

Headteacher's Introduction

Dear Parent / Carer

This week we were pleased to receive our official Ofsted report, which we have shared directly with all parents and carers. The report recognises the school's strong commitment to ensuring every child feels valued, supported and able to succeed, highlighting our culture of belonging as a defining feature of school life and praises the welcoming atmosphere across the school, noting that "everyone is made to feel welcome at Nidderdale High School."

We are delighted that the work we do to support all of our young people has been recognised officially. Meeting the new 'Expected Standard' is a high benchmark to reach and we are very proud to have achieved this standard across such a wide range of measures. The report reflects the hard work and commitment of all staff, leaders and students and the support of our families and community.

Kath Jordan, Headteacher



The Nidderdale High School Parents, Teachers, Friends Association will hold its Annual General Meeting on Thursday 9 July at 5:30 pm at Nidderdale High. All are welcome to come along and learn about the activities of the past year and help plan for the future. The agenda will include: Financial reports from year 25-26, committee role elections & planning for events and activities in the academic year 2026-2027. For further information, please contact nidderdaleptfa@gmail.com.

Success in the Junior UK Maths Challenge

Recently, students in Years 7 and 8 took part in the Junior UK Maths Challenge, a nationwide competition in which students answer 25 multiple-choice questions in just one hour. The challenge encourages mathematical reasoning, problem-solving, and perseverance, with students aiming to achieve a Gold, Silver or Bronze award. Congratulations to the students below who won awards in the first round:

Gold - Henry Clough
Silver - Joseph Martin
Bronze - Arthur Freeman
Bronze - Matthew Gaffney-Smith
Bronze - Ben Lofthouse
Bronze - Annalise Robinson
Bronze - James Rushworth
Bronze - Alfie Southen
Bronze - Harry Tidswell
Bronze - Lilly-May Williams
Bronze - Henry Runham

A huge congratulations to all of the students who took part this year and especially Henry Clough, who achieved a Gold award—the first student in the school's history to do so. This is an outstanding accomplishment and a testament to Henry's hard work and dedication.

As a result of this success, Henry qualified for the next stage of the competition, the Junior Kangaroo. Henry continued to work incredibly hard and went on to achieve a Bronze award in this challenging second round. This is a fantastic achievement and one that the whole school can celebrate.

Well done to Henry and to everyone who participated in this year's competition. We are incredibly proud of your efforts and achievements.

Mr Harrison

Highlighting Our Year 7 and 8 Drama Superheroes!



Year 7 and 8 Drama students have been unleashing their inner superpowers over the last few weeks and have been diving into an exciting new unit centered around 'Superheroes and Villains'. While the focus on stage has been creating larger-than-life characters and epic showdowns, the real magic has been happening behind the scenes through their incredible group work.

Working in groups can sometimes be a challenge, but our Key Stage 3 performers have proven that collaboration is their ultimate strength. To build their superhero worlds, students have had to master crucial life skills:

Active Listening- Negotiating whose superhero concept to use and blending different ideas into one storyline.

Creative Compromise- Learning how to share the spotlight so that every person in their group gets their moment to shine.

Physical Theatre- Working together to safely choreograph slow-motion battle scenes.

The energy in the drama studio has been electric. We have seen everything from classic caped crusaders saving the day to brand-new, imaginative characters.

What has been most impressive is the inclusivity on display. Students have proactively ensured that everyone in their group feels comfortable, supported, and confident in their roles. It takes a lot of courage to stand up and perform, and the supportive atmosphere the students have created for each other is truly commendable.

A massive well-done to all of our Year 7 and 8 drama students for their focus, energy, and brilliant team spirit. You are all absolute superstars!

Mrs Gallimore

Running Club News

The Nidd High Runners said a fond farewell to Yr11 students Josh, Ben & Dulcie this week. All three have consistently attended running club over the last few years, greatly improving their own performances, furthering their love of running and best of all, providing huge encouragement & friendship to younger students - captured beautifully here in this photo of Big Ben & Little Ben sharing a laugh! The Yr11s have helped enormously with running club organisation and we'll miss them greatly on our weekly runs - but I know we haven't seen the last of them; the Nidd running club bond is too strong for that and we will look forward to meeting them on our Fountains Abbey Parkrun adventures! Thank you all and well done for demonstrating such a good balance of work & play throughout your exam period - happy well-earned long summer holiday of running around now!





Year 11 Prom

Last Thursday saw our wonderful Year 11s say their final, formal farewell to school with their Prom celebrations at the Cedar Court Hotel.

As is tradition, our students put on a fabulous display for parents, staff and hotel guests as they arrived in style in tractors, prestige sport cars, a fire engine, a Harley Davidson and on a horse! In beautiful gowns and smart suits, everyone dressed to impress and there was plenty of time for photos and sharing happy memories.

With thanks to Mrs Ashton and staff who supervised the Prom and to our very own Mr Beck for his fabulous DJ skills. We hope that everyone had a wonderful time.

We look forward to seeing Year 11 again on Results Day in August.



Green Hat Gardening

The Nidd Green Hat Gardeners recently had a very exciting trip to Horticap in Harrogate to collect 590 begonia plants - the school minibus has certainly never had floral passengers before!

A huge thank you to Horticap (*especially Steve*) for supporting our Green Hat Gardening project, welcoming our students with such genuine kindness and reliably providing all our plants. It seems highly fitting that our grant from The Ernest Cook Trust is being spent at Horticap - an independent charity who provide adults with learning and other disabilities training in horticulture, allied crafts and rural skills.

All our plants have been locally grown at Horticap by their adult students; some of whom kindly helped us load up the minibus. A special thing to see our students mixing so respectfully with the adults at Horticap. Nidd Green Hat Gardeners are very proud to be supporting a local establishment doing such valuable work.

Thank you Rory, Callum & Finlay for representing the Nidd Green Hat Gardeners to such a high standard on this mission and to the Nidd High Runners for the speedy unloading of the bus on our return. Another fine team effort!

Miss Tuffs



The pictures speak for themselves on this one... What a fine team effort that wouldn't have happened without the generous support of The Ernest Cook Trust, Horticap in Harrogate, all the parents who've donated materials & loaned tools and especially Greg Parsons - chief Eigg & Winter Trip volunteer who inspired the Green Hat Gardening idea on our drive back from the Cairngorms in January.

And last but definitely not least, to the Green Hat Gardeners themselves for turning ideas in to reality - a fine display of teamwork, effort, positivity and desire to do this job to a very high standard. What a lot of fun we've had establishing Nidd Green Hat Gardening!

Thank you All.



Year 7 Trip to York University

On Monday 22nd June, 9 year 7 students visited the National STEM centre at the University of York for a day of Maths through Axiom Maths Circles. We had a fantastic day out. Enjoy Soph Harper's report below.

Mr Harrison

Yesterday, some of the year sevens went to the University of York. It was very fun and they provided us with a lot of snacks. They dubbed me 'snack bearer' so I brought a lot of baking. But this was nothing on the experience I had of Owen's newly found love for a spinning stool (which was a bit like a spinning top); we could barely get him off it! I also had the privilege to learn lots of new things such as the Pythagoras theorem, the use of algebra in maths and the enigma machine - which was an enlightening contraption solved because someone couldn't be bothered to write a sentence properly. We got to work with other schools with Axiom maths circles which seemed to be a fun experience for my teachers too. At break and lunchtime, we got to go to the resource centre which looked like a giant library with lots of cool activities like driveable robots, a giant lego space shuttle and a big expandable ball that me and Till's got our foot stuck in! Overall, it was an amazing day and maybe one day I could attend York University.

Soph Harper Year 7



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Reminders

School will be closed to all students on **Friday 3 July** for staff training.

Flamingo Land for Year 9/10 **Thursday 9 July**

PTFA AGM **Thursday 9 July 5:30pm**

Year 10 Work Experience **wc 13 July**

Flamingo Land for Year 7/8 **Thursday 9 July**

School closes for summer break **Friday 17 July 12:30pm**