



The Heckler

Moving Forward

Dates to Remember

- **15 February** – Internal Yr 11 6th Form Taster Day (no Yr 12 Students)
- **16 February** - Staff Training Day (school closed to students)
- **26 February** – School Reopens
- **22 March**—Year 13 Parents Evening 4.30pm -7.30pm
- **30 March**—Good Friday School Closed
- **16 April**—School Reopens

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As we move towards half term (already!), it is worthwhile dwelling briefly on the events of last term as they relate in particular to our curriculum review. We were immensely grateful to the nearly 100 Key Stage 3 parents who came to our 'discussion event' in November, as well as to the lower numbers that attended the Key Stage 4 one. The feedback from those parents - as well as in consultation with staff and students- led to us making some significant decisions:

1. to reduce the length of Key Stage 3 to 2 years, meaning Year 8 will make their GCSE choices alongside Year 9 this year.

2. to make a foreign language optional as part of that selection process, rather than compulsory.

3. to extend our provision for Drama and Music in Years 7 and 8.

4. to provide enrichment for sixth form on a Wednesday afternoon.

5. to enable our Year 12 to choose an elective option if they so wish in addition to their core A level provision.

The feedback from parents regarding our proposal that we move to using one-to-one devices in lessons via a specialist scheme was also welcomed by the vast majority of parents present at the key events mentioned above. As a result, we will be moving this forward once we have resolved some issues with our network- this may delay progress a little as we consolidate and extend the provision we already have in place. Once this is done, we will bring a fully costed and considered proposal to parents as

to exactly what the package would look like that we would offer, and how we plan to implement it.

Finally, it is a pleasure to report, as many of you will be aware, that our new website is off the ground, along with a twitter feed and a facebook page. Our communication with parents should improve a great deal with these additional facilities, and it has been enjoyable to read emails from parents complimenting us on these moves. If there is anything that could help us make it even better, please let us know. My thanks go to our Student Services team in particular for the substantial amount of work they have put in to make this happen- though it is a very wide range of staff who have contributed content and photos.

Mr Bulley
Headteacher

Students Grab a Grand in Uni Economics Competition

On 20th November, eleven others and I competed in an economics competition in Hull. Firstly we had a lecture where we learnt about the online technology and economic theory we were going to use. It was useful to learn this new information which gave us a better insight into Economics which went above and beyond our A-level course. It also gave us a feel of a university lecture and the content we learnt was part of Hull University's Economics degree. Also being able to use our current knowledge and apply it to the online technology and real life data.

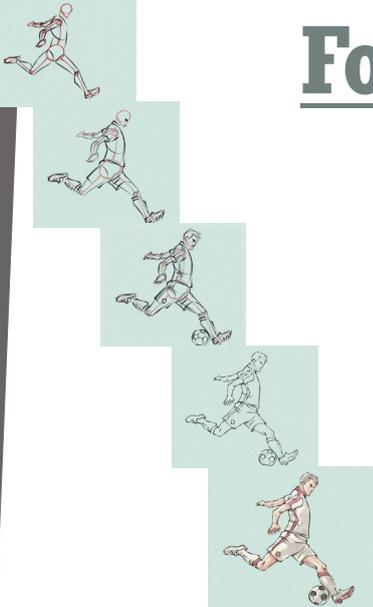
After this we were given a set of scenarios to solve where we had to use the information we were taught. The task given was based on two countries of your choice and trying to find the relationships between two economic variables such as unemployment and inflation and how closely linked they were in different countries. This was then assessed by the lecturer who ranked each team on how they well they performed these tasks. My team including **Nikolos Sanadze, Tyler Webb and Amna Ali** were awarded first place which earned the school a £1000 cheque.

Jack Bloxsome – Head Boy - Year 13

Team

Sophie Beaumont, Tyler Webb, Amna Ali, Abigail Fisher, Waleed Malik, Scott Hartley, Oliver Barker, Muhammad Mayet, Umar Halalat, Umar Badat, Nikoloz Sanadze.

Football



“Football is like life, it requires perseverance, self-denial, hard work sacrifice, dedication and respect for authority”

Vince Lombardi

The Year 11 football made a disappointing start to the season losing 3-1 to Shelly College in the first round of the West Yorkshire Cup. Heckmondwike had plenty of possession but could not convert their chances. Keeper **Jamie White** was man of the match making some outstanding saves.

The team had an away trip to Whitcliffe Mount to defend the Spen Valley Cup after winning the Year 10 competition last season. Heckmondwike made a good start with **Zaid Mamaniat** setting up **Joe Barker-Smith** for an early goal.

Whitcliffe then started to dominate possession and took control of the game. They were determined to avenge the comprehensive defeat inflicted upon

them last season. Eventually, the pressure started to tell and they scored an equalising goal soon followed by a second to leave the score at 2-1 at the half time interval.

Heckmondwike made a better start to the second half with some solid defending by **Reece Taylor**, **Max Chisholme**, **Bilal Aziz** and **Joe Brennan** however late in the second half, Whitcliffe grabbed a controversial 3rd goal when keeper **Jamie White** was fouled.

A change in formation and the introduction of substitutes **Saami Ahmed**, **Lewis Smith** and **Louis Swallow** got Heckmondwike back into the match. **Zaid Mamaniat** delivered a great cross for **Joe Barker Smith** to ghost in at the far post and head his second goal of the

match to give Heckmondwike a glimmer of hope.

With 3 minutes left to play, super sub **Saami Ahmed** latched on to a through ball with blistering pace and showed great composure to slot the ball past the Whitcliffe keeper with a classy finish, leaving the scores level at 3-3.

Due to the lack of floodlights and impending darkness, the match was then decided by penalties. **Jamie White** was superb saving two spot kicks and goals from **Joe Barker-Smith**, **Zaid Mamaniat**, **Joe Brennan** and **Louis Swallow** gave Heckmondwike the win and silenced the vocal Whitcliffe supporters.

Well done to all of the players for their efforts.

Senior Girls Step up for Swimming Team

The school swimming team visited Bradford Grammar School for the third time at the end of January and had a fantastic time, as always. Thirty one students represented the school and it was great to see so many new faces from year 7 taking part. There were over thirty races including individual and team events; we did not have one empty lane, thanks to our senior girls who stepped up to swim against the BGS senior boys. The final score was BGS 258 vs HGS 253; this is our first loss, however we soon realised our mistake – we had sat at the wrong end of the pool! We already have our invite for next year and look forward to winning again (we know where we will sit of course).

Well done to everyone in the swimming team and I hope you are ready for the Leeds School Swimming Gala in March.

Teams

Boys

Fahd Hans 7DJD, Freddie Blades 7JPW, Sidharth Boodhoo 7SRS, Hamza Aziz 7DGD, Jacob Grierson 8RLP, Abdullah Aziz 8AHH, Partha Khanna 8AHH, Sam Langley 9JHF, Rahul Ho-Shing 9MLG, Waqas Hussain 9HJP, Jacob Braithwaite 9JHF, Tom Sandford 10DJH, Jack Wilcock 13JLW

Girls

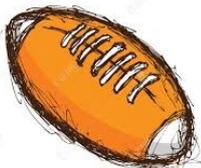
Julia Millington 7DGD, Isabella Lister-Smith 7DGD, Lois Ormondroyd 7SRS, Grace Rogers 7DGD, Becky Chang 7DGD, Sally Rutledge 8RLP, Jess Cockayne 8SJL, Anna Basford 9HJP, Molly Haynes 9MTY, Sonia Boodhoo 10CES, Ellie Doran 10CES, Emily Pyrah 11PAG, Eve Halmshaw 11JAW, Saffy Bond 11JAW, Fiona Maynard 12CVH, Hollie Smith 12LRH, Alice Jolly 12GCI



Rugby League

Super league club Huddersfield giants are continuing their involvement with schools rugby this term. Development coaches will focus on Girls rugby and will use the ongoing world cup to stimulate interest in the sport. The coaches will deliver ses-

sion in lessons with a focus on core skills in a fun and safe environment. It is our aim to increase opportunities for Girls and set up pathways to increase levels of participation in rugby both in and out of school.



Badminton Success

After winning the Spen Valley schools competition for Under 14 Boys, Under 16 Boys and Under 16 Girls, the teams went on to compete in the West Yorkshire championships held at Garforth Leisure centre.

Our pupils faced some stiff competition from Q.E.G.S, Wakefield Girls Grammar and Leeds Grammar, playing against some of the best players in Yorkshire.

The Under 16 Girls led by **Angela Xu** and Under 16 Boys led by **Tim Lee** produced an excellent level of performance throughout the tournament with both teams finishing in 4th place in their respective competitions. All of their matches were very close with the outcome being decided by the final doubles matches.

Under 16 Girls – **Angela Xu, Alice Brown, Faiza Kamran, Isabella Mencattelli**

Under 16 Boys – **David Peng, Imaad Khajwad, Tim Lee, Anthony Zhao**



Under 14 Boys – **Suhas Gudla, Ruhan Anand, Asish Chittamuru, Shrivittala Babu**

The Under 14 boys team led by Year 8 pupil **Asish Chittamuru** produced a high standard of play in all their tournament matches. A narrow win against Q.E.G.S by 3 games to 2 secured second place and the Silver medal.

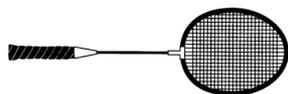
Well done to all of the players for their efforts.



Back row - **David Peng, Imaad Khajwad, Angela Xu, Alice Brown, Tim Lee, Anthony Zhao**

Front row – **Faiza Kamran, Isabella Mencattelli**

- Spen Valley Schools Champions 2018
- Kirklees Champions 2018
- West Yorkshire Championships. 4th Place 2018



A Big Thank You

Many thanks to the Friends of HGS who have provided a new kit for Girls to wear in hockey and football matches this season.

Netball



Netball Matches – Yr 9, 10, 11

Year 9, 10 and 11 have been training every Monday lunchtime and the girls have shown great commitment.

Year 9 and 10 have had matches against Castle Hall, MFG, Manor Croft and BBG this term. They beat Castle Hall, MFG and Manor Croft but the Games against BBG were a little more closely fought battles. Year 9 unfortunately lost 9-13 but it was a great game with much end to end action.

The Year 10 team dominated for much of the game and were up by one goal at half time. BBG went all out in attack in the second half and we couldn't keep the lead with the game finishing

in a draw 9-9. Year 11 are yet to have a fixture this term but they do have a tournament in December.



Well done to all the girls who give their time to train and play.

Year 10:

Holly Beaumont, Evie Hargreaves, Isabella Myers, Mia Howden, Japnbir Kour, Holly Simpson, Hannah McQuinn, Nandini Mehta, Teresa Pretismuir

Year 9:

Eden Haycock, Sophia Mencatelli, Bella Murray, Lucy Cornforth, Sophie Hammerton, Anna Basford, Gemma Hall, Cora Smith

Indoor Athletics

Yr 7 and 8 School Hall Athletics

The school entered teams in the Year 7 and 8 Girls and boys competitions held at Batley Sports Centre. The athletes produced some superb performances in both the track and field events.

The Year 7 boys team - 2nd place .

**Woody Walker
Noah Chapman
Jayden Mudonhi
Rocco Parkin
Will Parker
Linton Clough
Alfie Bean
Douglas Payne**

The Year 7 Girls team - 2nd place

**Lauren Hall
Ava Higgins
Amy Cross
Beth Waterfield**

**Ella Lister
Bella Lobley
Teagan Clegg**

The Year 8 Boys team - 2nd place

**Oscar Lau
Jacob Pow
Henry Spencer
Will Brown
Ghananshu Zalke**

Year 8 Girls produced a superb team effort finishing in 1st or 2nd place in every event and winning the competition overall by a 20 point margin

**Martha Currie
Charlotte Alcock
Lily Messenger
Gemma Walker
Harriet Haycock
Sally Rutledge
Sienna Bond**

All four teams have now qualified for the Kirklees schools competition to be held at the Leeds Road Sports Barn on Friday 9th February 2018. Thanks to Sixth form student Abbie Holyoak for managing the Girls teams and to all Parents who battled through the snow to collect their children.

Mr Walker

School Hall Athletics 9th February

Year 7 and 8 Girls and Boys athletics teams represented Spen Valley in the Kirklees indoor athletics finals held at the Leeds Road Sports Barn on Friday 9th February.

All our athletes put in some great performances with the teams finishing in the following positions overall.

Year 7 Girls – 6th place

Year 7 Boys - 8th place

Year 8 Girls – 4th place

Year 8 Boys – 5th place

Well done to all of the competitors for their efforts and thank you to Year 12 student **Abbie Holyoake** for managing the girls teams

Mr Walker



Year 7 Girls

**Lauren Hall
Ava Higgins
Amy Cross
Beth Waterfield
Ella Lister
Bella Lobley
Teagan Clegg
Gracie Kitching**

Year 8 Girls

**Martha Currie
Charlotte Alcock
Lily Messenger
Gemma Walker
Harriet Haycock
Sally Rutledge
Sienna Bond**

Year 7 Boys

**Woody Walker
Noah Chapman
Pyrarali Meghjee
Rory Aveyard
Will Parker
Linton Clough
Alfie Bean**

Year 8 Boys

**Oscar Lau
Jacob Pow
Sam Lenners
Henry Spencer
Will Brown
Ghananshu Zalke
Sam Robertson
Temwisha Zulu**

This expedition took place in the Yorkshire Dales. It started in Appletreewick, went over to Grassington and then up to Kettlewell. From here they walked over to the campsite at Hawkswick Cote. The weather was mainly dry but with a breeze and a few showers. This made walking conditions good although the ground was very soft in a lot of places. All groups made good time and morale within the group remained high. Navigation skills were good and they remained on track for a good finish. At the campsite they were organised in pitching their tents and worked well in their groups to prepare an evening meal and wash up and keep their area tidy afterwards.



On Day 2 they worked hard to cook breakfast and be well organised leaving the campsite. Although today's route was fairly straight forward in terms of navigation it was still a long walk. The start of the route took them all the way along the valley to Foxup. On arriving at Foxup some of them were starting to appear fatigued. With a break for lunch morale picked up despite the rain shower and they set off over Foxup Moor for the campsite. This again was a long walk up and over the top. The weather had started to turn and was now fairly grim, wet and windy which made it hard work and lowered morale. On arriving at the campsite, despite the bad weather they worked well to pitch tents and cook dinner and get warm.

They woke on Day 3 to better weather and it was still fairly mild. They worked quickly to pack everything away and set off. Today's route saw them taking the path along the river going up Moor Lane to Stainforth. From here they continued along to Settle. Although this should have

been a relatively easy route due to them finding it tough on days 1 and 2 progress at times was quite slow. However, they all finished in time to have fish and chips before the journey home!

Overall this was a very successful qualifying expedition. The groups worked hard together, they appeared to get on well, enjoy the days and the scenery. They showed good navigation skills and spirits in the main remained high.

John Ellis
Dan Conlon
Hamish Dee
Bronwen Brown
Phoebe Duffett
Marielle McKie
Rohan Shetty
George Webster
Kieran Byrne
Tommy Davies
Elizabeth Midgley

Almaaz Shaikh
Mollie Young
Karthik Shankarraj
Jessica Pickering
Charlie Loveday
Kelsey Wilkinson
Anna Hammond
Anna Guest
Basim Khajwal
Holly Airey
William Norton
Jordan Wilkinson
Jack Prentice
Laurence Palmer
Iram Zabed
Rebecca Marples
Paige Adams



Year 7 Bewerley Park September 2017

Many ask why we believe taking our new Year 7s out on a residential in the first month of arriving is a good idea. Well, the proof of the pudding is in the eating and after reading these reports Freddie and myself hope you'll find the answer in our words ...

Reflecting on this year's Bewerley Park trip fills with pride and delight; and whilst enjoying these emotions and memories a smile forms on my face. Having visited both groups during their stays I saw the most incredible efforts, the most heart-warming teamwork and the most generous encouragement.

So let's get right to the beginning of the adventure: continuous rumbling sounds greeted our ears as slightly anxious students pulled their cases across the yard whilst turning to wave at parents who looked on the verge of tears. Getting together into little groups and tentatively sharing their worries or super excited and giddy they waited to be put into working groups for the Bewerley adventure. Then off on the coaches and away they went ...

Challenges galore awaited. I knew the schedule inside out; and HGS staff were fully primed and looking forward to the varied activities which would be filling their time from the moment they arrived

evening team building and orienteering. Their time was put to great use as you can imagine; two and a half days jam-packed full not to mention keeping their dorms tidy, three meals and supper. My reflections are going to hone in on just a few of these activities.

Whilst watching the Jacob's ladder activity on the high ropes course I saw students having to climb up the moving framework of large poles, surprised at first at how wobbly the huge, solid poles were in reality. Each student, safely harnessed, had to make their bodies move upwards despite their heads being filled with fear; some did this more easily than others but for the vast majority you could see the inner battle they fought. As a team they were encouraged to help pull, drag, push each other up one further

pole. Bewerley staff offered guidance and strategic advice which some were able to take on board and plan the next move, others simply swung a leg up and over, hung upside down for a while but



another level. Needless to say the centre staff were massively impressed and commented that it was very rare for Year 7 pupils to reach the top; yet we'd seen our students achieve this with a number of our teams— credit indeed to every member of those teams, but especially the gritty determination of those reaching the dizzy heights at the top.

Then on to bouldering which is off-site. Hopping on the minibus, students headed out to Brimham Rocks to climb over, squeeze through and burrow under some the most beautiful natural rock formations in the country. With expert guidance students manoeuvred into and out of spaces they couldn't have ever imagined fitting. Their delighted faces as they popped up were such a joy! Again, many of the activities were only possible if the groups worked as a team making sure everyone conquered.

One team became record breakers; getting the whole team over 'The Wall' in the fastest time for any visiting Year 7 team. I was there to witness this amazing act; they had an initial go and succeeded in getting everyone over but were then challenged to see if they could do it faster and if so how would they achieve it?



to getting back on the coach. The kids however, were still travelling towards the unknown. But as they relaxed songs were sung and chatting grew louder.

Each group took part in six of the following activities: ghyll scrambling, canoeing, raft building, bush craft, bouldering, leap of faith, zip line and Jacob's ladder plus

then had the strength with the help of team members to pull their bodies up and onto the next level. For others it became too much, and simply holding on was enough for them to cope with. But by staying put and braving it to the end of the activity they played a vital role as other team members higher up could use their harness ropes to help pull up yet

It was fascinating to see strengths come to the fore as strategists came forward, delegation of roles, volunteers for strength and agreements for the order of going over followed by the plan being put into perfect motion - myself and the centre staff were totally stunned at what we had witnessed. They all got to sign the wall and were so excited at what they'd done.

Social time wasn't wasted either: there was dancing, friend making, competition between staff to make the best hot chocolate for the kids and full group singing in rounds which was awesome.

I just can't speak highly enough of the students who took every opportunity offered, overcame and enjoyed the experience and all the school staff who coaxed, encouraged and got harnessed up to join in all the activities. A final thanks to you, the parents, for trusting us, encouraging your children to attend and for washing the often smelly, wet kit they returned with.

**Mrs Sellers—Yr7
Student Support Manager**

As it was getting closer to leaving for Bewerley Park I was feeling more and more anxious that I wouldn't be in a group with my friends and there would be no one that I knew. I was nervous that I wouldn't fit in and not be good at the activities set. But I was also excited about accomplishing new challenges along the way.

I woke up early in the morning and went through my daily routine for getting ready for school and then the realisation dawned: it was BEWERLEY PARK, I was so thrilled! I couldn't wait! When I finally got to school I stood and waited with my friends for the next event (which was our groups being sorted out). When I was put into my group I was a bit apprehensive because I wasn't with any of my friends; but then I realised the whole trip was about making friends and within the next few minutes I had found a few more people in my group who were in the same situation and quickly got to know them better. I was feeling much more confident. The coaches arrived shortly after and we were able to make our way to Bewerley Park.

It was a long drive but we made it. As soon as we got off the coach we were shown our dorms and dumped our bags on a bed. When we were done we made our way to the dining hall to have our lunch and then got on with our activities.

The first day was a long day but was highly enjoyable with the amazing staff there to guide us. My favourite activity



that day was bouldering at Brimham Rocks. My group and I went through small nooks and crannies and over huge boulders and under them too. This activity was all about conquering our fears and working as a team to help each other.

Day 2 was another tiring, hard and challenging day but the best of them all! My favourite activity of the day was gorge-walking. My team and I walked down a fast-flowing treacherous river, which was filled with fun slides and taxing activities. We had some falls between us, but got back up again and kept on going. The team were in great spirits and working really well together, helping each other along the way. I really felt part of a team and was having so much fun.

The same day I took part in what I thought was the most challenging and thrilling activity, the high ropes. Again working as a team, we had to put other people before ourselves and help each other get as high as we could go. This activity made me feel a great sense of achievement as I found it quite difficult and daunting in parts. Adrenaline

coursed through me and I managed to get to the end. My team were so supportive and I couldn't have done it without them.

Bewerley Park was amazing, the food was of a very high standard, the staff were warm and welcoming and were always there for you. The dorms were a brilliant place to retreat to at the end of the day. It was a fantastic experience and helped me overcome some of my fears, making new friends along the way. This was a perfect way to start my time at Heckmondwike Grammar School.

Freddie Blades

Year 8 Liverpool Trip

On the second week of February the whole of Year 8, and 11 staff members, braved the cold and the M62 across the Pennines to the International Museum of Slavery in the Maritime Museum.

Students visited the extensive galleries to further their understanding of slavery both in the past, and in modern times, and to consider the legacy of slav-

ery. There was an artefact handling session so students could experience objects related to Trans-Atlantic Slavery, and create a presentation based on the objects which they had experienced (some work is displayed below). The ferry with historical commentary was a big hit as it also allowed some free time, site seeing without the walking, and opportunity to have lunch.



It was a cold, February morning,
Where the stormy weather was roaring,
We went into the museum of slave trade,
Where the kidnapped Africans never got paid.
Later we met a man called Yaz,
He seemed to like his jazz.
We went on the Mersey
It was so cold we had to wear a jersey,
On the ferry, we were eating,
Thankfully there was enough seating,
Next, we went back to the museum
Into a really dark room,
There were lots of statues,
And we thought we'd met our doom!
We escaped, and made to go back home,
....so good not to be alone.....

Poem by Komal Husain and Qasim Sadiq

S is for sugar that slaves were traded to cut
L is for Liverpool, the heart of the slave trade
A is for Abolition, getting rid of Slavery
V is for Victory, for the many slaves freed
E is for Equality, which slaves sought to achieve

Work by Gilbert Clough and Unaisah Bodayat



Year 7 Castle Project

The annual Year 7 castle-making project has been concluded this term with an extremely high standard of creativity, many hours, indeed days, of hard work, and excellent use of recycled materials. The extra challenge this year was that castles should be no larger in plan than A3, which certainly made them easier to transport in on the bus!

All tutor groups produced well crafted Motte and Bailey Castles which were historically accurate, scaled perfectly and many would not have looked out of place as an exhibit in a museum. We could have included hundreds of photos because they were all so good. Well Done, Year 7!

Sahasra Vundavalli



Mutahhar Khalid & Talhah Qasim



Ruthvik Kothapalli



Matthew Howell



Oliver Hainsworth & Freya Roberts



Isabella Booth



Lees Cup 2016-2017

The house system at HGS remains as vibrant as ever. Another year's fierce but friendly rivalry culminated in Priestley house lifting the Lees Cup on the last day of the summer term after securing victory in both the boys' and girls' athletics events at the Spenborough track.

All of the houses tasted victory in one discipline or another, Priestley's impressive year saw them become champions in boys' swimming, junior debates and the music competition as well as sharing the spoils with Houldsworth in rounders and Clarke in football and cricket.

Clarke themselves were winners outright in the senior debates whilst Houldsworth retained the honour of achieving the most positives collectively in the school year and showed excellence in the spelling bee and maths challenge.

Bronte were runners-up overall by virtue of winning the hockey, netball, rugby, girls' swimming and drama competitions and retaining their chess title.

Special individual mention must go to Tanvi Kishore of Clarke who was awarded the best speaker prize in senior debates and Lara Cadey of Bronte who was awarded the Tony Couch Cup for her performance as Jane Banks in Bronte's production of 'Mary Poppins'.

Many congratulations to all involved and all those students who have participated in one of our fifteen house events throughout the year, especially those now sporting house colours badges. Many thanks also to the house staff and other staff whose supervision and support makes all of these events possible.

Debates— Best Speaker—**Tanvi Kashore**

Music—Tony Couch Cup— **Lara Cadey**

**Lees Cup House Champions
2016-17 Winners**
Priestley

EVENT	AGE	B	C	H	P	CHAMPIONS
Hockey (girls)	Junior	2	4	1	3	Clarke
	Inter	0	0	0	0	Not contested
	Senior	4	1	3	2	Bronte
	Overall	4	2.5	1	2.5	Bronte
Netball	Junior	4	2	1	3	Bronte
	Inter	3	3	3	1	Bronte/Clarke/Houldsworth
	Senior	4	2.5	2.5	1	Bronte
	Overall	4	3	2	1	Bronte
Rounders	Junior	2	2	2	4	Priestley
	Inter	3	1	4	2	Houldsworth
	Overall	2	1	3.5	3.5	Houldsworth/Priestley
Football	Junior	4	1	2	3	Bronte
	Inter	1	4	2	3	Clarke
	Senior	2	4	1	3	Clarke
	Overall	2	3.5	1	3.5	Clarke/Priestley
Rugby	Year 7	4	3	1	2	Bronte
	Year 8	3	2	1	4	Priestley
	Year 9	1.5	3	1.5	4	Priestley
	Year 11	4	1	2	3	Bronte
	Sixth	4	3	1	2	Bronte
	Overall	4	2	1	3	Bronte
Cricket	Junior	1	4	2	3	Clarke
	Inter	1	3	2	4	Priestley
	Overall	1	3.5	2	3.5	Clarke/Priestley
Swimming	Girls	60	49	38	58	
	Overall	4	2	1	3	Bronte
Swimming	Boys	52	50	50	56	
	Overall	3	1.5	1.5	4	Priestley
Athletics (girls)	Points	62	63	54	87	
	Overall	3	2	1	4	Priestley
Athletics (boys)	Points	75	74	47	73	
	Overall	2	3	1	4	Priestley
Debates	Junior	2	3	1	4	Priestley
	Senior	2	4	1	3	Clarke
Drama	Points	143	113	131	128	
	Overall	8	2	6	4	Bronte
Music	Points	59	47	68	77	
	Overall	4	2	6	8	Priestley
Chess	Overall	4	3	2	1	Bronte
Positives as of 30/6/2017	Positives	1428 1	1408 3	1570 1	152 11	
	Overall	2	1	4	3	Houldsworth
Spelling bee	Junior	1	4	3	2	Clarke
	Senior	4	1	3	2	Bronte
	Overall	2.5	2.5	4	1	Houldsworth
Maths Challenge	Junior	1	4	3	2	Clarke
	Inter	4	1	3	2	Bronte
	Senior	1	2.5	2.5	4	Priestley
	Overall	1	2	4	3	Houldsworth
LEES CUP TOTALS		54.5	43.5	43	59	

Houldsworth

The summer term had two major events. For the third time in the row, Houldsworth came second in the House Music. Highlights of the event included a wonderful dance by **Eve Halmshaw** and a performance of the Theme of The Fresh Prince of Bel Air from **Cody Lee, Dileep Darjipati and Jacob Harding**. At Sports Day, it was pleasing to see full lanes in the races and full participation in the field events. Highlights for the Boys included first places for **Tom Ashen** in Y12 400m, **Max Metcalfe** in Y9 1500m and **Khalid Norat** (joint first!) in the Long Jump.

Thanks to all who participated.

The first event of the year was the House football. Unfortunately, a number of people not turning up after volunteering meant we forfeited in the Senior competition. A much better attitude from the Inters led to a 2-0 win in the semi-final against Bronte, with goals from **Sam Langley and Hamza Munshi**. The team took Clarke to a penalty shoot-out in the final, which we lost despite two saved kicks from **Haaris Naem**, who

came in as a reserve keeper due to injury. The Junior team lost 1-0 to Bronte in their first semi-final despite spirited defending. The third place playoff finished in a goalless draw, mainly due to the goalkeeping of **Cory Penn**. These results felt harsh on the team, and the level of performance suggests that we have potentially a great future in the football competitions.

Heading into Christmas, the House Drama competition starts already! **Eve Halmshaw and Emily Haworth** have worked hard and auditions have begun for the cast of Hairspray. With the excellent performances we have had in the past couple of years, I cannot wait to see the work of the talented actors that we have in Houldsworth.

Swimming Gala

The Swimming Gala has not brought Houldsworth a lot of success in recent years, and unfortunately this proved to be the case again this year. However, we did have a number of victories; In the boys,

Jack Wilcock won the Senior Freestyle, Partha Khanna gained second place in the Y8 Freestyle and **Ben Maxey** came second in the Y8 Breaststroke. For the girls, **Becky Chang** came 1st in the year 7 breaststroke and Angela Xu came 2nd in the senior breaststroke. The relay events gave Houldsworth the most success; in the Boys, we had wins in the Senior and Y7 Freestyle Relay and in the Y8 3x1 Medley Relay, with a close second in the Y8 Freestyle Medley. The girls had 1st or 2nd place in the year 7 medley, year 8 freestyle and inters freestyle relay. It is fitting with Houldsworth's ethos that the team events were our forte! The strong performances from the younger Houldsworth swimmers will hopefully bring more success our way in the future and enable us to strengthen our position.

We are incredibly proud of all who volunteered to represent the House and it was a pleasure to be with our competitors poolside!

Mrs Pyrah and Mr Haigh

Bronte

Despite not a lot of events yet to report on this year we have had a positive start to 2017/18. We finished the last academic year with a strong performance in Sports Day. We managed to pressurise Priestley right up to the final event but we were unable to grab that lead at the end. Despite a fine performance from Bronte's athletes we finished in second place.

Thank you to **Emilie Crowther and Caitlin McNulty-Senior** who offered to take the lead on House Drama this year. Auditions have taken place and rehearsals are well underway.

The Girls first event of the year was Senior Hockey on 8th November. The girls came out in style to support the house and managed a fantastic performance and finished in first place. Well done to everyone who turned out to play.



Senior Girls:

- **Caitlin McNulty-Senior, Anna Guest, Bronwen Brown, Aliya Aswad, Hollie Smith, Lucy Ormondroyd, Eleanor Joyce, Emily Pyrah, Alice Brown, Lauren Holmes, Jenna Harris, Sabahat Ali.**

The second event, Senior Netball was played on Wednesday 6th and Thursday 7th December and this was a much more closely fought affair amongst the houses. We came out strongly, beating Priestley in the first match; but unfortunately lost to Clarke in the second. This meant that the last game was a 'must win' game against Houldsworth. We started well and took an early lead- but Houldsworth came back. We came back again with some great shooting from Anna Guest to secure a close 6-5 win.

This meant that we finished in joint first place with Clarke and Houldsworth, who also won two games and lost one.

Well done again to all the girls.



Senior Girls:

- **Alice Brown, Emily Pyrah, Joy Hudson, Hollie Smith, Lucy Ormondroyd, Eleanor Joyce, Anna Guest, Caitlin McNulty-Senior, Eleanor Furner, Lauren Holmes, Samiya Akhtar.**

Mrs Swann

Bronte cont.



Swimming Gala— Girls

On the last day of term we had the Annual Swimming Gala at Spenborough Swimming Baths. I was pleased that we had teams for all events and the girls were keen and eager to swim. The Year 7 Girls were excited for their first ever swimming gala and some of the Year 13 Girls were a little sad that this would be their last. As always we put in some great performances with some excellent results achieved by **Emily Pyrah** and **Hollie Smith** in the Seniors and **Anna Basford** in the Inters event. A special mention must go to **Tabitha Beck** in Year 12 who really did not want to swim but said that she would not let down the house and due to illness of another

Bronte Boys fielded full teams in all bar one race and racked up a series of impressive results (including picking up 1st in the Cannon relay, 1st in the year 7 3x1 Medley relay, 1st in the Inters freestyle and 1st in the year 8 backstroke race. The boys showed exceptional enthusiasm throughout all the competitions and some great team spirit which included making substitutions within teams for relays. A big shout out to **Freddy Blades** for winning 2 races in year 7 and **Tom Grierson** in year 10! A further special shout-out

Priestley

What an unbelievable finish to the summer term and the Lees cup competition. In my time as head of Priestley boys this was arguably the closest fought competition I had ever been involved in. Final day and the annual sports day left with the Lees cup in the balance. We managed to take a slender lead of half a point over Bronte, but all to play for.

However Bronte underestimated the power of Priestley. Showing our true competi-

Annual Swimming gala Priestley Boys

Final day of the Christmas term and the swimming gala had arrived!

All of the Priestley boys were up early doors practising their strokes and mentally preparing for the tense competition. On the boys' side a total of twenty-one races lay ahead with all of the boys competing to an unbelievable standard. After the cannon race we had finished first or second in fifteen of the twenty-one races. To witness this achievement is truly humbling and many thanks to all of the competitors who took part on the day. Particular mention must go to **Ghanashu Zalke**, **Hiren Lad**, **Jacob Braithwaite** & **Max Chisholm** who

swimmer she was there and swam her length. This shows a great level of commitment and support and is something that made me feel very proud to be Head of Bronte House. After a great morning of competition the Girls team came out triumphant again, finishing in first place. Well done to all the swimmers involved.

Teams

Year 7

Nishta Bohorun, Isabella Lister Smith, Lauren Hall, Grace Rogers, Abi Ellis Lucy Tillotson, Lauren Hall, Nishta Bohorun, Beth Waterfield

goes out to **Dom Howarth** who showed outstanding resilience and commitment by participating, even though he was very reluctant to swim this year. Dom participated in 2 races and did all of Bronte very proud – a sign of a true House Captain!

Swimming for Bronte boys were:

Yr 7: **Oliver Hainsworth, Rohan Patel, Mustafa Dawood, Hamza Aziz, Isaac Donovan, Raunaq Mohammed, Jack Wharton, Freddy Blades and Mohammad Ahyan**

Yr 8: **Jacob Grierson, Abdullah Aziz,**

tive nature and tactical awareness we were calm under pressure, completely demolishing all opponents in our path. The sporting excellence on display was remarkable with notable performances from **Jacob Pow, Gilbert Clough, Harry Hobson, Matthew Crane and Max Chisholm** who paved the way for a truly joyous result with the boys winning the competition by a country mile. It all hinged on the girls competition and they didn't disappoint as they replicated the boys result. All that was left was for **Ciaran Lewis and Katie Sherwood** to collect the Lees Cup trophy and be

optimised the Priestley winning spirit by swimming like highly tuned speed boats.

Well done to all & thank you.

Mr Keenleyside

Girls

The Swimming Gala was a fantastic event and the girls came in second place over all, only narrowly pipped to first place. We have had some amazing swimmers and the Year 8 team won or came second in every race in which they competed. There were some sterling efforts and really talented swimmers: **Saffron Bond** in Year 11 has been a great ambassador for the house and **Alice**

Year 8

Sally Rutledge, Chandni Pahal, Lauren Fellows, Sally Rutledge, Annabel James, Lauren Fellows, Gracie Curtis-Dunn, Isabel Hudson, Harriet Haycock Chandni Pahal

Inters

Cora Smith, Anna Basford, Lyndsey Hepworth, Maisy Nichols, Anna Basford, Lyndsey Hepworth, Shreya Khanvilkar, Nipuni Mapatuna, Naduni Mapatuna

Seniors

Lauren Holmes, Emily Pyrah Hollie Smith, Megan Dransfield Bronwen Brown, Tabitha Beck Lucy Ormondroyd.

Finley Berry, Tyler Grogan, David Tomlinson, Milo Carter

Inters: **Michael Marples, Marcus Rezaei, Tom Grierson, David Peng, Dom Harris, Jake Thompson, Rishabh Das and Zain Amin**

Seniors: **Richard Carter, Kieran Jones, Dom Howarth, Dan Conlon and Jack McArdle**

Well done to all the swimmers involved!

crowned CHAMPIONS 2016-17.

Returning after the summer break looking refreshed and ready to go, first up was the boys' football competition. Seniors first and a respectable third and two points for the cause. Inters then entered the fold and yet again another third. However, all was not lost as Juniors playing football that can only be described as majestic beat Bronte 2v0 in the final to gain four valuable points. Excellent performances from **Henry Spencer, Jayden Mudonhi and Ghanashu Zalke**. At the final standings we had finished a positive second.



Jolly captained the team with efficiency and calmness.
Rebecca

James in Year 12 is another student who has swum every year to great success. A number of Year 7 girls swam really well and with great enthusiasm and it was a pleasure to watch such fine sportswomen of all ages. We thank them for their contribution to Priestley House's success. A well deserved second place.

Miss Lumb

Sports Day, 2017.

The 2016/2017 academic year was brought to a close with an HGS Sports Day that will be remembered for some time. It was the first year in which the all-day event directly preceded the awarding of the Lees cup to the House competition winners. Trailing in last place with insurmountable ground to recover, it looked as though Clarke would have to settle for fourth place, overall, for the second year in a row. Tensions were high and optimism was low as the yellows attended the Princess Mary Athletics Stadium, Cleckheaton, for a difficult day of track and field. Despite the challenges of the competition ahead, Clarke competitors did their house proud on the day, and as such, special mentions should be made public.

In the girls' competition there were many great achievements and displays of true house spirit. There were a few changes on the day and as usual there was a steady stream of volunteers ready to take up the challenge of filling the empty lanes. There were some outstanding individual achievements and particular mention should go to **Martha Currie**, **Isabella Myers** and **Holly Beaumont** for

their skill and determination in the long distance events; however all girls that took part were outstanding and gave their all for their house. I was as always very proud of each and every one of them.

In the Boys competition, this season's newly appointed House Captains, **Joe Barker-Smith** (Y10) and **Luke Nixon** (Y9), registered fantastic 'shifts' on the track. After leading most of the 800m race, **Joe Barker-Smith** found himself in second place with 300m to run. In the last straight, however, he showed true GRIT and determination to overtake the Priestley front runner—winning the race with only 5m of runway to spare. **Joe Barker-Smith** was also part of the Clarke 4x100m relay team who clocked a winning 51.72 (just under two seconds outside of the school's record of 50.03 set by Clarke in 2004 by **Darby**, **Ugoji**, **Lunn** and **Palmer**).

Luke Nixon made similar strides, placing first in the 200m race and contributing to yet another Clarke win in the 4x100m relay, this time for the year 9 team. Both **Nixon** and **Barker-Smith** were selected by newly appointed house master, Mr. Stokoe, to lead Clarke as house captains in 2017–18 on the strength of their impressive performances at the Princess Mary.

Mentions are also due to **Oscar Lau** (Y7) who was victorious in the 100m; **Asish Chitamuru** (Y7) in the 800m; **Rayhan Shahzad** (Y10) in the 200m; **Reece Taylor** (Y10) in the 400m. In the field events, **Ismaeel Karolia** (Y7), **Rowan Lightfoot** (Y7), **Henry Sykes** (Y9), **Daniel Reed** (Y12), **Sam Lenners** (Y7), **Byron White** (Y8) and **Adam Bentley** (Y10) all brought home gold.



After a nail biting morning, the results of the Lees cup were announced. Clarke had covered the ground they needed to leapfrog into third place by just 0.5 points overall, leaving Houldsworth trailing. Bronte were awarded runners up as Priestley enjoyed a well-deserved victory, for the 2016-17 schedule.

Clarke Sports Captains 2017-18 Season.

New academic year and new leadership. Captaining Clarke House for the 2017–18 season for the Girls and Boys are as follows:

Sports Captains (Girls).

- Seniors
Alicia Carman (Y12)
Abbie Holyoake (Y12)
Fiona Maynard (Y12)
Emily Marlow (Y12)
Jessica Cheung (Y13)
Laiba Butt (Y13)
Caitlin Thornton (Y11)
- Inters
Ellie Doran (Y10)
Evie Hargreaves (Y10),
Alice Iwanejko (Y9)
Isabella Myers (Y10)
- Juniors
Martha Currie (Y8)
Amy Johnson (Y8)
Imogen Manion (Y8)
Maisie Royston (Y8)

Sports Captains (Boys).

- Seniors
Joe Barker-Smith (Y11)
Hamish Dee (Y13)
- Inters
Luke Nixon (Y10)
- Juniors
Thomas Burrow (Y8)

Clarke Mascot.

- **Tsteve Tsang.**

Girls Hockey

The girls hockey competition has now started with the senior girls taking part in their event on a cold and crisp November lunchtime. The girls played exceptionally well and fought bravely in the cold for all three matches, unfortunately the strength of the opposition was too much for the girls and we ended up 4th overall in the competition. There was a huge amount of skill and determination on display and once again we had more players than we needed, thank you so much for turning up to play.

Girls Netball



Again the netball competition has only seen the senior girls take part at the time of writing. The competition took place

on a cold Wednesday and Thursday lunchtime at the start of December (luckily we were inside so didn't notice the cold!) We had lots of volunteers and were able to rotate the teams. We didn't have the best start losing to Houldsworth in the first match, however in the second one against Bronte we fought valiantly and with some fantastic passing and shooting skills we won our second match. Time for an overnight rest before our final match against Priestley, again the girls came out ready for action and there were some incredible displays of skill and prowess, again the shooting was phenomenal with **May Hussain** and **Fiona Maynard** a formidable team, we won this match too. Overall with 2 wins and a loss we achieved a second place result.

Thank you to all who took part.

Clarke cont

House Football 2017-18 Season.

HGS House football is a competition that Clarke house have dominated in recent years. Having three first place finishes in the last four years, Clarke have consistently set the bar high for the first event in the Lees cup calendar.

The first instalment fell to a senior team comprising of students in years 11 – 13. Captained by Jimmy Harding (Football Captain) and Joe Barker Smith (House Captain), with an impressive squad, the seniors did not disappoint. In the semi-final, Clarke were victorious, beating an outnumbered Houldsworth team 5 – 0. The final fixture confirmed qualifiers, Bronte, as the team standing in the way of a Clarke win. Overseen by newly appointed house leader, Mr. Bassar, the blues looked ready to battle it out.

Clarke house opened their account through a masterstroke from senior football captain Jimmy Harding as he delicately chipped a rushing Bronte keeper during a one-on-one in the second half. The team as a whole played fantastically well to carve out a well-deserved 2 – 0 victory on the final whistle.

A week passed and it was time for the

Intermediates to follow in the footsteps of the older house members. Captained by Luke Nixon, a Clarke team picked from year 9 and 10 students took to the field. Nixon captained the Inters to a second competition win, putting the yellows in touching distance of the House football trophy. For the inters, it was a convincing performance from all who took part.

After October half-term and two weeks after the Intermediates' victory, the Juniors were called into action to add more points on the board. House Captain Tom Burrow and Football Captain Will Brown took charge of a team that boasted 30+ Clarke members during initial sign up. After two valiant battles, in which arguably, Clarke were the better team of each, the Juniors had to settle for a joint-third finish after a 0 – 0 draw with Houldsworth House, accumulating 1.5 points-a-piece.

Senior Team:

- **Jimmy Harding, Joe Barker-Smith, Oscar Birch, Jamie White; Matthew Crocken, Will Breheney, Emanuel Obiang, Adam Ibnouzaki, Adam Ilyas, Hamzah Taram, Waleed Malik, Armaan Hussain, Awais Tauquir, Hamish Dee, Nelay Joshi, Jamal Hanif, Daniel Omojola.**

Intermediate Team:

- **Luke Nixon, Alfie Webster, Joseph Dewhurst, Sarim Tariq, Rohaan Hawkins, Evan Hemingway, Rahul Ho-Shing, Elliot Lunn, Mark Solomon, Mackenzie Hinchcliffe, Henry Sykes, Sam Eastwood, Nanda Kakumani.**

Junior Team:

- **Will Brown, Thomas Burrow, Rowan Lightfoot, Asish Chittamuru, Oscar Lau, Jack Blakeley, Thomas Burton, Logan Crowther, Patrick Daly, Usman Ali, Rocco Parkin, Jack Blakeley, Taran Dhillon, Thomas Burton, Sam McLarnon, Logan Wright, Qaisar Hassaan, Saleem Sumeed and Sam Lenner**

Clarke remain the most successful footballing House in recent times, making it four wins in five years. This season's results are below.

	Bronte	Clarke	Houldsworth	Priestley
Seniors	3	4	1	2
Inters	1	4	3	2
Juniors	3	1.5	1.5	4
Overall	7	9.5	5.5	8
Lees Cup Points	2	4	1	3

Swimming Gala, 2017.

Clarke began with a winning start thanks to a standout solo performance demonstrated by Year 13 student, **Hamish Dee**. Hamish showed true leadership as an experienced senior Clarke member. He set the bar high for the gala by placing a convincing first in the second race of the meet.

Dee was joined by Clarke and HGS debutants **Adam Ilyas** and **Adam Ibnouzaki** in the 3x1 relay. HGS prides itself on the house system and the community it provides students across different year groups to come together to compete in sporting activity. Ilyas and Ibnouzaki joined this year and have already made outstanding contributions in house competition. The trio carved out an impres-

sive 3 points for second place.

In between such races came impressive swims from a number of students: **Leon Tipton** and **Asish Chittamuru** were unbeatable in the Freestyle for the Year 7 and Year 8 categories respectively. **Patrick Sam** registered a convincing backstroke first with an effortless length. **Rahul Ho-Shing** grafted for a second against strong opposition and Year 7's **Siddarth Boodhoo** showed exceptional captaincy by commanding the breaststroke event to gain 4 points.

In the girls competition we once again shone in many events, there were some stand out performances in all age categories and a special thanks should go to **Fiona Maynard, Emily Marlow** and **Abbie Holyoake** for being the only 3 senior girls willing to swim. As always

the Inters team fielded strong competition, scoring highly in all the events, this was the 4th year swimming for many of these girls (**Sonia Boodhoo, Ellie Doran, Lili-Mae Sharp, Isabella Myers and Holly Beaumont**) and I look forward to them boosting the numbers for the senior team next year. Year 7 girls were numerous making it a difficult choice of who to pick for the swims, all of them showed strength and determination and were happy and willing to take part in anything asked of them. The usual girls stepped forward for the year 8 team and again showed determination to succeed in all events, particular mention should go to **Imogen Manion** and **Isla Wolstenholme** who, although they didn't have a full team to swim the freestyle relay, did so on their own swimming 2 lengths each, showing true Clarke spirit!

The canon is a race that showcases the best of the gala in a mixed gender race of all age categories swimming in relay. This year's elite selection approached the water: **Millington; Tipton; Currie; Chittamuru; Doran; Sandford; Maynard; and Dee.** What followed was a showstopper of an event with a nail biting finish. The Yellows led after four lengths. Strong opposition from Bronte shifted a convincing half-length lead for the blues. Sanford, Doran and Maynard made strongly-fought gains before handing over to Dee with 15m to gain on first place. An unbelievable effort of true GRIT and determination rendered the staff and spectators in awe. Dee miraculously gained, gliding through the water with first in sight. A

crowded finishing line of house leaders observed Bronte, who hold on to win this season's canon race by an inch.

Dee contributed 10 points on the day, making him Clarke's swim team MVP (Most Valuable Player). Clarke were of particular interest for a noteworthy appointment in captaincy. This year, Clarke seniors were managed by Year 12 student Alicia Carman, who becomes the first female leader of a male Clarke team, and perhaps the House System in general. Carman orchestrated an impressive senior team on behalf of new Clarke Boys leader, Mr. Stokoe.

"Alicia has been instrumental in organising the boys senior swim team. Carman has shown true leadership, and I'm proud that both she and the male swim team have cultivated a mutual respect to work together to achieve great things. It's a testament to the school's message of resilience and tolerance. The house has demonstrated equality in leadership that will, surely, inspire girls and boys to continue to embrace equality at HGS", said Mr Stokoe.

Mrs Doran and Mr Stokoe



Other News



A group of Year 7 girls wrote to the Senior Leader Team requesting permission to run a Bake Sale to raise funds for Human Aid. Once granted there was no stopping them; a team was established and baking began in earnest. Monday 29th

January was the date set and an array of beautiful buns, cakes, biscuit's and bakes was offered during break and lunch time raising £127.00. A big well done to Simrah Shaheer, Laura Sutherland, Alina Siddiqui, Hiba Shahzad, Sahasra Vindavalli, Maryam Ahmed, Safia Malek and Sara Naim.

HGS Goes GREEN

Recycling is very important as waste has a huge negative impact on the natural environment. Making small changes will to reduce environmental impact, contribute to reducing the need for raw materials and help to reduce the pollution caused by waste. Our catering team is using new recyclable packaging, provided Wilkes Group. Wilkes Group provide us with disposable-cups and food packaging We also use a new oil company, Olleco, who are experts in recycling our waste oil to power there delivery vans, trucks and much more. Olleco collect our food waste, ensuring that it never goes to landfill. We also use Re-Food who collect and recycle our food waste.



Sixth Form Centre Update

Opening Autumn 2018— The Annexe building was handed over to the lead contractor QSP on the 22nd January. As the pictures show the transformation is well underway , with buildings coming down and extensions being built. Once completed this area will be an excellent addition to HGS, providing much needed bespoke work and social space for our Sixth Form students.



Head Boy Head Girl Introduction



Head Girl
Bronwen Brown

My name is Bronwen Brown and I am the Head Girl for the academic year of 2017/18. Having been at the school since year 7 in 2011, I have been involved in just about everything the school has to offer and loved every minute of it. My main aim is to make sure that everyone throughout the school is able to enjoy their time at Heckmondwike Grammar as much as I have. From house events to charity days, school productions and academic competitions there are so many opportunities to participate in the school community and I would love for everyone to find their forte and pursue it!

Together with Jack, we would like to think that there is already a good relationship between us and all year groups throughout the school. My involvement with Bronte House events means that I am visible around school and would hope most students would be comfortable speaking to me if they ever had an idea, suggestion or just wanted a chat! Being involved with football fiesta this term as well as speaking in all assemblies and the remembrance assemblies has meant we have spoken to many people throughout school and built up good relationships with both staff and students.

There are lots of events planned for the following year that will give everyone an opportunity to become involved and participate in the wider school community. The Christmas fair and 'Hecky's got talent', the two most anticipated events of the year, are currently being planned by the Senior committee as well as Jack and I, we hope to make them the best ever and get as many people involved as possible!

My name is Jack Bloxsome and I am Head Boy for this academic year. I joined the school in Year 12 and have thoroughly enjoyed my time so far. Since I have been at HGS, I have discovered that there are lots of different ways to become involved throughout school, and I would like to pursue this, whilst adding new ideas to create an even more friendly and exciting community.

I consider myself an open and approachable person and even though I have only been here since Year 12, I have created good relationships with students in all year groups. I want to continue building friendships and hope that anyone in school would feel comfortable to speak to me about any issues /queries or for a conversation.

So far Bronwen and I have jumped straight into our roles in a range of different ways. Already we have managed to buy Senior Committee lanyards so that everyone can visibly identify who we are, and have organised a new School Council system so that students can voice opinions and gain feedback about their ideas. Along with this, we have raised money for Candlelighters, McMillan Cancer and our Year 13 Prom, by organising a Cake Sale, Formal Friday and Halloween Fancy Dress. Overall, we have had a successful half term and have other plans for the rest of the year.



Head Boy
Jack Bloxsome

School Councils

This year we have developed a new student council system, moving from key stage meetings to year group meetings. This will allow for more specific discussion and key areas to be focussed upon at the meetings, with guidance from the year group SSM and two senior committee members. This system will allow for everyone's voices to be heard and a larger participation across the school, we don't want anyone to go unheard!

We also have a new role for two reps per year group: a whole school council incorporating all the year groups called the 'Senate' is something we have brought in this year. The Senate meetings will take place after the year group meetings, so all years can bring their ideas and suggestions together and any repeated issues across years can be identified and prioritised. Both of us will be running these meetings meaning we will be able to meet even more students and have beneficial discussions with all the senate members.

Senior Committee 2017-18



Role	Students
Head Boy/ Head Girl	Jack Bloxsome Bronwen Brown
Deputy Head Boy/Girl in charge of Sixth form learning and teaching	Tanvi Kishore Adam McKay Jack Medlin
Deputy Head Boy/Girl in charge of Prefects (academic and behaviour)	Lucy Chen Charlie Loveday Kelsey Wilkinson
Deputy Head Boy/Girl in charge of House integration	Jonathan Burnett Hamish Dee Chloe Pickering
Deputy Head Boy/Girl in charge of Events and fundraising	Lizzie Grundy Fatima Laiq Olivia Weston
Deputy Head Boy/Girl in charge of Leavers' ball	Sophie Beaumont Daniel Loutchanski Leena Shafik
Deputy Head Boy/Girl in charge of Leavers' year-book	Imrah Bostan Chloe Feather
Deputy Head Boy/Girl in charge of Leavers' memorabilia	Kieran Byrne Adam Hassall
Deputy Head Boy/Girl in charge of Quizzes	Anna Guest Charlie Howe



Service of Remembrance - November 12th

A small group of HGS brass musicians once again provided the music for the Service of Remembrance organised by the Churches Together for the Heckmondwike community. This followed a similar contribution to our school remembrance assemblies on the preceding Friday.

Music included a special arrangement of 'The Day Thou Gavest' and the two hymns of 'Eventide' and 'St Anne'. **David Brown** once again stepped up and performed the traditional 'Last Post' and 'Reveille'. No one should ever underestimate how hard this responsibility is - with a large crowd at a formal occasion, silent focused minds, and usually with heightened emotions, it is a real challenge. David did a fantastic job, especially on a freezing cold breezy morning!



During the service, wreaths were laid at the Heckmondwike cenotaph from a range of community groups. Our head girl **Bronwen Brown** gave a reading and our head boy **Jack Bloxsome** laid a wreath on behalf of our school. All that was left was a rousing rendition of the National Anthem (both verses!) to conclude the well attended community event.

The performers were - **David Brown** (Cornet), **Charlotte Gibson** (Cornet), **Sam Rhodes** (Trumpet), **Alex Smith** (Euphonium), **Michael Upham** (Trombone)

Plus Mr Lukic (Tuba) and Mr Cole (Horn)



Musa Lala, Ethan Hall, George Webster and Basim Khajwal made up the team of four for the maths challenge. With around 30 teams at the event there was stiff competition at the regional heats in York. The competition is composed of three rounds, a group round, a cross-number round and a mini-relay round. The first round involved ten questions which the teams have 40 minutes to solve.

In the second round (cross number round) students work in pairs to solve a mathematical crossword puzzle in approximately 40 minutes. One pair is given the across clues, the other pair the down clues; they cannot confer with the other pair and have record their answer on a shared grid (each correct number is awarded a point). We made excellent progress on the cross number round dropping only 3 marks out of a potential 60 marks; finishing in the top five at that stage of the competition.

In the final round (the shuttle round) the team split into two pairs, A and B. The answer to the A question is needed by the other pair in the B question order to solve the next question which then in turn provides an answer to be used in the next. Sadly a couple of mistakes in the first questions cost the team dearly and we finished sixth overall on the day. Despite the slight disappointment the team performed really well and were a credit to the school.

Mr Tilley

Mr Tilley

Enterprise Competition

Run in conjunction with the Tech Partnership, the #techgoals competition challenges school students from years 5 to 8 to create an app that could benefit the local community. Students work in teams to create, refine and visualise their idea, helping to develop their interpersonal skills as they advance their digital competence. The drive reflects research that shows that young people are motivated by the idea of using tech to help others or change the world for the better.



The entries were of an extremely high quality and the competition attracted talented students and aspiring digital learners from across the Leeds City Region. The judges were busy over the summer term scoring entries from across the region, and **William Stone** won the competition for Best Secondary entry, with his 'Sign and Speak App.' All winning entries were scored by the Tech Partnership and endorsed by Kersten England, Lead for Business Growth and Innovation in the Leeds City Region and Chief Executive at Bradford Council, and Glynn Robinson, Managing Director at BJSS, a Digital Employer in the region. Judges' comments for the winning entry were as follows:

William D Stone - Sign and Speak App

"This is a lovely concept. It's acknowledging the challenges faced by Deaf and hard of hearing people. It also comes with an app prototype, and the PowerPoint nicely explains the look and feel. Well done! A clear understanding of how digital can be used for the wider good."

The competition forms part of a wider #techgoals programme run by Leeds City Region LEP and Tech Partnership, offering schools in the region access to a range of high-quality teaching resources, all designed to develop students' skills and confidence in technology. The Leeds City Region is home to a number of high profile employers who are keen to employ digitally skilled people, so the programme is enthusiastically supported by local businesses.

Prizes the boys won:

- Gamma Drone – records HD footage, is controlled via smartphone app, performs amazing aerobatics
- Curious Coder Pack, comes with Gamer Kit and Start Aduino Kit - perfect for aspiring young coders
- Music Star Pack – two music kits in one pack: a Synth Kit to create music, and a Speaker Kit to amplify sound

Rowan Lightfoot on the right
and
Williams Stones on the left



Mr Lukic

World Challenge 2017—Sri Lanka

After 2 years of fundraising the time finally came for the 15 of us to go to Sri Lanka. On the 22nd July we arrived at Manchester airport fully packed and ready to go after our preparation day two days before. The flight took around 14 hours including the change in Dubai but we were finally in-country and the expedition could begin. First of all we exchanged some of the group money and bought a group phone that would be used throughout the trip. Also at this point we met our drivers, Jamilla and Yashodha, who met us all with traditional flower necklaces.

The next couple of days we spent orientating ourselves in the country. First of all we visited Negombo. We exchanged some of our own money and bought our food for the next couple of days. The first thing we did was have a group meeting and discussed what jobs needed to be carried out and as a group we starting looking at hostels that we could book for the first week of the expedition as this was something we had to do as a group. We then went on a walk around the local area and were taken on a tour of the area by a local man who was very keen to show us round the area! He showed us the fish market, which is the 2nd largest in Sri Lanka and the



various other market areas of the town. That evening we also relaxed on the beach as we were all tired after the travelling the day before. As we stayed in a family run hostel we ate there that night where we tried a small selection of local curries.

The following day we travelled to Ella where we spent the next day preparing for the acclimatising treks that we would be doing before the main trek of Adam's Peak. We stocked up on snacks that would give us energy for the treks such as Hawaiian biscuits. That night we went to bed early so that we would have energy for the trek the next day. The first acclimatisation trek that we carried out was little Adam's Peak. This trek was only a couple of hours long but would get us used to walking in the different climate which was much hotter and more humid than the UK. We all carried out this trek well and knew that as a group we worked well together and if there were any areas for improvement then we could work on that before the major trek

later in the trek. That evening we visited the Temple of the Tooth which is a temple containing one of Buddha's teeth so is very sacred to Buddhists. The next day the majority of the group went on the second acclimatisation trek which was Ella Rock. However, I stayed at the hostel that day along with Mel as we were both ill so we thought it was best to make sure we were better for the Adam's Peak trek. The other 13 members of the group went on the trek which they found very rewarding. It was tougher than the previous day's trek however much more rewarding as it was very peaceful at the top. The rest of that day we travelled to Dalhousie where we would set off from for the Adam's Peak trek. As a group we decided that we wanted to set off at 2am with the aim that we would reach the summit at sunrise so that the views would be amazing.





The morning we set off, we woke to a huge rainstorm, however we were determined to reach the top. Adam's Peak is 2243 metres high and the trek path is made up of around 5200 steps, so we knew this would be a huge challenge for the group: we knew that we needed to work together to make good progress. We kept going however the rain didn't stop, occasionally even getting worse. Jess, the World Challenge leader, then had to make the tough decision that due to health and safety reasons we had to turn around after reaching roughly the half way mark of the trek. All of us were disappointed that we couldn't reach the summit but knew that there wasn't much we could do so we had to keep spirits up so that we would keep going and could get back to the hostel. We got back to the hostel with the rain still falling, soaked we went back into our rooms and it was here that we noticed that there were leeches on the route and many of us had them attached to us but hadn't realised! After getting them off us we could then relax a little more and change into other warm, dry clothes for the rest of the day, spending it resting after walking for a large amount of time. Frustratingly in the afternoon the rain dried up and we would have been able to carry out the trek then, however we didn't have enough time!

The day after we travelled back to Kandy for the beginning of the "Community Engagement and Project Phase". It was at this point we were told that we would be going to help at Godamunna Junior School. As team leader that day I found out the jobs that the school wanted us to do in preparation for the next 2 days. Then for the remainder of the afternoon we met the school children and played games, helped teach English and they even helped teach us Sinhala! The next day was when the hard work really started. As a group we split people into teams, some of us helped paint an English classroom, some helped some professional roofers and others interacted with the school children. The school children were very energetic and loved playing games such as "duck duck goose" and "tig". This was my favourite part of the trip as I loved working with the children and getting to know them and how Sri Lanka differs to the UK. The third day in the school we began digging a well which was going

to be 4 metres wide and 6 metres deep. This was an interesting experience as the tools that they used were less sophisticated than tools in the UK. For example, to try and break the ground up we had to use metal poles. That afternoon as a thank you the school children put on a performance showing all the talents that the children had in the school, including some Sri Lankan dancing and various musical instruments. The children also made us all a card and a snowman from papier-mâché. We also did a small presentation on what life is like in the UK, and we gave them a further donation into the school's first computer which was a huge help in improving the school.

After this stage we then moved onto the culture exploration stage. This was where as a group we could decide what we wanted to do and visit in the country. We took part in many different activities such as a cookery course, going to a beach, walking around various small market towns, visiting a couple of different temples and watching a Sri Lankan dance performance.

And that was our 2 weeks over! We then had to make our way back to the airport in Colombo and begin our trip home. We said goodbye to our drivers who made the trip even better and we boarded the plane back to the UK and before we knew it we were back home after a great expedition!



Personally, I would like to thank Mrs Swann who organised the expedition and a huge thank you must go to the other 14 members of our group who made this life-changing trip even more enjoyable!

Adam Hassall

Music and Drama Christmas Events

The department undertook a very busy schedule of events in December. These included a Christmas Showcase evening, the Carol Service, carolling with the Brass Group, performances at Prize Giving and a visiting orchestra performing for our year 8 pupils.

Our Christmas Showcase was again performed to a packed out Swann Hall. Performances were given by the Concert Band, Junior Choir, Senior Choir, Soul Band, String Group, Guitar Group, Percussion Group and Dance Club. In addition, there were four excellent drama performances written and performed by our very own Youth Theatre Group.

Our traditional carol service took place once again in the local St James Church. With welcoming carols played in the foyer by the HGS Brass Group the evening service started off in

conventional manner with the first verse of *Once in Royal David's City* performed solo by year 7 pupil Cerys Harrison. The traditional 9 lessons were read by a variety of students from all year groups and were interspersed with a variety of carols. Musical performances were given by the Senior Choir, Concert Band, Junior Choir, String Group and Guitar Group, as well as a jazz piano solo of *While Shepherds Watched* by year 13 student Ruth Jennings.

The Soul Band entertained our guests at Senior Prize Giving as they arrived at our new venue of Dewsbury Town Hall. Our singers excelled at performing in this wonderful venue, with vocals from Holly Ward, Rowan Lightfoot, Kirsty Gregory and Fiona Maynard. The 45 minute set included pieces such as *Uptown Funk*, *Monkey Man*, *My Girl* and *Don't Know Why*. Michael Upham also joined Fiona in a rendition of *Baby it's Cold Outside*. There were improvised saxophone solos from

Georgina Moore and guest Matthew Rhodes (this year's winner of the HunterArt prize). The band were then featured during the ceremony with a performance of *Mercy*.

Later in the evening the audience were treated to something very special. Year 13 A level music student Megan Dransfield gave a solo rendition of Puccini's aria *O Mio Babbino Caro*. This was a truly stunning performance that was rightly highly praised by staff, students and our visiting guests. Megan was accompanied by her singing teacher Mr Hall who then provided the background cocktail piano music at the drinks reception afterwards.

Not content with winding down to Christmas on the last day of term, we welcomed the 'Musica' Orchestra into school to perform for our year 8s. Performing a wide range of pieces, from *Star Wars* to *Bohemian Rhapsody*, the Orchestra entertained us all - whilst subtly introducing classical music and the instruments of the orchestra to our year 8 students. There was a conducting competition, hunt the Haribos event and some of our older students got the chance to perform with the orchestra.

Mr Cole



Marsden Jazz Festival—October 8th

The HGS Soul Band started off the new term with another booking at the internationally renowned Marsden Jazz Festival. Performing within five weeks of the first half-term meant the band had to quickly dust off their instruments after the summer holiday and rehearse a programme ready for the festival. On top of this the band had some new members in key areas of the band.

The band played the Sunday lunchtime slot in the park bandstand. Luckily it was fine weather and there was a large audience gathered to hear the band. The band kicked off with Ray Charles' 'What I'd Say' and followed it with the classic soul track 'Gimme Some Lovin', which included a fine debut vocal performance from our trombonist **Michael Upham**.

Performing a variety of soul, jazz, blues and pop tracks the band featured solos from David Brown, Alex Smith and some super sax solos from Georgina Moore. We performed

pieces from our older repertoire of 'Green Onions', 'I Heard it through the Grapevine', 'Mama Do' and 'Mercy'; newer pieces (for us) such as 'Blues Machine', 'Monkey Man', 'Mustang Sally' and 'Don't Know Why'; and two old HGS favourites of 'I Feel Good' and 'Tequila'.

The band welcomed back a couple of last year's members to play with us. Even though they are now starting their studies at University it was great to see them back helping out. Along with these 'old timers' it was great to welcome some new faces to the band - **Sommer Berrington** on keys and **Rowan Lightfoot** on trumpet. A particular well done goes to **Gemma Hall** who took full control of the drums this year and did a fantastic job keeping us all in time.

Not content with just debuting on trumpet, **Rowan Lightfoot** also took to the Microphone and sang a fantastic rendition of the song 'My Girl'. Definitely one for the future!



After finishing with the classic 'In the Midnight Hour' the band completed their set and packed away in record time with another local band waiting to take the stage. Feedback from the audience, organisers and members of the next band on was excellent. The band is now back in rehearsals learning new material for performances in December.

Mr Cole



HGS at Marsden Jazz Festival 2017