

## Headteacher's Introduction

Dear Parent / Carer

As you will see in this issue we've managed to pack in lots of amazing opportunities in the last four weeks. All this on top of supporting Year 11 through the first two weeks of GCSE exams.

As well as all of our school organised events taking place, we also hosted the Royal Geographical Society's 'Question Time' style debate on Re-wilding. Amongst the many attendees were some of our Geography students. They impressed the panel members so much with their insightful questions on this emotive issue that they have been offered the opportunity to visit Leeds University Geography department.

Next half term is likely to be just as busy as this one has been. Watch out for our letters about the whole school activities organised for 20<sup>th</sup> June.

Kath Jordan, Headteacher

## Mental Health Awareness Week

On Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May a group of Year 9 students made a return visit to Ripon Library. During their visit, students produced some very imaginative artwork around the theme of mental wellbeing & health and positive body image for the Library to display during Mental Health Awareness Week. This was a great follow up to the previous week's assembly theme.

They also enjoyed a tour of the Library and discovered what services they could access after becoming Library members.

Ms Lester

## Forthcoming events:

- 27 May – 2 June – Half term break
- 4 June 5pm Room 5 – PTFA Meeting
- 7 June – York University Visit – Maths
- 24 June – New Academic Year 2019/20
- 25 June – Red Kite Peer Review Day 2
- 27 June – Year 11 Prom, Harrogate





### **Year 7 Outdoor Course – Bewts-y-Coed**

At the beginning of May, over half of year 7 participated in a 4 day Outdoor Education residential to North Wales. There was an overwhelming buzz from both staff and students from the start until the end. We stayed at Towers Outdoor Education centre in the heart of Snowdonia National Park. We started the trip off by testing ourselves on the low ropes course followed by an evening walk. The next day all groups ascended a gorge in the local area and some groups were challenged to a Via Ferrata and tree climbing. Despite the weather, the next day all groups were challenged to climb a mountain – the 3000ft 'beast' Tryfan. Another group reached the top from inside the mountain using old mines. Again, after dinner students took part in orienteering or a walk to the local village finding their way through the forest. The last day the sun came out and we were finally able to see the beautiful views of the surrounding area. All groups went to the local lake which had stunning views where we were surrounded by mountains. Everyone had the opportunity to explore the lake in canoes and then complete different challenges in kayaks. Most students stayed dry until the very end when they enjoyed being in the water to see who could make the biggest splash! A busy week that was full of positivity.

For some students the idea of being in another country was exciting but the opportunity to learn about themselves through activities in the outdoors was the most valuable experience. Staff and students commented on how well they all supported each other and the kindness that was shown in a 'looking out for each other' ethos which made it a really nice environment and overall fantastic trip.

Students gained feelings of achievement and of course feeling truly exhausted! An unforgettable experience and a successful trip for everyone with students already asking to go again. I would also like to take this opportunity to say thank you to all staff who supported the trip and made sure the students had a fantastic time.

Mrs Kay

## Blood Brothers Theatre Trip

36 students from Years 9 and 10 visited the Grand Theatre in Leeds to watch Blood Brothers, a musical that is so popular with young and old alike, it has been running almost continually since it opened in 1983.

The students had good seats in the stalls and were enthralled from the start. It's not a short play - it runs for almost three hours - but the students were absorbed by the story of twins separated at birth and by the excellent live music and songs.

There was no going to sleep at this one, especially when the gun shots went off and most of the group jumped out of their skin.

Great staging and excellent acting, the play is an example to the students of how theatre can be entertaining and thought provoking at the same time. It is also perfect examination fodder for the GCSE classes who have to write about a live theatre visit - there is plenty to get their teeth into with Blood Brothers.

Mr Sands



## Y7 - Accelerated Reader News

In following the Accelerated Reader scheme, Year 7 students have read 843 books, equating to a staggering 16, 705, 071 words! Our next Readers' Reward Trip will take place on Friday 21st June, when our most enthusiastic readers be visiting the Royal Armouries in Leeds. Although the end of their first year at Nidderdale High is within sight, there's still time for Year 7 to win Accelerated Reader rewards before the Summer holidays!

Ms Lester



## Prizewinner

Tyler Taylor Year 8 was the winner of the "Write a Film Review" Library competition. For his review of 'Ready Player One', Tyler won a selection of film memorabilia. Well done Tyler!

## Year 11

Following their GCSE English Literature exam on Thursday, Year 11 were taken on a trip down memory lane, remembering 'all our yesterdays' with a short film reminder of their younger Year 7 selves. This prompted lots of laughter and memories. A celebration lunch and ritual shirt signing was rounded off with a visit from 'Mr Cool and his ice cream van! Well done to Year 11 for all their hard work so far.





### Outdoor Learning

A number of Year 10 students continue to enjoy the benefits of outdoor learning. These students are taking great pride in developing the woodland area within school and have recently enjoyed local walks around Brimham Rocks and Little Whernside in the Yorkshire Dales. The students have also just started a six week introductory course in fishing, with the opportunity to develop new skills with experienced local fisherman.



### Spring meal deals @£2.50 w/c 3 June:

- Monday:** Meatballs in a tomato sauce, Chocolate muffin
- Tuesday:** Nidderdale lamb in Soy, Honey and Ginger, Buttered Scone and Jam
- Wednesday:** Sweet and Sour Chicken, Orange jelly
- Thursday:** Homemade Pizza, Raspberry bun
- Friday:** Thai Chicken Curry, Fruit Yoghurt

[To see the full menu click here](#)

### Useful Information

Please click on the link below to see important information regarding intake of food as fuel, the importance of sleep and the importance of taking breaks and exercise for better physical and mental health.

<http://nidderdale.n-yorks.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/Eat-to-Achieve-5.pdf>

### Year 8 university of Leeds Law Taster Day

On 14<sup>th</sup> May, a group of Year 8 students visited the University of Leeds for an Excellence Hub Law Taster Day.

Their initial seminar was related to international law and the use of force within Syria. This was a baptism of political understanding with the students asking very difficult and probing questions about a situation very much in the news. Students learned new things about the Syrian situation and the international ramifications.

A debate ensued and the content of which would have rivalled Question Time. There was brilliant political comment on a highly emotive subject. Liam, Dylan and Matthew showed great skill to put their side of the argument while appreciating the opposite view. There was a stunning round of applause for all participants from the three schools involved.

A campus tour in the sunshine and an excellent student lunch from the refectory followed to fuel the big question for the afternoon. "Should Goldilocks be put on trial for breaking and entering?"

Both myself and Mrs Wright were so impressed with the standards shown by all the students involved. A very productive day for year 8s involved and food for thought for their future aspirations and career paths.

Mr Connors