

## Headteacher's Introduction

It doesn't seem like a whole year has passed since I wrote the foreword for the end of year newsletter in 2016, but here we are again. In this year we have experienced so many highs and lows, in so many different forms. I have been incredibly proud, yet humbled by so many of the achievements of our students, both in school and in their individual endeavours outside of school. I am certain that next year will bring yet more outstanding achievements.

I thank each and every one of the staff who have worked so hard this year to help the students to do their very best. For anyone who is less familiar with the context of this school, we are very much on a journey of recovery and improvement. We acknowledge that there is still a long way to go, but together, I know we will achieve. We literally depend on the financial generosity of parents and carers in our efforts to provide a most pleasant and conducive of environments for the students; they deserve this much! Your contribution to the school fund is critical to us in making further progress.

Sir John Nelthorpe School is more than a school; it is a truly unique institution, within which our young people experience so many valuable opportunities as they mature into young adults. I encourage every one of our students to seize the opportunities that lay before you. The year ahead will without doubt be just as challenging and perhaps even more rewarding. We look forward to receiving our new Year 7 intake (all 156 of them, meaning that we are officially an oversubscribed school). I am sure the new cohort will further enrich the lives of us all as they join our family.

So, finally, I wish you all an enjoyable and safe summer. I look forward to our new academic year with tremendous optimism. For now, I leave you with these words from Mark Twain:

*"The two most important days in your life are the day you are born and the day you find out why"*

Mr R. Biglands

# 108 Years!!!

**Sadly, we do have a number of staff leaving us this term. We wish them all the very best for their futures. The combined service to the school of those moving on totals an amazing 108 years!**

Dr Smith will retire after 1 year's service teaching Science, specialising in Chemistry up to A-level. Mrs L Pearson leaves us after 2 years service after successfully completing her NQT as a teacher of mathematics. Mrs Hebblewhite will retire after 17 years service teaching Modern Foreign Languages, specialising in French. Mrs Southern left us in April after 18 years as a Learning Support Assistant. Mrs Glew left us in June having served 18 years as a teacher of Science, specialising in biology. Mr Harrison is retiring after an astonishing 42 years service at Sir John Nelthorpe School. Mr Harrison has been a teacher of History at the school having started in 1975 at the Girls High School!!! Last but not least, we will be bidding a fond farewell to Mr Peters who will be retiring as Deputy Headteacher after 10 years service at the School. Mr Peters is highly respected and admired; his loyalty and dedication to the school have been immense and his reputation as a true gentleman is a true testament to the person he is.

The school is extremely grateful to all those leaving us for everything they have done at SJN to make it the best school in North Lincolnshire!.



*"The good relationships between students and between students and staff create a positive environment for learning throughout the school." - OFSTED December 2014*



## School Choir To Appear In Anti-Bullying Project

There is an exciting new project in the Music department - we have a choir of more than 20 people who are rehearsing regularly and learning a wide variety of music.

On Monday 10th July we attended a singing workshop day at Frederick Gough school, where we learned several new songs and practised harmony singing as well as giving a performance of "Stitches" by Shawn Mendes. Along with students from Frederick Gough School and The Axholme Academy we learned and performed a choral version of "Titanium" which has been filmed and will be used in the autumn as part of an anti-bullying campaign across North Lincolnshire.

Everyone who attended was a credit to the school and had what one student described as "an amazing day".

We hope to perform in assemblies soon, and new members are always welcome.

## Year 11 Prom Night 2017

This year's prom was held at Hemswell Court, Hemswell Cliff, one of Lincolnshire's hidden treasures. Here a former RAF Officers Mess, used in the Dambusters movie has been converted into a fantastic location for such events as a prom. Staff and students were not disappointed with the tranquil setting.

Arriving in sports cars, tractors and horse and carriage to name but a few, the students enjoyed their special evening. A chance to dress up and party away those long exam days was greatly appreciated by all.



## Year 6 Transition Days

During July all of the Year 6 students who will start with us in Year 7 in September come in to school to experience life at SJN. During the two days students take part in a variety of lessons and get time with their form tutor and tutor groups as well as the ever popular canteen visit still being a firm favourite.

This year children are coming from over 20 'feeder' schools and all left feeling that the move to secondary school is not so daunting after all.

A group of current Year 7 students have been assigned as 'Buddies' who will be on hand to help the new intake students in any way they need helping to ensure a smooth transition through this important stage of their education.



## Y7 Trip to France

From the 4th - 7th July 73 Year 7 students took part in the annual trip to France. The group spent 2 days and 2 nights in the North of France near Boulogne. After a long coach journey down to the tunnel, the group enjoyed a typical French breakfast in a café in Boulogne then headed into the old town of Boulogne. Other visits included Nausicaa (aquarium), a chocolate factory, a bakery where our students made croissants, a snail farm, the beach at Boulogne and a first world war cemetery in Wimereux. The weather was amazing throughout the whole trip and students were impeccably behaved as always. The students had the opportunity to speak and hear lots of French on visits and at the hotel. Here are a few comments from the students:

I really enjoyed the French trip. Especially when we went to the chocolate factory, also I enjoyed the rooms and the food at the hotel. - Daniel Horwood  
 The chocolate factory was really good, so was the bakery and snail farm. The beach was really good and fun. The hotel was nice as well. - Holly Rhodes  
 I really enjoyed the French trip. I liked the aquarium and the hotel was good with it's games and activities. - Jessica Beel. Students seen below making croissants. - Mrs Smith (Head of MFL)



## National Ice Hockey Champion

Evan Byron-Bates plays ice hockey for The Sheffield Lasers. In the 2016-2017 season they became North Division 1 league champions and England National champions. They were undefeated in the league and became league champions. They then went on to play the south division 1 champions in the national finals beating Chelmsford in their semi-final 5-1 and went on to play their rivals, Nottingham, for the third time that season. Evan said, "We beat them 8-2 and became undefeated national champions of England."



## Fortis et Fidelis

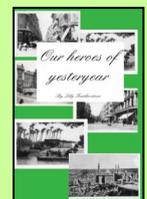
The students pictured were awarded 'Fortis et Fidelis' certificates. These certificates are awarded only to those few students in each year group who are recognised by their teachers for having an excellent attitude to learning in **all** subjects in their reports. A fantastic achievement! Well done to them all.



## World War II project -

Year 9 student Lily Featherstone discovers how her family were involved with World War II.. Isla Gordon (y9) conducted a quick interview with Lily: "My inspiration was to complete a different kind of project, something my family could read and keep forever. I really enjoyed doing the project, it took a couple of months but I really liked finding out different and incredible things about my two great grandfathers. It was really interesting researching and having a book published. I will never forget the sacrifices made during World War Two"

By Isla Gordon - Y9



## Festival of Chemistry inspires Lincolnshire's young scientists

Ben Hawley, Autumn Stewart, Sam Kelly and Thomas Roche joined young chemists from across Lincolnshire as they took part in a national science festival at the University of Lincoln. In partnership with the Royal Society of Chemistry, the Salters' Festival of Chemistry travels to universities across the UK to showcase how exciting, relevant and fun the subject can be and to encourage secondary school pupils aged 11-13 to learn about the many career paths chemistry can offer. On Tuesday 6th June the University of Lincoln opened its doors to pupils and teachers from eight local schools, with the University's School of Chemistry setting a series of challenges in state-of-the-art laboratories to develop the students' practical and analytical chemistry skills. The group of almost 30 young scientists took part in a challenge called Who is the prime suspect?, in which they analysed forensic clues within a mocked-up crime scene to pinpoint the perpetrator. University lecturers and scientists judged them on their laboratory behaviours as well as their analytical skills. The judges later rewarded the top three groups with prizes. Students also participated in a demanding 'University Challenge', in which they were tasked with identifying four different unknown chemical compounds. Our team worked very well together all day. They all contributed and used their problem solving skills, and knowledge of chemistry to complete the tasks. They were very proud to be awarded second place in the university challenge.



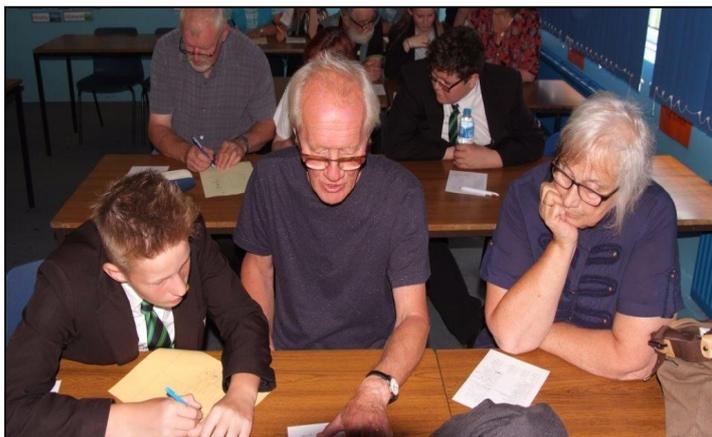
## Students take part in BBC Proms at Royal Albert Hall

Six Sir John Nelthorpe students; Fiona & Jacqueline Reid, Emily & Thomas Roche, Eleanor Mullins & Hedley Prince, will be taking to the stage at London's world-famous Royal Albert Hall at the end of July as part of the BBC Proms season. The once-in-a-lifetime opportunity came after the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra (RPO) invited the musicians, aged from 10 to 18, to join in two performances on July 23. The students, have also written their own piece of music to perform with the Royal Philharmonic. Their four-



## Year 10 Students Get a Taste of Sixth Form Education

Pictured left are two of our Year 10 students Nicole Shaw and Aaliyah Bowers-Carter who are looking to study sciences at A Level before progressing to university. As part of our careers advice all Year 10 students are given a day off-timetable to experience life in our 6th Form. Sir John Nelthorpe school in partnership with The Vale Academy offers a wide range of A Level and Vocational Option Post-16 and this was a day to find out just what it was like and to discover more about future pathways. For more information about our 6th Form provision contact Mr Mosey.



## Grandparents' Day - Back to school to see how we learn today!

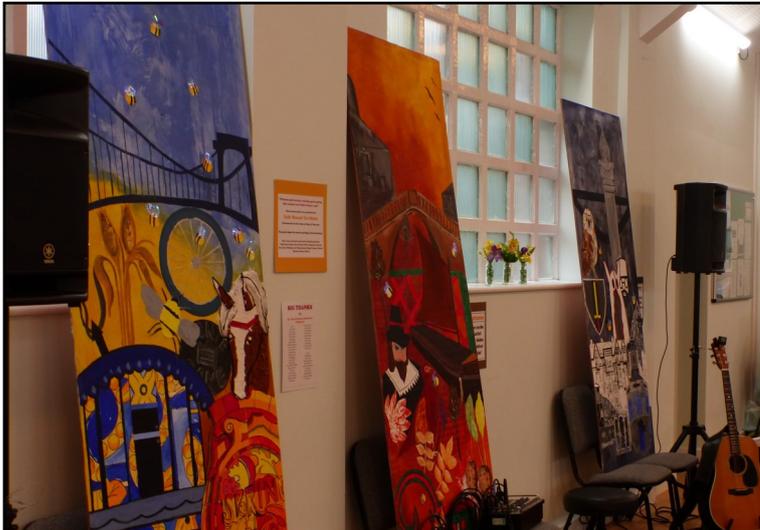
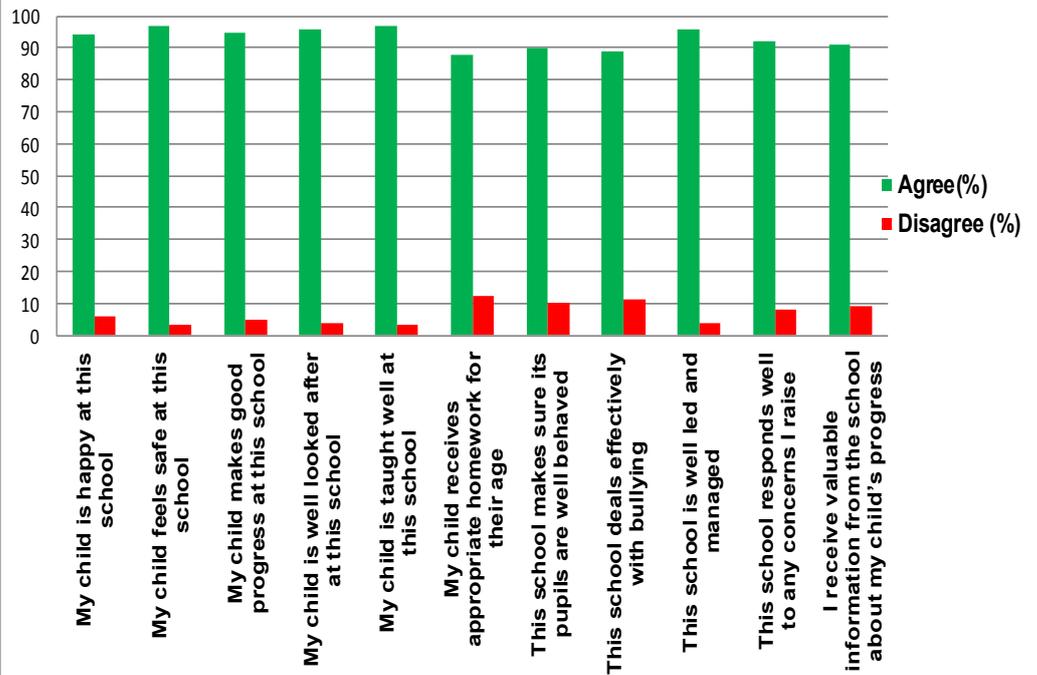
Year 7 students invited in their grandparents and elders to get a taste of life at Sir John Nelthorpe School. They took part in a variety of lessons including Maths, French, Geography and IT. They also enjoyed a drama performance and music recitals performed by Year 7 & Year 8 students. A number of grandparents were former students of the school so it was a great chance to see how things have changed!

## Parent View Survey

Once again we were grateful to receive several hundred responses from our annual parental survey. It was re-assuring to receive again such overwhelming support from stakeholders and this can be seen in the chart on the right. We are most certainly not complacent and through the governors, school council and staff continue to address all concerns raised.



## Parent View Questionnaire Results June 2016-17



## Briggs Live Arts Festival

In March and April a local artist called Kate Foster visited our Art lessons. Pupils helped to create artwork for the Briggs Live Arts Festival that took place in May. The artwork was based on Briggs's social history and culture including images of our school! The focus of the pieces we worked on were recognizable and important buildings around Briggs that were then collaged together to make a complete picture displaying many features of Briggs.

Each week a group of pupils were chosen to paint certain areas so that eventually we all contributed to complete the large boards. It was a great experience to be part of.



## Karate Star to Compete at the Top, representing England

Year 8 student, Luke Binnington has been chosen to represent England at the forthcoming W.K.U. World Kickboxing & Karate World Championships in Ireland in August 2017. Luke won a Gold medal at the English Karate Organisation European Championships. These achievements have given him the opportunity to be selected for the England WKU team for a second year running. The world championship expects competitors from all around the world. Every member of the England squad has achieved this elite position through competition against their peers at national and international level. The Nelthorpe Trustees have given £100 to help fund Luke's trip to Ireland in August to enable Luke to continue his success in the English Karate squad.

## Year 5 Visits —Future students get a taste of life at SJN



# Sports Presentation Evening



The top three in the Sports Personality of the Year category Jack Raines (2nd), Anna Cavill (1st) and Sam Aynsley (3rd) pictured with Mr Taylor and Mr Belton.

Another year of sport ended with our own presentation evening. All winners were presented with their trophy and watched a winner's video. The ten nominees for the main award all took their turn being interviewed on stage about why they thought they were nominated for the main award, as well as watching a short clip of them in action. The winner Anna Cavill, received her award from Bill and Lesley Eldridge. Anna was also surprised to get messages of congratulations from elite sports competitors: former Scunthorpe Athletics sprinter and now team GB bobsleigh member Nathan Togun, Will Sharman (European and Commonwealth Silver medallist in the 110m hurdles), Leon Reid (European 200m silver medallist) and Adam Gemili (commonwealth silver medallist in the 100m, European gold medallist in the 200m and 4x100m relay and the first British sprinter to run the 100m in under 10 seconds and 200m in 20 seconds).



The Gibbons Effort and Participation Award - went to Year 8 student Lola Stretch.



Stars of the Future Awards- went to Y7's Harry Barker and Ellie Stanfield



Year 11 winners Ben Lingard and Jodie Stadman

## 30 Years of Friendship

This year, Sir John Nelthorpe School celebrated 30 years of friendship with its partner school in Germany, the 'Gymnasium Leoninum', which is situated in Handrup, in the Emsland district in Lower Saxony. 19 German students spent time with their year 9 and 10 SJN student host families and experienced a taste of life in North Lincolnshire, as well as exploring further afield to places including York and our city of culture, Hull. Students gained a great deal from exchanges with opportunities to become fully immersed in typical family life and therefore the culture that defines us. SJN students had already been to stay with their German host families in September last year, so it was wonderful to see these friendships strengthening. Apart from the many cultural differences that the students experienced, this was also an ideal opportunity for students to strengthen their command of a foreign language.

SJN student, Jacqueline Reid said "I found that being in a relaxed situation with a German speaking friend was really great for helping my confidence and understanding of speaking German. Head teacher, Mr. Biglands commented, " We are immensely proud of our link with colleagues in Gymnasium Leoninum; a partnership that celebrates its 30th year of the exchange programme this year.



## Sixth Form Business Success with Young Enterprise Award

This year's Young enterprise group, Odyssey, won the award for the best South Humber Company at the area finals, this allowed them to progress through to the county finals which were held at the Baths Hall in Scunthorpe. Throughout this year, the team have traded at many trade fairs including Meadow Hall, Freshney Place, Doncaster young entrepreneurs market and St Stephens where they won the award for the best trade stand. Overall a successful year for the young entrepreneurs. The team included: Harvey Gough, Kai Tindall, Stan Brown, Cameron Elliot, Cain Jones, Phoebe Kitching, Monica Salvatierra, Esther Rands, Karla Turner, Rebecca Key and Neve Pitson.



## Outward Bound Trip - By Izzie Roberts

From 5th to 7th May a group of Year 8 students went to Outward Bound at Ullswater. During this time they were in three groups: Francis, Mallory and Shackleton. They did lots of activities such as jog and dip, Jacob's Ladder, canoeing and lots of team-building. When they did jog and dip on the first night the water was 7 degrees but felt freezing. Some people chose to jump off the jetty into the freezing cold water. Some people even jumped in twice.

The next day they went out on an expedition. They learned different types of knots whilst tying the canoes together, which they then used to canoe across the lake to the other side of Ullswater. Next they had to scramble their way up the rocks of High Dodd. Luckily Francis group only had to carry small rucksacks whereas some groups had to carry the larger rucksacks because they were camping up a mountain.

One person from the Shackleton group said "When we set up in the mountains it was a cosy little camp. I enjoyed working as a team to set up the tent. The ration packs were surprisingly tasty."

Francis group bivvied (which is sleeping under a tarpaulin) in a sheltered field surrounded by lake and woodland. When they were eating, someone spotted a deer nearby. Later on, when the sun was setting, they went down to a tiny pebbly beach where they toasted marshmallows around a fire.

The next day all groups headed back to the centre where they washed everything and unpacked their rucksacks. Last of all they climbed Jacob's Ladder then packed their bags and went home, exhausted.



## House Chess Competition Results

A lot of head scratching and thought was witnessed as this year's house chess competition took place. There were some fantastic performances by all the players. However special congratulations go to James Smalley, Robert McKenzie-Brown, Ben Hawley and Sam Marsden who individually won all their matches in each round. Also, great performances by Pacey Whitacker, Daisy Welch, George Robinson and Jack Johnson who only dropped one game.

First place - **Lardelli** 14 points

Second - **Pelham** 13 points

Third - **Taylor** 11 points

Fourth - **Eccles** 10 points

## A small selection of our sporting successes



**KS4 County Badminton Champions**



**Humber Games Softball Finalists Y10 seen here with Y9**



**Y8 Humber Games Softball Finalists**



**Year 7 Football Cup Finalists**



**Girls Golf**



**Year 8 Football Finalists**



## **Barn Trip and Alton Towers**

The 'barn trip' is residential visit to North Yorkshire (left) where students get to spend time hiking and have limited mobile phone coverage!!!

Whilst another great day out, (bigger and better than previous years!) students got up early one Sunday morning for the great bus ride to Alton Towers. A fantastic day out at the end of the year to let the hair down and unwind and a great opportunity to raise some money for the school expedition to Thailand next year. In all, 185 students and nearly 20 staff supported the event.