

Nelthorpe NEWS



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SJN in top 7% of secondary schools in England

We were delighted to find that Sir John Nelthorpe School has been ranked in the top 7% of all secondary schools in England and for 5 or more GCSE grades at A* or A, including in English and maths. The news was announced by the Department for Education in October when national schools league tables were released, following the outstanding performance of our recent Year 11 cohort. It was excellent to see that we are, again, the highest performing school in our county and joint highest across 2 counties (North and North East Lincolnshire), but to discover we are in the top 7% of the country is simply wonderful. This is a testament to all the hard work of our students, the dedicated staff and the support of our parents (an immensely important element to the success of any student).

Upon further analysis, we also identified that Sir John Nelthorpe School is the highest performing Voluntary Controlled secondary school in the country, beating selective Grammar schools! Despite this fantastic accolade, we are not complacent. Whilst we are delighted with this news, we will continue to ensure we provide all our current and future students with the best education possible.

Our new Year 11 cohort are taking their studies very seriously as they prepare for their mock GCSE examinations. We believe in you all, Year 11, but as the saying goes 'you get out of life what you put into it', so do your best!



Photo shows last year's Year 11 students who are now in our Sixth Form with the Headteacher Mr Biglands.

Enjoy the second Nelthorpe News

Well, having been Headteacher at Sir John Nelthorpe School for some 15 months at the time of writing this article, I have to say it really does give me great pleasure to be able to welcome you to our second edition of our newspaper version of Nelthorpe News.

Following the success of our first attempt last year, we were keen to develop the opportunity for our school community to celebrate many of its successes and highlights. Once again, I am extremely proud of the efforts of the students, along with our local primary school pupil counterparts, who have contributed to the production of this exciting information-packed edition. My

thanks go to each and every person involved.

I must also thank Mr Smith, Assistant Headteacher, for making all this possible. Without his drive and energy, this publication simply would never have been achievable. Finally, a big THANK YOU to the dedicated team from the Lincoln University School of Journalism, led by Tim Greenfield. Your patience, skills and expert guidance ensured all the young people involved had a truly fantastic day under your direction.

So, I sincerely hope you enjoy reading about what our wonderful school community has been up to...

Mr R Biglands, Headteacher

Welcome, Year 7

New students feel part of SJN - see page 3

You have a voice

Student Council helps shape school - see page 4

Paying respect

Remembrance Day marked in school - page 6

Physics award

Owen has the formula for success - page 11

TWAG tops £2K

Charities to benefit from week - pages 8

Sixth form for you?

Why choose a school sixth form - page 9

'Water' ski star

SJN student represents Team GB - page 15

Sporting stars

Badminton and netball teams do well - page 16



Pleased to be associated with the University of Lincoln
Supporting local learning and school newspapers

Welcome to our new Year 7 at SJN

‘Friendly and caring’

By Hannah Senior

Caring, friendly and being part of a team. These are just some of the responses from Year 7 pupils at Sir John Nelthorpe School, as their first impressions of life at their new school.

On September 7; the first day of the new academic year, we had 123 new pupils at SJN. You guessed it, the new Y7's.

They said that drama, art and PE were among their favourite subjects. Others include French, maths, history, English, music and physics.

Assistant head teacher Mr Smith says 'It is extremely important that all new students feel happy and welcome, and that also they have several people that they can speak to if they have any concerns or anxieties.'

He added "It is important they settle in in Y7. In year 7 you are given a buddy from Y8 who is trusted and if you have any concerns

you can go and speak to your buddy. Students come in in the summer and meet other pupils and staff and try a lunch. It is a big change from a small school to a larger school. It is important they experience the school before they start. They have a form tutor they can also talk to."

We asked Y7 pupils their views and highlights.

Millie Smith said "It was better than I thought it was and very welcoming, I enjoy maths, PE, English and science. It is a big school. When I arrived I was worried about bullying but everyone was very kind and caring."

Paige Black said "It was better than I thought it would be. My favourite lessons are French, maths, art and history. I think this school is really good and that I get involved in a lot of good things, I was really worried about getting lost but we got a map, which was confusing at first but after the first week I got the hang of it."

Shanade Morton said "It's all right, my favourite lessons are drama, English and art. I think this school deserves to be the highest performing school in North Lincolnshire. I was apprehensive about being lonely but to overcome it I said 'hello' to some people and now I have tonnes of friends."

Rubyann Yau said "I settled in fine and my favourite lessons are drama, history and art. I think it is a good school and it should keep its reputation up. I was most worried about getting lost."

Louie Hill said "I think that school is good. I also like drama, history, art and physics, I think this school is huge I actually got lost on my first day."

Tom Morwood said "This school is brilliant. My favourite lessons are drama and art. I think this school is kind, caring and friendly. I thought that I would have no friends and now I'm top dog."

Hannah Taylor said "I think this school is awesome and my favourite lessons are drama, music and PE. It is also very kind and caring. I originally thought that I would have no friends



Millie Smith and Paige Black



Shanade Morton



Rubyann Yau



Hannah Taylor



Joe lands part in BBC show

By Sam Davies and James Smalley

A Nelthorpe Sixth former, Joseph Shepard, has landed himself a job in a BBC drama, A for Autism.

Joe Shepard is a proud student who has a passion for the arts and has been a long-term member of Duck Egg (the local theatre youth company). Recently Joe has had a tremendous opportunity of being given a starring role in a new BBC six part drama called A for Autism. He is an extremely talented actor and deserves this role. As his friends we are tremendously happy for him. Here is how he came to know about the audition for the role via a personal interview.

We asked how he came to know of the opportunity?

Joe explained "The way I heard about the audition is quite funny I woke up one morning and checked my messages and I had four different family members sending the same message about a casting call for 16-18 autistic actors. So I sent off my CV and boom, I had an audition. I applied for it as I seemed to be a perfect fit."

Also Joe told us all about the audition and what he had to do.

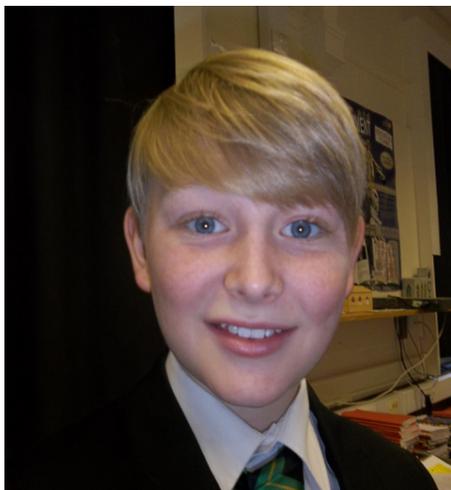
"The audition was really cool they sent me an extract from the episode and asked me to learn it and then me and my mum went to Manchester and went to this little building near Piccadilly station where I met three men who were the casting agents, Andy Pryor (who is the casting agent for Doctor Who), the director and producer. The audition itself went really well. I made them laugh and smile and they seemed to like me. Before I knew it they had given me the job!"

How did your family and friends react to the news?

"When I found out it felt amazing. I have been doing drama for so long. A great thanks to Duck Egg theatre company, which is run by Hayley Muralee. I can't thank her and Anna enough. I am so excited to be doing my first screen play. I will be starting filming sometime next year."

"Oh and also 'I'm in the second episode!'"

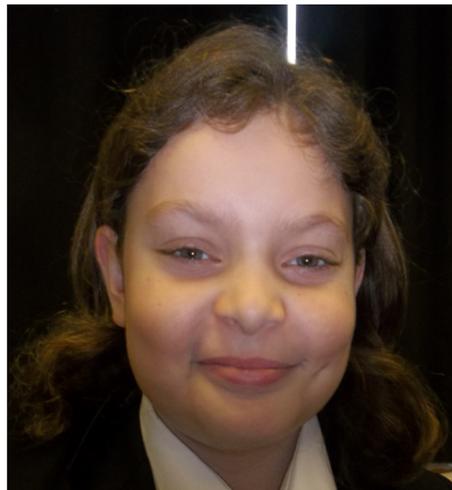
We are delighted to say that Joseph is a part of our school and local community and we wish him the best in filming.



Tom Morwood



Assistant Head Mr Smith



Louie Hill

Where expressing yourself is an art

By Astra Stokes and May Hirst

In modern day society, self expression is something that cannot be avoided. Often, people express themselves through style, hobbies and attitude. But when at school, self expression is shown through the arts.

In modern day society, people don't have the outlet to express themselves but people still express themselves in many different ways, using the forms of music, art and drama. They use their own influences to put their own twist on their work. We asked four teachers what they thought of self expression through the arts, and how they thought the arts affected people.

We asked Mrs Barnes-White, Miss Bolton, Mrs Faill and Mrs Hanson for their thoughts.

How do you think art/drama/music affects people?

Mrs Barnes-White: "It amplifies people's mood, and makes them feel better. It improves their mood."

Mrs Faill/Mrs Hanson: "It affects people more than they realise, it's in our engraved culture, it is a part of every-



Pictured above: the arts teachers, Left to right, Mrs Faill, Mrs Barnes-White and Miss Bolton). Left: Mural Near The Stairwell. Designed by Darcey Ingham, who left sixth form at the end of the school year, 2015. It was made for a B-Tech Qualification and was commissioned by Mr. Biglands.

thing we do. Some people say "art means nothing" but it's what makes us human. It's all around us."

Miss Bolton: "It gives people higher self esteem, and an opportunity to express themselves in a way that isn't available for other subjects. Plus, it gives them communication skills which they will use for the rest of their life."

Do you think art/drama/music ef-

fects people positively or negatively and how?

Mrs Barnes-White: "Positively, it helps express emotions, and especially when using music they can talk about things that they otherwise wouldn't talk about. Music gives them their voice."

Mrs Faill/Mrs Hanson: "Positively, art is inspirational and can inspire you to do other things. It makes you

curious, it can make you question everything. Especially since everything around us is designed, it has all been designed by someone at some point. Art is everywhere."

Miss Bolton: "Definitely positive, it gives skills that you will use for the rest of your life."

Do you think art/drama/music helps people relieve stress and pressure from things?

Mrs Barnes-White: "Yes, they can communicate through music, and without it, would otherwise be, in some ways, powerless. And although I don't have the stats with me, it's shown that singing releases endorphins, so it definitely makes you happy."

Mrs Faill: "If they enjoy art, then yes, but it can also put them into stress if they don't think they are good at it. If they enjoy it, they can get lost in it."

Miss Bolton: "Yes, it's a whole new life available to them. No stress. They just forget, and they can be somebody else."

How do you think art/drama/music affects people's education in other subjects?

Mrs Barnes-White: "If people succeed, they will feel more positive about themselves, and they'll feel more positive to approach other subjects and try to succeed there. It's also good for their self esteem."

Continued on page 9

Meet the SJN 'News' team

This is the team responsible for the second edition of the Sir John Nelthorpe News. We hope you enjoy it! Also, many thanks to our photographers Dominic So and Tom Palmer.



Moving on - SJN's Year 7's join the school team

The New Year started on the 7th September 2015.

We asked a few year 7's what they thought about the school, Kamran Rehman told us "I like the teachers because they're not too strict." We went on to ask Grainné Rands who said "Now that we've been at school for a

By Bronwen Brader, Jacqueline Reid and Amelia-Ella Scrivener

while it feels more homely." We talked to a few others and they said the same sort of thing like drama is a new experience for them as well as music. Frankie Armstrong said that, "French is a new lesson I didn't have before." We made the conclusion that the year 7's were happy with their choice to join the SJN community and take part in their new lessons.

We decided to dig deeper and ask some other years about what was their opinion on the school, and their opinion on the school now. Lewis Meldrum from year 11 told us "It's funny, I remember when I was so

small. It was a big change for me but now it feels like I've been here for ages."

We asked Rebekah Millar, from year 10, if her opinion was the same she stated that, "It was...huge, we got lost on our first day. The best part was meeting new people."

We asked Ryan Johnson, Head Boy, 'How has the school changed since you started year 7?' He then replied with, "The school has changed a lot, and for the better. From what I remember my favourite part off school was dinner."

The years 7's are mostly quiet and shy, because they are still new and are getting used to the school and the pupils in it, especially with many changes happening with the school and its rules. Everyone feels scared when they come to second-

ary school because it's a big change in environment for them. Everyone is different, some want to come and some don't. It doesn't matter what stage you were in these feelings, you dragged yourself out of bed and the comfort off home to come here. Hopefully the new Year 7's are helping their houses (e.g. Eccles) and are feeling safe in school.



Our new premises' supervisors

We got a chance to talk to the new Premises Supervisors. We asked them 'what's an average day for them.'

They told us about how they have to get up very early and open the school at 6am. They check for security and if anything is unsafe around the school.

Part of their job is to plan on bigger jobs around the school.

They manage their budget and also get help from the council and Property Services.

They prioritise the most important jobs from day to day jobs to ones that can take weeks.

Also a major part of their job is to be availa-

By Bronwen Brader, Jacqueline Reid and Amelia-Ella Scrivener

ble at any time. If it is the weekend, holidays or in the middle of the night they need to be able to get to the school in case of an emergency.

However they said even with all of that they wouldn't like another job.

They said they wouldn't be able to sit behind a desk all day, doing the same thing. They said they face a new challenge every day, which makes their job interesting.



Our brilliant new Premises Supervisors, Mr Melbourne (left) and Mr Marsh.



Chelsea Vessey, Y10: "We should be able to have longer revision lessons for GCSE students."



"I think rugby posts would make a great addition to the school field." – James Pinchbeck, Y11.



"The changing rooms should be tidied up a bit." - Chloe O'Hagan, Y9.



Autumn Stewart, Y7: "The bus rota should be more organised, I think."

All change for the Year 9s

By Millie Clapison

Students in Year 9, have to make their GCSE option choices for Year 10.

They have a choice of many subjects but maths, English and science are compulsory.

I chose the following subjects for year 10 at GCSE:

Drama – taught by Miss Bolton
ICT City and Guilds –taught by Ms Ward
Child development –taught by Mrs Golland and Mrs Joy

Electronic products- taught by Mr Brister
I interviewed Matthew Parker and he said...

"The subjects I am choosing are: art, geography, and resistant materials & ICT. Of course studying GCSEs means much more homework!"

How difficult do you think it will be?
"I think it's going to be to be quite hard and different to the lessons in year 9."

Tara Drayton said: "I'm studying geography, German, and music. When I leave school I want to be a Primary School teacher. I have a lot hard work and revision ahead of me. But I know it will be worth it in the end."

The Voice - YOUR Voice

Every school in every county has its very own Governing Board - a group of influential people that affect all aspects of the school they're closely dedicated to. But what happens when you need a body that sees what life is truly like in the school itself, and day to day are stitches that are weaved into the heart of it?

That's where the School Council comes in: a selection of ordinary students from the school that speak on behalf of everyone.

Voted for by their year group, only two fortunate students make the grade from each year, making the Council a group of only 10 students.

By Tara Drayton

Also, it comprises of the Head, Mr Biglands; Deputy Head, Mr Peters; Mrs Taylor; Miss Ward; and both Head Boy and Girl.

Each member has its own role to play in the handling of information and the actions that are taken are open to all the school - the opinion of all students is accounted for before any decision is made.

As a new member to the council (the council members from each year group are re-elected every September), I find it a privilege to be part of

such an influential board, representing my year's views. I was flattered to be voted in as a member, and receiving a Councillor's badge is an honour I am so pleased to have.

We asked students what they thought the council should do to make the school better.

Chelsea Vessey, Y10: "We should be able to have longer revision lessons for GCSE students."

"I think rugby posts would make a great addition to the school field." – James Pinchbeck, Y11.

"The changing rooms should be tidied up a bit." - Chloe O'Hagan, Y9.

Autumn Stewart, Y7: "The bus rota should be more organised, I think."

In the footsteps of the Fallen

On Thursday 8th October at 11pm a group of 16 students from Sir John Nelthorpe School, including 4 Brigg Sixth Formers, embarked on the "Footsteps of the Fallen" Centenary trip to commemorate 100 years since the Hohenzollern redoubt in the First World War.

We stayed with French students from college Joliot Curie in the small town of Auchy les Mines near Bethune in the Nord Pas De Calais region of France.

We arrived at the town after travelling by coach and ferry from Dover to Calais at 10am French time and we stayed until Sunday the 11th October 8am French Time before departing for Calais to catch the ferry back to England.

During our trip we visited the town mayor, a battlefield and 3 cemeteries near the town of Auchy les Mines where the battle started 100 years ago.

By Jack Binnington, Luke Middleton, Caitlin White and Grace Blanchard

When we arrived at the school, we watched their version of Cross Country, had a tour of their school, met our French students and tested their school lunch.

Mr Waite wrote a piece about the French trip that he organised and participated in. Mayor, Cllr James Truepenney, sent a moving letter of thanks to the French town which last month honoured the men of Brigg killed there exactly one hundred years ago.

The letter to Mme Fontaine, Mayor of Auchy-Les-Mines, was presented by sixteen students from Sir John Nelthorpe School who travelled to France to remember the casualties of the attack on the Hohenzollern Redoubt. Seventeen local men were killed in the battle of Loos, including nine who lost their lives on 13th October. None of their bodies were recovered, and the letter and gift of a glass flame etched with an image of the Butter Cross were presented to the mayor on the battlefield where they still lay.

In his letter, Mayor Truepenney thanked Auchy for honouring the Brigg men who had died there, and referred to liberté, égalité, fraternité, ideals which were shared by both communities. Mme Fontaine said she was very touched by the letter and said that the gift would be displayed with pride in her office.

The town of Auchy-Les-Mines had organised a week of commemorative



events to remember the more than 3,000 British soldiers who died there in 1915 during the Battle of Loos. The Nelthorpe students represented Brigg in these events, parading through the town on the Saturday afternoon behind the pipes and drums of The Black Watch and placing poppies on the British memorial.

For the sixteen Brigg students, friendship with the French town was more than symbolic. They were invited into the homes of French students from the Joliot Curie School and spent two days as guests of local families. It is hoped that the friendship between the two schools will grow, and that Sir John Nelthorpe school will be able to welcome the French students to Brigg in the future.

In 1915 the two towns were brought together by war and tragedy. One hundred years later it was remembrance and friendship which brought the two groups of students together, in a fitting tribute to the local men who still lay where they fell.

We interviewed 3 students, Tom Clark said 'It was an extremely memorable trip, I really enjoyed



placing a wreath on the Queen's Uncle's grave', Hannah, a sixth former, said 'The most exciting thing I found on the battlefield was a green button from a German soldiers coat' and Chelsey Page, a year 9 student said 'For me, the most memorable events were visiting the exhibitions and the family were very accommodating'. It was a very enjoyable event and the school would like to do a French exchange with the French school.





Year 7 class showing off their creative designs.

Battles of castles to be fort

By Sara Towers

Cardboard, drinking chocolate tins, straws and hard work were the perfect building blocks for success!

There are several events and competitions held in the



Shay Steer.

history department but the castle, shield and weapon competitions are a main event for most year sevens.

Each year seven class is given the challenge to design and make models of castles or shields. The students have a mere five weeks to complete their models, and the creations need to be presented after that five weeks. They are then judged and winners are revealed. For each competition, per class, there are four winners, one student from each house. The prize for the top two winners are merits and pride!

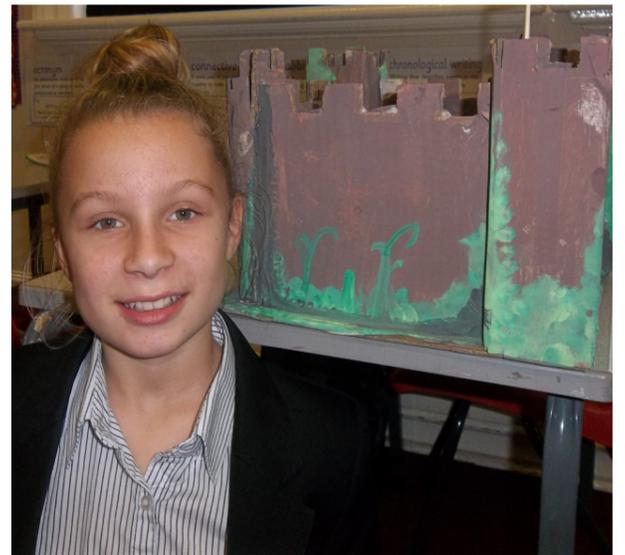
The project takes place from October to November and is held yearly. This has been a tradition for the last five years, meaning five years' worth of winners!

But there can't be winners without judges; Mr McCabe and Ms Parsonage have that incredibly hard job. The competition's standards get higher each year, as history teacher Mr McCabe explained: "The castles and shields have only got bigger and better."

Two contestants and possible winners, Erin Humphries and Olivia Marshall, worked together on a castle project and said "We enjoyed it, and had fun!"

One of the winners, representing Lardelli, Shay Steer explained the process of the castle construction; with the help of his Dad, Darren and mum, Angie. His castle is made from cardboard, drinking chocolate tins, straws and hard work. The total duration time of the construction was three weeks and two days, but it was all worth it when he found out he was a winner.

Hannah Senior and Lucy Timmins were also contestants. Their journey to completing the castle had ups and downs,



Hannah Senior.

literally! After painting the castle it unfortunately fell apart but with some help restoration took place and it was an overall enjoyable experience for them.

Future contestants are lucky enough to be given advice from one of the judges; Mr McCabe advises; "Make sure you plan carefully and a diary of your progress is a good addition to your work."

SJN students appear in West End musical

By Sam Davies

James Smalley and I (year 9) recently starred in a West End musical, Leave Hitler to Me Lad in the centre of Covent Garden and Leicester Square at the Arts Theatre.

Leave Hitler to Me Lad is a touching, heart-warming story about a young evacuee in the 50s whose life is going to be turned upside down by his sister Pam. Accompanied by his rabbit Pandy, and rock and roll best mate George (which is played by me and James) and the young girl Gladys (played by Amy Leek and Lucy Blott). This tale is based in the local town of Barton and the

small town of Chipping Ongar in Essex.

This was a truly amazing experience and a brilliant opportunity. We can't thank our wonderful director enough for this huge experience. This is a quote from the lady herself: "The child cast are the most important thing in the show to me. To see them grow through the process and have been so professional in this crazy environment, This is the whole point of Duck Egg, this is what it does. It's not just about being in shows, it's about developing well rounded, motivated people. Sam and James are definitely that!"

This to use Haley's word, has been a very "crazy" time, yet wonderful, it's amazing being a part of this team, creating this performance also meeting these brilliant people I am working with as they all have so much person-



ality and talent. I couldn't imagine not being friends with them. After being so close doing the show in a comfortable environment has just made us even stronger as a cast.

My cast had our opening show and press night in which we had many reviewers throughout the week. We had five star review from the Londonist (which is like the Times in London,

they have around 700,000 followers on Twitter!) So this meant a lot to us. Here is a quote from one of our cast members Racheal (age 25): "This was a fantastic experience being involved in Leave Hitler to Me Lad. The music and action works perfectly in a space and it was exciting to work in a West End venue. I also enjoy working with the extremely talented children! I am hoping

to work with them again someday."

Also, we can't forget our one and only Ben Pringle from sunny LA, who wrote the glorious songs for this musical and is the bass player in the Band Nerferherder and the amazing musical help that he has given us all.

We must also tell you all about the other super-amazing cast members, Rosie Fox, the stern Miss Bates and loose Mary and James Mountain playing Mr Bill and Barry, with Louis Labovitch as Brian and Eric with the other child cast as James Smalley, our very own and Lucy and Adam Skinn with me, Amy and George.

This has been an awe-inspiring journey and a once in a lifetime opportunity.

We will remember the fallen

By Freya Grimley and Lily Odlin

The poppies are out, as it is that time when we remember our fallen heroes. On the 11th of November at 11:00am 1918, there was a cease fire at the end of World War 1. The gun-fire stopped and all was peaceful.

On the 6th of November 2015, some of the Sir John Nelthorpe year sevens took part in a ceremony to commemorate all the courageous soldiers who have given their lives. Loved and been loved, everyone paid their respects to all who helped make life what it is today.

Schools including Sir John Nelthorpe, St Mary's and Brigg Primary read out poems to show their respect. The poppy crosses were planted in the memorial flower beds alongside pictures of our local heroes. As the Last Post played everyone fell silent for a two minutes silence, and bowed their heads to remember those who gave their lives to save their country.

War veterans held flags in smart uniforms, with medals from war pinned to their chests. The vicar read out a prayer and poppy wreaths were laid before the monument. Locals joined in and clapped for the schools as they finished the ceremony.

Mrs Cook, Mrs Bennett, Mr Howe and head boy Ryan Johnson led the year sevens and made sure everyone was on their best behaviour. The year sevens were well behaved and set a good example to younger children there. It was a successful ceremony and everyone was very respectful acknowledging the importance of it.



Out with the old, in with the new House system

By Ellie-May Coupland

The new house system at Sir John Nelthorpe has been a great success.

From September onwards all students were put into a house and all activities within the school count as part of the new system.

The houses are Pelham, Lardelli, Taylor and Eccles. These are the groups the students are placed into and are used throughout their time at SJN!

In class and through-out the school year students receive merits or house points for their work and how well they do it! When a student has 15 merits they receive a highlighter or a pen (of their choice) and then they can go on to receive 30 merits, and further on to 50+ through-out the school year. But sadly the next year you have to start over again, but at least you then know that you can go on to earn more merits and points!

The old house system just included sports day and the day to day bases of normal house merits. But at the start of the year, Mr Biglands explained that the new house system included, chess, Y7 historical buildings, cross country and designing a house emblem.



These were great ideas and both the students and staff found them to be exciting prospects for the school.

Mr Biglands aided by Mr Mosey and a

small handful of sixth formers came up with the new idea of the house system. Before, the old house system had been around for a bit, and Mr Biglands had the grand idea of chang-

The house badges: Red - Taylor, Blue - Lardelli, Yellow - Pelham, Green - Eccles.

ing it, just slightly.

Charley Marshall, Head Girl commented- "The new house system will aim to involve everybody by incorporating a full range of activities including sport, creative and academic competitions. Charley then quoted, that in the future she would love to see cooking competitions and board games!

Harry Cawkwell, head of Taylor explained, that he had become head of Taylor this year and is proud that the new house system includes not only sports but adds more academic things to the school.

The headteacher Mr R Biglands said "The variety of new House events taking place in the school this year is excellent. The students all thoroughly enjoy the events and are proud to wear their house badges. It is great to see the students working together and doing their very best for their houses."



Brownies testing every day household products.

Super science

Brownie unit, '2nd Broughton Brownies', attended SJN on Tuesday 30th June to fulfil some of the badge criteria on the Brownie 'Science Investigator' badge, supervised by Mr Hawley.

The aim of the evening was for the Brownies to visit a science lab as an extra-curricular activity and to meet a science professional that would talk to the Brownies about their work, enabling the girls to gain knowledge and a better understanding of the scientific world all around them. Here are some of the quotes from the brownies

"I enjoyed looking at what colours the liquid changed into. I really liked

By Mrs Field

meeting Mr Hawley and getting to do science in a real science lab."

"It was fun and it was my dad's old school."

"I enjoyed using the indicator for acid and alkali, I thought Mr Hawley was nice and helpful."

"Being at the big school made me feel amazing."

We even had one parent who said "My daughter loved the whole experience of being at a senior school and doing activities she wouldn't normally do at primary school."

Visit goes with a bang

By Trina Hostad
Pictures by Ryan Johnson

A visit to Sir John Nelthorpe went with a bang.

On the 15th of October 2015, the year 6 students from Broughton Primary school came to Sir John Nelthorpe for a science day including the launch of a rocket.

They did a range of science activities, including launching a rocket, separating DNA and turning sand into a pure salt. As a reward they all received a certificate of attendance and a school lunch from the canteen.

Georgia and Madison were two of the year 6's that came to Nelthorpe for the day. They explained their favourite part to us.

They explained "We made rockets by using a tube wrapped in paper with fins and a cork on the top. We had a launcher set up with a control pad. It had a red button and a green button. We put the rockets on the launcher one



by one and stepped back. Mr Mosey pressed the green button to charge the launcher and when it was charged he pressed the red button to ignite each rocket."

Given the chance they said they would do the day again.

Two other students called Charlie and James said that earlier that day they had separated DNA by using mashed kiwi, salt and washing up liquid. They also added alcohol and the DNA would then split. Both the boys enjoyed the day and loved the rockets.

The teacher Miss Brook told us that it was "Interesting and exciting, a fabulous day for the kids and teachers alike."

It was a great fun day for the primary school and hopefully it will happen again.



We're Bonkers over Conkers!

By Alistair Jeffrey, Bethany Vause, Elizabeth Dixon and Joseph Stanfield

On Friday 23rd October 2015, the annual conker competition was held in the Hall of Bowmandale Primary School.

Excitement filled the air as the elated children entered and conker history was made!

This year marked the 34th time that the competition had taken place.

All children in ks2 had the opportunity to take part and be crowned champion.

Pupils from years 3-6 were given the chance to participate in heats during break times. This year after many intense games, only 32 lucky children remained.

Silence coated the walls of the hall as the knock-out stage began. The eyes of the school



The finalists battle against each other, on the left Lily - Mae Jensen and on the right Joseph Stanfield.

were glued to the spectacle before them. Fragments of conker flew in all different directions. Eventually, only two of the competitors were left standing - Joseph Stanfield and Lily - Mae Jensen. Spectators were eager to find who the winner would be.

The final began. Shots were fired. Shells were broken. However the finalists were very evenly matched and the score remained tied. Consequently, the game went to sudden death. Lily hit the string and as a result Joseph was announced to be the winner. The crowd went wild and the trophy was presented to the victor. Joseph was quoted as saying, "My brother will be jealous, he was knocked out in round two." Pupils are already looking forward to next year's competition.



The winner and runners up amazingly proud of their achievements. From left to right George Edwards, Mary Bax, Joseph Stanfield and Lily - Mae Jensen.

Bowmandale to SJN: A blast from the past

By Alistair Jeffrey, Bethany Vause, Elizabeth Dixon and Joseph Stanfield

During a recent visit to Sir John Nelthorpe, pupils from Bowmandale Primary School were given the opportunity to interview former pupils Dominic So, Kieran Vause, Nathaniel Stansfield and Eleanor Ransford about their transition to secondary school.

The children from Sir John Nelthorpe gave the following responses:

Q. How did you feel about moving to secondary school?

Dominic - "I felt confident knowing that most of my friends were coming here."

Kieran - "I was nervous but also excited."

Eleanor - "I found it easy because the school made me feel really welcome."

Q. What is your favourite subject?

Dominic - "My favourite subject is Physics."

Kieran - "My favourite subject is P.E."

Eleanor - "My favourite subject is also P.E."

Nathaniel - "My favourite subjects are P.E. and History."

Q. Are you happy at Nelthorpe?

Dominic - "Yes, because the teaching is good and the atmosphere makes you feel welcome."

Kieran - "Yes, because it's a good place to learn."

Q. What is your favourite food in the canteen?

Nathaniel - "My favourite food is cheese and lettuce baguette."

The children found it very useful to talk to these pupils as they are currently making choices about their future secondary school.

TWAG week tops £2,500 for charity



By Tara Drayton and Matthew Parker

TWAG week – it may sound like the strangest name for a week on the school calendar (and you'd be right), but it is all for a great cause.

TWAG week stands for Third World Action Group, and is made up of dedicated sixth formers trying their very best to raise money for better causes; the five chosen charities of that year are greeted with a healthy fund after a week of laughs, fun and the unexpected.

This month TWAG raised a fantastic £2,500. The sixth formers are due to decide the chosen charities later this year.

All the way through the week, which takes place before October half term, money-raising events involve Year 11s, sixth formers and teachers. This year, there were old favourites such as the cake and hotdog sales; leg waxing and the slave auction; and some new events, where pupils have the opportunity to cover the oldest students in the school with a splattering of whipped



cream.

We asked Head Boy, Ryan Johnson, for his thoughts on TWAG Week.

"TWAG week is absolutely brilliant, and is a week enjoyed by all – the events consisted of the: slave auction; penalty shoot-out; drag football (where the male Six Formers dress up as women while playing football against the Year 11s).

"There was also Soak a Sixer – with water or cream; hotdog and cake stalls; leg waxing; non-uniform day; and the finale of T-Factor. It takes around three to four weeks to organise. I took part

in Soak a Sixer, leg waxing, T-Factor and the slave auction. I really enjoyed TWAG week and as always, the whole school enjoyed it, and I hope it does so for years to come."

The most-anticipated event is the T-Factor, where even the teachers get involved in the fund-raising, and a mini-version of the X Factor is held.

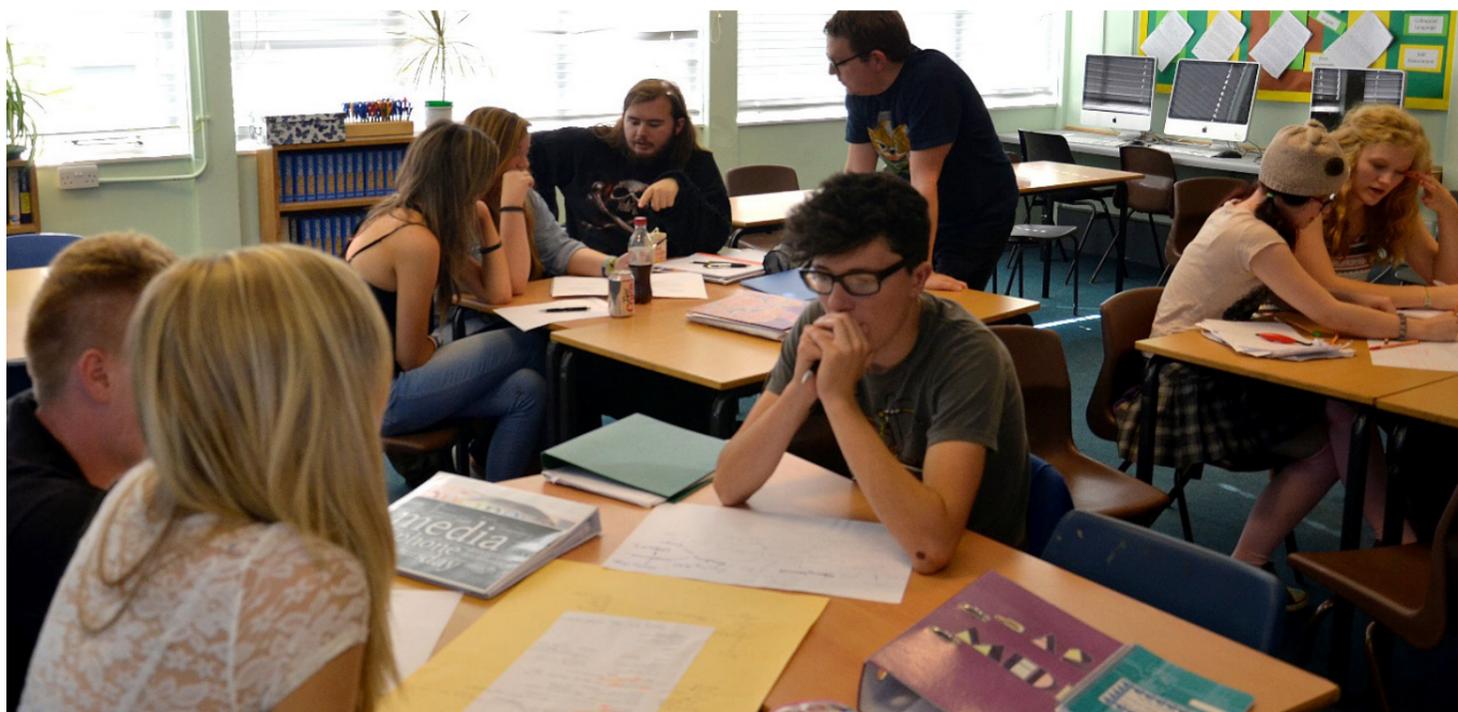
A competition of talent and voice between the teachers always draws a great number of people to the Drama Hall, where it is held. After so many years, finally, a group of hip-hopping teachers, which we all know as Mr Mosey, Mr Taylor and Mr Belton won our applause (and laughter!) with their ground-breaking performance of the Fresh Prince of Bel-Air's theme tune!

Mr Taylor said: "I haven't won in 15 years so it was about time."

Mr Belton added that it was his influence this year that swayed the judges.

After all week, a combination between both Nelthorpe's and Vale's TWAG totals made up a staggering £2,500 – which will no doubt make a great difference to the charities it goes to.





BRIGG SIXTH FORM – The real alternative to College

Why choose a school sixth form?

Better Results

Nationally, Sixth Form Colleges perform better on almost every measure than school sixth forms and general FE colleges. However we are a school sixth form who buck this trend. This is clearly shown by our results – last year, both our academic and A-Level progress scores were comfortably the best in North Lincolnshire. It is important when viewing the School and College Performance Tables to take notice of the progress measures as these are the only aspects of the league tables that take into account the ability of the students before they enter the college. If you want to achieve your full potential, you need to study with us at Brigg Sixth Form.

A Wide Range of Courses

We believe that Brigg Sixth Form provides the 'best of both worlds' for anyone looking to pursue studies beyond GCSE level. Because we have lower numbers of students than sixth form colleges, we can offer a high level of individual support through your assigned teachers and pastoral tutors. The staff really do get to know you very well and through understanding your needs, are able to ensure you receive the right support at the right time – you will not be 'lost in the system' or overlooked by being in a much larger and less personally focused context. Yet, our smaller size compared to a sixth form college does not restrict the variety of courses we are able to offer you as much as you might think. We offer a broad range of A Level and BTEC courses that suit the vast majority of students' needs, and we are constantly seeking to adapt our courses offer to suit the requirements of students wishing to join us. Unlike most sixth form colleges, we provide you with a timetable which provides the right amount of curriculum contact time as well as the right amount of private and supported study time so that you know you are getting the balance right! After all, you are choosing to embark on a programme of learning which you cannot afford to get wrong. Brigg Sixth Form understands this and school sixth forms have always been very good at ensuring students can 'get on with the job of learning' from the very first day in Year 12!

Our Learning Environment

Our students have an exclusive dedicated sixth form area on both sites including:

- Common rooms
- Free Wi-Fi
- Kitchen
- Private study rooms
- Library Access
- ICT Suites

Our teaching facilities include:

- Fully equipped, high specification industry standard science laboratories
- State of the art music suite
- Well-resourced Art & Design facilities
- Media suite
- Dedicated sixth form teaching and seminar rooms

Specialised Support

As a student in Brigg Sixth Form, you will be assigned a form tutor. This member of staff will be your first line in support throughout your time in college. You will have weekly tutorials in which your personal progress will be discussed, and after each reporting cycle your tutor will spend time having more in depth interviews regarding progress. In this way we aim to support all our students' individual needs through the different courses they have chosen. All members of our Sixth Form Team are available to provide pastoral support to students; counselling and mentoring are also available.

Students on two year courses will be encouraged to think seriously about the option of Higher Education. Highly experienced staff who know you, provide considerable support throughout the university application process - including advice on student finance and funding.

Additional Learning Activities

At Brigg Sixth Form life does not stop at the end of lessons; you can challenge yourself and achieve success in a range of extra-curricular opportunities that aim to enhance your learning experiences and

prepare you for employment, apprenticeships and higher education. Many of the experiences that we are able to offer are only available because you are a major part of a successful school.

The following gives a flavour of a few of the enrichment activities we offer:

- TWAG fundraising week
- Debating Society
- Work Experience
- Literacy Ambassador
- Learning Mentor
- Sports Ambassador
- Duke of Edinburgh
- Choir / Orchestra
- Lunchtime supervisors
- Senior House Captains
- Sports teams

The sixth form committee are able to take an active role in developing new opportunities to meet the needs of the students they represent. They are also responsible for organising social events and coordinating the active participation in charity fund raising in college.

Your Future

Brigg Sixth Form is committed to supporting all students regarding progression. Students looking to leave the sixth form and enter employment or apprenticeships, rather than Higher Education are given advice on writing letters of application, CVs and preparing for interviews. They are offered interview practice and support with the process of applying for jobs. Work experience placements are also organised to further the ambitions of all students where it is appropriate.

Being a member of a small school sixth form means you will be treated as a name and not a number; the outcomes of this are clear. The overwhelming majority of our students go on to study at their first choice university or gain apprenticeships / employment in a field of their choice.

Still Need Convincing?

Check out our website for more information or contact us to book a tour. www.briggsixthform.co.uk

Where expressing yourself is an art

Continued from page 3

Mrs Hanson: "It can definitely encourage self motivation, and it's an opportunity to do something else that isn't necessarily academic."

Miss Bolton: "Yes, drama covers other topics in the curriculum and you can learn knowledge about things in other subjects from some of the practices in drama, for example, you could learn a lot about the Tudors from hot seating Henry VIII, where a student sits on a chair and acts as if they were Henry VIII."

Do you think art/drama/music is a big part in self expression?

Mrs Barnes-White: "Yes, art is, all forms of art are. They're sharing their self expression and being themselves through the arts."

Mrs Fail: "Yes, for all the reasons we already covered, but it does show who they really are because art is everywhere."

Miss Bolton: "Yes, because the skills they learn they will use in everyday life and self expression is all a part of development."

How differently do people act in class before they take their options?

Mrs Barnes-White: "Often, after options, people are more focused, because they're in a room with people that want to do the same thing they want to do. They can collaborate with other people and learn skills from each other. They also seem more concentrated, and go into more depth in class, which will be from being in a room with those people."

Mrs Fail/Mrs Hanson: "Most people enjoy art anyway, it's a relaxed subject, but after options. They tend to try harder because they realise that it's actually important stuff."

Miss Bolton: "People take drama more seriously after options, and they acknowledge the importance of drama."

What would be your dream way of teaching art/drama/music?

Mrs Barnes-White: "I like to teach through practical ways, and through workshops so they can experience it first hand. It's a positive benefit from doing this."

Mrs Fail: "I personally would do more graphic design in my lessons, since I am a graphic design teacher."

Mrs Hanson: "I'd prefer smaller classes, as it's more of a one on one feeling."

Miss Bolton: "You can teach drama anywhere, you don't need any fancy equipment or a fancy location, although having it would be beneficial, you can teach drama anywhere and still have the same input and output."

There is a chance to see art around the school in most buildings around campus, particularly in the English Block, the Science/ICT Block and at Lower School throughout.

Fun in France for Year 7

By Isla Gordon, Erika Smith and Amiee Lus

Parlez vous francais? Pupils of Sir John Nelthorpe School say bonjour to our trip to France! We went to France in July to learn about French culture and use some of our foreign language skills.

Year 7 (now year 8) had the opportunity to go to France thanks to two kind teachers, Mrs Smith and Mrs Ingledew. The journey took approximately 8 hours from school to Calais using the channel tunnel.

When we arrived there was positive feedback about the accommodation (château d'ebblinghem). Millie - Mae Dowling states 'the accommodation was clean and hygienic not like other places'. There was plenty to do, like outdoor Activities such as football, or indoor activities that ranged from arcades to reading.

When we first arrived, we went to the bak-



ery and helped make some croissants. We received a free pain au chocolat and a croissant!

Later on in the day we went to a goat farm. We explored all the different barns and saw lots of different animals and learnt about them.

The next day we went to an Aquarium (Nausicaa), Eleanor Ransford said 'it was a great experience to share with my friends and I would recommend to others'. Other pupils said they enjoyed it and had a good time looking and learning about different species of fish.

To explore French places and customs we went to a market and practised our French language skills by asking for directions and clues from the local shop keepers. We filled in a questionnaire and



did some browsing through the stalls.

After the market we journeyed on to the chocolate factory. All the pupils said 'le chocolat c'est superbe.' A number of pupils brought chocolate home to share with family and friends.

On last day some brave students tried escargots (snails!).

Au revoir!



New prefect system launched

By Jack Simms

This year Sir John Nelthorpe has started using a prefect system.

More than half of the then year 10 applied to be prefects and we took up our duties in June.

They are a great help to the school, staff, and pupils alike.

"The prefects' presence around the school provides an extra level of support for students and helps raise the standards expected at Sir John Nelthorpe School. The Briggensian ties are an excellent addition to the school uniform and enable the other students to easily identify the prefects," said Mr Biglands

The prefects are there to help the students and assist the staff in ensuring that behaviour is good during breaks and lunchtimes.

On the first day of term the prefects were given their 'Badge of Office', the boys received their Briggensian tie and the girls were presented with the Briggensian brooch.

"I think am easily noticeable in my new tie for the students to come to me, and I will be able to keep it when I



Caption: The 5 senior prefects, Nathanael Stanfield, Emma Horscraft, Jack Simms, Niamh Prestwood, Dominic So

leave school as a reminder of my time at Sir John Nelthorpe," said Dominic So.

We also have now launched the senior prefects who are the team lead-

ers for each group (1-5).

I am the senior prefect for Team 5 and since the launch of the senior prefects the organisation of the prefects has been massively improved and 9

out of 10 times the prefects turn up to duty on time and in the correct place.

We hope this system will continue to the next year 11s and we hope they continue to edit the system and make

it better and contemporise it.

I am proud to think that I will always be a Briggensian (which is an organisation which raises money for the school. It is formed up of ex-pupils).



Owen Kelly

Physics Award

By Hannah Senior

Owen Kelly Y12, has been named Young Physicist of the Year by the Ogden Trust.

Owen, part of Brigg Sixth Form, now wants to pursue a career in science. He said: "Mr Smith came and told me a month before that he had nominated me for the award.

"I didn't really know what it was and didn't think I would win it. I am so happy. It means a lot to me. Physics is my favourite subject in sixth form because it combines a lot of different skills.

"I enjoy maths but also like the practical elements. There is always help here when I need it and enjoy the course as we do lots of experiments.

"I want to go into physics or engineering and would like

to study it at university. My dad is an engineer, but it is chemical engineering. My mum did physics at A Level as well, so I am from a very scientific family.

"I think that is what gave me the interest. A dream job would be to work in the space industry, designing space shuttles and equipment. That would be good, but it is a top job."

Mr Smith said: "Owen has shown a natural ability and talent for physics. I know he wants to study physics or engineering in the future, and hopefully this award will inspire him to achieve excellent results at A Level.

"You can take something like this with you, as people in university will be aware of the Ogden Trust. It is a good feather to have in your cap."

Mr Mosey said: "Owen is a talented, natural physicist.

"He was the obvious choice for nomination when we were contacted by the Ogden Trust."

Making the decision on a 'Big school' for your child

Martin Coffey (Parent of a Year 7 pupil)

Choosing a 'big' school for our daughter Hannah was quite a daunting task with four local schools to consider. Together we read previous OFSTED reports, viewed local media and spoke to a number of other parents who had children at the schools we were considering. Then came the open evenings which we found varied in style and the message they delivered. Initially we felt more confused than when we began.

Hannah had taken a liking to SJN as she enjoyed the open evening and expressed that the school didn't feel too big. Her initial concern was that many of her friends were following older siblings to other schools. My wife and I both had similar feelings. We also thought parts of SJN looked a bit tired in places and in need of updating. It is easy to be seduced with a new build but we felt some schools over emphasised the importance of style over content.

SJN has lots of potential on its site and I was pleased to discover that the local authority was committed to providing investment for some of the required updates. I even corresponded with the local MP Andrew Percy who I found to be very positive and supportive of SJN's future.

SJN became our preferred choice but before making a decision we arranged a visit during a school day and was very impressed with the quality of the teaching. The pupils were all completely engaged with their teacher and lesson and the school had a good feel about it.

We are aware that SJN is the top performing non-selective school in the North Lincolnshire area and fares much better than the national average in terms of GCSE results and this is a strong influence when deciding on a school for our child's future.

We feel the future of SJN is very promising. The Headteacher, Mr Biglands, appointed in September 2014, was the former Deputy Head of an independent academy that OFSTED rated as outstanding and it was regarded as one of the top ten non-selective schools in the country.

After only a couple of months have elapsed since Hannah started at SJN and she has taken to it like a duck to water, the first day nerves are now memories and she has made new friends and settled in well. We do feel as parents it is important to get as involved as you can with the school and have registered our interest in being a friend of SJN to help when we can. The school are understanding of our limitations and time constraints as working parents and I would encourage other parents to express an interest in helping when and how they can. If any prospective parents are considering SJN and wish to speak to us, please feel free to get in touch via SJN.

Can you help the friends of SJN?

By Sharn Davies and Jayne Howell

We are delighted to inform you that SJN now has an active Friends of the School.

We both attended SJN (a few more years ago than we care to admit), and now have our own children in various years within the school.

We envisage the role of the Friends of the School as a way of involving parents, the local community and businesses in the life of SJN. Whether this is through fund raising, attending community events or just lending a helping hand.

We are hoping many parents will be willing to participate in any of the Friends of the School future activities, and we would love to hear from you.

For any enquiries email friends@nelthorpe.org.uk

School choir needs you!

For all you budding singers out there, the music department needs YOU!

The SJN school choir is looking for new members. We are a very small, but successful, group. Last year we took part in a Christmas play with the drama club and in the Christmas church service. We also performed in the GCSE recordings and many other things.

On Thursday November 19th we will be participating in the school's presentation evening, from 6 - 7:30pm, and in the Christmas service again.

"We sing interesting songs and the teacher is really nice. I have fun. We work hard and we get good results," said Emily Redish, Year 7.

"It brings me together with other people who enjoy singing and it lets me express myself. I like writing, but I prefer writing songs. As Mrs Barnes-White joined the choir the choir took a big leap to greatness. When I leave school I intend to go to college and university and study law, but in my spare time I will continue to sing and compose. In the future I intend to have a choir of my own," said Jack Simms, Year 11.

"I would like to have more members, but the people we have are very dedicated and because they come every week we are starting to make a nice sound," said Mrs Barnes-White.

If you are interested just turn up to Mrs Barnes-White's classroom at 12:30 on Thursday. All you need is a packed lunch and yourself - you will love it! We look forward to seeing you.

By Victoria Cook



RAF - Air cadets next generation

Are you a fan of aviation, action and adventure, love sports and getting to know people? If you answered yes then the Air Cadets are for you! Every year nearly 60,000 air cadets and volunteer staff take part in many exciting events all over the country. There are over 1,000 squadrons across the UK and many in your immediate area, so becoming an Air Cadet is easy and simple.

Near the school there is the 7th best Squadron in the whole of UK. 2222 Brigg Squadron is great for every part of air cadets. What actually is there in cadets? Aside from flying, sports, target shooting, adventure training, camps, band, meeting new people and great fun? You'll soon find that being an air cadet is its own reward - you constantly see the benefits of your own efforts, building on your achievements and earning BTECs and DoE Awards. Approximately once a month we go rifle

By Robyn Slater

shooting and carry out field exercise in Primrose Hill near Scunthorpe. Our Squadron gets between 4 and 7 camps per year which take you to different parts of the country to do adventure sports and to visit military bases.

Cadets is on every Tuesday and Thursday night from 7pm to 9:30pm and costs £11 per month. This includes every activity we go on. It will not interfere with your school life so don't worry. If you do want to join up then we have intake nights 2 times per year and these will be advertised around the school with due notice if you would like to join. You can join once you get into year 8 and stay until you're 17. So why don't you try something new and come to Air Cadets and if you want to ask any questions you can find either Robyn Slater Year 11 or Jack Binnington, Year 9.



Students remember Agincourt

By Matthew Waite

The battle of Agincourt was an important event in the 100 Years' War. The Hundred Years' War was a series of conflicts waged from 1337 to 1453 by the House of Plantagenet, rulers of England, against the House of Valois, rulers of France, there were many battles one of which was the battle of Agincourt.

This is special because on the 25th October it was the 600th anniversary. This was a key battle as it proved that strength in numbers is not always true. Now for a bit of backstory, the British were trying to gain land in France with a make-shift army, but the French were having none of it. They pushed back hard and as the British tried to retreat to Calais, the French army cut them off. The day was 25th October 1415, it had been raining hard and the soon-to-be battleground happened to be a ploughed field. King Henry Vth decided that the battle field was in favour of defence.

The battle began when the English archers advanced half a mile to around 130 metres from the French knights where the field was at its narrowest. The archers put stakes (long poles with a spike at one end) in to the sodden ground, they then loosed swarms of arrows on to the French, some witnesses wrote down



Matthew Waite wearing the battle gear that they would have worn at the battle of Agincourt

things such as "the sky was black with arrows".

The arrows had enraged the 1000 French cavalry, who then charged without orders, this was one of the many downfalls, as the French horses got stuck in the mud and fell over (no pun intended).

This was an important day in English history and after a quick survey, only 11 of the 30 people surveyed knew what the battle was, we need to try more to remember those who fought and defended Britain in the 100 Years War. This event is still inspiring courage in students today.



Learning new skills at Scouts

By Matthew Waite

Scouting is a world-wide community of young people (4-18 years old) who join together once a week and do activities such as crafts and camps etc. There are 4 scout groups in the area, Brigg, Grasby, Hiba-dstow and Broughton and each of them will provide amazing quality scouting. Scouting was started by a man named Baden Powell, who in August 1907 took a group of boys to a camp on Battersea Island, from there scouting has slowly grown into a worldwide organisation and contains 38 million young people.

There are several people in the school who attend scouts: Lewis Clark: "It is a fun place where I feel happy and safe all the time, there is lots of open opportunities like camping, canoeing, climbing, raft building and learning new skills."

Jack Cottam: "I have learnt a lot of new skills e.g. Cooking and lots of new knots. I have also been abseiling with the scouts and every year we do a camp at Alton Towers."

William Odin: "It is good fun and I have been on loads of trips like going to Alton towers and PGL."

Jack Simms: "In the holidays I was picked to go to the 23rd world scout jamboree in Japan."

"I have been involved in scouting for 11 years. I have been very dedicated and worked hard at my accolades in it, and as such I applied to go the World Scout Jamboree."

"I was picked out of 50 people from the surrounding areas to represent not just my area and my scout group this school as well. On my left sleeve of my uniform it had the logo of this school as it is a historic institute of education."

"I wore that with pride and honour to be bearing the standard of the school and to be representing all that is good about England and Scouting."

I encourage anyone who has a lot of free time and is bored and wants a taste of adventure to visit the scouting website and find where your nearest scout group is.

The next jamboree is 2019 in America, so join up before then gain accolades; then put your name down.



Chocolate fans go wild at Cadbury World

By Matthew Parker

Cadbury World is where people go to learn about the famous Cadbury's chocolate. The trip is part of the Business Studies GCSE course. Here is what a year 11 student who went on the trip said about it.

Did you enjoy the trip?

"Yes, I enjoyed it"

What did you do there?

"We had a tour around the building and tried some samples and had a lecture. There were also some structures made out of chocolate, there were also little ride (for children) and we learnt about the history of Cadbury's."

Why did you go there?

"To put what we learnt in class into a real life situation."



Students helping others

By Paige Black

Over the summer holidays Paige Black, Millie Smith, Olivia Black and Lauren Carr got involved in a competition called Lifestyle.

Lifestyle is a project which was set up in 1989 to challenge young people to get involved with their communities, using their spare time to make a real difference.

First we did a tombola and a few stalls to raise some money for a man named Lester Duff, who is brain damaged after an accident. On the same day in the same building Millie did a 12 hour table tennis marathon which was sponsored by many people. The stalls made £80, for the raffle, including the table tennis marathon we raised just over £1000.

For their efforts Mr Duff kindly sent us a thankyou card and letter.

The second thing we did was a stall at the I-Fest in Immingham on the 1st of August 2015. For the stall we did a tombola, the stick game and a lucky dip. The stick game was a box with cocktail sticks stuck halfway through the top of the box and you picked out a stick and if it had a colour at the bottom you won a prize. For the lucky dip you put your hand in and didn't take it out until you found a prize so you were guaranteed a win. For the tombola you got five tickets and if it ended with a 0 you won a prize. We also got given a big donation whilst we were there. Altogether at the end we had raised £120 with the donation and that money was all spent on food for the Immingham food larder.

Then a week or so later we went out to Tesco with the £120 that we raised and spent it on



Paige Black, Millie Smith, Olivia Black and Lauren Carr got involved in a competition called Lifestyle.

two trollies full of tins, rice, pasta and juices. We went around all of the rows of food with our list and got everything we needed and when we got to the till it was £120.38.

The third thing we did was we made the garden in the children's centre a better place for the children to be. We swept all of the leaves from the trees away, we pulled all of the weeds away, and we cleared out all of the weeds and old soil out of the pots and replaced it with new

soil and plants that we had bought. We tidied all of the trees up and we cleaned all of the floor as it was covered with all of the mud. You wouldn't believe this but it took us two sessions to do this, three if you count buying the flowers.

We have won a prize for what we have done and we will find out what we have won on 11th November 2015 when we go to Hull to the presentation night.

Table tennis team go through

By Millie Smith Y7

The under 13 girls will now play at St Marys College in Hull later this month after winning the county title on November 3rd.

They were part of two teams from Sir John Nelthorpe who went to the table tennis competition at Scunthorpe Table Tennis Club.

Four of the girls were from KS3 they were: Millie Smith, Jessica Bray, Angel Cotterill and Lily Featherstone. The other four girls competed for KS4 and were called: Trina Hostad, Alix Rodger, Katie Allcock and Jodie Steadman. The KS3 team came 1st and the KS4 came 3rd.

The under 13 boys will also be playing at St Marys College in Hull later this month after winning their county title on November the 4th.

They were part of the two teams from Sir John Nelthorpe who went to the table tennis competition at Scunthorpe Table Tennis Club.



Above: Four of the girls were from KS3 they were: Millie Smith, Jessica Bray, Angel Cotterill and Lily Featherstone. The other four girls competed for KS4 and were called: Trina Hostad, Alix Rodger, Katie Allcock and Jodie Steadman. The KS3 team came 1st and the KS4 came 3rd.



Left: Four of the boys were from KS3: Sam Aynsley, Jack Rains, Declan Traviss and Tomas Roche. The other four boys competing for KS4 were: Ben Lingard, Toby Traviss, Adam Rutter and Oliver Cross. The KS3 boys came 1st.

Lewis is a winner

Budding author Lewis Sowerby clinched the first prize in a recent writing competition. The challenge was to pen the opening for a Dr Who story set in a library, with first prize signed copies of Dr Who books and free entry to the Sci-Fest at the Baths Hall. Lewis saw off competition from across North Lincs to claim first prize. He has already had several of his stories published online and plans to write more in the future.

Two travellers burst through the ancient double doors at the entrance to their next obstacle as quickly as the old hinges would let them. The old man strode purposefully into the centre of the room, surveying their new surroundings. An energetic young woman pulled the old doors closed and propped a sturdy looking chair under the door handles. She then joined her companion in the centre of the room.

'A library?' She asked.

'It would appear so, yes.' He replied.

'How are books supposed to help us? We've already solved one puzzle - that led us to a room with a...thing in it, which tried to kill us and unless you've forgotten, is still trying to kill us!' She looked back at the door uncertainly.

'Ah yes, well, if you wouldn't mind talking slower - or even better not at all - I might have chance to think.' He then began scanning the shelves in search of clues. She kept her eye on the doors, secretly concerned about the level of security the chair provided.

A sudden loud thump on the doors broke the silence in the library with a resounding thud.

'Don't panic, Clara.' His eyebrows were furrowed in concentration; his eyes erratically darting across the shelved walls of their prison.

'Not panicking, OK.' Something behind the doors began scratching at them furiously and relentlessly. 'Right, finding the "not panicking" a bit more difficult now.'

'Well, if you must panic, then panic calmly. Saves making a fuss. Fat lot of good that ever does.'

'What is it you're looking...?'

'Aha!' He exclaimed at his discovery - sliding a thick, leather bound book from one of the shelves. He held it out in front of him horizontally and lifted the cover. But it wasn't a cover - it was a lid. A lid of a box, disguised as a book. 'Oh! Of course it is! I'm so stupid. Mr. Stupid!'

'What is it?' Clara asked urgently.

'You know, Clara, a long time ago, I said that books were the greatest weapon in the universe. I was wrong.'

'Then what is, Doctor?'

The Doctor spread his arms out beside him. 'Me. Know why?' He asked. Clara shook her head. 'Because most of the time, I have no-one to tell me what's right and wrong. No-one to explain the difference.' He looked at the doors. 'Just like that thing.'

The travellers looked on helplessly as the creature finally broke through the doors in a shower of splinters. Clara instinctively stepped backwards. The Doctor appeared unaware of the immediate threat as he lifted a small, red, round object from the book-box. 'Fetch!' He shouted, throwing the object past the creature. It immediately chased after it, forgetting its previous interests.

'What was that?' Asked Clara.

'Cricket ball.'

'Of course it was.' Behind them, one of the many bookshelves parted from the wall, revealing the path to their next test. The travellers continued their journey, as the bookshelf closed behind them.

'I used to play cricket, you know...'

Let's go back to Germany

This year the German exchange didn't go ahead due to lack of interest from a small year group but maybe now it's time to go back.

Two years ago, 18 year 9 and 10 students (now in year 11 and 6th form) visited Gymnasium Leoninum in Handrup, North Germany. The participants said it was an amazing week where they met amazing people and made lots of new friends.

They visited the German school and followed their German partner's timetable. The pupils went to different places and on lots of trips over the week. They visited Bremen. They also went to the Bremerhaven where they visited the Klimahaus, or the earth museum. It was described by Rayne and Lauren as 'a really awesome trip!'

They spent the weekend with their partner's families. They had almost no contact with their friends although the families did pair up so there were 2 English people together. At the weekend, they took part in the activities that the German

By Hollie Quirke and
Abi Smith-Portess

students would usually do, such as football training. Luke Snell said "Everyone was really kind and helpful. If I didn't understand something (everything the coach was saying), Ferdi or one of the players would translate for me."

Just before Easter in 2014, the German students came over to England and stayed with their English partner. They also visited Sir John Nelthorpe and did activities in and around Brigg.

All of the students that took part said that the trip was 'awesome,' a 'great experience,' 'hilarious' and they made 'friends for life.' We hope that after reading this, you might decide to take part in this trip. It's an amazing experience and definitely not to be missed! If you're interested, see Mrs Downie.



Hamlet trip for students

By Hollie Quirke and
Abi Smith-Portess

On Thursday 15th October 2015, the A-Level English Literature students went to Vue Cinema in Scunthorpe.

They watched a 3 ½ hour production of Hamlet streaming live from London. The main character was played by Benedict Cumberbatch and was described by Jade Briers as being "Perfect for the role." He "Played the part well".

Other students that attended were Poppy Mallett, Elizabeth Sladen and Courtney Wilson along with teacher, Mr Waite. Mr Waite said "The play was brilliant and really brought Hamlet to life. It was excellent."

Poppy Mallett and Courtney Wilson both said that the performance was very educational and helpful for their coursework. Poppy also said, "It was interesting to see different perceptions that contrasted to our views." Jade Briers said "I think Benedict Cumberbatch is suited to quirky roles like Hamlet because he has played Sherlock."

Although, some parts of the play seemed a little weird because Hamlet was dressed in contemporary costumes, at one point, he was wearing a David Bowie t-shirt! I also liked the fact that Benedict Cumberbatch made the play a bit funnier." Jade and Elizabeth both said this play was better than any other Shakespeare plays they had seen.

Courtney Wilson said that the play was very important and overall it was very good and interesting. They would all definitely recommend Hamlet.



Lakes experience for SJN pupils

By Mathew Moffitt
and Byron Stewart

On Friday 8th May a group of year 8 (now year 9) went to the Ullswater centre of the Outward Bound Trust.

We departed lower school at 9am and began the journey to the Lake District.

Our first port of call was Scotch Corner for a snack. We then set off again to Ullswater. When we arrived we were put into groups. Our first job was putting our baggage in our rooms. Then we had to pack our rucksacks ready for the expedition and camping out that night in the valley. Once we were ready we headed into the valley. We set up camp and unloaded our gear. We settled in for our first night at Outward Bound, in the rain!

On the second and third days we woke up and did activities. The activities included ghyll scrambling, walking on the edge of a cliff, abseiling and kayaking. Abi Smith-Portess said: "It was fun. The activities were challenging but rewarding." She said she would go again and that she made friends.

Marcus Robinson said: "It was a great experience and very challenging. It taught us the skills we need for survival in harsh conditions. Activities were challenging but fun and I was glad that I had a roof over my head on the Saturday!"





Niamh is UK martial arts champion

First Person piece by British National Taekwondo champion Niamh Lintott

I started doing taekwondo by joining a club in Kirton in Lindsey as my mum wanted me to join a club instead of watching TV 24/7.

My first lesson was pretty easy because before that I was a dancer and dancing helped me a lot because I was really flexible and my legs were super strong.

After a couple of days training I was invited to be one of the official members. They gave me my full white suit, my first belt and my fighting gear. I was improving a lot through the days until I was asked to go to my first competition. The competition was pretty small because it was only for the club.

There was a multiple choice of sections form, form pairs and fighting, my best friend Emily Gough and I competed in the pairs. We came first and my friends George and Joseph came second. The form you did without your partner, I came second out of 10. My fighting part was really hard because Emily was a higher belt than me. I came second in fighting out of five.

A couple weeks after the competition I was invited to another, but I was fighting a black belt and she was amazing. Her kicks were perfection. I lost that match but I fought Emily again for second place, but I lost that match too. My friend Summer lost against Emily too, but I won the match between Summer and I. In the end I came third with a swollen foot and a bruise on my neck.

After lots of recovery, my teacher Master, Tim Corlett, came to me personally and asked to me join the official British team. In Summer 2015 the competition had arrived and it was pretty far away. In Manchester in the cycling bowl were loads of taekwondo mats set up. When I was signing in there was Jade Jones, European champion, she asked if I was joining in, I nodded and she left. I fought one person, she was very feisty but I won in the last second. I came first and became British National champion in my age/ weight category.

Year 11 boys rugby team champions yet again

The Year 11 boys rugby team were victorious in the North Lincolnshire inter-schools rugby tournament and they didn't concede a single point in their matches.

On the 15th September the Year 11 boys' rugby team took part in the North Lincolnshire Inter-Schools rugby tournament at Scunthorpe rugby club's training ground at Ashby Decoy Golf Club.

They had great victories against all the teams they played and they didn't concede a single point

By Luke Middleton

in the whole tournament!!!!

We interviewed Archie Swain the captain of the team to see what he had to say: He said the team played really well throughout the tournament to secure victory especially in the final where they beat Frederick Gough school in Scunthorpe. He also

said: "In my opinion everyone played very well and were all a big part of the team. Nat Stanfield was a force to be reckoned with on the wing and ran in lots of tries for the team."

Overall they had a smashing tournament and represented the school excellently and because they have won the North Lincolnshire tournament every time they have decided to enter the Lincolnshire tournament at Market Rasen in March to give themselves a good challenge.

SJN finds first place and sprints to podium

For the past two years Sam Davies and Aiden Bulmer have been orienteering champions in north Lincolnshire and the entire Humber area as they are participants of the Humber games along with the rest of the nelthorpe orienteering team. From being two time champions at central park in Scunthorpe which gets them through to compete in the Humber games at Hymers School in hull. In which in 2014 we was awarded 2nd place and in 2015 we conquered 1st

By James Smalley

place.

I interviewed a winning participant Samuel Davies

"Originally there were eight of us when we went to central park in Scunthorpe but when we got to the Humber Games there were six, myself, Aiden, Owen Dunderdale, Connor Lee, William Dulson and Josh Topps.

Both times we have done the Humber Games it has been extremely

hot, making the course that little bit harder and the course has got longer each time."

The challenge is not knowing where you are going next and the strain of having to do it as fast as you can to win.

Also I interviewed the other part of the winning pair Aiden Bulmer

"It was great fun and also winning makes it all better also it was a great day we had good banter.

The hardest part of the course was the weather being so hot you have to have a lot of endurance to keep going. All in all we had a brilliant day."



Marcus in GB water ski team

A year 9 pupil, Marcus Robinson has represented Great Britain at U-14 level in water skiing.

He recently travelled with Team GB to the European Water Ski Championships held at the Parco Del Tevere, near Rome, Italy. There were 23 countries and around 150 skiers competing. Marcus competed in Slalom (19th), Trick (18th), Jump (17th) finishing a credible 16th overall.

Marcus' coach Sarah Robinson inform us that: "Marcus has to train really hard and this often involves being on the water by 7.30am and not finishing until 6pm. His coaches are really pleased with his improvement over the past few years as he moves up through the Divisions. He has great potential and as he becomes stronger will compete for medals next year whilst still competing at U-14. Well done Marcus!"

City game a fitting reward

SJN soccer successes

By Byron Stewart
and Matty Moffitt

A group of 40 SJN pupils went on a bus to the Etihad Stadium in Manchester to watch Manchester City play Sevilla in the Champions league on October 21 as a reward for sporting activities in school.

They departed upper school at 3:20 on the way to Manchester. Once they arrived they went to the City Store to buy souvenirs. Then they went to get food and then entered the stadium. When they got seated the players were out and warming up.

The players entered the field of play and a huge roar was heard from every stand. When the game kicked off it was extremely even and end to end football was being played. Then, halfway through the first half, Sevilla got a hold on the game and around the half hour mark they took the lead through a Yevgen Konoplyanka strike. But City were resilient and a Yaya Toure run was converted into an own goal and an equaliser.

The second half kicked off and almost straight away Sevilla took control and had most of the possession. But as the half was drawing to a close City



got into the game and as four minutes went up on the added time board, Kevin De Bruyne was sent through and he finished brilliantly to give City a last minute winner.

Finlay Clayton-Smith, a Year 9 pupil, said "It was a really good trip. It was so exciting to see all of the fabulous players."

He also said "It's great that the people who give the time for out of school activities get rewarded." He said he would do it again because it was a good atmosphere and a fantastic experience.

Jak Reeman, also in Year 9, said "It was great; a good win and a fantastic experience. He also said "It's good to reward pupils for what they do for the school and it encourages people to do sport." However he also told us "It was a very long journey and the pies were too hot!"

Finally, Owen Dunderdale, of Year 9, said: "It was amazing. A great concept rewarding the students who do sporting activities for the school."

Overall it was a fantastic game thoroughly enjoyed by all.

There have been many footballing successes at SJN recently.

Last year's Year 9 and Year 10 teams both won the inter-school plate in their respective age groups.

The games are played over the course of the year, initially with a group stage, with the top teams in the group going into the cup and the other teams going into the plate. Then it is knockout round until a final, which both age groups won respectively.

Also the current Year 8 team reached the final of a six-a-side tournament at Fredrick Gough School in Scunthorpe. They played extremely well and were unlucky to lose.

On a final note, the current Year 9 team has reached the knockout round of the cup competition, a great achievement, exceeding all expectations.

KC trip for ambassadors

Recently two year 9 students visited the KC stadium in Hull to learn how to be a young sports ambassador.

This involved helping people who aren't very sporty get into sport. One boy and one girl in each school in North Lincs was chosen to do this.

From our school the boy chosen was Owen Dunderdale and the girl chosen was Safron Purver-Judge. One of the challenges they faced was to come up with an idea to get people into sport.

They came up with an idea to have a 6 week training course, where within those 6 weeks they would take people who struggle with sport out of PE and give them the opportunity to do more fun sports to get them in the sporting mind set.



Smashing badminton performance

In the last academic year, four students did extremely well in a badminton tournament.

They made it to the fourth round, meaning they got to the round of the competition that involves all schools in the counties of Yorkshire and Lincolnshire.

They suffered an unlucky defeat against the overall winners of the tournament.

Both Will Odlin and Lloyd Kettles, who were Year 8s then, told us it was great fun and that they were unlucky to lose.

All those who took part played well, showed a good spirit and did their school proud.

Fun run for good causes

On Wednesday 25th November, our school fun run will take place.

We are pleased to say that money raised will be donated to British Heart Foundation, Wish Upon a Star and Diabetes UK.

Krystal Clark said "The money given will help children with diabetes and help them to get more medical help."

She also hopes it will raise awareness in people's minds. Some money will also be given to the P.E department which will be spent on sporting equipment.

Please take part in fun run to help good causes and help improve your education in P.E. You will also get points for your house if you do well so have a go and try your best.

Netball girls finish third in tournament

By Robyn Slater

The Under 16 Netball team finished a creditable third in a tournament at St Bedes and the girls played very well, improving with each game.



They also went to friendly netball fixtures against Baysgarth School with Year 7, Year 8 and Year Nine teams in action.

It was the first outing for the Year 7s, who held their own against strong competition. The Year 8 girls played exceptionally well, again holding their own, and improving their performance with each quarter. The Year Nines played well, improving with each quarter but unfortunately losing to a strong team.

The Under 16 Hockey girls finished 3rd in their league and all played exceptionally well at the Pods on October 19. The Year 8 Girls took part in a football tournament at Fredrick Gough and finished second in their league.

Emma Horsecraft and Elouise Nicholson took part in a level one cheerleading course and are now qualified leaders of cheerleading and will be running a cheer club in January for the students.

