



Headteacher's Introduction

Last week a large group of our Year 9 students, took part in Battlefields 2019. Visiting many of the important sites from the two World Wars, students and staff had many opportunities to reflect together on the enormity of the sacrifice made by ordinary men and women to give us the best possible future. Our students also had the privilege of taking part in the Menin Gate remembrance ceremony.

I am grateful to Mrs Witherwick and her team for organising such an important and memorable trip for our students. We are all very proud of the way these students represented 'Team Nidderdale' as they received comments about their impeccable behaviour from the coach driver, passport control, members of the public and other schools visiting the same site (several envious teachers wanting to do a student swap!). The group are pictured above and you can see many more great photos on our Twitter feed.

Kath Jordan, Headteacher

RENAISSANCE Champion School

Reading for Pleasure

We are pleased to announce we have been awarded 'Champion School' status as one of the top rated schools for Accelerated Reader.

We are passionate about encouraging our students to read for pleasure and have been using Accelerated Reader as a tool to instil lifelong reading habits in our students since 2015. Students are able to select material from their preferred genre and read at their own pace. This encourages lively discussion around favourite and newly discovered authors and we regularly see students recommending books to each other.

The inclusivity of the system is one of its great strengths as SEN students are able to access AR independently alongside their peers. With regular testing we are able to quickly identify students who may require additional support, as well as chart the success of current reading interventions.

Quizzing results give us the opportunity to reward reading success which encourages students to associate reading with reward and enjoyment-especially useful for our more reluctant readers!

Test results consistently report increased Reading Age scores, so as well as supporting an enriching social activity, Accelerated Reader delivers solid, observable academic results.

Ms Lester

Forthcoming events

- Y9 Parents' Evening – 7 February
- Rotary Tech Tournament – 12 February
- Visit to Askham Bryan Zoo and College – 13 February
- Valentine Disco 6-7.30 – 14 February
- Governing Board meeting – 18 February
- Y9 Options Evening – 19 February
- PTFA's Race Night – 15th March
- No 6 Exhibition of Y11 work – 2-5 April

No6 Exhibition

Save the date. On 1st April students will be putting up an exhibition of all their work. The preview will be held from 6pm - 9pm on 2nd April and the exhibition will be open to the general public until 5th April. Do come along and see the quality of the work produced by talented individuals.

Sporting events

Just to remind you that details of sporting achievements and results can be found on the PE blog at

<https://niddpe.wordpress.com/>

Click to see latest information from PE and Outdoor Education.

School Twitter

View our Twitter feed. [Click here](#) or follow us @NidderdaleS

Nidderlicious

Winter meal deals @£2.50 - w/c 4 Feb:

Monday: Spaghetti Bolognese, Jam Muffin

Tuesday: Chinese chicken and noodles, sticky rice pudding and fortune cookies



Wednesday: Braised Nidderdale Beef, Treacle Sponge

Thursday: Homemade Pizza, Chocolate Crunch

Friday: Thai Lamb Curry, Ice cream

The full menu is always available on the school website homepage, vegetarian options also available daily.

NICE Day

Personal Safety information sessions were held with Police Community Support Officers Jones and Wilson.



NICE Day - 29 Jan

On Wednesday, we held our off-timetable day (Nidderdale Independence Challenge and Enrichment Day (NICE)).

Students attended a variety of informative talks. We were fortunate enough to enjoy a return visit from Gulwali Passarlay, author of *The Lightless Sky*. Gulwali gave students an inspirational talk on the incredible challenges he faced on his journey from Afghanistan to the UK and increased our understanding on what it must be like to be a child refugee. Another guest speaker, Nola Ellen, gave our students further understanding on the realities of life for refugees.

Some of our guests covered aspects of personal safety. PCSOs Jones and Wilson covered County Lines, PC Bill Hickson internet safety and Paul Stephenson the challenges faced by young drivers.

Aspects of health and wellbeing were broached with Fiona Whaley and Thomas Snape addressing sexuality, sex and relationships. Nola Ellen exploring the topic of mental health and Paul Stephenson discussed anti-social behaviour and peer pressure. Fiona Prothero gave food for thought with her Eco School session, with lots of ideas on how we can all be more environmentally considerate on a daily basis.

Ex-soldier Troy Conner used his personal experiences to illustrate how we can face adversity with resilience and fortitude in his inspirational talk for our year 11 students.

Year 9 spent half the day on a visit to Leeds Grand Mosque and on their return spent some time working on their own examples of Islamic art. After all that mental exercise students did some physical exercise, playing Capture the Flag and other energetic sports games in teams.

All-in-all a very busy NICE day which gave students lots to think about!

Pictures to accompany this news article are on the twitter feed.

NIDDERDALE HIGH SCHOOL PTFA PRESENTS

RACE NIGHT

On the big screen

Recorded races - Lots of competitive fun!

FRIDAY 15TH MARCH
Main School Hall

Doors open from 7pm - First race 7.30pm
Over 18s only - Licensed Bar

Tickets £5 to include supper
available by calling Nicola Wright on 01423 711246
All profits towards the PTFA

GCSE Rock climbing

The group are out again but this time, we are in the snow! Despite the cold weather, the students have risen to the challenge and we have had two excellent climbing sessions. They have used fantastic team work to encourage one another to improve each time and be the best they can be. They should all be very proud of themselves! Mr Couldwell.

