

# Heckler

Week 30 Published 3 May 2019

## Iceland 2019



HECKMONDWIKE  
GRAMMAR SCHOOL

On arrival in Iceland first on the list, was to visit Pingvellir National Park to see the rift at in-between the American and Eurasian Tectonic plates, and learned that they are moving away from each other at a rate of 2mm a year, then moving on to see the hot-mud pots and geothermal hot springs at Gunnhver (which smelled like rotten eggs due to the sulphur). During the trip to Snaefellsnes Peninsular cave, we stopped in one of the largest rooms of the cave, turned off all our torches, stood very quietly, listened to all the water dripping down through the tiny holes in the rock, and then shouted very loudly. To our amazement, there was no echo. We were told that this was due to all the tiny holes in the rocks, but it was still very strange.



Later we travelled from the lava tubes to a shark museum, stopping to see beautiful coastal formations and cascading waterfalls along the way. There, we learned all about the Greenland Shark: what it eats, where it lives and how it is essentially blind. However, what came next was the worst part of the trip – eating rotten shark! It was vile!! First, they had to catch one. Then, they cut it up and left it to ferment until all the toxic urea was gone, and then it was hung in the open air under a shelter for ages. The smell was horrific.

Other trips:

- Lava Centre
- 'The Golden Circle'.
- Gullfoss Waterfall
- Erupting Geysers
- Seljandsfoss Waterfall – where water falls from a 60-metre height
- Skogarfoss Waterfall which fell from a 63-metre height
- The Black Beaches – famous for the filming of Game of Thrones

Although the students had to battle against the strong icy winds, climb 400 stair to viewing areas deal with local customs (Eating rotten shark) the trip was enjoyed by all, the only downside was on arrival at the airport we scanned all our passports, sent our suitcases through, went through security, waited at the gate and boarded the plane. 20 minutes later than we were meant to set off, the pilot came on the announcer, and said that the engine was experiencing technical difficulties. Half an hour later, the pilot came on again and said that the data from the engine had been sent to an engineering company in Singapore! 20 minutes after that, he came on for a third time and said that the Singaporean team weren't happy that we would be safe to fly, so we all had to disembark. They said they had to fly a new plane out from the UK, and that the delay would be almost 7 hours. However, it was okay, as we had each other for company and were given £20 worth of vouchers to spend in the food shop – so it wasn't all bad.

It later turned out that the problem with the engine was a bird.

Thanks go to Jacob & Claudia for writing this article

# Department Focus: Drama

Spring term is always the busiest one in the Drama calendar with Year 11 GCSE practical examinations taking place in March. Needless to say, students were rehearsing at any given opportunity, including Sundays! It also saw Year 10 GCSE Drama perform 'The Crucible' for a captivated audience and Year 9 GCSE Drama perform group extracts and monologues from Dennis Kelly's play DNA.

Youth Theatre are currently rehearsing for their Summer production: 'Alice in Wonderland', which has been rewritten by Year 10 student Maisy Nichols. Excitingly, the Drama department are working with Miss Bannister in Art and her students in Art Club to design all of the set and costumes for the production!



"Nameless Theatre," HGS' own theatre company, have performed their original play 'Taboo' on several occasions during the last term, including as part of year group assemblies for Mental Health Awareness Week. We have also performed the play to students from BBG, which involved our students leading a workshop afterwards. An offer of external funding has also been made; we hope to use this to help us to tour the production to other schools in the area.

In terms of the curriculum, Year 7 completed their Physical Skills unit and are currently working on issue-based drama, in which we explore the topic of peer pressure and responsibility. They begin studying Shakespeare in a few weeks. We are all looking forward to finding the next Ian McKellen or Judy Dench!

Year 8 are due to perform extracts from the play adaption of 'Lord of the Flies' imminently before exploring monologues and duologues from other playwrights in Summer term.

Our Year 9 GCSE group have just started studying The Crucible, whereas Year 10 will be performing their original devised performances for their Component 1 examination in June. Good luck to all of our Year 11 GCSE students in their forthcoming exams!

## Football Fiesta Final

The football Fiesta Final took place Tuesday 11 April in front of a record crowd. The two teams were Elias Kachungas and PGM. It was an honour and pleasure to see our Headteacher Mr Roberts, who walked the players out onto the arena. Both the crowd and players stood for the national anthem.

The players shook hands and our referee Mr Walker started the match. It was a tense affair with both teams not getting any real control of possession. One minute before half time, Fiad Elmubarak muscled his way through the Elias Kachungas defence and slotted the ball past Byron Waite. At half time it was 1-0 PGM. Harry Hobson rallied the troops together whilst the crowd enjoyed the music interval along with Mr Barnett who was dancing away like Michael Flatley from river dance! The second half was all Elias Kachungas with Henry Pollard missing two 1 on 1s only to be saved by the fantastic Sam Wheatley. Rahul Ho-Shing was inspirational throughout creating good opportunities for the fast paced Mackenzie Hinchcliffe. Two minutes to go, Mr Walker went to VAR which showed Fiad Elmubarak entering the penalty area. Elias Kachungas were awarded the penalty. Harry Hobson stepped up and missed the target which excited the "Rourkeus" crowd. The full time whistle went and PGM were crowned Football Fiesta Champions 2019.



The winning team players were:

Rahul Ho-Shing, Fiad Elmubarak, Sam Wheatley, Raheem Miller, Mackenzie Hinchcliffe, Eesaa Patel

Mr Rourke would like to thank all the players for their participation throughout the tournament, the supporters for creating an electric atmosphere and Mr Walker and Mr Keenleyside for their outstanding refereeing.

# Bodyworlds Trip - London

On the last day of the Spring term, 25 Year 12 biology students went to the Natural History Museum and Body Worlds in London. They even made a quick stop at Harrods and Buckingham Palace on the walk from one museum to the other! The Natural History Museum has exhibitions on dinosaurs, evolution, extinct species and lots of specimens of fossils and taxidermy. Body Worlds is a fascinating museum with plastinated bodies – bodies which have been donated and turned to plastic through a long chemical process which was invented by Gunther van Hagens. This enables us to see organs and organ systems as they look in the human body, as well as examples of diseased organs. There was even a plastinated horse! All students and staff thoroughly enjoyed the trip despite it being a long day.



## **Student of the Week**

**Olivia Taylor 7NSE**

**Lola Freakley 8DWR**

**Erin Biggs 9KMB**

**Grace Turner 10 CMG**

**Charlotte Waring  
11SGN**

**&  
Marnie Quantrill  
11SGN**



**Your parent-teacher association,  
“Friends of HGS”,  
would like to invite you to the next  
meeting, on Tuesday 7 May at 6.15 in  
school.**

**Come and find out what we do, share  
ideas, etc. Everybody welcome! We're  
looking forward to seeing you there.**

**To get in touch at any time:  
[friendsofhgs@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofhgs@gmail.com)**

## **Parent Notices**

**Monday 6 May - School Closed**

**Tuesday 7 May - Invite to attend FoHGS Meeting**

**Friday 11 May - Year 11 Leavers' day**

**Friday 16 May - Year 9 Parents' Evening**