

Heckler

Week 42 Published 20/09/2019

Welcome



HECKMONDWIKE
GRAMMAR SCHOOL

As we now complete our third week of the new school year, I am pleased to report that we are very much in full swing and enjoying the vibrant atmosphere around school and upholding our usual motto of working hard and playing hard. We are delighted to welcome our new Year 7 students, who look resplendent and proud in their new uniforms and have made a delightful first impression in school of very high aspiration and a genuine thirst for knowledge. Similarly, our Year 12 students have immediately impressed and settled in to the rigours of A level study, enjoying their new found freedoms, but making excellent use of study time and setting a very good example for our younger students. I am delighted to report that 80% of last year's Year 11 students have stayed on in to the Sixth Form and they have been joined by only the most equally ambitious and well qualified students from neighbouring schools. Indeed, the buzz around school from all our students is a real pleasure to witness, as they uphold our ethos of Nil Sine Labore – Nothing Without Work, and certainly subscribe to and exhibit our key values of Respect, Responsibility and Excellence in all that we do.

In my previous Heckler article in July I reported the very pleasing low staff turnover this year. However, we are delighted to welcome 3 very experienced and qualified graduate subject specialist teachers, Mr Beecher - Head of Economics and Business, Mr Stevens - Design and Technology and Mrs Bailey - Biology. Also Mr Cresswell-Kellett - Science Apprentice Technician. We wish them long and fulfilling careers with us.

Whilst the Summer holiday now seems a distant memory, we have certainly not forgotten the outstanding A level and GCSE results gained by our Class of 2019 students. Yet again we are very proud of our most senior students in achieving superb results which have now enabled them to take up places in very high calibre universities on high tariff courses, or enter employment apprenticeships, which will open doors in to the most exciting and rewarding careers. At the time of writing, many of these students will be squeezing their final belongings in to their suitcases as they head off for their first term away from home. On behalf of the whole school community, we wish them the very best of good fortune and look forward to seeing them again at the Annual Prize Giving Ceremony in December. GCSE results this year were the best on record and we congratulate all our Year 11 students for their achievements, which came about due to their sustained hard work and desire to be the best that they can be.

Dates

September

Mon 23-Wed 25
Year 7 Group 1
Bewerley Park

Wed 25 -Fri 27
Year 7 Group 2
Bewerley Park

Wed 25
Year 11 Berlin Trip Parents'
Info Evening

Thurs 26
Year 13 Parents' Info Evening

October

Wed 2 - Fri 4
Silver DofE
Expedition

Tues 8
Year 7 Pastoral
Parents' Evening

Thurs 10 - Mon 14
Year 11 Berlin Trip

Wed 16
Year 11 Parents'
Revision Evening

Thurs 17
Year 13 Parents' Evening

Thurs 24
Sixth Form Open Evening

This year, our students exceeded their very high government set target grades by on average 2/3 of a grade in all their subjects – truly exceptional performance.

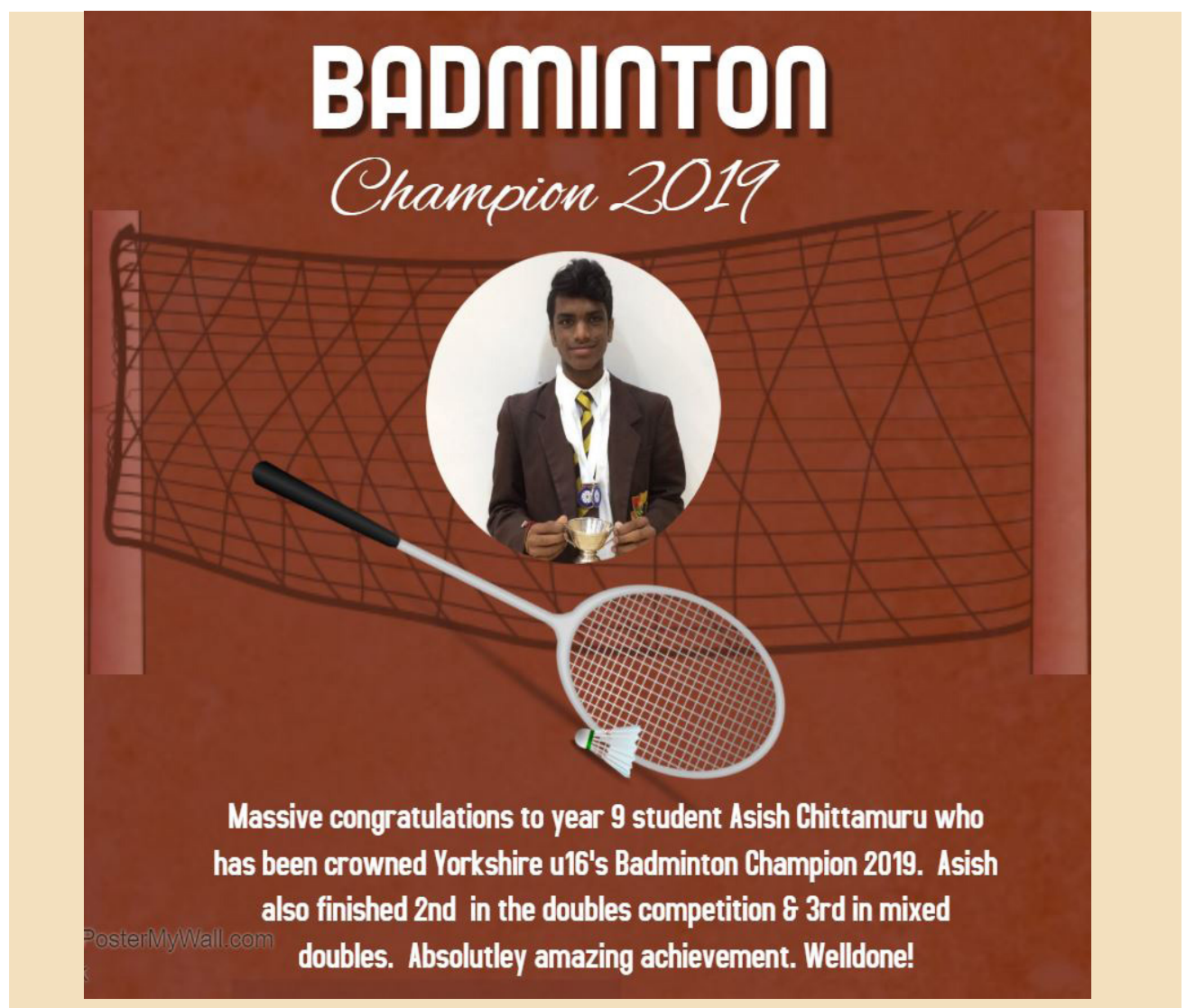
At this point I would like to publicly recognise and thank our staff, who continue to go over and above what could be reasonably expected, to support our students in these achievements. It is my privilege to represent them.

This week is an unusual one to say the least, with 1100 children registered for last Monday's entrance exam, all of whom did their absolute best and were a credit to themselves and on Friday we are re-enacting the 'Heck Hike' sponsored walk in support of Kirkwood Hospice and environmentally friendly initiatives in school. We are really looking forward to the community spirit of the day and hopefully raising lots of money for the good causes. By the end of Friday, there will be some tired and weary legs, but I'm sure a real sense of a job well done and achievement of completing the course and also the fact that we have helped others perhaps a little less fortunate than ourselves.

Thank you all as ever for your unwavering support, it is this team work which makes us what we are.

Peter Roberts - Headteacher

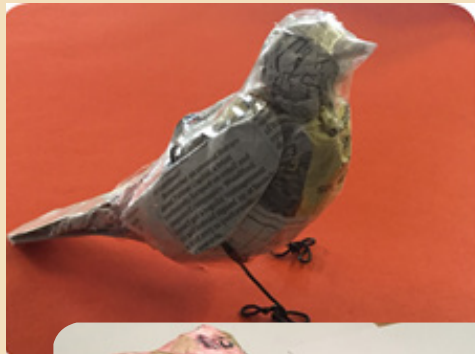
Sports News



Department Focus: Art

New 'Bird Projects' take flight!

Year 8 Bird Sculpture Project



Year 9 Bird Drawings

As a part of a recent curriculum review new projects with Birds as a theme have been introduced into Art lessons in Years 8 and 9. Year 8 classes will get the opportunity to create free-standing papier-mache sculptures of birds whilst Year 9 are involved in producing closely observed studies in pencil before going on to develop their work using printing techniques.



A very accurate drawing by **Sara Naim**



Kingfisher drawn by **Sohail Khan**



Wonderful feather textures drawn by **Hannah Patel**