



**A Ball of a time**  
Sixth Form Ball was a night to remember

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**Sports day successes**  
Another eventful day of sport

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## Dobbo: a free elf

**After 32 years of service to this school, the Leicester City (super) fan is hanging up his boots and heading home. He has built quite a reputation amongst staff and students alike and left a legacy which will never be forgotten. By DANIELLE Bate 10Y and KAMYA Gandhi 10z**

**F**rom his iconic cufflinks to his charming personality, everything about Mr Dobson illustrates the passion he possesses for his school, his students and his subject.

It all began when the young student failed the second year of his degree. He decided to take a year off and spent some time in a school. "I had a little play at teaching and realised that I could probably just about blag it. And I've been blagging it ever since!"

He moved up from London in 1993 and lived in a flat in what is now the Lindsey building. "That's when the swimming pool was a swimming pool," he said with a grin. With a degree in Maths and Physics (which he did go back and finish by the way), he began teaching design and technology and was encouraged by the creative and interesting outcomes he was presented with by the students. He sees Technology as "the core of the curriculum" which "just brings everyone together".

Over the years, he has

watched his three boys grow up through the school which gave him a parent's perspective on education and allowed him to appreciate how good CGS actually is.

When asked what his ultimate highlight at Caistor Grammar has been, Mr Dobson simply replied, "this year has been phenomenal!" He especially appreciated the "Dob the Builder" assembly held in his honour

**“ I've been blagging it ever since!”**

by Year 10 students.

As well as being an inspirational Technology teacher, Mr Dobson has also contributed so much in the role of Head of Upper school. He told us that it all happened because Mr Cook brought him a pint of Guinness. "So he sort of bribed me," he laughed as he recalled the memory.

A particularly funny memory Mr Dobson looks back on fondly is with Mr Sterling, a previous technology teacher. It was Children in Need day and Mr Dobson came

dressed as Woody with Mr Sterling as Buzz Lightyear from Toy Story. Caught up in the moment, Mr Sterling uttered the immortal words "to infinity and beyond!" as he launched himself off the terraces. As you do. In the words of Mr Dobson: "He fell, without style."

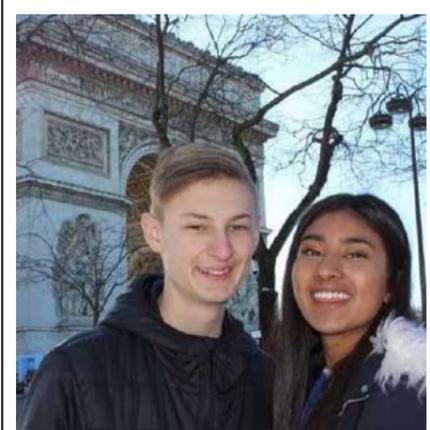
He is going to miss the interaction with students most when he retires and said that, "working alongside students is the biggest thing." In the same way Mr Dobson loves being around students, they have an incredible amount of respect and gratitude for him. Rory Longcake, 10z expressed the impact Mr Dobson had on their first encounter: "It was a Tuesday after lunch, my first ever lesson of Year 7. Mr Dobson walked in, and it was love at first sight!" Another student Elliot Lomas, 10x became quite emotional when asked to comment his feelings about Mr Dobson's retirement: "It's so sad he's leaving, he's an absolute legend!"

Mr Birch, who works alongside Mr Dobson, said he is a "leader of not only young people, but

other adults as well. He will be a great loss to Caistor Grammar School."

Students agreed that the description of his favourite type of timber perfectly captured his character in a nutshell. "Oak: strong, solid, traditional, timeless." His experience has influenced students past and present to achieve their full potential. His advice for aspiring students is to trust your teachers. "If you can put your faith in your teachers, you will fulfil your dreams."

His plans for the future involve renovating a house and hopefully building one of his own from scratch. He also wants to make things for himself now and revealed he has a passion for creating greeting cards. However, Mr Dobson admitted the future looks "scary" and he is not entirely sure what he is going to do. But his eyes light up with excitement and hope as he says: "Bring it on. Let's do it."



**Bonjour from Paris**  
Read the stories of an incredible week in Paris

ARTICLE PAGE NINE

## Changes, visits and visitors

# Staff changes

By JAMES Day & TOM Harling 10X

The summer term has seen a wide range of changes within the school; some of these changes unfortunately have resulted in some members of staff stepping down from their roles at the school. However, they have been replaced by members of staff who are excited about what the future holds in their new roles.

At the end of almost 8 years as Head of Upper School, Mr Dobson decided it was time to leave his role and our very own *Caistor Focus* editor, Mr Davey, stepped up to become the new Head of Upper School. Speaking enthusiastically about his new role, he said it was an 'exciting challenge,' and he is looking forward to 'helping the current Year 10 as they journey through Year 11.' It is a very exciting time as he will be involved in the movement of Year 11 from the current common room into the new room in the new dining hall. Mr Davey has a lot to live up to, as Mr Dobson was loved by everyone, students and staff. 'I'm excited for the changes he will implement and the valuable support he can offer during my GCSEs' said Pawel Grab 10X, another student described him as 'incredibly approachable, listens well and is very supportive.'

“

It's an exciting prospect

Another teacher to take over as a Head of Year was Mrs Ellerby, who recently took over as Head of Middle School, replacing Mrs Clark. Again, this is another challenging, but beneficial role. She told us that she's 'really excited about it,' and she has many plans for

the development of students during their time in Years 8 and 9. She wants 'to introduce a better rewards system for students and to create a newsletter for parents of Year 8 and 9 students so parents know what their children are learning about'.

Following the sad departure of Miss Hitchcock, the catering manager, both Mrs Stainton and Mrs Hinch have taken over as catering managers. They said 'It's an exciting prospect,' and when asked about their future plans they informed us that they 'are looking to introduce a new 6 week menu and a new salad bar and we are looking forward to utilising the new equipment.' With the upgrades to the dining hall taking place during the summer holidays, it is a good time for the two new catering managers to take up the role as they can bring new ideas to the dinner table. They also are willing to respond to any student feedback and requests that students have about the school's catering.

The new roles have been taken up by members of staff that are eager to make changes to the school that will benefit everyone in some way.

We'd all like to thank the members of staff that have left their roles: Mr Dobson, Mrs Clark and Miss Hitchcock. Their impact upon the school has been admirable and invaluable.

We wish all new staff the best of luck in their new positions.



Mr Davey (Top left) is the new Head of Upper School, Mrs Ellerby (Top right) is Head of Middle School and Mrs Stainton (Bottom left) and Mrs Hinch (Bottom right) are our new Catering Managers

## Warhammer wins

By TALIA Herron 12DW

Caistor's own warhammer club, lead by Mrs Donoghue, came away victorious at the 2018 Warhammer School League, winning both overall champions and 6 other trophies. Warhammer is described by Team Captain Joe Wilkinson 12SM as 'a fantasy tabletop game based off of strategy and luck of the dice, where players build and paint miniature figures to battle in an army.'

The 2 teams of students competed in both the Semi-finals and the Finals in a variety of Matches, Games and Competitions throughout the two days and both teams saw both victories and losses. The '40K' Team was made up of 4 players: Freddie Marris 13DS (Captain), Seb Bowen 12DS, Sammy Braben 13RDH and Joe Shilling 13GJ. The 'Age of Sigma' team was also 4 players, Joe Wilkinson 12SM (Captain), Jack Mallinson 12DW, Zak Morgan 12SM and Dakota Sylvan 9X. Each member of the teams played 3 matches each within the finals and in total; they racked up over 600 points throughout the games and competitions. Mrs Donoghue, head of

Warhammer club and self proclaimed "Queen of the Geeks" recalled the events as, "I am delighted with how successful the club has been, especially in its first year. We were all very surprised to win as the competition was very stiff. I look forward to entering more teams next year with the new members."

The Finals (26th of June) and Semi Final (Late March) saw a diversity of results from all parties. The Semis saw Caistor win a total of 3 awards including the 'Best Sporting Award' and 2 individual trophies. The finals, however, only expanded on our collection of wins, yet again winning 'Most Sporting Team' and eventually leaving with the title of '2018 School League Champions.'

The club hopes this will inspire new players and interested individuals to come along in the new school year so next year they can defend their title as victors. Warhammer club is on at Tuesday Lunchtimes in OT1 and welcomes both new and existing players. New players will be provided with a model and paint in order to kick-start their adventures.



## James the Savage

By ELLIE Brook 10X

James Savage. An awesome name. A name unfamiliar to most.

When Mr Savage left our hallowed halls, he definitely didn't think he'd be coming back. Nor did he have his eyes on a career in international journalism, yet both have happened since his last Latin lesson. After leaving the school in 1997, he studied History, and planned to do a conversion course into Law.

He "ended up" in Sweden, had a background in Journalism, and "saw some opportunities... and [he] followed the opportunities that presented themselves. And grabbed them. And ran with them. And held onto them."

James is not only a former student, he is co-founder of the digital news publisher The Local. Created in 2004, The Local has editions in Sweden, Germany, France, Spain, Switzerland, Norway, Denmark, Austria and Italy. Each site, while alike in appearance, has separate editorial teams, each focused on its respective market.

After a talk to Year 10, explaining the massive benefits of being bilingual, or at least competent at any language other than Lincolnshire English in this increasingly

diverse global melting pot called Earth, we had the privilege of being able to sit down with him and learn, in detail, of his forages into journalism, which he called fondly a "total accident".

His personal journey around Europe, having lived in London and Paris in addition to Stockholm (his current Stockhome), has shaped his beliefs in comprehending the world and its inhabitants. "You do not understand people or a society in the same way if you don't understand its language".

He has fond memories of his years here, and was pleasantly surprised to find familiar faces. He said: "Just how... there's something about students at Caistor... there's enthusiasm, and that you're unafraid to stick your hands up and you ask questions."

For anyone unsure, James had some solid advice: "You've got to be strategic. This is what I'm good at. This is the sort of area I'm going to work in. And then a bit opportunistic. Look I can do this! And: what about that! And these are my options here: in this particular set of circumstances. You've got to have both of those things. Strategy and opportunities." Make of it what you will.



## Year 7 Trips

# Exploring 'New Lands'

By KUYAN Wijayaratna 7X

The Year 7 Newlands trip to the Lake District was unbelievable, improving team building skills and self confidence. The weather was outstanding, bringing happiness and joy to all groups taking part in their activities. We did 5 activities, putting our intelligence to the test. We plunged down powerful ghylls, walked up mountains, kayaked through a calm lake, went on high ropes, swung across the woods as Tarzan, and scaled rock faces.

We also had evening activities which ended our exhausting days. First we had the 'Mini Olympics,' in which we did a lot of eccentric races that included an elephant race, three-legged race, and more. The next day we had the earthball event. An earthball is a immense ball which we used to roll, carry and throw. We also got to jump over the ball. To end off our last full day at Newlands, we had the commercial games. It pushed our imagination to the limit as we were given an item and we had to make an extraordinary advert based around it.

Callum Miller said, "My favourite activity was the Ghyll Scrambling as you got to spend time with your friends and go through the water!"

If you had any unoccupied time on your hands, you could head over to the lounge. You could chat with your friends or play pool or table football. Alternatively, you could go to the field where you could play football and socialise with our friends.

Breakfast had a selection of food that you could have to kick-start your day. You could have basic cereal and/or have sausages, hash browns, beans, and much more delicious food. In the afternoon, we had a sandwich of our choice and we could have crisps and biscuits. Before our evening activities, we had dinner.

We had a starter, which was soup. The soup's flavour changed each day so it didn't get boring. We had cheeseburgers, pork and chilli con carne.

Ghyll scrambling is an activity where you venture down a ghyll. The walk to the ghyll was about fifteen minutes. When we first got into the water, it was freezing. We had to keep

moving so we could warm ourselves up, but I figured that my legs weren't going to be the only things getting cold. We slid down into further parts of the ghyll. We got to go into part of the ghyll where not many people actually go. Apparently 'The Vortex,' is an ancient mineshaft. We had to hold our breath as we went down it. It was very scary but worth it.

In mountain walking we walked up to the summit of two extravagant mountains, Kitten Bells and Cat Bells. The view was beautiful as you could see so much of the Lake District and see the calm Derwent water in all of its glory. The fun part was that after we trekked downhill to the bottom of Cat Bells, we got Ice-cream after our tiring walk up the two mountains.

The Woods was where we could practise our skills on the High Ropes. We climbed the Crow's Nest to ring the bell. Next we took on a set of obstacles. We used the zip-wire to travel across the stream and then we carried ourselves up a ladder up onto a platform where we could use our skills to travel back to where we started. The best part out of all was the Tarzan swing. We swung across a rope like Tarzan and the experience was like we were the King of the Jungle.

Kayaking was a very fun activity and was an amazing experience because I could get my friends to help me on my journey along the calm water in the lake. We got to play loads of games and team up to play against other. Darcey Cullen said "Kayaking was great because it was really easy to manoeuvre in the water, and you could go really fast. Also, you could splash all your friends!"

Finally, we had the rock climbing activity. We were attached to a harness and we got to go as high as we went up the rock face. It was mostly about teamwork, and helping each other to reach the top.

Throughout the few days that Year 7 was there, we learnt lots of new skills, made loads of new friends, and had an overall fantastic time. Newlands was amazing and I'm sure that everyone who went would love to go again.



Year 7 at Newlands exploring the mountains and hills around them



Having fun at Whisby



## A Beetle-ful Day at Whisby

By WILL Whitton 7Y

Over the 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> of June, Year 7 ventured in their classes to the nature centre in Whisby. Over the day we had a go at bug catching and pond dipping. We all got to school and got on the bus for an enjoyable ride to the centre. When we finally got there, there was a buzz, quite literally, as there were many beetles, bugs and dragonflies ready to be caught later in the day.

In the morning we learned about all of the different fish and amphibian species we would be catching. There were leaches, snails, water boatmen and maybe even frogs if we were lucky! We all walked down to the jetty and turned our nets (named Annette!) in a figure of eight in the water. In doing this we caught a number of creatures, and placed them in our bucket, ready to be identified later. After a good hour of pond dipping we returned to the main hall to separate all the different species and classify them. This was made harder by the fact that some species looked so similar that they were practically identical. We got the job done however and after a quick wash went outside to have our lunch on the logs.

Half an hour later we went to the hall and got our bug catching kit, which included 3 large nets. One was a butterfly catching net which we waved around and quickly cut through the air to catch flying creatures, a net

which you swashed around to beat plants and dislodge insects which would then fall into it. There was also a tree shaker net, which as its name suggests, involves shaking trees. You would hold the net under a tree and violently shake the tree to make insects and other bugs fall down onto the wide flat surface. Lastly we had a small jar which we placed the bugs in. There was also a microscope on the lid allowing you to view the creatures inside in detail. We all caught a wide variety of animals including: common blue damselflies; which some people held on their hand, your standard fly and various shield bugs of different shapes and sizes. Jayden Cheung from Year 7 said, "My favourite animal was the blue tailed damselfly as I am the only person so far to find it in 2018!"

We spent a good hour finding, classifying, and capturing and releasing flies, bugs and insects, but all good things have to come to an end. We disembarked and the journey home began. When we got back we went to the biology room where Mrs Cooke showed us all funny photos of us and the animals and we all had a laugh. We left the school with happy memories of our adventure at Whisby.



## House Plays

# From Social Class to Serving Sass...

By EMILY Quill & EVIE Chappell 8X



The Cast and Crew of the House Plays

On the 14th March, House Plays took the crowd by storm with three outstanding performances from the Year 7-10 students of Hansard, Rawlinson, and Ayscough. However, despite every house's clear hard work and effort, the win was taken by Hansard with a brilliant performance of "An Inspector Calls", directed by Chloe Brown. This blast from the past performance was not to be missed, it was filled with drama, jokes, and lots of near kiss experiences. Second place was awarded to Ayscough with an excellent take on "The Little Mermaid", and Rawlinson got a solid third with their performance of "Blackadder V: Grammar School".

This event was one to remember and although took time to perfect, it was worth it. Some of the students gave us their opinion and said it was definitely worth watching, but it was disappointing that it didn't take place in the town hall like usual. Aside from the disrupting weather problem all went well.

"Blackadder V: Grammar School" is a comedy that follows Mr Blackadder - a sarcastic teacher with low expectations of his class. When the test results of his clearly don't matchup to the evil Mrs Melchett, Mr Blackadder and his newly befriended sidekick, Baldrick, realise they must take her down.

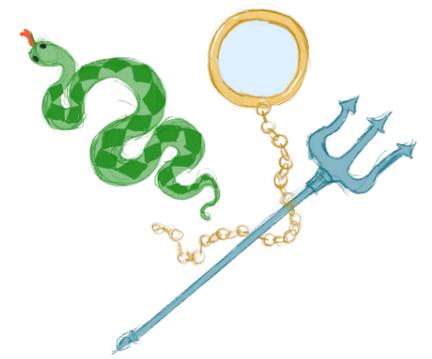
Charlie Maxson, who starred as Mr Blackadder in Rawlinson's play said: "I think the idea came from the year 13's who were the original Performing Arts Captains." Rawlinson's "Blackadder" was a humorous play with various jokes and an entertaining plot. Even though it was short, it was most definitely sweet.

"The Little Mermaid" in Ayscough's perspective follows Ariel, a young mermaid wishing to get to land. When she finally makes it she realises that she has wound up in an evil scheme and a vague and mysterious deal to regain her voice. She must follow her heart and save the fish to restore what she loves. Ayscough's performance of the little mermaid starring Neive Atkin as Ariel was fantastic, as unlike the other plays, this one was a musical. Neive sang "Part of That World" from the original script and everyone was entranced with her voice. Sapphy Dunn who played the role of Flotsam told us "I enjoyed being part of house plays because it gives you an opportunity to make lots of friends, and have some time for a laugh and some fun". The play was great fun and that was portrayed in their iconic scenes and great drama.

"An Inspector Calls" starts with a pleasant dinner at the Birling household, but things soon take a dark turn when a mysterious Inspector arrives and bombards the Birlings with questions about the disappearance of Eva Smith. Very soon the Birlings realise their lives are tangled up with secrets and lies, all revolving around the disappearance of a young girl. Hansard's play was a breathtaking performance, starring Toby Barnett as The Inspector. His part was different from how the inspector is usually portrayed as his character was stand in for the real inspector of the play.

His constant slip ups made the play humorous in parts and made it overall more entertaining. Lydia Handsley Played Mrs Birling in Hansard's winning performance, and quoted "Being in the play was so much fun! It was nice to help the younger years. I had been in the plays from previous years, but I had never got a main role, so seeing it from the director's point of view was different as well."

The day was busy and bustling with each play being put on three times (once in the morning, once in the afternoon and once in the evening for parents). In spite of this, each performance was an enjoyable experience for all and the hard work thoroughly paid off when the applause from the audience came at the end of the day. Overall a very tiring but equally rewarding day for all.



## Director's Cut

By SAPPHY Dunn 8Y



Directors of the winning play: Theo Holman, Chloe Brown and Lydia Handsley

Most people know what it was like to see the plays but what was it like behind the scenes? Let's take a look at the inside scoop from the cast and directors themselves.

Things didn't always go to plan with the beloved beast from the East making a surprise guest appearance on the day, forcing us to perform in the school gym a few days later. So maybe the performance didn't quite pay off in the amazing space, acoustics and lighting of the gym but at least our time 'under the sea' was still an experience we will never forget.

Hansard's show - a comical approach to 'An Inspector Calls' - was "riddled" with jokes and an interesting twist at the end. Emily Quill who starred in this play said that the 3 6<sup>th</sup> formers organising Hansard (Theo Holman, Lydia Handsley and Chloe Brown) allowed everyone

to have their say in what they thought should happen in the play and which scenes they should cut or add in. Their organisation was evident as the play ran perfectly smoothly even though there was a last minute switch to the gym. Harry Giles from Hansard said, "It was a really fun time and I didn't think I'd have so many new experiences".

Although Ayscough wasn't the winning performance, I believe their costumes and prop designs deserve recognition. I mean, we all know that Ursula's hips don't lie and you would be surprised at the amount of skill needed to keep a piece of cardboard seaweed stood up for full the duration of the performance. The effort put into the wardrobe and makeup for all characters was astounding and no one can claim that they didn't get distracted by Triton's

rock hard abs and immaculate beard. One word to describe the day of the competition could be crammed: fitting two mermaids, one fish, a sea monster, a prince and two jelly fish in the 'back stage' of the gym cost a few tentacles in the end and it wouldn't be an exaggeration to say the cast were like sardines in a can. The play was, in the words of Evie Chapell, "The Little Mermaid with more sass". Which I'm sure is a statement we can all agree on after Ariel's "Happily ever after as an independent woman". Certainly an unforgettable performance.

Rawlinson's rendition of Blackadder was a huge hit and despite the fact that they came out in 3<sup>rd</sup> place, the audience fully enjoyed it and they were successful in creating a 'cunning' performance. Charlie Maxson and Harry Strange who wrote the script faced the challenge of tailoring adult humour and an old

- fashioned concept to suit a younger audience. Rory Longcake said, "Ava brought in litter pickers and that was fun. We played with them a lot". But unfortunately, the litter pickers weren't enough to bring Rawlinson to the top of the competition.

The backstage mood was a buzz of excitement throughout the day, despite the crowded room and the need to stay silent while the other plays were taking place. Each and every member of the cast had an enjoyable day and came out having made valuable friends and put on a performance they could be proud of.



...A tiring but equally rewarding day for all...

# Changes to the Canteen

## Out with the Old, in with the New

By JAMES Day 10X & TOM Harling 10X

The previous few weeks have seen multiple proposed plans for the canteen, with drastic changes being made to the canteen's layout and the overall system used within the dining hall. These plans will include a cold kitchen area for sandwiches and salads, and a hot food area, with seating for both of these sections. In order to maximise the space included within the canteen area, the underused food technology room will be replaced with a mixture of benches and standard dining tables. These changes are to be put in place over the summer period in order for it to be accessible by all students when we return in September.

Over the past year, we have seen queues and congestion increasing, which could be because of both students and staff adapting to the new biometric system and also due to the increased choice of the school dinner menu, meaning more students and staff purchase food. These prospective changes will be implemented so that these queues will be shortened because there will be two queues: one for hot and one for cold food, so fewer people will be in a queue at any one time. This gives everyone more time to eat their lunch and less time being frustrated while the queue never seems to end. School council representative of 10Z, Jack Scotney (who was influential in this whole process) had this to say on the matter: 'I'm extremely happy, I cannot wait. Queue times will be shorter and we will have hot and cold kitchens, unbelievable changes!'

There are also going to be some more changes that will be beneficial to the environment, as among these changes there will be an area for recycling (particularly plastic recycling) as on a daily basis in the canteen,

there is visibly a large amount of plastic in the bins and currently we have no dedicated plastic recycling area within the canteen. This change will be very propitious for the environment as we will not be wasting plastic; this is a change we have needed for many years now and is finally becoming a reality. Also, improved drinking fountains will be introduced, which will be useful for everyday use for both students and staff.

Due to the increased number of students using the dining facilities, the new changes have contributed an increased number of seating areas and an overall increased number of seats, so that more students can sit down at the same time to eat their lunch. When interviewing the catering staff, they were excited and enthusiastic about the new proposals, saying, 'The changes will benefit the school as there will be more seating areas for the children to sit down,' and additionally, the changes will 'hopefully bring more people to the canteen because there is a bigger, more modern area.' It is clear that the catering staff are optimistic with the well-anticipated changes.

We spoke to Deputy Head Mrs Buck, who conceived the ideas and plans for this major project in the school's development; she gave us a more in depth description for the new dining hall, with regard to the new seating arrangements. She told us that 'the new dining hall will seat a lot more students and staff, from the current 120 seats to an upgraded 270 seats,' and it will also be more 'welcoming, light and modern, with more time to enjoy food.'

Overall, this appears to be an extremely positive change to the school that will affect the school and upgrade it to give a much more modern feel, where everyone will benefit.



Before (below) and After (above): a concept design for the Dining Hall



## Common Room Concepts

By EMMA Braithwaite 10X & FLORENCE Stead 10Y

In addition to the developments of the dining room, there will be a new Year 11 (yet to be named) room, hopefully to be completed by the time students return for school next year in September. This will be an extension to the dining room, where L3 currently is located, replacing P1, the present Year 11 common room. This new area will accommodate 63 pupils, twice as many Year 11s than the common room does at the moment. It will allow students to charge their devices during break time and will possibly feature WiFi in the future. It will take on a "diner style," which will include booth style seating against the walls and moveable tables and chairs. Half walls allow the dining room staff to view all across the new dining room (which is also yet to be named). It seems likely that the colour theme will be "bright colours," after all forms outvoted the school colour scheme of black, grey and red. Unfortunately, a kettle and microwave will not be available for use in the "Year 11 breakout zone" due to "not everyone being able to use them correctly in the past."

These developments have, nevertheless, caused some controversy, particularly among future Year 11 students: whilst many students said the developments are "great" and a "good idea in concept," there were students who suggested that the common room would "not be private enough" and that they would "hate half walls." Similarly, there has been some confusion concerning the rule that headphones are allowed but phones are not, however, this rule banning phones will not be enforced during morning and afternoon break time; only during lunch. Heather Telfer, 10X, who will be in Year 11 next year and thus will be part of the first year to use the common room, stated, "I think it's good that they are changing from P1 because it is getting old; it is good that it is being modernised."

Major concerns include the lack of a kitchen area, which previous years have thoroughly utilised, and lack of privacy as a result of the half walls, which could lead to other years

intruding in what should be the Year 11's private area.

In response to this, Mrs Buck states that the new common room will be a "more mature space for Year 11 students" and that it "is a privilege to be earned, not a right" and "there should be no behaviour issues, and so no need for walls." She also believes, that "the current Year 10 are a very cohesive year and will be a good example to set the tone of the new common room to the rest of the school."

Although the name of the common room is yet to be decided, some honourable student suggestions include the very popular "Scotney's Watering Hole."



**"It is a privilege, not a right..."**



Plans for the new "Year 11 Breakout Zone" (above) in comparison with the old common room (below)

# Sixth Form Ball

# Great Balls of Fire(works)

By KATE Bunn 12DW & IZZIE White 12FC



The 25th May saw the long awaited Sixth Form Ball take place at the Forest Pines Hotel. Sixth formers and teachers alike arrived 'dressed to impress' in an array of colourful ball gowns and suits - all anticipating the exciting night ahead.

Greeted at the door with complimentary drinks, guests seized the opportunity to take photos with friends and memorialise the occasion. Then ushered into the decorative ballroom, we were presented with a three course meal, which was served by exceptional waiting staff.

wrote a moving version of Andrew Marvell's 'To His Coy Mistress' as a tribute to her English students.

Before any dancing could take place, Mr Hay announced the beginning of the fireworks and we all made the torturous journey (for any heel wearers) across the grass to watch the magnificent display light up the night sky.

Finally, guests took to the dance floor and boogied the night away – some notable mentions are Mr Markham's moves and the acrobatic talents of Jack Tasker who adorned the shoulders of everyone he came in contact with.

After eating, we were treated to a first dance from the Senior Prefect Team which included watching Deputy Head Boy, Archie Swain, struggle to reach his dance partner, Pippa.

Praise must be given to Mr Hay and the Ball Committee whose efforts made the wonderful night possible – Mr McTernan sums this up perfectly in saying 'it was a testament to the hard work of the Year 13's'. We wish the former students a 'bon voyage' for the future and hope that next year will be just as memorable.

Subsequently, each subject teacher provided a heartfelt goodbye for certain students to read to their peers. We were even challenged by the German department to sing a rendition of 'In der Weihnachtsbäckerei' and Mrs McNeilly



“A memorable blur”



# Sixth Form Ball



“The pinnacle of the year”



## Editorial: we've spent all our humour budget by now

### Your type on paper?

By Abdul Wasey 12JK

There's only one thing on people's minds this summer. Something so irresistibly viewable, every demographic is glued to. The country's love affair with hopeless 20-somethings and the occasional Flack attack has become obsessive. The Great British public have become infatuated with a little-known reality TV series called Love Island. The main premise of this TV competition is to stay "coupled up" after 8 weeks of drama and recoupling with the prize of £50,000 becoming a very real prospect. Love Island continues to be one of the most talked about TV series, mostly for its controversial nature.

Love Island, on face value is very similar to any other reality TV show out there when it comes to the demographic it attracts and the type of people that appear on the show. What makes Love Island unique is the fact that these people who gain fame through the show in question are provided with no means of communication to the outside world and are given a luxury villa to stay in. Along with these domestic factors, there are 12-16 "adults" looking for "love" at any given time. These things all provide tremendous ratings for any ITV2 executive to be beaming from ear to ear. The argument lies with the morals of a show like Love Island. The first principle that Love Island exhibits is the monetary benefits one would gain from going on the show. The fear is that people would be looking at Love Island as a platform to a career filled with sponsorships, TV appearances and easy money-making rather than flying to Majorca to find what the name of the show clearly states; that is to find love.

Another argument against Love Island is the impression it gives off to younger viewers.



Very recently the NHS on its 70 year anniversary have released a statement concerning body positivity and in that statement it states how Love Island creates an idealistic view of what is considered attractive. I do believe that Love Island demonstrates very few body types and doesn't allow for much inclusivity. The country's obsession with Love Island has led to the most impressionable demographic of them all, 11-18 year olds, to worry about their own appearance and look to a show that is very elitist for advice and inspiration on how to look.

I do however have a confession: I watch Love Island. I must say that it is a thrilling watch. I would recommend it to anyone wanting to laugh at the expense of these troubled folk. I wouldn't recommend it to anyone wanting to get any style advice and certainly no one's grammar would improve by watching a show like this. In short Love Island is acceptable to view and shouldn't be belittled but a lot like chocolate; too much of a good thing can be bad.

### Citizen (Harry)Kane

By Emilia Dutton 12FC

Though I'm writing this on the 2nd July, and you in the future will know exactly what's happened since then, there are some things that I can say with absolute certainty about this World Cup. 'World cup of the underdog' is fast becoming the phrase on everyone's lips, where a lot of the tournament's favourites to win have shown little, if any, convincing displays of sporting prowess in their efforts to achieve the most prestigious title of football. Most of them have already been removed from this year's tournament, those including: Spain, Portugal, Germany as well as Argentina. There was particular delight from England fans in saying farewell to Argentina as the 'hand of God' proves to be nothing more than false hope, for it is this year in which England *might* bring it home, with the confidence of Harry Kane scoring the most goals so far in this World Cup.

It is the optimism for everyone who remains however, the belief lies with the fact of how the big guns will not be able to change enough in time; how it's just too much of a short timescale to fix so many issues beginning to become apparent, seen in all the original favourites. But with these issues comes an opportunity waiting to be seized as a result with it being said, this might be the "World Cup of the underdog".

This optimism is only being strengthened by the development of the structure of the latter-stages, since it is now guaranteed that one of Colombia, Switzerland, Sweden and England

will be in the semi-final, with all hope being placed on England succeeding. But from here on out it has become apparent from the history which has been made from all previous games in this World Cup that anything can be possible, where 90 minutes is all that is needed to change history.

England, no matter what the outcome, is always going to be the country in which flags line the street in support of our already found success, including our very losses, because like anything else, it doesn't matter what the outcome: 'It's coming home!' and it is the outrageous costumes and misplaced face paint which will remain evident in our country, no matter what we lose or gain.



### Top Trump

By Peter Taylor 12FC

American Culture tells you can grow up to be anything you want to be, and with this attitude of over-boiling optimism, a Hollywood actor and a television personality have been elected leader of the Republicans, and subsequently president, within the past 40 years.

With Donald Trump's visit to the UK just around the corner, postponed until February, and then further delayed due to his discontent with the sale of the Grosvenor Square Embassy; this offers a good opportunity to examine the first 18 months of his presidency.

Immigration was a massive part of trump's election campaign, along with not paying for the lights in his venues. It was hard not to hear about his plans to build a wall, with Mexico having to pay for it. These walls conjure to my mind visions of a demilitarized zone akin to Korea, somewhere Trump is trying to hold diplomatic relations with and help the opposing sides of the Korean peninsula settle their differences. Furthermore, his proposed ban of Muslim entry to the US has comprised of many different iterations, like going from 'all Muslims' to 'places that have proved to cause terrorism', then specifying 'Islamic terror', whilst making concessions for Sadiq Khan, Mayor of London, all this done by the leader of the "free world".

At this year's White House iftar (a



celebratory dinner at the end of a day's Ramadan fast), Trump did not invite any representatives of the American Muslim community. This tradition was set up during the Clinton administration and has continued up until last year, where he did not hold one. In a world in near constant outrage, Trump's twitter feed is often the butt of many jokes,

**“ It's really cold outside, they are calling it a major freeze, weeks ahead of normal. Man, we could really do with a big fat dose of global warming!”**

where he writes many things of (often well deserved) outrage. Is this president going to be remembered for nothing, given how eager he is to repeal Obama's acts, by having future presidents overturning his changes, or for all of his changes, from immigration, to arming teachers to deter guns, to him blocking trans citizens from the military, to not recognising global warming being an issue, or will he be remembered for all of these changes and for having a team of civil servants paid to tape back together the sheets he rips apart?



### Coming Out, On Top

By Jessica Meacock 10z & Ellie Brook 10x

The thought that pride is no longer necessary in this day and age is like the thought of President Trump being impeached. A lot of people want it to happen, but it's yet to occur.

Recently we celebrated yet another pride month, 49 years since the start of the Stonewall riots. These riots began as a protest against a police raid in which the LGBT patrons were grossly mistreated – raids were normally brutal. However, this active rebellion became an example of the LGBT+ fighting back, and a call to arms for many people. They incited an extremely significant turning point, and the very next year showed a range of Firsts – the first gay rights march in the UK, the first LGBT pride parade in New York and the first Gay Liberation Day March in New York City.

Now, almost 50 years later, Pride celebrations are seen in most corners of the world. This year still had firsts – some residents of Antarctica celebrated Pride for the first time, making it the first year that Pride was celebrated on every continent. And Pride was a celebration – of all humans, all we have achieved recently, all the rights we fought for and earned. The right to be who we are in public spaces, to not be afraid. To revere icons and trailblazers, from Marsha P. Johnson to Oscar Wilde or Alan Turing.

Once again, Pride month is over. Put away the rainbow flags, the RuPaul albums, and the

glitter. We know this month means a lot to people as a celebration, a glowing month of acceptance. Outside of July, however, it can be hard to see the rainbow at the end of the tunnel. As of April 2018, 37 of the 53 commonwealth countries have

l a w s criminalizing homosexuality, something that can't be stopped or 'cured'. Every week there seems to be a new story of a horrid hate crime, and it can feel like society is going backwards.

However, we can still look at the positives – LGBT+ public figures can now come out full force. 26 countries not only allow LGBT+ existence but recognize and practice same-sex marriage. Adam Rippon exists. No one can deny there is still work to do as we all strive for equality, but these decades of struggle have not been in vain. Finally, we're coming out on top.



## Trips

### ‘Lest we forget’

By ALICIA Maxwell 12DW

Year 12 English Literature students grabbed their packs and headed out to see the battlefields of France and Belgium in May. Their study of Great War poetry took a toll on many students and the sites of Flanders only enhanced the prevalence of Sassoon and Owen’s words.

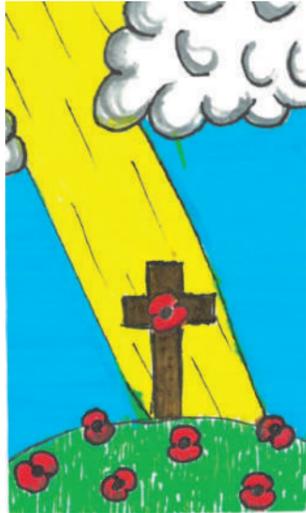
The first day of battling saw students visit the Tyne Cot memorial. Located near to the town of Leper in Belgium, it bears the names of some 35,000 men of the British and New Zealand forces who have no known grave, nearly all of whom died between August 1917 and November 1918. This was followed by an emotional evening spent at one of the most historic sites on the Western Front: the Menin Gate. The silence was deafening after the Last Post had sounded as a minute was shared by hundreds of visitors to remember 54,000 of those who were lost before August 1917 and are without a known grave.

The second day began with a trip to the Canadian Vimy Memorial which stunned students with its moving architecture. The day continued with an on-foot tour to the sites of the notoriously brutal Battle of the Somme in which 19,000 men were lost on just the first day of the battle. While at these sites, students were able to capture the mood of First World War poets and beautifully read the heartbreaking words of Rosenberg and Thomas.

Despite a tear being shed more often than not throughout the trip, there certainly were some funny moments too. Most notably, Miss Dales’ competitiveness when it came to playing pool that was closely matched by several other students’ along with the embarrassing defeat the students suffered

when Miss Dales and Mr Harris managed to wipe the floor with their pool skills.

The final day saw a first-hand viewing of the trenches in Ulster by a loveable tour guide ‘Teddy’ and a final sight-seeing experience at the Thiepval Memorial. The pathetic fallacy of the grey skies reflected the mood of students profoundly. The memorial commemorates 72,000 men of British and South African forces who died in the Somme sector before 20 March 1918 and have no known grave, the majority of whom died during the Somme offensive of 1916. Here a reading from Bird Song was heard, marking the closure of a life-changing trip that was filled with reflection and remembrance. An important shout-out must go to Neil, the King of all the bus drivers who made the trip truly memorable for both students and staff.



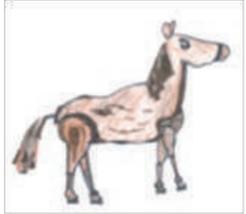
### And the horscar nominations are...

By WILLIAM Whitton 7Y and VIGNESH Kamath 10Z

On Friday the 16th of March, Year 7 went to Nottingham to see the internationally renowned play, ‘War Horse’, by Michael Morpurgo. It is a deeply moving story about the experiences of Joey, a horse purchased by the Army for service in France during World War I and the attempts of young Albert, his previous owner, to bring him safely home.

After boarding the coach and having a suspenseful one-and-a-half hour bus journey, wondering what the play would be like, the students arrived at the Royal Concert Hall in the heart of Nottingham. The bus arrived later than expected due to traffic, so everyone had to run to the theatre to make it on time. It all seemed to be worth it, as it allowed Year 7 to

experience what Darcey Cullum, 7Y said was an ‘amazing’ play. Another Year 7 student, Hardik Karan, said that the special effects were what impressed him – ‘The horse looked so life-like, and the real smoke when there were gunshots blew me away’. A thoroughly enjoyable English trip, Year 7 are grateful to all the members of staff that organised the trip, allowing it to happen.



### Year 10 shows off linguistic talent

By VIGNESH Kamath 10Z

On the 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> of June, nearly 200 nervous primary school students came to Caistor Grammar School for the Languages Festival. They came to learn French and German, from lessons prepared and presented by Year 10 themselves. Toby Barnett, 10Z said that ‘it was a good opportunity to learn something different’. Kanya Gandhi, 10Z expressed that although ‘you have to be patient with children,’ the opportunity gave her ‘great satisfaction’.

Lessons taught were based on a diverse range of topics, from transportation in French to activities in German. The scheme was organised by Mr Holland and Mrs Bradbury, both of whom have run it for 3 years. Mrs Bradbury said that ‘it is a good experience for Year 10, as it is a whole new ball game when you are on the other side of the desk’.

### Holland’s Homestay

By CHARLOTTE Morton 10Y

This February, my fellow French students and I went on the Homestay Trip to Paris. It was run by Mr Holland, who has been organising homestays like this since 1991.

51 students and 6 staff members all travelled to Paris and we all stayed with a French host family in Brétigny, a suburb to the South of Paris. They looked after us for 6 days and taught us about the way they live and the French culture. It took an early morning and a long coach journey to get there but it was all worth it. The streets of Paris were covered in a blanket of white snow and it continued to snow the whole time we were there.

On the first day, we had freedom to venture the Notre Dame cathedral and on our way back, to try some crêpes, the classic Parisian treat! After, we went to the Musée d’Orsay and looked at the fabulous paintings and sculptures displayed there. The next day saw us using the bustling and lively metro to travel around the city, and first on our schedule was the Eiffel Tower.

Bethany Adams, Year 10, said she was ‘taken aback by how beautiful the Eiffel Tower was.’ She loved her first trip to Paris and ‘can’t wait to return’. We then saw the Arc de Triomphe on our way to the Champs-Élysées. After a busy morning of shopping and getting lost in Sephora, we took a trip on the ‘Paris Eye’, and the sights were spectacular. We jumped on the metro again and headed to Montmartre, where many of us had ourselves drawn by the talented artists working there.

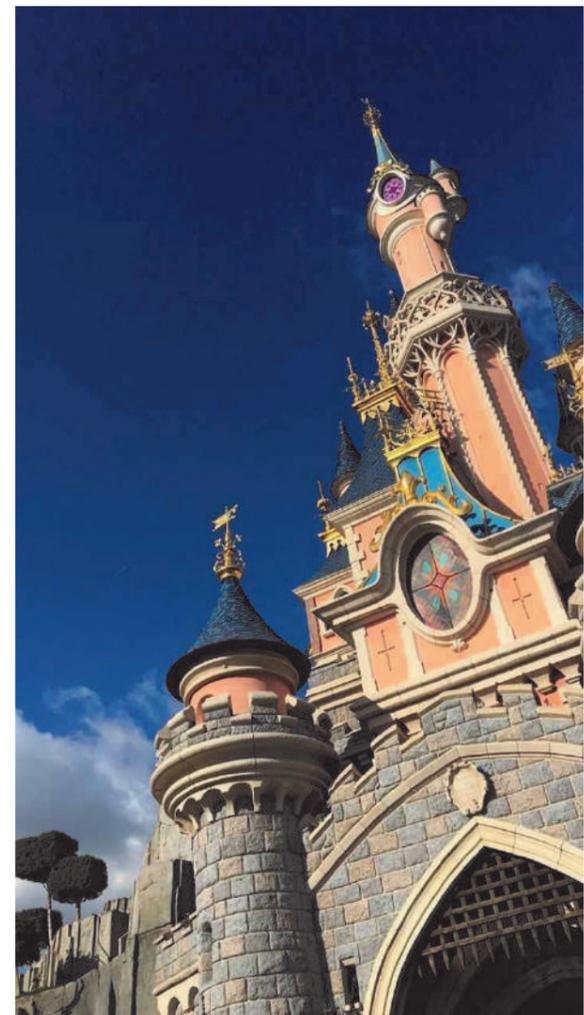
We spent the next day with our host families – many of us went to do some fun activities or even meet more of the family. Halle Burchell, Year 10, said she ‘found the experience very enjoyable.’ She also felt it really improved her French. After spending a very memorable time in the lively city centre, we finished on our last day with a trip to Disneyland. ‘This was undoubtedly the highlight of our trip!’ says Nisha Prabhakar, 10Z.

‘The Homestay Trip to Paris is a very beneficial experience for GCSE and A level students – it helped widen my knowledge and

prepare me for my A-levels,’ says Emma Lunn, 12DW, who is in the middle of her French A-level course. Also, Year 10 are preparing to enter their GCSE year and really gained a lot from the trip. ‘It helped to broaden our vocabulary and gave us perfect practise for our speaking exams,’ says Holly Cook, 10Z.

As well as the trip being conducted by Mr Holland, of course Mrs Bradbury had an important part to play in making sure the trip ran as smooth as possible. She constantly checked we were all having a brilliant time and we had everything we needed. Vignesh Kamath, 10Z, said, ‘It’s not always easy being away from home and the staff were all superb’. Mr Holland believes these trips are ‘valuable, so that students get to see French from another point of view, with the natural French people and culture.’ He added that ‘there is only so much you can learn in a classroom, and having the opportunity to see real French in action is very important.’

Overall, it was an unforgettable experience that not only improved our French speaking and listening skills, but it also taught us a lot about French culture. It is undoubtable that we will remember this memorable trip for years to come.



The picturesque view from the happiest place on Earth (as captured by the writer)



## Trips

# A step into the past

By LILLY Bell 8X & SHAONA Mitra 8Z

On the 16<sup>th</sup> of March, Year 8 embarked on a journey to the historical town of Newark. Their quest: to spend a day absorbing knowledge from the Civil War Centre. Upon arriving at school, the eager Year 8 students were lead to the bus and swiftly transported through the rolling Wolds. After friendly conversations and the end of a back-of-the-bus karaoke, the hour long journey came to a halt at the doors of the Civil War Centre.

After arrival, students were guided to a large building where they were immersed in role plays of several events such as the trial of Charles I. Roles were cast and costumes were delegated to the excited pupils who were eager to showcase their so-called talent. After many memorable performances and the rubber equivalent of Charles's decapitated head being displayed to the audience, time passed quickly while each student had gained a deeper understanding of Charles' verdict as well as witnessing some unforgettable entertainment.

A brief lunch break followed afterwards, as well as a rushed trip to the gift shop where the allure of colourful quill pens and notebooks left the students a little lighter of cash and preserved the memories made. The gallery was next on the agenda. Weaponry and artefacts were an evident success for the students as their keen eyes peered through the glass cases. If the original projectiles and dented armour weren't exciting enough, the magnificent replicas of the traditional clothing drew in a huge crowd. Students demolished the stereotypes as boys strutted down the runway in elaborate dresses. To conclude the activities and the interesting fashion show, a

short film was displayed to the audience where the acting talents of professionals didn't reach the level of talent the students had demonstrated earlier that day.

The final segment gave the students the opportunity to use their deduction skills to match up the unfortunate victims to the rubber replicas of their wounds. After the activity came to a close, the teachers chose unsuspecting victims from the crowd, to display armour to the rest of the group. After the armour was put on, weapons were then given to complete the outfit and it was clear that the sheer weight the students had to endure was far too heavy and restricting. Once the armour was removed and students were finally freed, they were given the chance to handle genuine musket guns dating back to the Civil War.

Unfortunately, the trip had to come to a close, and the exhausted students arrived back at school full of new knowledge and memories.



# Year 10's day out

By EMMA Braithwaite 10x & FLORENCE Stead 10y

On the 15<sup>th</sup> June all Year 10 Geography students went to Cleethorpes and Hornsea in order to carry out their GCSE Geography field work. In Cleethorpes, they completed a land use survey; in Hornsea the physical geography element of field work was carried out. A student said, "I enjoyed walking around Cleethorpes, the trip was very informative and useful for my GCSEs."

The first part of the day involved investigating the impact of tourism on the seaside resort of Cleethorpes. The students split into groups of approximately five, which then patrolled the streets around the sea front recording data about the use of the variety of buildings in the coastal town, stopping only for a quick visit to KFC or to the ice cream shop.

A land use survey is a visual representation of how each building in the area is used. It involves colouring different buildings on a map, using a different colour for each different use: tourist retail, food and drink, accommodation and entertainment.

They then embarked on their journey to Hornsea, which was relatively safe, except for the exploding tap containing boiling water attacking a student. The shenanigans only continued when two students returned four minutes late from buying doughnuts, thus forced to give up one of their doughnuts for each minute late, to the teachers.

They set out along the beach to investigate the effects of long shore drift on a protected coast line, by measuring the height of sand on either side of a groyne. Then the students completed a field sketch, ensuring they had a visual representation. Another student said that, "it was pretty amazing that we did all that in one day."

The Year 10s are now filling in their fieldwork booklets, and learning all of the crucial information that was collected on the day. When the exam comes, this day will be massively important, as the Year 10s will be questioned on the things they learned. Another memorable day down, and another

immense step towards the GCSE exams, which are now under a year away.

Below is a gorgeous picture of what the venturing of the students had led to. Clearly, a fantastic beach which anyone can look into and the Year 10s certainly did not hesitate. Undoubtedly popular to both public and school students.



View of Cleethorpes beach from the top of Ross castle

# Lovable languages time

By EMMA Braithwaite 10x & FLORENCE Stead 10y

On Friday the 29<sup>th</sup> June 2018 Year 8 students studying French and German embarked on a trip to Littondale in the Yorkshire Dales on the annual Year 8 languages weekend. On the trip they took part in many activities including a nature trail and an X-factor.

The two students we interviewed about the trip said that their favourite moment was this X-factor style competition, in which the students, in groups, performed a song in either French or German, the two target languages of the weekend. Dr Wilton recalled how his favourite moment was hearing two students' secret rehearsal for the singing competition in French, which he thought was "fab."

The students also took part in multiple activities which combined exercise and learning modern foreign languages, such as a treasure hunt, where they were challenged to follow clues written in German and French. The overall aim for the weekend was to practice using the languages in everyday situations, without travelling to either France or Germany. It also allowed the students to realise the use of knowing multiple languages and how it can be applied regardless of location. Similarly, the students had the opportunity to enjoy learning the languages in a situation other than in a classroom environment; for example, ordering traditional meals, including croissants and

brioche, Bockwurst and Apfelstrudel, in the two languages. Dr Wilton was keen for the pupils to find the fun in learning languages.

On the Friday, when they first arrived, the students also took part in quiz, which was about the culture of France and Germany. Another activity which was enjoyed by the pupils was a nature trail. A dictionary relay game took place on the final day and this meant that students could expand their vocabulary in the target languages. The weekend allowed the students to expand their current knowledge of the two languages, increasing their vocabulary and improving their linguistic skills.



# Individuals

## Musical Mayhem

By Amelia Lambert 10Y & Ellie Roberts 10X

**H**ave you ever watched 'High School Musical' and come away thinking, 'how do they do that?!' Well, Toby Barnett (10Z) and Charlotte Morton (10Y) hold the answer to that within their recent experience at the YMT. The Youth Music Theatre offers opportunities for young performers across the UK.

Both Charlotte and Toby auditioned to be part of the YMT Company, seeing the opportunity as a chance to show what they could do, which led to them being offered a place on 'the major 3 week musical called "Help! Get Me Out Of This Musical"' in January 2018.

For the audition, they had to prepare a monologue and a song, from a list provided, and since the casting course, they have been given some songs to make sure they know in preparation for the performance. Their roles in the production vary widely, as they will be singing as ensemble for a few hours, but will also get the chance to work on solo pieces.

If you don't already feel surprised at how much dedication they are putting forward towards this production, you will be shocked at how many hours of preparation they do per day. During the summer holidays they will be working for 12 hours every day with only a few short breaks to prepare for the final show, held in the southern county of Berkshire.

Alongside this being a very exciting opportunity that will hopefully open many doors in their future career, Charlotte stated that another inspiring fact is that their director is Luke Sheppard, who has directed hits such as Matilda, as well as the acclaimed Mamma Mia. The composer of the show is Alexander Rudd, a famous film music writer.

The opportunity to work with professionals,



and to get a feel of how working in a professional environment feels, is one of the highlights of the opportunity, as Toby noted. The director will work with the strengths of each actor, which allows it to be adapted to suit each individual person.

Toby also told us that he became a lot more confident after having been offered a role in this musical, which will enable him to give it his all in the final performances. If successful enough, there will be a high chance of their musical going on tour, including a final four performances held in London.

Toby's advice for budding young actors and actresses was: 'I would give to people who are trying to go down the same path as us is to never let anyone tell you that you are not good enough. Even so, when I went on my first course I had no idea how good I really was, just singing at school concerts doesn't really give you an amazing idea. You are going to need to work very hard, it's a very tough industry to get into, but if you never let yourself be put below anyone else, and keep fighting, you can make it.'

## All Aboard the Scholarship

By Darcey Cullen 7Y & Alex Mottram 12FC

We send our congratulations to the winners of the esteemed Arkwright Engineering Scholarship, a scholarship for those who have a strong passion for engineering. The winners, Guy Lions, James Bushby and Anna Carter, all received this amazing opportunity that was introduced to inspire and nurture school-age students to be the country's future leaders in engineering.

The Scholarship is awarded to students of 16 years of age, who show themselves to be high-calibre. They are put through a rigorous selection process and supports students through two years of A Levels. Each Scholarship is sponsored, which means support is offered in various different ways, for example, valuable hands-on work experience, support for the curriculum project and a personal mentor who can help with aspects of career planning.

To be considered for the Scholarship, you must be in Year 11, and plan to take Maths at A Level, but also to have an interest in engineering. To have an avid and pre-existing interest in this is to ensure that winners have an idea of the skill needed for the Scholarship. The applicants are expected to complete a questionnaire about multiple things, including details of themselves, their interests in engineering, and where the interest came from.

All five of the Caistor Grammar School applicants were called for an interview. This is a huge feat within itself, as this stage alone is difficult to get to. Three of our students were then accepted into the Scholarship.

To be awarded the Engineering Scholarship, student applicants must go through a three-stage selection process. Stage One is an online application form, where students describe a

technical project they have done and how engineering is an interest in their lives. This must also include a reference from a teacher in the applicant's school. Stage Two is a two-hour exam, where applicants must set out the practical design and manufacturing methods of their proposed solution to two stated engineering problems. The final stage is an interview, hosted at a university renowned for engineering. For five students to get to the third stage is clearly a huge achievement.

The Scholarship consists of an annual financial award to the Scholar and their school, and a range of enrichment activities that increase understanding of engineering and the world of work, such as mentoring and industry visits. The financial aid consists of £300 that is used to develop an interest in engineering.

The results of the Scholarship are not released until after GCSE's are completed and over. The reason for this is that it can be a very stressful time for students, and the results not being released until after this time is key in reducing the stress levels of the applicants, as exams are daunting enough without moral reduction.

The Scholarship is awarded to those who are seeking a career in engineering.

To have three students from one school accepted for the Scholarship is amazing and never seen before at this school. Having five students make it to the interview stage is another landmark for the school, and an achievement we have not before attained.

We wish all the winners the best, and advise any budding engineers to take on the responsibility of the Scholarship and to put themselves out there and give it a go.

## "It's Not a Question"

By Alex Mottram 12FC

The First Aid training all students receive proved essential to Year 10 student Jazz Davis as she had to bravely leap into action when her mother began to choke on her food

Jazz Davis was eating dinner with her mother, when she began to choke. Immediately, Jazz knew that that there was something seriously wrong; after calling her sister to ring an ambulance and get a neighbour, Jazz began to apply back slaps to her mother, followed by her sister helping her by performing the Heimlich Manoeuvre.

Their mother soon became completely unconscious, and Jazz began to perform CPR, a skill we are taught in school time to prepare us for situations like this. When asked what was going through her mind at the time, Jazz told me, 'I need to remember everything I've been taught'. The sisters were told how to handle the situation by the operator on the other end of the phone, but Jazz tells us that as soon as they began to instruct her, she remembered what she had been taught in school, which made her reactions quicker, a key element that aided her mother's recovery



immensely.

As I heard this story, I was in awe at how calmly and successfully Jazz seemed to have handled the situation. In the situation that her mother's life was in immediate danger she told me that it was not the sort of circumstance where you have a choice, and once you see someone so close to you in that situation, you have to act. 'A lot of people tell me they could never do it, but it's not a question'

Jazz expressed how important it is for students to partake in emergency situation training, as in a position like this, it can be vital to respond quickly and effectively. She told me that if she hadn't had this training, 'I wouldn't have known what to do', which again proves that the guidance we receive is not just a waste of time, and the efforts of teachers such as Mrs. Sharp don't go to waste, as this sort of situation could happen to anybody, and it is incredibly important to be prepared.

The whole school is in admiration of Jazz's actions, and it just shows how any teaching we receive could be essential in times like these, and could save the life of someone close to us. Although it may seem that you will never be in the situation where this information would come in handy, it could happen to anybody.

I implore you to make sure you are caught up on CPR training, and to always be aware of what to do in an emergency situation, as it could end up saving someone's life.

## Cycle of Life

By Rosslyn McCormick 12DW

If you are looking for a motivational role model, look no further; the extensive efforts and achievements of students Chris Durham and Joe Laverick in the cycling field are truly inspiring.

Chris Durham's accomplishments have been recognised on numerous occasions; however, 2018 has seen him push his limits even further. Chris began the year with two main goals in sight, the first to retain his British Cycling Category 1 licence (the highest licence a junior cyclist can gain), and the second to reach the top-ten in the British Cycling National Hard Track Endurance League. Racing season got off to an exciting start as he participated in the National League, competing against cyclists with experience in the Commonwealth games, Olympics, and World Championships. Chris went on to gain success at the '2018 Bordeaux Paris Track Meeting' and the 'Scunthorpe Trophy Meeting', both of which are competitive track events that test the endurance of participants. So far this year Chris has taken part in 48 races, in which 33 saw him reach the podium, and 17 saw him win, pushing him to the top of the British Cycling National Category 1 Licence, ahead of male representatives of major UK and continental teams. Chris' hopes for the future include obtaining a contract with a UK professional team, and to continue his work for charity team, World Bicycle Relief, which aims to improve educational, health care, and economical development in Africa through the distribution of bicycles.



Elsewhere in the world of cycling Year 12 student Joe Laverick has been keeping busy riding for a Belgian based team called CT Soenens-Booom, which has led him to cycle in races throughout Europe. Recently, Joe has been competing at stage races in Belgium. Stage races can involve a series of road races or individual time trials, some of which last for multiple days. Joe won the first stage race at Stan van Zuid Limburg and also the team trial at the Ster der Vlaamse Ardennen, which allowed him to wear the Yellow Jersey. This originates from the Tour de France's *maillot jaune*, which designates the overall leader of the race so far. This year alone Joe has broken three records and is the third fastest British Junior to ever cycle the National 10 and 25-mile Time Trial. When asked about his accomplishments, Joe highlighted that regardless of his successes cycling presents its hardships, including numerous crashes, bad races, and the strenuous training it demands. Despite the trials he has had to face, Joe remains optimistic for the rest of the year, setting himself the target of competing in further stage races in Belgium and France, and has considered aiming for the world championships. We wish both of them the best in their efforts and future endeavours.



# backofthenet

THE SPORTS SECTION OF CAISTOR FOCUS | SUMMER 2018

## Life in the fast lane



### Superzone

By Alicia Maxwell 12DW

Once again, Caistor students didn't fail to deliver sporting success and stole the show at the Superzone athletics tournament. Year 7 to 10 students competed at King George V Stadium and resoundingly defeated athletes from other schools, comfortably snatching the overall win. CGS won in every age group except the Year 9 girls, who still performed amazingly well, and with the Year 8 boys in joint first place.

There were many profound performances throughout the day in the field events. Year 10 students Halle Burchell and Pawel Grab leaped to victory as Pawel dominated in the triple and long jump and Halle in the High Jump. Year 7 Evie Asher also saw field success, winning the

High and Long Jump. She further showed off the diversity of her abilities through her win in the 100m too – a future Jessica Ennis? Her fellow Year 7 competitor Claudia Smith joined her in her track successes by winning the 200m, making the tournament an excellent day for the Year 7s!

As for the Year 8s, Alice Lingard sprinted her way to victory, achieving the win in the 100m and 200m as well as showing off her jumping abilities in the long jump.

There were many successes for the Year 10 girls, with Ellie Roberts' pace gaining her the win in the 300m and Ella McPherson's long distance talent earning her the first place in the 1500m. Danielle Bate also proved to be in good

form as she won both the 200m and the long jump.

As usual, Chizu Obu smashed the 100m sprint and his team mate Finley Lawrence did the same with the 400m. Finley further won the 800m too, showing his abilities in both the shorter and longer distances while Joel Cottingham also showed off his long distance prowess by storming the 1500m. It's safe to say that these Year 10s finished their final Superzone tournament in style!

Every participant performed to their very best of their ability and should be extremely proud that they have represented the school.

Keep training hard!

### Sports Day

By Eleanor Wood 9Y & Kiana Matthews 9Y

Another sports day success for Ayscough! The popular school event of Sports Day pitted amateurs against (almost) professional athletes in a series of field and track events for a day. Photos were taken, faces painted, and points were counted, but in the end only one house was declared as the victor. Ayscough, Rawlinson and Hansard. A fight to the death! Well, not quite.

Readers may recall with heavy hearts the utterly devastating cancellation of Sports Day last year. Only a year prior to this catastrophic calamity, Ayscough stole the coveted Sports Day trophy from the continuously triumphant Rawlinson. Though there was plenty of blue face paint visible, there were certainly no blue feelings from this victorious house, after their

second win in a row. Once again, all eyes were on the sporting stars of CGS to raise the bar even higher. With ideal weather- not too hot, nor too cold- it was all down to the athletes.

Tension was high as every student pushed themselves not only to win, but more importantly, to be the best that they could possibly be. Amongst the ecstatic victors was Finley Lawrence (10Y), who won both the 400m and 800m dashes for Rawlinson. In the Year 7 Girls relay, Ayscough beat Hansard's record of 62.59 seconds in 2009 with an incredible 62.25 seconds- very close! The Year 8 Girls 800m record was beaten by Suzanne Bate (8Y) - running for Rawlinson - with a final time of just 2.36.70, smashing the previous record set in

2007. As Hansard watched on the track, the Obu brothers sprinted into the record books, each breaking one record respectively in the 100m.

No field records were broken this year, to the disappointment of many competitors, but with so many track records set, no-one can be truly displeased with this year's outcome. However, Ayscough did dominate in the field events. With Danielle Bate leaping over the competition in the long jump, and Halle Burchell soaring to victory in the high jump, this certainly was an interesting day. Well done to everyone involved, competitors and supporters alike.

### Runs in the family

By Eleanor Wood 9Y & Kiana Matthews 9Y



This school year brought with it many new Year 7s - athletes and scholars alike. Among these fantastic first years is Chima Obu. He is the younger brother of the athletic Year 10 student Chizu Obu. Both are extremely sporty pupils who competed in both Sports Day and the Superzone athletics competition. With both of them competing for Hansard, perhaps next year will see them breaking even more records. At Sports Day, the sprinting siblings both flew over their respective finishing lines and became record-holders.

Chizu chased a time of 11.29 for the 100m sprint, beating Chad Dawson's 11.59 record from 2014, while Chima beat Will Tate's already astounding 100m record of 13.11 in 2014 with a time of 12.63.

The elder Obu brother also competed and claimed victory in Superzone Chizu won the 100m sprint (again) in the inter-school competition. A phenomenal achievement.

With Chima seemingly following in his brother's fast footsteps, this will certainly not be the last time we hear of the outstanding Obu brothers.

What our students think of the Obu's:

'Too fast for his own good' (James Day, 10x, on Chizu)

'Determined and doesn't give up' (Kuyan Wijayaratra 7x on Chima)

