

# Nidd

# NEWS

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## Year 7 NiddVenture

This group are really embracing the opportunities that have been given to them through this half term's weekly session. It is lovely to see them appreciating both our beautiful local environment and further afield. This group have grown in confidence and skill across the last six weeks.



## Headteacher's Introduction

Dear Parent / Carer

Already we have reached the end of the first half term of the year. It has been very busy in school with lots of opportunities for students to demonstrate our Team Nidd Values. As you will see from the later pages of this newsletter, several of our students are also celebrating recent achievements out of school too.

Our Year 11 students are currently enjoying a three day culture packed visit to London with visits to the Houses of Parliament, a walking tour of the city, a musical and a trip to the Globe Theatre all on the itinerary. We look forward to reporting on this trip in the next Nidd News.

On Friday we will be wishing Mrs Witherwick a temporary farewell as she starts her maternity leave. We are grateful to Mr Pancott and Mrs Cawley for the additional days they will be working to provide continuity of teaching in Mrs Witherwick's absence.

Kath Jordan, Headteacher



We are thrilled to announce that Form 7I were crowned the KS3 winners of the 2024 Christmas Hamper Competition. Their creativity, teamwork, and festive spirit truly shone through as they put together a spectacular hamper that impressed everyone who had the pleasure of seeing it.

The dedication and effort from each member of 7I were evident in every detail of the hamper. From thoughtful selections to beautifully arranged decorations, it was clear that the group worked hard to make their contribution stand out. Their success is a testament to the power of collaboration!

As a reward for their hard work, Form 7I finally got to enjoy a well-deserved form breakfast, provided by the Pastoral Team. It was a wonderful opportunity for the students to celebrate their achievement together and reflect on the importance of giving back during the festive season.

A huge well done to all of Form 7I! Your efforts have not only brought joy to the school community but also embodied the true spirit of Christmas. We look forward to seeing even more fantastic hampers next year!



## Year 10 NiddVenture

This group recently had a spectacular day at Malham Cove.

They all appreciated this geological wonder and enjoyed some superb views of the surrounding area.



Congratulations to James Hush Year 7 who has achieved some very fast times and has qualified for the Yorkshire Swimming Championships.

James swims for Harrogate District Swimming Club and trains at least four times a week & some of these sessions involve very early starts!

The Championships will be held later this month and James will be competing against some of the best swimmers in the county. He will also represent his club in the relay event the following day.

The championships are being held at the Ponds Forge International Swimming Pool in Sheffield and we all wish James well. GOOD LUCK JAMES!

Congratulations to Theo Year 11 who recently played for Northern Titans in EMMNA's (England Mixed and Men's Netball Association) first ever winter championships. The event was for adult men's netball teams across the UK and was held at The Score in London on Saturday 1st February. He's the youngest member of the team and was the second youngest player at the tournament. This was a fantastic opportunity for him to play with and against the best male netballers in the country and an exciting experience!

Theo's passion for this sport began several years ago when he was encouraged to attend an extra-curricular netball session by some of his friends and the PE staff. He played several times for the school team and was particularly encouraged by Mrs Kay in a cup event where she pushed for him to be included when other schools were reluctant to accept a mixed team.

After being inspired at Nidd, Theo sought out a men's team in Leeds - Northern Titans Men's Netball Club, where he now trains every week. This has offered him fantastic opportunities including friendlies with Leeds Rhino's Netball Team and playing against France under 21s national mixed netball team who visited the UK last summer.

Theo and the Northern Titans will now be working towards the 3 day national summer championships in August.



## Poetry Live

Recently, years 10 and 11 had the opportunity to go on a school trip to the Harrogate Convention Centre to see 'Poetry Live!' The trip meant that we could listen to the poets read out their poems and give background information on how the poems came about. Not only that, Tony Childs (an AQA examiner) gave two talks throughout the day on how to cope with unseen exam poems. The guest poets who spoke included: Carol Ann Duffy, Daljit Nagra, Poet Laureate Simon Armitage, Owen Sheers, Imtiaz Dharker, and John Agard (pictured left).

The trip was extremely helpful because it meant that we got to hear poets read out their poems which are in our GCSE poetry anthologies. Also hearing the poems read aloud and not just reading them on a page meant that the real feelings behind the poems were more obviously displayed to those who attended. It was a memorable day out for everyone.

Ben Rushworth



## Air Cadets

I am a corporal in the RAF's Air Cadets, I have been there for 2½ years and am really enjoying it.

So far I've been flying, shooting and have done many courses such as First Aid and presenting. I'm hoping to do some fieldcraft later this year too. We meet twice a week (nights vary from squadron to squadron). A typical night (based at my squadron in, Knaresborough) includes Drill (marching), and a bit of practical or theoretical teaching, or sport.

If you are interested in any of this and would like to join there are squadrons in, Knaresborough, Harrogate and Ripon and these all provide similar experiences to each other.

Josh Hunt, Year 10

## Musical talent

Oliver Wood and Caleb Parsons have an absolute passion for music, and very talented they are too! Oliver is an excellent guitarist who spends a lot of time at home building guitars as well as playing them. Caleb has an incredible singing voice, a real talent. Mrs Cawley said the first time she heard him sing it 'took my breath away.' Together they are writing and record their own songs as well as covers. We are hoping that they might do a performance before the end of this academic year.



## JOIN OUR TEAM

We are seeking a **Casual Site Team Worker** and **Invigilators** (including readers and scribes).

More information and application forms are on our website

<https://www.nidderdalehighschool.co.uk/our-school/vacancies>

Recent reward trips have celebrated the excellent behaviour choices of many of our students with some very enjoyable NiddVenture adventures. Year 7 & 8 had a very exciting trip to Strans Ghyll, where some superb teamwork was displayed in the challenging conditions.



## Exams & Revision

Year 11 students will be taking their final mock exams on our return to school after half term and Year 10 should be beginning to prepare for their Year 10 mock exams after Easter.

The school has subscribed to the Seneca package which has a wealth of independent study and revision materials as well as specific tasks assigned by teaching staff. We encourage all our students but especially Year 11 to make use of this. Earlier in the week our school was top of the Seneca Leader Board!

Further advice and support can be found by following these links:

<https://www.nidderdalehighschool.co.uk/students/revision/>

<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/young-person/coping-with-life/exam-stress/>



## Team Eigg 2025

Well done to Dulcie, Tess, Hannah, Jacob, Alex & Poppie who will be joining Bethan, Emma & Alex as our Team Eigg for 2025.

The competition for a place was extremely high again this year. The standard of effort, resilience & respect from all the shortlisted applicants throughout the whole application process was very impressive and makes the gaining of a place on this trip even more special.

I am very much looking forward to adventuring with this team over the coming months and have great faith in their resilience, team work & ability to embrace all elements of the trip

Miss Tuffs

Our NiddVenture curriculum continues to extend to provide opportunities for our local primary schools.

Pictured here are Glasshouses Primary School pupils at Trollers Ghyll. They had a great day with some superb instructing from Bethan, Emma & Alex



## Safer Internet Day – 11<sup>th</sup> February

The theme is 'Too Good to be True' – information about online scams. Tips for all ages can be found on the following link.

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day-2025-top-tips>

## School Governance

Following the recent Parent Election, Mr Thorpe has been elected as Parent Governor.

Further information about school governance is available on the school website:

<https://www.nidderdalehighschool.co.uk/our-school/governance/>