

Headteacher's Introduction

Dear Parent / Carer

Last week we were pleased to be able to share our good news about our recent Ofsted inspection. This week we were delighted to learn that we expect Year 7 to be full in September. We look forward to welcoming our newest students into school during the summer term as they prepare to join us in September. We continue to receive regular requests for new students to join us in most year groups.

Kath Jordan, Headteacher



Sporting Success

We welcomed St Aidan's School and Boroughbridge High School to our school last week for the North Yorkshire handball play offs. Kicking us off were the year 11 GCSE PE students. St Aidan's started strongly but our students pulled through in the end, showing their quality and class taking an impressive win.

Next up were the year 10 GCSE PE students. Not only were they playing for assessment reasons but also for a place in the regional finals in April. Despite a strong late surge from our students, St Aidan's managed to hold on to the lead and got the win which secured their place in the regionals.

Finally, our year 8 students played Boroughbridge High School for a place in the regional finals. Despite Boroughbridge growing and getting better throughout the game, our students remained in control to claim an impressive 17-9 victory. Ezra and George the stand out goal threat, whilst Joshua was the man putting his body on the line by bagging several important blocks. Another shout out to Freddie who showed immense composure on and off the ball throughout. We look forward to the regional finals in April.

Mr Barrass.



Macbeth – Year 11 students

On Friday 24th February, Y11 students attended a performance of Macbeth at Harrogate Theatre.

The production was selected as one of the Guardian's theatre tickets to book in 2023 and included stunning visuals achieved with innovative use of technology mixed with Shakespeare's original language.



Academic Year 2022/2023

Calendar reminders

- 6 p.m. 27 Mar 23 parent information evening with MLT staff
- 3.15 p.m. 31 Mar 23 – school closes to Mon 17 April 23 for Easter break
- Mon 1 May 23 – Bank Holiday
- Mon 8 May 23 – Bank Holiday
- 3.15 p.m. Fri 26 May 23 – school closes to Mon 5 June 23
- Thu 6 July 23 – Y6 Transition day 1 and Parents' Evening
- Thu 13 July 23 – Y6 Transition day 2
- 2.15 p.m. Fri 21 July 23 – school closes for Summer break

Careers

Year 11

Thank you to Harrogate Grammar School who came into school to carry out sixth form interviews with our Year 11 students. It was lovely to see students looking forward to their next step after Nidderdale.

Year 10

Thank you to all Year 10 students who have secured a work experience place for the week of 17-21st July 2023. The placement deadline is 31st March 2023. If you need any help with this please contact me on liz.eglin@nidderdale.n-yorks.sch.uk

In Year 10 careers lessons we have been looking at resilience, motivation, positivity and inspiration both in their school life and looking forward to Post 16.

Mrs Eglin, Careers Advisor

London Trip

It was great to be able to reinstate the Year 11 trip to London this year. With valuable subject hinterland experiences for History, Science, English, Drama and cultural experiences a plenty we packed in a huge amount to our 20 hour first day and Day 2 was equally busy!

Every student had a different highlight - from the sights on the London Eye, to the dinosaurs in the Natural Science Museum; from the Lion King, to seeing preparations for the coronation of the King and the changing of the guard at the Tower of London; from selfies in Madam Tussauds, to left over brownies at the Hard Rock Café, there was something for everyone. The highlight for everyone after a hard day's sightseeing and a long journey home was undoubtedly DJ Pancott's disco medley ending with a Nidderdale favourite singalong to 'Country Road take me Home' as we reached our beloved Dale once more.

Students who took part in the trip were a credit to the school and demonstrated fantastic resilience and endurance setting off from school at 3.30am and arriving at our accommodation at 11.30pm!

Thank you to Mr Pancott, Mr Wolfram, Dr Johnson and Mrs Spence for making sure everything ran smoothly and an enjoyable time was had by all.

Ms Jordan

Nidderlicious

Hot meal deals @£2.95 w/c 6th March 2023

- Monday:** Cottage Pie and Peas, Traybake or Fruit
- Tuesday:** Pork and Apple Burger in a Bun, Shortbread
- Wednesday:** Barbeque chicken and rice, Traybake
- Thursday:** Honey roast bacon loin, muffin
- Friday:** Chicken tikka masala, ice cream

The full menu is always available on the school website.

Please ensure your child's account is in funds as service at the tills is slowed down when sufficient funds are not available.

Science – Educational Visit

On Thursday 23rd February a selection of our GCSE separate science students went to St George's Hall, Bradford to listen to five renowned scientists enthuse and engage about their field, including Professor Steve Jones, Dr Anna Ploszajski, Professor Lord Robert Winston, Dr Hannah Critchlow and Professor Dave Cliff. These scientists all have a fantastic ability to communicate with secondary school students in a direct and exciting way, and it is clear to see how events like this are a brilliant way of inspiring the students in their GCSE learning and future studies, but also bring vividly to life the fact that science really does offer solutions for many of the world's great problems.

Dr Anna Ploszajski is an inspirational materials scientist, working at the cutting edge of her field. She told us the story of planning and swimming the English Channel, our own Mr Mangeolles ears pricked up at this as a future Channel swimmer. We now know that the best food for swimmers is a chocolate mini roll! It was amazing and memorable, therefore, to hear her truly eye-opening talk about how she applied her knowledge of smart materials to the swim. We next heard from Professor Steve Jones who spoke eloquently and with great humour about human genetics and evolution. Professor Lord Robert Winston, well-known in the field of fertility, was hugely engaging and vindicated his reputation as a firm favourite amongst our staff and students. Dr Hannah Critchlow was a last minute substitution but captivated her audience and connected a volunteers brain to a display and explained all the different waves and how these can be altered by simple movements and thoughts, explaining how we could each use certain tactics to become more successful decision makers. Last but not least we finished the day with Professor Dave Cliff, a computer scientist or failed fortune teller as he described himself. He had the students captivated with the promise of a future that no one can predict - I thought we were heading into a scientific explanation of Ant-Man when he started discussing quantum sizes, I can't say I fully understood what he was talking about. But, that was his point, the next people to find an understanding of this would be the students in the audience.

Not only was it an excellent day but it was a great opportunity to get out of our classrooms and visit an event solely focussed on science, but as part of the trip the students experienced two examiner sessions which gave them all top tips on how to succeed in the up-coming GCSE Science exams.

The students all represented the school to an impressive standard and we were proud to have them with us for the day.

There is no better way to end than with a quick review from one of our students (Callie Tropia yr 10):

The Science Live day offered me a unique perspective on fields of science I had not considered for further study or a career, and I left the room inspired by a day of material science, neuroscience and genetic science.

My main takeaway from Science Live was that science is an everchanging field full of different branches, and that, be it bubble physics or championing IVFs, there is something for everyone. I would like to finish with something that computer scientist Dave Cliff said: 'Who will invent the future?...people like me...by which I mean...you'