

Headteacher's Introduction

Dear Parent / Carer

As the shortest half term of the year draws to a close, we welcome you to one of the longest issues of Nidd News this year as it has been an action packed few weeks!

We are so proud of the way Year 11 have approached their exams so far and hope they are able to find a good balance of revision and rest during the holiday as they prepare for round 2!

In amongst the exam activity in the hall, we've also seen some wonderful displays of our students' artwork appearing. It has been fantastic to hear our young people talk with interest and pride about the work they are seeing on display.

This week we are saying a very sad farewell to two highly valued colleagues. Mrs Phillips is moving away to live abroad; we wish her the very best and will miss her greatly. Mr Pancott, has finally decided that after a long and varied career - the highlight of which has been being part of Team Nidd for the past 5 years - he is going to enjoy a well-earned retirement.

Best wishes to all for a restful half term.

Kath Jordan, Headteacher



Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award

Our Silver Award Duke of Edinburgh students were treated to a beautiful few days in Wensleydale & Swaledale for their practice expedition. Both teams conquered Great Shunner Fell on the first day and then took various routes through Swaledale for the second, finishing just west of Reeth.

It was great to see so many students embracing all the fun that can be had on expeditions - swimming in Wain Wath Force at the end of the first day and plenty of other campsite sporting fun were amongst the highlights!

Thank you all for your effort throughout the expedition, the respect you showed on the campsites and the appreciation you showed for this opportunity. An absolute pleasure taking you out & spending a beautiful few days in the dales with you!

Miss Tuffs

Rugby Awards

Recently, Ripon Rugby Club celebrated the end of the season for U14's. Of the 6 awards given to the U14 team, which has over 25 players, 4 were given to Nidderdale pupils. Awards included, Best Newcomer, Coach's Player, Best Winger and Strongest Tackler.

A great example of the expert sportsmanship demonstrated through rugby of Nidderdale pupils.

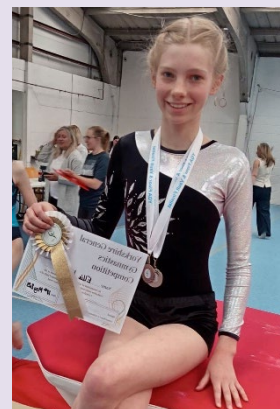
Well done to all of you!



Gymnastics Success

Recently, Ellie and Heather took part in a gymnastics competition and did really well in their heats for both floor and vault. Heather scooped the bronze place for her floor work and Ellie took the silver place for floor & the silver placed individual overall. Ellie also qualified for the Yorkshire finals on 18th May 25.

At the Regional finals Ellie achieved 2nd on floor and 3rd on the vault in the advanced category. Well done!



Poetry Escape

Congratulations to Adam, Henry, Tess, Heather, Violet, Maddy, Jake, Rosie and Zac for having their poetry published in "Poetry Escape". Nine of our school's entries were selected to be published and we are very proud of the excellent poetry written by our students. There will be a copy of the anthology in the library for all students to enjoy, and a formal presentation of their certificates later in the year. If you are interested in writing stories or poetry then please see Mr Wolfram for information about any upcoming writing competitions that you may want to participate in.



Manchester Derby Trip

On Saturday, 4th May, a group of enthusiastic students and staff from Nidd embarked on an unforgettable trip to witness one of the most anticipated fixtures in English football – the Manchester derby between Manchester United and Manchester City at Old Trafford.

For some, it was their first time attending a live Premier League match, and the energy was electric as we approached the iconic stadium. With great goals and a red card, it was an action-packed game in front of a crowd of 38,000. Manchester United stole from their fierce rivals through a well-earned 2-2 draw to qualify for the champions' league.

Beyond the action on the pitch, the trip offered valuable lessons in sportsmanship, rivalry, and the unifying power of football. It was also a brilliant way for students to experience first-hand how football clubs compete at the highest level, both domestically and in Europe.

Mr Gibson

Pastoral Team News

The Pastoral Garden has been the home to a pair of nesting blue tits who found their home in a bespoke nesting box made by one of our students. We are unsure how many chicks are in the nest but they can be heard cheeping and are nearly ready to fledge. Our Y10 photographers are hoping to capture the moment they finally leave their nest.



Pastoral Support was offered to a poorly bee this month after Mr Day found it unresponsive in his classroom. Kadan rushed it to Pastoral Support where he made up a sugar solution that helped the bee recover and return to the great Nidderdale outdoors.

As the Year 11s come to the end of the first period of exams, Mr Day has surprised his form group by writing them a special song that he performed for them accompanied by his guitar. Molly said, "Everyone was so surprised! He gave everyone a copy of the song with all of us mentioned. He's just a legend."

Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award News

Year 9 Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award students participated in their training day with plenty of enthusiasm & positivity. Navigation, campcraft & getting used to carrying a large expedition rucksack were all part of the day's training and they should now be well prepared for their two day expedition in Wharfedale in June. Good luck!



Year 6 Transition / Summer Stalls Event

We are preparing to welcome our Year 6 families into Nidderdale as the students begin their transition programmes.

We will be holding our annual Summer Stalls in July and the Pastoral Team would welcome any items for our tombola stall, raffle and summertime hampers.

Please send any donations in to the school office.

Photography Competition

"Nidderdale Plus is excited to announce that we're creating our 2026 calendar and we need your help! We're looking for stunning seasonal images that capture the beauty of Nidderdale. Whether it's the vibrant colours of autumn leaves, the serene snow-covered landscapes of winter, the blooming flowers of spring, or the sunny meadows of summer, we want to see them. Email your best seasonal photos to tracey@nidderdaleplus.org.uk for a chance to be featured in the 2026 calendar".

Nidd Plus are keen for any students to enter. If their images are chosen, they will be printed in the Calendar which is sold in Pateley. It would be lovely if some of our students could be featured in the calendar!

Year 7 Art Projects

Year 7 have been working very hard on their puppet project. Year 7 have explored how to draw facial features and body proportion & shown true resilience in doing this as it isn't easy! They have then developed their work into their own characters which have then been made from scrap materials. There are some absolutely fabulous 3D puppets that are fun and full of character and humour! Each and every one of the puppets create a smile. You should all be proud. Well done!

Mrs Thorpe



Eigg Trip News

Team Eigg are continuing to show excellent commitment & enthusiasm in their preparations for our rapidly approaching trip.

This week they have written some very thoughtful & informative letters to the children of The Isle of Eigg Primary School about their interests, their life in Yorkshire and what they're looking forward to when we go to Eigg.

We've also sent them some photos of Nidderdale. We're hoping to do some activities with Eigg Primary School when we're on the island so it will be interesting to compare our two very different, but both very beautiful surroundings!



RE Competition Spirited Arts 2025

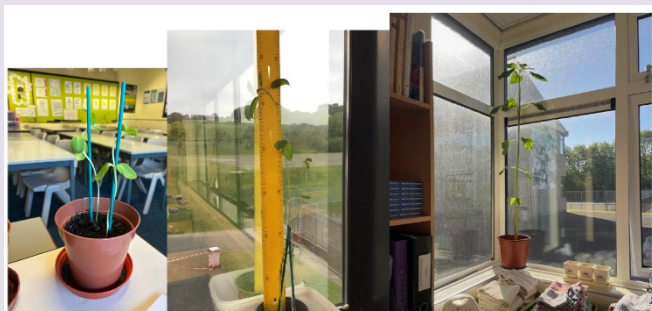
All students are invited to enter this year's Spirited Art competition and entries could be produced during half term.

The competition offers an opportunity to create a piece of art based on one of the available themes, which are all relevant to the work we have been doing in RE. More information is shown on the adjacent poster.

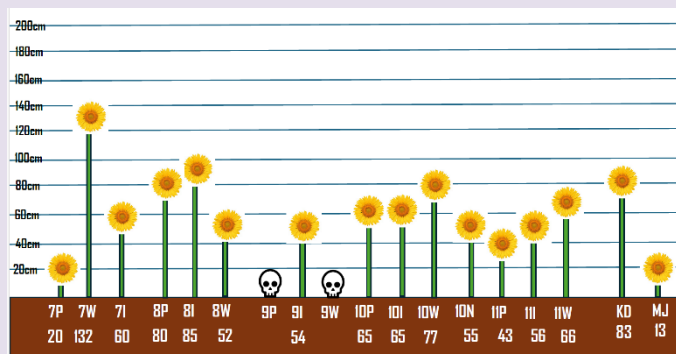
We look forward to seeing your wonderful entries by Monday 2nd June!

Miss Byrne





SUNFLOWER RESULTS!



Sunflower News

Since March students have been challenged to grow sunflowers in their form rooms with the hope of planting them outside to improve biodiversity on the school site. The competition has been fierce over the last few weeks, not only between forms but with other members of staff including the reception team also taking part. Sunflowers have been measured with the winning form being 7 Whernside led by Mrs Gallimore with a whopping 132cm!

A special shoutout to the reception team for their sunflower which was 2.5m tall! However, they had to be disqualified from the competition as they hadn't used the sunflower seeds provided to grow their magic plant!

A huge well done to all forms and students involved. The competition continues into next half term where we will measure the sunflowers again before the summer holidays and hopefully some will have flowered! Watch this space...

Mr Harrison



Year 9 Art

Year 9 have been working hard in art. We have looked at an artist called Terry Bradley and reviewed his style and designed tattoos. From this, Year 9 have created a personal portrait in the style of Terry Bradley. These are A2 size so have given the Year 9 students a challenge in working in a bigger scale. To do this they have explored painting techniques, printing and layering using templates and shapes. Well done Year 9!

Mrs Thorpe

Corn Close Care Farm

Our students have been enjoying meeting newborn goats at Corn Close Care Farm this month. This is Lilly, just finding her feet and enjoying the May sunshine.



Enjoy
half
term

11W Final form activity

As a final form activity, 11W planted two trees by the school field.

The hawthorn symbolises hope, reflecting the hope that we have for their future.

The oak tree symbolises strength and resilience.

Both were first planted when the form started at school and so have grown with the form over the past few years. Like the oak, the students arrived as acorns and are developing into mighty oak trees with the strength and resilience to succeed as they move on to their next chapters.

We wish you all the best with the rest of your exams and next steps.

Mr Wolfram





MAY HALF- TERM



Make history your family's next adventure at Ripon Museums

Get creative as well as learn fascinating stories from the past. Join us for family-friendly crafts across our three museums this half term

All activities are included in the price of an annual pass

- Bake in our Victorian kitchen at the Workhouse Museum - May 27th and 28th from 11:30am to 3pm
- Make your own Workhouse Wastrel - May 27th from 10:30am
- Make wooden spoon dolls in the Workhouse Museum - every day of the hols
- Create your own Victorian optical illusion at the Prison & Police Museum - every day of the hols
- Play 'Guess Who' at the Courthouse Museum to discover who is a criminal - every day of the hols

www.riponmuseums.co.uk/things-to-do

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Autistic experiences of loneliness

Young people are invited to give their feedback on a self-reported scale that has been created from autistic perspectives of loneliness.

Who can take part?

If you are **autistic** and you are **between 15-18 years old**, we want to hear from you! We will need consent from your parents or carers.

What am I expected to do?

1. You will be part of a small group. We will show you candidate scale items for a self-reported scale that captures the experiences of loneliness for autistic adolescents.

YOUR OPINION MATTERS

2. We will ask your opinions about each item on the scale (e.g. Does the question sound ambiguous? Is it easy to understand?).

Choose how you want to take part...

In person

Remotely

Incentives

- The opportunity of adding autistic voice to research.
- £20 Love2Shop voucher

Questions you might have...

Will I have any support during the activity?

- Let's discuss any accommodation you might need before the study.
- You can ask for a break every time you need it.
- You can bring comforting objects that promote your wellbeing.
- You can have someone familiar close to you during the activity.

What if I get upset?

We will stop the activity and direct you to a familiar person (staff or family) to support you.

For more information, get in touch by email: i.white1@yorksja.ac.uk

