

Ackworth Today

July 2013 Volume 17 Issue 4



Not for oneself but for everyone



Coca Cola Trip

The Upper Sixth Business Studies students ventured out to the Coca Cola factory to witness an aspect of their course first hand. We were lucky enough to be given a tour of the factory by an experienced employee. We'd like to thank Mrs Tod and Mrs Mitchell for taking the time to help us expand our knowledge of such a successful company, especially just before we would be tested on this in our final exams.

Kris Hope



Sunday Evening Reading

The Yorkshire air ambulance travels long distances daily, and we were amazed to hear about how much it costs for just one wiper blade - around £45,000. Having the talk really opened my eyes to the importance of generous donations given by schools like us and other individuals. I would like to say a big "thank you" to the Yorkshire Air Ambulance for giving that extra push to save lives.

Jonny Howell

Geography Trip to Iceland



In the Easter holidays 30 pupils travelled to Iceland with the Geography department. Our first stop was the Blue Lagoon, a hot and milky-looking pool with an overwhelming smell of sulphur! Even Mr Hickenbottom got in for a swim.

We saw amazing features such as the huge double waterfall at Gulfoss (my favourite thing) and the boiling hot water, which was quite hard to photograph!

Our Icelandic guide told us endless folk stories and taught us how to spot trolls and elves in the landscape.

It was an awe-inspiring trip which helped me to understand the Geography I've studied.

Henry Lodge

1st XI Footballers win SIS League

The 1st XI footballers had an excellent season this year and have been great ambassadors for the School. Having experienced a tough defeat to Eton in the ISFA cup, the players bounced back to win the Small Independent Schools' 1st XI Football League. I am tremendously proud of what this group of students has achieved and we look forward to defending the title after the summer break!

Nathan Ellis



National Year 5 Inter-School Science Quiz

Four Year 5 representatives travelled to Huddersfield Grammar School to take part in the area heat of the National Year 5 Inter-School Science Quiz. The team consisted of Eleanor Kendall-Jones, Lucy Kitching, Matthew Manders and Joseph Morton.



It was an incredibly tough competition, with six teams taking part. For the majority of the quiz, Coram House were holding on to 3rd place, showing off some amazing scientific knowledge. However, scoring points in the final 100 point questions was crucial to maintain 3rd place. The team did it! They were an absolute credit to the School, not only for their Science knowledge, but the way they worked together as a team. Very well done to them all, and thank you to the parents who turned up to support the event as well.

Beth Jordan

Coram House Fencing Taster

Raj, Chloe, Charlotte and myself recently took part in a taster lesson in fencing. We were given fencing kit to wear, including a helmet and a glove for the hand which held the sword. The first thing we learnt was how to stand, but we also learnt about the history of fencing and all about the swords. We were taught how to hold the sword and fight against other people. The session finished with juice and sandwiches. Everyone had a good time and we'll definitely be going fencing again.

Clara Greenwood



Russian Students' Visit 10 - 22 March 2013



Ackworth is a great School and a wonderful place to live and study. Morning Meeting is a great time to think. I'd like to come back and continue my education at Ackworth School

Yaroslav Tishchenko

These 2 weeks in Ackworth School were the greatest for me. It's been an unforgettable experience. During this time I was surrounded by very kind and helpful people. The Quaker atmosphere made my trip to England wonderful and now I want to come back again. Thank you very much! Ackworth School will be forever in my heart.

Alexey Karasov

I really enjoyed my time at Ackworth School in Spring 2013.

It was so great to be surrounded by so many friendly, tolerant and helpful people. For me it was a priceless experience and unique opportunity to get to know the British education system. Staying at Ackworth School left an indelible impression on my heart.

Here I worked really hard, studying different subjects from at home and I also enjoyed a lot of exciting activities. For these two weeks I could pretend to be real British girl! It was not so easy to follow the strict rules, but I was astonished by the friendly and tolerant atmosphere.

I will never forget the professional teachers, the fabulous lessons, the exciting activities and the unforgettable Meetings.

Alina Elfimova



Malham Trip

On 24 April the Geography department took the whole Third Year to Malham in the Yorkshire Dales. We conducted surveys around Malham and then we climbed the 400 steps to the top of the cove to study and sketch the limestone pavement. It was a great day and everybody enjoyed themselves.

Matthew Strutt

To be or not to be...

On 27 April, a group of pupils took a trip to Stratford to see Shakespeare's 'Hamlet'. The acting was first class, if a little overenthusiastic at times! We all had a great time and really enjoyed seeing the play on stage rather than it being read out in the classroom. It was definitely a trip worth devoting a Saturday to!

Ben Raby



Head's Message



One of the most beautiful qualities of true friendship is to understand and to be understood.

Lucius Annaeus Seneca

Lucius Annaeus (4 BC – AD 65) was a Roman Stoic philosopher, statesman, and dramatist.

At this time of year, some members of our community are preparing to leave the security and routine of their school days behind them and move on to pastures new. It is not surprising, therefore, that thoughts often turn to what has been learnt and gained by being at Ackworth.

The majority of our students who are leaving do so with a mixture of excitement and fear. School has provided security as they have been well known, cared for and understood both by staff and fellow students. Wonderful friendships have been forged and endless memories made. I am acutely aware that these friendships are about to be tested. Will they endure the changes that are about to take place?

In the future, new adventures will be had and new friendships made. However, a small part of Ackworth will remain forever within every student who leaves. This was clearly illustrated when, very recently, we were honoured to host a visiting Old Scholar, Gerhard Heilig. Gerhard left Ackworth more than 70 years ago, and he is an exceedingly interesting gentleman who had an amazing story to tell. Born in Budapest before the Second World War, Gerhard was sent to the UK on the first Kindertransport train that left the Westbahnhof. He left for England completely alone, with only a suitcase and a small ornamental elephant given to him by his mother. After a short period, he was sent to live with a family in Ackworth and, through a grant, he was given the opportunity to come to School here.

Despite only being at Ackworth for a relatively short time, Gerhard is clear that the school had a hugely significant role in forming him and his future. He is passionate about the school, the true friendships he made and all that he experienced whilst here.

Ackworth will continue to weave its magic, leaving its influence and mark in some way on each of our 2013 leavers. Our strong sense of community has underpinned all that the students have done; they have discovered their inner strengths; they will leave Ackworth confident in their abilities and prepared to embrace the challenges they will face. We wish them all a wonderful and exciting future.

Kathryn Bell



The Somme

Given that next year will be the centenary of the First World War, it couldn't have been a more appropriate time to visit the battlefields of the Somme. During the trip we visited the particularly moving Thiepval monument, seeing the graves of nine Old Scholars. The trip allowed us to gain some perspective on the sheer scale of the losses and to appreciate the sacrifices made by the soldiers.

Pippa Pudney

Songs of Praise Choir

As a chorister at Wakefield Cathedral I was honoured to be involved, together with fellow Ackworth students Amelia Thackeray and Angelika Schmidt, in the recording of two programmes for BBC Songs of Praise.

It was an unforgettable experience, with filming taking a whole day and an evening just to record 12 hymns!

The second programme is due to be broadcast on 6th October.

Tom Wilks



South African Exchange

In the Easter holidays we went on an adventure to Cape Town, South Africa. Although we were only there for a short period of time, we had so much fun. We were lucky enough to experience the culture of South Africa, making lots of new friends and seeing a life different from our own. Whilst there, we lived with a local family, going to Herschel Girls' School and spending our free time seeing the sights and making memories we will never forget. If there is ever an opportunity for an exchange, we would definitely recommend that you take it....

Jennifer Varga & Emily Sykes



West Yorkshire Hockey Team

It was always my goal to be selected for West Yorkshire's Hockey Team. In January I achieved this and, following Academy training and matches, was put forward for the next level last March - a regional trial. I never expected to be selected, so was overjoyed when I got the e-mail saying I was through to the Regional Squad. As soon as the summer exams are finished in June I start training sessions with the England Hockey Performance Centre. The sessions are 6 hours long and will be far more intensive than the training I have experienced before. In October there are further trials and just maybe I will be given a chance to try out for England. Fingers crossed!

Zoe Jefferies



“Summer Promises and Other Poems” by Sanil Sachar

Lyricist and poet Javed Akhtar launched a book by budding poet Sanil Sachar in New Delhi on 13 April 2013. Sanil is an Old Scholar who studied A Levels at Ackworth from 2009 to 2011. He is currently studying for a degree in Sport and Business Management at Sheffield Hallam University.

A critic has this to say of Sanil's work, “*Summer Promises and Other Poems* is not only an insight into the poet's life but also his perspective on the various experiences life offers. His poems cover a wide range of subjects, from everyday emotions such as love, fame and failure to the occasional major life event. Through this collection of poems, Sanil Sachar gives voice to feelings and emotions experienced by people from all walks of life.

This is a mature literary debut from a young poet that will find a connection with many lovers of poetry, whether young or old.”



Paracetamol Synthesis and Analysis Workshop!

The AS Chemistry students were lucky enough to take part in a workshop run by Bradford University in our own Chemistry Lab. We made our own paracetamol and got to use the £30,000 IR Spectroscopy machine. It was interesting to use different equipment and put into practice Chemistry we have learned from the textbook.

Caroline Rhodes



Glacial Features in Snowdonia

Though no one doubted Miss Clark when she told us in class ‘glacial features are huge!’, her statements were confirmed when our class of Lower Sixth Geographers travelled to North Wales and around the Snowdonia region. Standing in the middle of a U-shaped valley or by the side of a kettle hole, we couldn't help but be amazed by how big these features really are. This trip was extremely helpful in preparation for our AS Level exam.

Elisabeth Bogart

PSA

The PSA would like to thank all parents and staff for their continued support, making it another successful year of raising funds for the after school clubs and societies.

Future Events

Bags 2 School

Friday 22nd November 2013

Carl Wilde floral demonstration and lunch - Darrington Golf Club,

Friday 22nd November 2013

Christmas craft morning in School

Friday 6th December 2013

Midsummer Ball

Friday 20th June 2014

(venue to be confirmed)

We are looking for new PSA members from September 2013 - if you are interested, please contact School.

Ruth Roche - Chair

School Officer Training Weekend

From visiting Mount Grace Priory and embracing its Quaker heritage to figuring out some incredibly abstract drawings in Pictionary to Doncaster Rovers getting promoted in extra time - could there have been a better weekend? Not only did we get to know each other very well, but we also discovered what our duties were and got served some fabulous food in the process. It was thoroughly enjoyable - thank you again to all the staff who made it possible!

Jack Tagg

Advice 27

Live adventurously. When choices arise, do you take the way that offers the fullest opportunity for the use of your gifts in the service of God and the community? Let your life speak. When decisions have to be made, are you ready to join with others in seeking clearness, asking for God's guidance and offering counsel to one another?

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