



## Fantastic Artwork

This term, Year 8 and Year 9 students have been busy completing their extended home learning art projects, producing a fantastic range of thoughtful and creative work.

Both year groups showed great commitment and creativity, and the finished projects were a pleasure to see. Well done to everyone involved!

More artwork on page 3.

Miss Brohier

## Headteacher's Introduction

Dear Parent / Carer

As we reach the end of another busy term, please spare a thought for the Estates team who will be managing lots of contractors on site to support ongoing improvements to our buildings over Easter. The most obvious of these will be the creation of a new outdoor serving area for Nidderlicious catering.

During exam periods, all breaktime food will be served from this area leading to the Sports Hall. At other times, cold food will be served outside and hot breaktime food will be served from the hall. We will also be developing a 'Grab and Go' service for lunchtime, provided from the outdoor servery.

Our Key Stage 4 students will also be working hard over the Easter break, with Year 10 exams starting as soon as we return and Year 11 final GCSE exams starting in May.

Please note the introduction of summer uniform options from 13<sup>th</sup> April. These are optional changes and students may continue to wear the full standard uniform if they prefer. Please see Mr Devaney's letter sent to parents last week for more details.

As we begin to see signs of Spring in bursts of colour, the crocus bulbs planted in memory of Mr Connors are making a good showing in many of our gardens - thanks to Ms Walker for her beautiful photograph.

Wishing all students, staff and parents a restful and happy Easter break.

Kath Jordan, Headteacher



## 22 days of events



Today saw the launch of our '22 Days of Mr Connors' campaign. What an amazing effort from everyone to turn the school Claret & Blue for our non-uniform day in Mr Connors' team colours. We hope to have raised close to £1000 to start our fundraising campaign.

We are aiming to raise £22,000 to contribute to building a covered outdoor seating area as a permanent memorial for Mr Connors. Even more importantly our 22 days / events are a chance for everyone in our school community to get involved in some way in remembering Mr Connors through activities that remind us of him some way. There is something for everyone from the great classroom tidy up to cake, cake and more cake; from bushcraft activities to scaling the Yorkshire Three Peaks (Mr Connors named our Houses after the peaks despite being a bit fearful of heights!) Some of these activities have a fundraising focus whilst others are 'just for the Mr Connors of it'!

A special mention to a group of Y11 boys who are taking over one of our 22 days to walk / run 38 miles - the distance from Nidderdale to Burnley - on Pateley Showground later next month.

We are also enormously grateful to the Dales Market Corner who nominated 'Remembering Mr Connors' for a Heart of the Community Award which will boost our fundraising efforts by another £1000.

Many thanks to all students, parents and staff who are giving so generously to support our fundraising campaign and taking part in events to honour the memory of a much-loved and respected teacher.



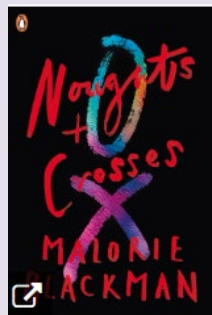
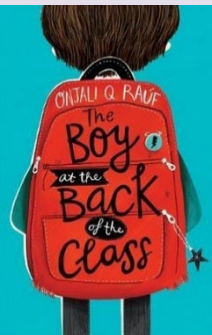
## Reading Recommendations

### **The Boy at the Back of the Class by Onjali Q Raúf**

This is the story about how a nine-year-old child and three classmates are full of empathy for Ahmet, a boy that comes to their school as a refugee from Syria (he is the boy at the back of the class). Through their sensitivity, curiosity, ingenuity, bravery and niceness, they make a massive impact on Ahmet's life, friends, class, school, community, and wider world.

### **Noughts & Crosses by Malorie Blackman.**

Voted one of the UK's best-loved books, Malorie Blackman's Noughts & Crosses is a true modern classic. Sephy and Callum have been friends since they were children, but Noughts and Crosses are fated to be bitter enemies – love is out of the question. Then – in spite of a world that is fiercely against them – Sephy and Callum choose each other. This is a love story that will lead both of them into terrible danger . . . and have shocking repercussions for generations to come. (Puffin Books)



## SEND reform: putting children and young people first



The Department for Education is seeking views on the improvements they want to make to support children and young people with SEND.

### Why your views matter

These questions focus on what matters most to children, young people and families. The consultation explains the positive changes they want to make and how that support would be delivered.

Consultation documents are available on the school website with versions for adults and young people.

[Click here](#) to access documents and a link to share your views before 18 May 26.

## Young Carers Action Day

On 11<sup>th</sup> March, we celebrated Young Carer's Action Day recognising the different challenges some of our students experience at home, and the incredible care and support they give to people in their families who need additional help. Our gifts were an opportunity to show our pride in them and to say thank you.



Pastoral team

## JOIN OUR TEAM

We are recruiting for an  
Inclusion Support Assistant (GTA)

[Please click here to see the full details](#)



A **Great Big Thank** you to Yr 7 students, their form tutors and our Junior Student Leadership Team for getting involved in the Keep Britain Tidy campaign, The Great British Litter pick.

On Wednesday Year 7 students spent their form time picking up litter from around the school site. They filled over 6 black bags which was not easy in the blustery conditions, but they showed determination to make a difference.

Thank you to all those students and staff that supported this.

Mrs Parkin

Every day  
**COUNTS!**

School success starts  
with attendance

## Home Learning Project Success in Art

This term, Year 8 and Year 9 students have been busy completing their extended home learning art projects, producing a fantastic range of thoughtful and creative work.

Year 8 students took part in the “Artist in a Box” project, where they researched an artist of their choice and created a shoebox-sized installation representing that artist. Using colours, symbols, images and even artwork in the artist’s style, students filled their boxes with imaginative ideas that clearly reflected their research and understanding. The variety and creativity on display was impressive.

Year 9 students explored the theme of “Pollution.” After researching a contemporary artist, they planned and created their own artwork inspired by the artist’s style while communicating an environmental message. Students carefully designed their compositions, gathered imagery and experimented with different materials to produce powerful final pieces.

Both year groups showed great commitment and creativity, and the finished projects were a pleasure to see. Well done to everyone involved!

Miss Brohier 🎨



## NiddVenture Special Event

Thank you to the four students who showed superb maturity, respect & support for each other on a special NiddVenture to attend the funeral of 96yr old Barbara this week. Barbara has been a long-term recipient of our NiddVenture delivery & baking services for the last 5 years and was adored by every student who had the privilege of meeting her. She has brought so much joy to our adventures, brought smiles & laughs with every visit and imparted endless positive words of wisdom to so many students. Attending her funeral was certainly very real-life education and the students who attended it rose to the challenge with immense effort & respect; smartest school uniform was worn, uniform & bikes decorated beautifully with flowers they'd brought and plenty of words of encouragement offered to each other on a slightly daunting new outing that required a little courage. Their courage was rewarded with such a warm welcome from all at the funeral and the witnessing of what was a very positive celebration of an inspirational 96 years.

Thank you all for your company and kindness. I hugely appreciated your presence and support - as did the whole congregation. The numerous positive comments I've received from so many people speak volumes about your character and the way you conduct yourselves. You really did Barbara & Nidderdale High School proud.

Thanks to the Yr8 girls NiddVenture group who made the cake we took to the funeral - your efforts were also very much admired and enjoyed - that cake did not last long! Miss Tuffs



Well done to Year 9 NiddVenture boys' group who have shown excellent application & effort towards hazel tree coppicing these last few weeks.

They have contributed to extending the trees life from 100 to 700 years - as they've learnt, coppicing hazel trees every seven years prolongs the life of the tree by seven times.

The boys have approached this task with enthusiasm, willingness to listen and great teamwork.

Miss Tuffs

## Niddvolunteers

The NiddVolunteers have been hard at work repainting the gate & railings outside Pateley Methodist Church. This was a project they identified themselves, as being something that would improve our local area - it's been great to see their idea come to fruition!



The selection process for Team Eigg 2026 is well under way. Thank you to last year's team for their superb assembly performance to promote this year's trip. They certainly did a good job because the applications have flooded in!

Thank you to all students who've submitted an application. A great deal of thought, effort and commitment has gone into them and I've really enjoyed reading them. Next steps will follow shortly and it looks like the job of selecting the team will be another challenging one - in a good way!



## Celebrating Positivity in Our Annual Student Survey

Each year, we ask our students to share their views about life at Nidderdale High School—and this year's results have been especially uplifting. **91% of students reported feeling happy at school**, a figure that speaks volumes about the positive culture our community continues to build together.

At Nidderdale, our aim is always to foster a strong sense of belonging grounded in our **Team Nidd values**.

However, we know that experiences vary, and we want every student and family to feel heard. **If you have any concerns at all**, please do not hesitate to contact us. You can reach the pastoral team by phone or via email at [support@nidderdale.mt.co.uk](mailto:support@nidderdale.mt.co.uk). This inbox is monitored by all members of the pastoral team, and both students and parents are warmly encouraged to use it.

Together, we continue to grow as a supportive, connected community—one we are truly proud of.

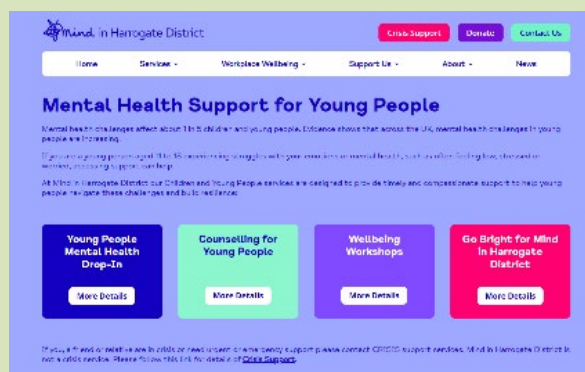


**MIND** in Harrogate are now offering a mental health drop in for anyone aged 11 – 18 on Wednesdays, 3 – 6pm at Acorn Centre, 101a Station Parade, Harrogate, HG1 1HB  
No referral or appointment is needed, just turn up, fill in a short form and access the drop-in support.

**Please note:** This drop-in is **not** a crisis service or a youth club. *Anyone under 13 must attend the drop-in with a parent or carer.*

They also offer counselling sessions at £10 session.

[Mental Health Support for Young People Harrogate Mind](#)



## Geography Field trip to York

Year 11 Geographers recently spent the day in York City centre conducting their human Geography GCSE fieldwork.

They were investigating the effectiveness of York's sustainable transport system and it was a pleasure to see so many of them push themselves outside their comfort zone to talk to the public and conduct questionnaires!

We battled some windy conditions and some students were able to put together a video diary of the day to use for revision. We even had time at the end of the trip to see some of York's flood defences that we studied earlier in the year. A brilliant trip with some brilliant students.

Students are pictured on the bridge.

Mr Day



## Educational Visit to France March 2026

Vive la France!

Thirty-four year nine students enjoyed five days in France experiencing a wide range of activities including going down to the depths of the Wellington Tunnels in Arras to discover how New Zealand quarriers helped in the first world war and later to see that other members of the Commonwealth fought alongside British in the war at the Canadian Memorial. We also climbed up the Eiffel Tower to see views of Paris in brilliant sunshine and stocked up on Parisien souvenirs after a boat trip down the Seine.

Other activities were mainly gastronomic and catered for all tastes – pain au chocolat at the boulangerie where Bruno taught us the basics of bread making and how to ‘ploup’; Simon showed us how to make chocolates; we all learned to make mayonnaise (mayonnaise tasting at 9.00 was a bit much for some staff!); learning how flour is milled in a traditional windmill; making our own lollies in the sweet shop and tasting snails, holding snails and, for some, **wearing** snails – not for the faint-hearted. A gastronomic tour for all!

Lots of people commented on the politeness, willingness to try and good nature of the students and once again it was an opportunity for staff to feel proud of them all.

Thank you to Mrs Parkin, Mr Baxter, Mrs Overend for making this such a successful trip.

Mrs Gibson

## Bird Boxes – Year 8

Well done to the Yr8 girls NiddVenture group who successfully made and put up 5 bird boxes this week. They worked beautifully together on this project and a bird even flew into one of the boxes within minutes of it being put up - the birds must have approved of your workmanship!



Miss Tuffs