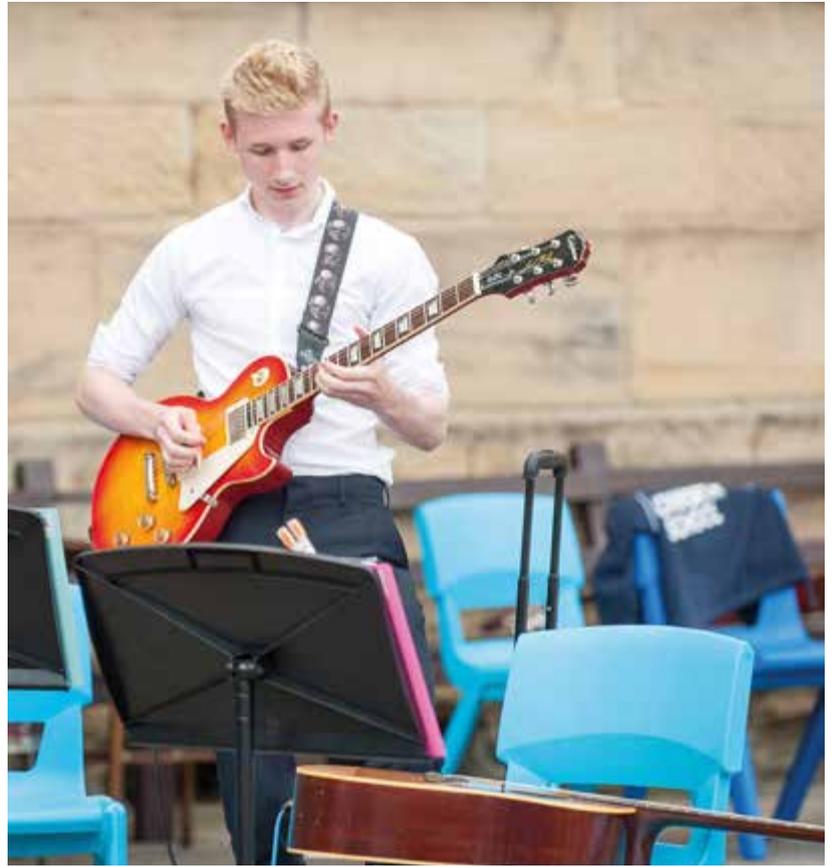
UCAS Offers

Atkinson	Thomas	St George's London	Medicine
Bai	Hongyang	Manchester	Information Technology Management for Business
Barlow	Lloyd	Lincoln	Biomedical Science
Barratt	Abigail	Hull	Business Management (with study abroad)
Bingham	Caitlin	King's College London	Medicine (5 years)
Binimelis	Juan	Madrid	Dentistry
Cook	Adam	London Metropolitan	Building Services Engineering
Davis	Hannah	Leeds	English and History
Davitaia	Otar	York	Law
Demchenko	Nikita	University College London	Economics
Dewhurst	Frederick	GAP year then Sheffield Hallam	Sport and Exercise Technology
Dumann	Lennart	Higher Education in Germany	
Elwis	Grace	GAP Year	
Emms	Matthew	Newcastle	Accounting and Finance
Emms	Sophie	York	Law
Farrab	Abbie	Employment NHS	
Finch	Jake	Newcastle	History
Firth	Jasmine	Exeter	Management with Marketing with Industrial Experience (4 years)
Goodwin	Leah	GAP year	
Green	Sophie	Huddersfield	English Literature
Guo	Ziming	Goldsmiths	Business Computing and Entrepreneurship with Foundation Year (Integrated Degree)
Harrison	Grace	York	Economics and Finance
Henery	Robbie	Newcastle	Mathematics
Iglesias	Marta	Higher Education in Spain	
Kaur	Kiran	De Montfort, Leicester	Accounting and Business Management (BA Hons)
Lau	Yu Hin Chris	Imperial, London	Biochemistry
Law	Alan Kam Hei	Birkbeck, London	Mathematics
Li	Jiashi	Nottingham Trent	Fashion Management
Lin	Chengwei	Manchester	International Business, Finance and Economics
Morton	Jennifer	Lincoln	Drama and English
Musorov	Konstantin	Salford	Business and Management
Naylor	James	Lancaster	Ecology and Conservation
Pfiz	Jakob	King's College London	Economics and Management
Reddington	Sam	TBC	
Robson	Jennie	Birmingham Conservatoire	French Horn
Rozumkova	Tereza	De Montfort, Leicester	
Shaw	Madison	Huddersfield	
Squire	Daisy	Nottingham	
Strasser	Darja	Austria/Aberdeen ??????	
Umarov	Danil	Manchester Metropolitan	
Strutt	Matthew	Car Dealer Apprenticeship	
Van Lelyveld	Misha	Rose Bruford College	
Wang	Haoran	Durham	
Watson	Mollie	York St John	
Whelan	Georgia	Lancaster	
White	Henry	Newcastle	
Williams	Cameron	Nottingham	
Zhang	Shiwen	Durham	





Party of the



on
Green





Old Scholars' Cup

This year's winner of the Ackworth Old Scholars' cup has been described as a 'wonderful student'. Staff have felt that it has been a 'privilege' to teach them. This student has always been enthusiastic, hard-working and positive; a joy to be around.

This student has expressed their sadness about leaving school and this just highlights their strong connection, involvement and love for the place. This student has embraced all aspects of school life and it has allowed them to form into the student that they are.

This student is ever modest about their achievements and their commitment to the school cannot be faulted. This student supports every school event, gets their face on every picture. They live and breathe Ackworth School.

This person has been an incredibly positive addition to the boarding community and they have embraced the opportunity to make the boarding house their home by respecting and caring for the system and all those who live within it. This student makes no secret about the fact that school has played a very important role in their life and has been a 'rock' for them throughout most of her adolescence.

Not only has this student been supported and grown personally in school, but they have facilitated the growth of others through their relentless enthusiasm and generosity of spirit.

This student has been heavily involved in their house throughout their school career.

Managing to win trophies for Penn house year after year, her contribution to the performing arts has been incalculable.

Her adaptation of 'Every brilliant thing' was not only the best piece of theatre produced in any inter-house drama festival since Richard Vergette has been here, but also displayed the best qualities essential to any successful piece of theatre, professional or amateur, adult or youth. The trust she created amongst the performers the self-discipline she inspired, commitment, creativity and risk taking; this evoked such a strong emotional response from so many members of the audience.

She has raised the standards of theatre in this school and for that we are profoundly grateful.

Similarly she has sung in the choir and chamber choir since she joined the school and has performed at numerous events and venues such as Wakefield Cathedral, Huddersfield Town Hall, New York and Washington.

She has been a role model for many students and she embodies the spirit of the school.

Of course, the winner of the Ackworth Old Scholars' Cup is Jenny Morton.

Open Day





Summer Ball



On leaving A



Ackworth

And only when everything comes to its end do you realise what it really meant - storms, cracks of thunder, rumbles of lightning, lost hope and new beginnings. I came to Ackworth with little of myself left, an insecure, shy, untrusting girl. I took time but I found myself from within the fog. Three years of unbelievable change! I've regained a trust. I'm not sad to leave because I am ready. What I feel is sad happiness. It has been a few very emotional years that I look on with extreme pride. I am forever grateful for my mum getting me here and to the teachers and staff both in Shed Court and the main school for keeping faith in me. I have become the energetic, eccentric, charismatic, crazy, caring young woman that I am today.

Goodbye Ackworth. Into the world I sail with friends that are more aptly named 'family' and the memory of the sandstone walls in which we met.

Misha Van Lelyveld (U16th)