



Year 8 students Bethan Parsons & Emma White gave eight children from St Cuthbert's Primary School a very enjoyable day out amongst our local woods, rocks & rivers this week. They showed great teaching potential, created suitable challenges & took full responsibility for ensuring we had all the correct kit and that all children had a safe & enjoyable experience of the outdoors. Thank you both for your hard work and care. It's an absolute pleasure seeing your skills continue to flourish!

## Headteacher's Introduction

Dear Parent / Carer

This half term, although the shortest, should be one of the most productive. Year 10 have completed their first experience of mock GCSE examination in the hall. Year 11 students are completing Art and Photography 10 hour exams, students in French and German will be completing their GCSE speaking exams and some of our PE students will be taking part in the moderation event. From 8<sup>th</sup> May Year 11 will begin their written GCSE exams in the hall. Parents of Year 11 students will have received a recent letter outlining routines and expectation for the exam period.

Although the current warm weather will not necessarily be the norm for the rest of this academic year, we will now allow students to make their own judgement about whether to wear the school blazer. From this point the school blazer will be optional and students may wear their school shirt (tucked in with top button fastened) and school tie with or without a plain back jumper (or Nidd logo jumper). Please note that leggings are not permitted and all students should be wearing trousers or a skirt.

At the end of next week, after some frantic marking of GCSE coursework, Mrs (V) Brown will be starting her maternity leave – we are very grateful to her for staying on to work with Year 11 until their final art and photography exams are complete. We wish her all the very best for the arrival of new baby. We will look forward to welcoming Mrs (L) Brown into school for two days each week to cover this period of maternity leave.

Kath Jordan, Headteacher

## Reminders

- 8<sup>th</sup> May to 18<sup>th</sup> June 2025 - GCSEs



- 5<sup>th</sup> May - May Day – School closed
- 26<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 30<sup>th</sup> May - Half Term
- 18<sup>th</sup> June - Year 11 Prom

## Congratulations!

Congratulations to Heather Tuffs who has had an article about the recent Winter Cairngorms adventure published in the Horizons Magazine (an Outdoor Ed magazine for professionals).

You can read the article on our website – [click here](#).



Team Eigg have excitedly begun their after-school training sessions in preparation for our June adventure. This week's training involved a tent putting-up race, very efficiently won by Bethan & Emma and a training march back to school from the top of our finest Nidderdale hill!! Thank you all for your effort, enthusiasm & reliability so far. You are already bonding beautifully as a team!



The new Year 7 NiddVenture group made a great start to this half term's course with a thorough exploration of the upper River Wharfe near Hebden. Thank you all for your kindness to each other and great enthusiasm for adventuring outdoors. I am very much looking forward to working with you over the next few weeks! We also saw a very unique duck!

## Energy Drinks

Energy drinks can be harmful to young people. We are therefore grateful to Dales Corner Market and Spar, who are working with school to assist in the health and wellbeing of young people within our community by not selling Energy drinks to students in school uniform or under 16 years of age. [For more information click here.](#)

Over 16s will need to produce identity before they are served energy drinks.



**School success starts  
with attendance**

School attendance is a crucial factor in securing strong academic outcomes and future success for students.

Evidence shows that students with higher attendance achieve significantly better results, as every day in school provides valuable learning, support, and opportunities for personal growth.

At Nidderdale High School, we are proud that our attendance this year is the best it has been since before the COVID-19 pandemic—a clear sign of our school community's commitment to learning and progress.

We know that parental support plays a vital role in maintaining strong attendance, and we are grateful for the continued efforts of our families in ensuring students are in school, on time, every day.

Mr Devanney

## Science News

We had a fantastic Science Week ensuring all KS3 classes had the opportunity to complete practical challenging science lessons.

Students also had the opportunity to take part in a variety of competitions, and we had a high number of entries for the Science quiz, National Health Service adverts and Engineering STEM Challenge. We are waiting to see if any of the entries have been successful in the Engineering STEM challenge.

Students who achieved the top entries in the Science quiz and National Health Service advert have received prizes in school for their hard work.

The Science Department is now looking forward to organising some science competitions with local primary schools with the help of Year 7 and Year 8 students.





## The Junior Student Council at Nidderdale High School

At Nidderdale High School, we believe in leaving things better than we found them — and that includes our school. That's why a dedicated Junior Student Council has been set up this year to work alongside our already established Senior Council. The Junior Student Council gives us students a stronger voice and more opportunities to help shape school life. Over the past year, we've been busy supporting both our school and the wider community.

One of our proudest achievements has been promoting the Nidderdale Youth Council — an important group that represents the voices of young people across Nidderdale. It's been a great way to connect with others and have our opinions heard on a broader level. We've supported local events like the Late-Night Shopping event, bringing festive cheer and community spirit to the high street. We also ran several successful stalls at the Christmas Fair, raising money for two amazing charities — Yorkshire Air Ambulance and Men's Shed.

In school, we've worked hard to raise important issues on behalf of students. We've had a meeting with Mr. Vass to discuss the food options available at break and lunch, sharing feedback from students to help improve the dining experience. Another key focus has been the condition of the school toilets, which we've been actively working to improve.

Throughout everything we do, we make sure to promote the Nidderdale School Values — showing respect, taking responsibility, and always striving to make a positive impact.

The Youth Council is all about making a difference, and we're proud of what we've achieved so far. We're excited to keep building on this work and continue making Nidderdale High even better for everyone.

By the Junior School Council

 mind in Harrogate District

## Young People Drop-in



A safe space to be heard. Talk to one of our qualified practitioners about your feelings and devise coping strategies to move forward and improve your wellbeing. We are here to listen.

### Who is it for?

The mental health drop-in is for anyone aged 11 – 18. This drop-in is not a crisis service or a youth club.

### When and where is it?

Wednesday, 3 – 6pm  
Acorn Centre, 101a Station Parade, Harrogate, HG1 1HB

### How to access the support?

No referral or appointment is needed, just turn up, fill in a short form and access the drop-in.

[www.mindinharrogate.org.uk](http://www.mindinharrogate.org.uk) 01423 503335 [office@mindinharrogate.org.uk](mailto:office@mindinharrogate.org.uk)

Mind in Harrogate District (a charitable incorporated organisation)  
Registered charity number (1151271)

Bounce Forward and the Harry Kane Foundation are offering parents free access to a 6 week online course to equip you with knowledge and tools to foster mental resilience and emotional wellbeing in your children and yourselves.

If this is something you are interested in, you can listen to Harry Kane's introduction and register for the course direct via the link below:

<https://bounceforward.com/bounce-forward-raise-resilience-hkf/>

