

Headteacher's Introduction

Dear Parent / Carer

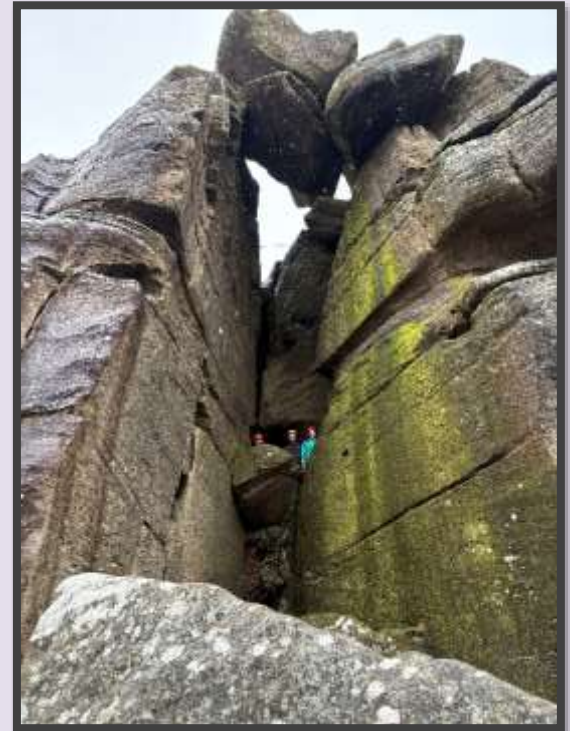
Following on from their trip to London before half term, Year 11 have been in the thick of it with final core subject mocks and post-16 interviews. Congratulations to all Year 11 students who were offered places at Harrogate Grammar Sixth Form after interviews in school on Thursday. Feedback from the interview team was outstanding with comments regarding how 'well-prepared', 'well mannered' and 'ambitious' our students were. Best wishes to Year 11s still awaiting interviews with other Harrogate and Ripon sixth forms and local FE colleges.

Year 10 should now be taking inspiration from Year 11 as they prepare for their first experience of mock GCSE exams after Easter.

We were delighted to learn this week that our popularity and strong reputation continues as we are over-subscribed for places in Year 7 from September 2025.

We continue to encourage our students to aim for full attendance and display our Team Nidd Values every day. There are some great examples of ambition, resilience, responsibility, kindness and pride in this edition of Nidd News.

Kath Jordan, Headteacher



Brimham Rocks and Orienteering

Mrs Ashton and I had a fantastic day on a Year 9 and 10 NiddVenture Rewards Trip with students who had showed the best attitude to learning and the most positives during the spring 1 half term.

During the morning, they had to conquer their fear of small spaces, brave the wild elements and test their climbing skills at Brimham Rocks. After warming up with a hot chocolate in the bungalow, they ventured out to Yorke's Folly to take part in a cold but challenging orienteering course. A successful and enjoyable day was had by all!

Mr Couldwell

Rugby Success

Congratulations to the Y7/8 rugby team for their storming 75:0 win against Rossett last week.

Help for Parents

There are links to a range of topics on our Help for Parents page on the school website.

<https://www.nidderdalehighschool.co.uk/parents/help-for-parents/>

Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE)

Recently we invited a specialist speaker from the charity Brook to enhance the content that is covered in the PSHE curriculum for Years 8, 9 and 10.

- Year 8 developed their skills to manage and report pressures and concerns online, including Youth Produced Sexual Imagery (YPSI).
- Year 9 learned about the unacceptability of discriminatory language and behaviour, discussed the harmful effects of stereotypes and misogyny and lastly the ways in which you can promote equality and inclusivity and challenge stereotypes and bullying.
- Year 10 learned about digital relationships and how to stay safe online.

As always, students were reminded where to access further support, information and support services.

Mrs Kay

<https://www.ceop.police.uk/Safety-Centre/>

<https://www.brook.org.uk/>

Year 10 NiddVenture students have been hard at work making a difference in the local community. They showed great respect, kindness, commitment and enthusiasm for the clearing of an elderly resident's garden.

Thank you Eve, Freddie, Maisie, Annabel & Mia for your hard work. An absolute pleasure seeing your determination to complete this job and your pride in doing it to a high standard.

Ms Tuffs



Ripon Muddy Boots 10k Sunday 2nd March

Well done to Year 8 student, Emma who was the fastest girl in the junior race, and her mum who was the second fastest lady in the 10k.

The Nidderdale staff representatives didn't fair quite so well in their own 10k but were all happy to finish it with all limbs still attached!



Year 11 Visit to London

Students met bright and early (it wasn't bright) on Wednesday morning at 3.30am ready for a three day trip packed full to the brim. On arrival we went straight into Parliament for a guided tour around the House of Lords. We finished our visit with a discussion with our local MP, Sir Julian Smith, where our students asked him a wide variety of challenging and interesting questions. After this we made our way to the Graffiti Tunnel at Leake Street Arches to admire the existing artwork and add our own masterpieces to it as part of the idea that it is an ever-changing exhibition. Next, students enjoyed the view from the top of the London Eye before experiencing the thrills of history in the London Dungeon. The final part of day one was a spot of shopping and dinner in one of the large shopping centres that London has to offer.

Day two was no less busy! The day began with a trip to the Tower of London to see the Crown Jewels, where the ravens that inhabit the Tower quickly became the star attraction! A leisurely cruise down the Thames with a picnic lunch ensued, leading on to a trip to the wonderful St Paul's Cathedral. After many (many) stairs, students were rewarded with my favourite view of London from outside the cathedral's dome. Shopping time in Covent Garden and dinner at the Hard Rock Cafe were next, before the group split to enjoy a choice of shows at the theatre. Half the group enjoyed the hilarious comedy, 'Mrs Doubtfire', whilst the others were entertained with the musical extravaganza (with a bit of a history lesson thrown in) that is 'Six'.

The final day was slightly more relaxed with a guided tour of the Globe theatre and a visit to their Shakespeare exhibition. Students were treated to a live rehearsal of Macbeth during their tour, and then enjoyed trying on a raft of theatre costumes in the exhibition.

The students were an absolute delight to take on the trip and were a real credit to themselves and the school. The coach driver commented at the end that they were the best school group he had ever had and he wished every school group was like them. A personal highlight was singing 'Take Me Home, Country Roads' on the bus as we drove through Pateley High Street which felt like a fitting end to the trip and also a poignant moment as the year group head towards the end of their time at school.

Thank you to the staff for giving up their time, and to everyone involved in making the trip such an unforgettable experience.

Mr Wolfram





The Year 7 NiddVenture group had a beautiful day to begin this half term's course. They conquered Coniston Pie in Wharfedale, studied a fine example of limestone pavement and did some superb fossil hunting by the River Skiffare in Littondale.

Redeem your vouchers for free holiday activities and food this Easter

All families whose children receive benefits-related free school meals have been issued vouchers to access free places on FEAST activities this Easter. You should have received this via email or text, from a platform called Holiday Activities. Follow the link in this email/text to redeem your voucher and book your child's place on some of the fantastic activities on offer in our area.

If you cannot find your voucher, please contact the school office.

To learn more about FEAST, and for information on activities, eligibility, paid-for places and how to manage your bookings, visit the website.

Science news

Mrs Carpenter dipped into her costume collection once more to celebrate 'Mars Day' on 4th March. Science lessons covered a range of Mars related topics and students had the chance to view a live broadcast from the space station and find out more about careers with NASA during break and lunch.

Science week takes place 7th - 16th March and we will be entering the Civil Service STEM challenge.



World Book Day - 6th March

World Book Day tokens are available from the Library. Each token can either be used as a £1 discount for a student's choice of book or exchanged for a FREE limited edition book, produced especially for World Book Day. Tokens can be used in many local shops, including The Little Ripon Book Shop, Asda, Sainsburys, Morrisons, WH Smiths, The Works, Waterstones & Imagined Things.

Ms Lester



My suggested reading is Furry Logic the physics of animal life by Martin Duranni and Liz Kalaugher. It explores the mysteries of why a tiny turtle hatching from Florida circles the entire northern Atlantic before returning to the very beach it was hatched on and how can a Komodo dragon kill a water buffalo with a bite that is only as strong as a domestic cat's.

Mrs Carpenter