

Headteacher's Introduction

Dear Parent / Carer

There is little need for a lengthy introduction to this Nidd News, as it is absolutely packed with evidence of our Team Nidd values being lived out in school and beyond.

Although the work may stop for most of our school community across the summer holidays, it is only just starting for the school and Trust Estates team as some major projects are planned for the building – including a new roof! We will update you on progress with these projects in September.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank staff, students, parents and Governors for contributing to our successes this year, with particular thanks to Mr Devanney who has led the school in my absence this half term.

We look forward to welcoming Year 7 back to school on Tuesday 2 September and the rest of the school on Wednesday 3 September.

Kath Jordan, Headteacher



We are saying a sad farewell and thank you to a few staff who are moving on to new adventures next year. Miss Gurney and Miss Gibson have given fantastic support to many students in class and in the learning support centre, forging positive relationships and helping students to be their best selves. We wish them both well in the next stages of their careers.

Mrs Morris will be joining our Learning Support Team from September; she brings a wide range of knowledge and experiences to share with our young people.

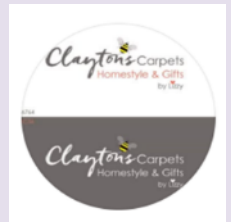
At the start of this year, we were delighted that, after a break from teaching, we were able to tempt Mrs Thorpe back into the profession to work as Teacher of Art. She quickly became a highly valued member of our team and despite her role being a temporary one, she had a fantastic and inspirational impact. We wish her well with the many and varied exciting new adventures she has planned and hope that the school can be part of some of them!

After many years of service to Team Nidd both as leader in Science and our teacher of Physics, Dr Binding has decided to put away the Van de Graaf generator and enjoy other opportunities. He has been a hugely loyal and reliable colleague over many years and we will miss him greatly.

We look forward to welcoming Mr Morris to our team from September he will be working as Teacher of Maths and Science. We are also delighted that Miss Brohier (Director of Learning, Design) and Mrs Witherwick (Assistant Headteacher) have very recently returned to their roles following their maternity leaves.



Awards Evening 8th July 2025



Our first-ever Awards Evening was a truly special occasion, celebrating the outstanding achievements of students across a range of academic and pastoral areas.

It was a pleasure to recognise those who have gone above and beyond, and to share the evening with families, governors and staff in celebration of our students' hard work and character.

A particular highlight was presenting the Spirit of Nidderdale Award to Ben Rushworth, whose contribution to school life embodies everything we value. We were also delighted to welcome Simon Brown, CEO and founder of Joe Browns, as our guest speaker. His inspirational story and words of encouragement left a lasting impression on our students and made the evening even more memorable.

Thankyou to Dales Market Place and Clayton's Carpets for kind sponsorship of this event held on 9th July 2025.



Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award

The Silver Duke of Edinburgh team had a very successful qualifying expedition to the Lakes. Both teams took various routes to circumnavigate Ullswater, with some superb teamwork demonstrated from both groups throughout. Good views, good friendship and challenge were enjoyed by all. They also survived the wettest, windiest camp in the history of Nidderdale High Duke of Edinburgh with resilience, good spirits & resourcefulness!

Well done to you all.

Miss Tuffs



Gala Success!

Year 7 James Hush continues his excellent form by medalling in all seven of his races at Harrogate District Swimming Club's end of season extravaganza gala last week! Competing against clubs from Manchester, Skipton, Wakefield, Selby, Thirsk, Cleethorpes, Halifax and Chesterfield; James won a bronze medal in the 50m & 100m backstroke, silver in the 100m individual medley, 50m freestyle, 100m freestyle and 50m butterfly and a gold medal in the 100m butterfly. He was also selected to represent his club in the relay competition where they finished runners-up to Skipton. Well done James!

The swimming season is soon coming to an end and James will no doubt be looking forward to the break!

Coldstones Cut

This month the Art department with selected GCSE and Y9 students were lucky enough to receive an invite from Nidd Plus to attend the 15 year anniversary of the public sculpture - Coldstones Cut.

Andrew Sabin the internationally recognised sculptor was there to celebrate and talk about his art work. We were all lucky enough to meet Andrew who created the wonderful public art work that is on our doorstep at the quarry.

Students and parents were able to ask questions, and understand why Coldstones Cut was created, the process behind it and the act of it being built. We all had an inspirational morning seeing what is on our doorstep in a different light.

A huge thankyou to Andrew for taking the time to inspire and speak to everyone individually.



Maths National Finalists

Congratulations to Heather, Violet, Chloe and Daniel in year 9 who made it to the final round of the Edge Hill Maths Challenge Competition.

Throughout this year, students in year 9 have been answering complex maths problems and displaying their answers for several rounds of a competition run by Edge Hill University. Out of 600 students from 150 school Heather, Violet, Chloe and Daniel were one of twelve teams to make it to the final round hosted at Edge Hill University, which is an incredible achievement.

They presented their ideas to a panel of Professors and PhD students at Edge Hill, answering their questions and discussing their mathematical ideas. As part of the day, we also had a tour of the campus at Edge Hill and got to play with VR headset and a robot - who could play the saxophone and Hoover!

A big well done to everyone involved in the competition this year, there will be lots more extra-curricular opportunities in Maths next year!



Sports Day Success

Our recent Sports Day was a fantastic success, with students showing incredible enthusiasm and resilience throughout the day. From start to finish, they fully embraced the spirit of the event—cheering on their peers, giving their all in every race and activity, and creating a supportive and positive atmosphere.

It was a real celebration of effort, participation, and school community.

Well done to everyone involved!

The results are shown here. Well done to House Pen-y-Ghent.

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N **Nidderdale**
Sports Day 2024

FINAL SCORES

CONGRATULATIONS PEN-Y-GHENT
SPORTS DAY CHAMPIONS
2025

Uniform Donations

A reminder that we collect pre-loved school uniform items. If your child has grown out of their school uniform or your child is in Year 11 and will no longer need to wear uniform, we would be very grateful if you would consider donating it to school to help others.

Please send your clean washed items in to school. Thank you in advance for your support.

Summer stalls

£542 was raised – a huge thankyou to all contributors.

Congratulations to the hamper winners:

Dulcie Jones, Emma White, Eleanor Metcalfe, Eva Eyres, Harry Mason, Hayden Thompson, Tallulah Butler, Lola Ball, Mrs Edwards & Ms Whelan.

Great Yorkshire Show success!



Benjamin attended the GYS to show sheep for Tom Smith. They achieved a number of second places and also a third place for a group of three.

Well done Benjamin!

Civil Engineer STEM challenge

Students did amazingly well when they entered the Civil Engineer STEM challenge. The students devised various solutions to governmental challenges such as eco friendly housing, cleaning up space, and sustainable transport.

We are super proud of the level of entry and the fantastic unique ideas our students put forward.



Prom 2025

Celebrating five years at Nidderdale High School and the end of exams it was a delight to see our Year 11 at their Prom. Further to the feature in the last edition, here are some more of the photos of the evening fun.



Sacred spaces and shared stories

An inspiring RE term

The summer term in RE has been filled with rich learning experiences, as students had the opportunity to deepen their understanding of different faiths through real-life encounters and conversations.

Over two weeks, 65 students from Years 7 – 10 visited two places of worship. The first was a visit to a mosque, where students were warmly welcomed and guided through the mosque's prayer hall. Students engaged in thoughtful discussions about some Muslim beliefs, practices, and the importance of community in Islam.

Following this, we visited a second place of worship, this time a Sikh gurdwara. Students learned about the emphasis on equality and inclusion when listening to discussions about the Langar – a communal meal served to all visitors, regardless of background.

Back at school, before the GCSE exams started, we were delighted to host a visiting speaker from the local church, Reverend Darryl Hall from St Cuthbert's. Students explored some Christian beliefs and how some Christian teachings influence daily life for some Christians. The students' questions made this such a memorable and reflective experience.

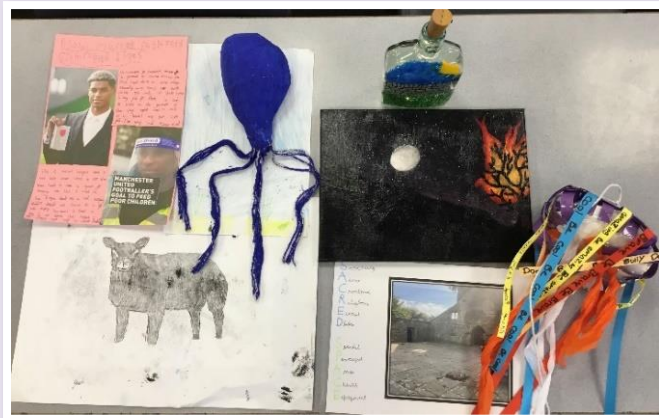
This was followed up during the last week of the term, when a group of Year 8 students were keen to engage with the opportunity to walk to St. Cuthbert's Church, for a wonderful tour and further talk by Reverend Darryl Hall.

This visit provided a powerful opportunity for students to show respect for beliefs and traditions, to take responsibility for their own learning by asking insightful questions, and to feel pride in representing our school so positively in the community.

We are thankful for Reverend Darryl Hall making our visit so enriching and meaningful.

It was a day that deepened our understanding of many Christian beliefs and practices.

Miss Byrne



Year 11 student wins at the 25th Design & Technology Association Excellence Awards

We are celebrating a huge achievement by one of our GCSE Design Technology Students, Harry Peel unanimously won The Royal Academy of Engineering Excellence Award for Outstanding Pupil: Age 12-16, at this year's UK Design and Technology Associations Excellence award.

The award sponsored by WJEC CBAC exam board is presented to only one student per year. Harry's work was in direct competition with other students across all UK schools. The award is presented to a pupil who can demonstrate that D&T has:

- Made a positive impact on their overall school experience and
- Allowed them to demonstrate high levels of motivation, enthusiasm, and achievement within the subject, or will be awarded to a pupil who has excelled academically within design and technology and can demonstrate exceptional levels of attainment within the subject.

Students have to meet criteria set by the exam covering one or more of the contextual Challenges. The contexts for this year's Eduqas GCSE exam were - 1) safer world, 2) net zero, 3) cultural traditions. Harry managed to hit all 3, producing a product to improve road safety, utilised reused or recycled parts, linked to farming a cultural tradition.

Harry identified a problem on his dad's farm. Sometimes in winter, the milk lorry could not get down the lane to the farm due to ice, he has to use a load-all with a bucket to grit which is time consuming and expensive using diesel. Due to diverse farming responsibilities, he cannot always grit in time for the milking lorry, who will refuse to use the lane unless gritted and safe, due to the incline lane to the farm. This leads to a loss of milk being dumped at cost. Non-priority for gritting is clearly a significant real world problem farmers face in rural areas.

For his GCSE project, Harry identified the need for a gritter system to grit the lane leading down to his family's farm, which has always been a problem during winter months.



Thomas from Econ giving Harry expert feedback.

He researched, designed, and engineered a gritter attachment to fit to the back of his ATV with fully adjustable controls, manufacturing a commercially viable system.

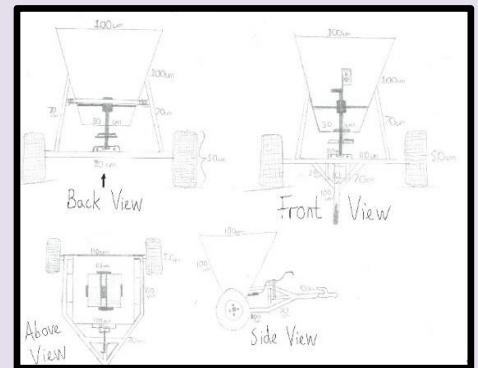
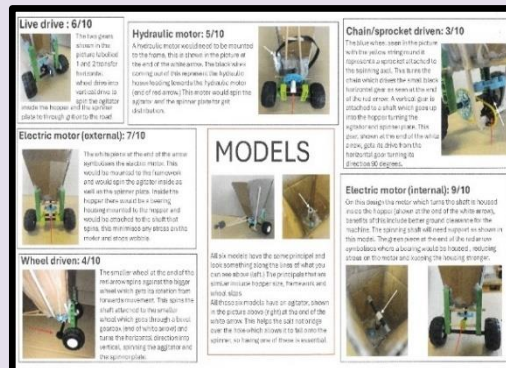
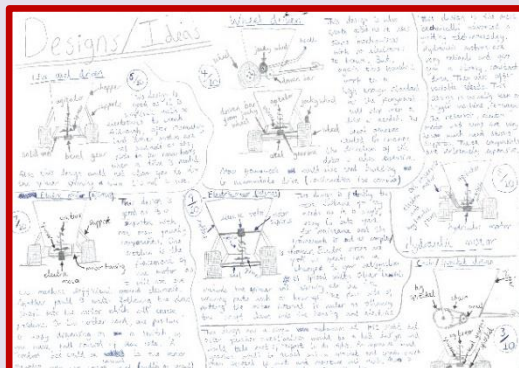
Special thanks for Thomas Lupton from ECON in Ripon, who helped Harry with a factory visit to better understand gritter technology as part of his research.

Harry explored different ideas of gritter systems, produced 3D iterations to define a final solution then made orthographic drawings of his final design.

Huge congratulations to Harry.

Some of his project work is shown below.

Mr Clemmett



Initial ideas of different gritter systems

3D model iterations to define a final solution

Orthographic drawing of the final design

Eigg Adventure 2025

Team Eigg 2025 had another successful & very enjoyable adventure to Eigg that has hopefully broadened their skills, horizons and outlook on life and given them some very happy memories...

We took a fairly young team this year and the vast amount we achieved was down to their resilience, fitness, efficiency & determination, in all weathers.

One of the highlights of this year's trip was the work we did with Eigg Primary School. We established links with them before we went by all writing them a letter. Whilst we were there, we ran an Eigg Island Games for them in their school grounds, with both Nidd High and Eigg children competing in mixed teams. Kelp Wanging, Rock Put, Tug of War and Wheelbarrow racing were all embraced! The Eigg children loved it and their teachers couldn't speak highly enough of our students - their empathy, kindness and people skills really shone and put the Eigg children at ease immediately.

We also did plenty of conservation/environmental work whilst we were on Eigg, working with Eigg's wildlife ranger. Nidd High Eigg Teams now have a reputation on the island as being hardworking, efficient, respectful, trustworthy teams and as a result, their help is sought after! We helped with some clearing of weeds around newly planted native trees, sawed up & transported wood for a new footbridge, assisted with a moth count, did a few beach clean-ups and were also given the task of removing a huge fishing net from one of the beaches.

This net had killed a dolphin as a result of it becoming entangled and the dead dolphin was next to the net - the team dealt with this beautifully and even buried the dolphin. Moving the net involved chopping it into 3 bits and then hauling it up the hillside away from the beach. Hard, physical work that the team undertook in absolutely pouring rain without a word of complaint. It was highly fitting that when we left Eigg on the ferry, a whole pod of leaping dolphins played in the bow wave of the boat - lovely for team to see them alive and well and maybe a thank you from the dolphins for helping them out!

Plenty of Eigg explorations took place too; the customary climbing of An Sgurr (the highest peak) on an atmospheric misty day, plenty of time in the sea and on the beach playing various sports, coastline explorations and plenty of discussion about geology, geography and history. Cooking and general self-management was also a significant part of the trip.

We also had the added interest of having a diary with us from the Nidd High Eigg 1994 trip (read the last Nidd News if you don't know about this!) and found the house where the children stayed on that trip, just down the road from where we stay now.



A big thank you is also due to Greg Parsons, the very best second member of staff I could ever wish for. Commitment, care, enthusiasm and leadership of the highest standard - and so much fun along the way!

Another fine adventure that I loved sharing with all Team Eigg. Thank you for your effort, commitment and good company throughout the whole Eigg 2025 process.

Miss Tuffs

Schools' Aerospace Careers Programme

Students from Year 9 and 10 were invited to take part in this careers advice day on 1st July at Ripon Grammar School. Students gained a fascinating insight into engineering based industry careers.

The Schools' Aerospace Careers Programme Charity exists to support all young people and educational establishments across the UK with external, independent, up-to-date careers advice in respect of engineering based industries, especially aerospace, and aviation.

More information is available here: [The Schools' Aerospace Careers Programme - YouTube](#)

Student voice feedback following the event:

"It was a great day where I learned lots, meeting Spot the robotic dog was my favourite part!"

"It is great to see VR adapted into education."

"The VR design space was really cool, and I absolutely loved the robot dog! ...

I am definitely considering the aerospace sector as a career option!"

Mrs Ashton



A day with the Anne Frank Trust

This week, many of our students have participated in powerful and thought-provoking workshops led by the Anne Frank Trust. The workshops encouraged a safe, respectful space where students could ask questions and reflect deeply.

The facilitator was particularly impressed with the engagement shown by our students and we will look forward to some particularly exciting opportunities with the Anne Frank Trust in the new academic year.

Miss Byrne



Spirited Arts Competition

We are thrilled with the 119 entries for the RE Spirited Arts Competition. Well done to all those who entered and I am incredibly proud of the resilience, ambition and pride that our young people have shown in putting their wonderful work forward for this competition.

Thankyou to the amazing Mrs Thorpe who provided endless support and inspiration for our young people during this competition.

Miss Byrne



Year 10 Geography Fieldwork

Last week, Year 10 geographers went on an expedition to complete their first of two GCSE field trips. We walked along the river Nidd to one of its smaller tributaries, Foster Beck, to take measurements of the width, depth and velocity. We had glorious weather so it was great to be able to get outside and into the river itself!

After the summer break Year 10 will review the data together. It was really beneficial to apply the classroom learning to the outside world!

Mr Day.

RSPCA Young Photographer Awards Photo Competition

Are you serious about photography? Then the RSPCA Young Photographer Awards is for you. This competition is now open and closes on Wednesday, 13 August 2025.

[Click here for further details.](#)
Good luck!

Outstanding Artwork

A huge congratulations to Riley Lund on his 2nd large scale art piece!

Riley has gained confidence through artwork that inspires him.

Riley has been able to experiment with different techniques, painting styles and large scale work- this one is 1.5metres!

We have a smaller piece up in school to inspire others.

Well done Riley, keep up the good work!

Mrs Thorpe



School Uniform

Please refer to the uniform policy before buying new items for September.

The updated policy is on the school website and you can see it by [clicking here](#).

Community work reward

As a reward for their fantastic community delivering work this year, Callum & Zara completed their long held ambition to cycle all the way from school, up the 25% steep hill to Middlesmoor, down to Scar House Reservoir and back. They completed it with their usual determination, resilience and enthusiasm on a beautiful hot summer's day. A great deal of fun was enjoyed along the way. Thank you both for your hard work & great company all year - this little adventure was a fine way to celebrate it!

Miss Tuffs



Parent, Teacher and Friends Association (PTFA)

Our PTFA plays a vital role in bringing together parents, carers, staff, and friends of Nidderdale High School to help create a strong sense of community and raise additional funds to support and enrich the experience of our students.

The PTFA is instrumental in organising events throughout the year, from social evenings to fundraising initiatives. These events not only help provide extra resources and opportunities for students, but also strengthen the connections between families and the school.

We welcome new members at any time and would love to hear from anyone interested in getting involved—whether regularly or occasionally.

PTFA Committee 2024–25

Chair: Anthony Devanney
Vice Chair: Jen Evers
Secretary: Sarah Trewitt
Treasurer: Anne Watt

If you'd like to express an interest in supporting the PTFA in any way, please complete our [Expression of Interest Form here](#).

Introducing the inaugural Nidderdale High School PTFA event.....

The KS3 Colour Run



Friday 26th September 2025 during Periods 4 & 5 for students in Years 7-9

Tickets & sponsor forms will be available via the School Gateway in September

More information to follow next term



A story comes to life: Students join live webinar with Michael Morpurgo

During the summer term, Year 7 students had the opportunity to tune in to a webinar streamed directly into classrooms around the country. The event gave students a front-row seat to hear Michael Morpurgo speak about his life as a writer, the inspiration behind his most beloved stories, and the powerful role that storytelling plays in understanding the world around us. The webinar included a live Q&A session, where students from across the country submitted questions.

The webinar was such a success, some of our students went on to participate in two further live webinars, including Tom Palmer. For any students who missed these and are interested in still viewing these, they are available to watch again so please do come and see Miss Byrne or Miss Lester.

Many of our Year 7 students also took part in a book treasure hunt earlier in the summer term and were encouraged to keep, read, or pass on their reading reward (a book related to Humanities). This will be something we plan again for the new school year.

This has been such a rewarding term filled with opportunities to enjoy reading and we look forward to more events similar to this in the year ahead.

Miss Byrne and Miss Lester

Junior committee at Ripon Cricket Club - thankyou

A number of the students from Nidderdale are junior members at Ripon Cricket Club. The Club Safeguarding Officer has asked us to acknowledge their achievements as they have contributed greatly to the club and are wonderful role models.

2 students who have volunteered their time on a Friday night to support the younger junior sections of our club are Eva and Ben.

Eva Eyres (Year 8) has played at the club for a number of years as a junior and now as part of our ladies softball team. She supports the Ripon Rebels (Girls only) age 8-11 section also known as the Dynamos/Roses. She brings energy and experience along with other young leaders. She also completed her Liam Plunkett Rookie Coaching Certificate with flying colours. This is an initiative from the Yorkshire Cricket Board to support aspiring young coaches aged 12+ to gain cricket coaching knowledge.

The second Young Leader is Ben Saville (Year 9) who has been supporting the U9 Boys section. Ben was thrown in the deep end one evening to help support the adult qualified coaches and has continued supporting every Friday to help his younger brother and team mates' progress. Ben has had a great season playing for the U15 Team and the Development Team which is a mixture of juniors and adults.

Charlie Guy (Year 10) has shared captaincy for the U15 Team and the Development Team throughout the season. A wonderful young man who is team orientated, hates injustice and rule breakers and is fully committed to supporting the club as a player, scorer and umpire.

Reminders

1 Sep 25 – Staff training day

2 Sep 25 – Y7 only in school

**3 Sep 25 – all other year groups
return to school**

[Term dates for 2025 – 2026 are available on the
school website – click here](#)

