

# Heckler



HECKMONDWIKE  
GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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## ANOTHER YEAR, ANOTHER REGIONAL FINAL

For the second successive year the Heckmondwike Grammar School debating team of Maisy Nicholl, Leo Beevers and Eleanor Falshaw have reached the regional final of the Schools' Mace, a national debating competition.



On Tuesday 28 January the team travelled across The Pennines to Bedford High School in Leigh to take on the hosts and teams from Crossley Heath School and Bolton School Girls Division. Despite the considerable challenge of having to oppose the motion 'This house would make vaccination compulsory' a combination of Maisy's passionate delivery, and Leo and Eleanor's calmer approach saw them emerge victorious.

The team will compete in the North West Regional Final in late February with high hopes of going one better than last year and progressing to the national final which takes place in London in March. They will be opposing the motion 'This house would abolish the House of Lords' and will be debating against Manchester Grammar School.



On Wednesday, the Heckmondwike Hotshots had a fantastic showing in their opening game of the British Esports Championships as they secured a decisive victory over Northampton College. Congratulations to the team! The full report on the game can be found here: <http://bit.ly/HotshotsGame1>. Their next game is today at 15:30 against Thomas Telford school, those who would like to watch can do so at <https://www.twitch.tv/hgsesports>

## Votes Still Needed

Readers will recall the article from last week regarding ex-HGS student Bradley Walmsley and his success with his dance group Brothers of Dance on BBC The Greatest Dancer. Their success has continued onto this week. Last week's first live show saw two acts leave the competition as the rest battle to become 'The Greatest Dancer', win £50,000 and perform on 'Strictly Come Dancing'. The acts must now master a whole new challenge. Mum, Rachel has emailed the following message "Thank you for the fabulous write up in The Heckler last week, it meant the world to us, would it be possible to say thank you to everyone for voting on Saturday night and that the boys received the highest audience vote in the history of the programme 97.8% we still need everyone to vote this week, both myself and Bradley are overwhelmed with the love and support they are receiving "

Voting can be made by telephone; numbers will be displayed during the show or via the website: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/greatestdancer>.

We wish Bradley continued success





## Leeds Loves Languages

Student Ambassadors from The University of Leeds attended school last week to speak to Year 8 students about the benefits of studying languages at GCSE, the skills gained and how they link to other subjects. Interestingly, speaking more than one language increases

your brain capacity, improves your memory and prevents the development of Alzheimer's.

The students spoke about their language journeys including the one year placement opportunities they have undertaken as part of their degree.



## People Managers from Morrisons

Degree apprenticeships and employment after 6th form attended an interview skills session led by two People Managers from Morrisons. Students learned about linking their skills and experiences to key competencies required in a Degree Apprenticeship and practised answering interview questions using the STAR (Situation, Task, Action, Result) technique. Students stated that they now felt more prepared for interviews and comments included that the session was 'very informative and friendly' and that the session had developed understanding of 'how to conduct myself in an interview'

## Events and opportunities for students interested in Medicine

**February Medicine Taster Day** - Saturday 15 February 2020 09.30 – 15.15 -Worsley Building, University of Leeds.

Are you interested in a career in medicine? With a combination of workshops, talks from doctors, University of Leeds students and the admissions team you will get an insight into studying medicine. There will also be the opportunity to find out more about entry routes and alternatives to medicine.

Application Criteria:

- Year 12 (must be at least 16 years of age)
- Priority given to students from a widening participation criteria
- [http://www.leeds.ac.uk/info/130588/access\\_to\\_leeds/760/am\\_i\\_eligible%20for%20criteria](http://www.leeds.ac.uk/info/130588/access_to_leeds/760/am_i_eligible%20for%20criteria)

Applications close Sunday 9 February 2020 at midnight

Apply at [www.wanttobeadoctor.co.uk](http://www.wanttobeadoctor.co.uk) – <https://www.wanttobeadoctor.co.uk/copy-of-contact-us>

The university are also running an Ethics Workshop on Tuesday 3 March, 17:30-19:15

**Syngenta** are recruiting for a Degree Apprentice Chemist which may be of interest to Year 13 students studying Chemistry A level and they are also recruiting for Level 3 Apprenticeships in Engineering and Science Manufacturing which may be of interest to Year 11 students considering apprenticeships after GCSEs. All of these vacancies are based in Huddersfield. For more information see: [www.syngenta.co.uk/careers](http://www.syngenta.co.uk/careers)

## Year 8 Options

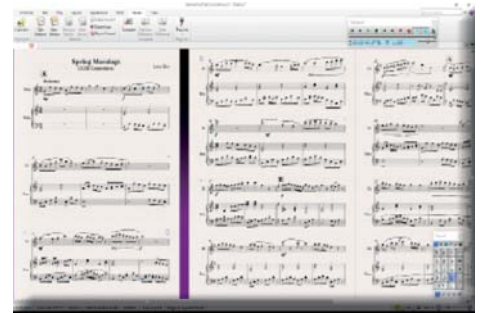
The careers team have delivered Decision Making sessions to all Year 8 students in classrooms this week. Activities included students helping each other to identify their skills and personal qualities, looking at a wide range of career areas, analysing different decision making techniques and talking about the most effective ways of making important decisions. We carried out evaluations with 84 students before and after the sessions and the majority of students said they now feel more confident about making their options choices. Students' comments included that they had learned 'an effective way to make a decision', 'go with what you want, not what other people want' and 'look into detail on all the options'.

The BBC have some useful resources to also help student and parents/carers with the decision making process <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zrjh92p>



# Department Focus: Music

The music department is an incredibly busy place with lots going on, both inside and outside of lessons. Our two main department teachers Mr Cole and Miss Sutcliffe are supported by Mrs Johnson and Miss Bannister for year 7 teaching, as well as our 7 peripatetic music teachers. Regular readers of the Heckler will see our reports on the huge plethora of extra-curricular activities we undertake. However, we do teach curriculum music as well...



Year 7 music students are currently preparing for a performance of the piece 'Falling Slowly' from the musical 'Once'. This term they have been learning about pitch and reading notes on the treble and bass clefs. Since September, students have learnt about rhythm and note values, the elements of music and the instruments of the orchestra, including hearing a live orchestra. There are always lots of practical activities going on in year 7 music, including keyboards and percussion, and often students perform on their own instruments. Our classes have sung together in each unit of work, including learning the songs 'With a Little Help from My Friends', 'When Christmas Comes to Town' and of course 'Falling Slowly'. Next up it's Reggae Music and Ukuleles!

Year 8 music students have explored a variety of musical styles so far, often in a very practical way. They started the year by performing as Pop Bands learning some famous and current pop tunes, composed film music to a choice of film clips and learnt about and performed the Blues. We have just moved onto African drumming now. There were numerous excellent Year 8 exam performances in January - which will hopefully capture our next GCSE options cohort. Next term it's Latin Music, including Samba Band - yes, it's loud!



GCSE Music students in years 9 and 10 are well on the way with their course studies. Year 9 focus much more on the general skills around performing, composing and listening. After studying Pop Music and Fusion music in term 1, they are now learning about the 'Classical' music periods. Year 10 have already studied the set works of Queen's 'Killer Queen' and John William's 'Star Wars'. They are currently working on Bach's Brandenburg Concerto set

work and are busy preparing for their year 10 exams and solo performances.

Year 11 GCSE music students are in the depths of final coursework completion with those all-important deadlines looming! With 2 compositions each to complete and over 60 solo and ensemble performances to record across the two groups (multiple times!) we are all rather busy in the department. After finishing studying their 8 set works in time for their mocks, they are also revising these and practising exam skills, along with adding as much wider listening as possible.

Our A level music students are a very talented bunch of performers. They are all currently building up their skills and repertoire aiming for that final recital at the end of the course. In term 1, our A level music students studied the film music set works from Bernard Herrmann (Psycho), Danny Elfman (Batman) and Rachel



Portman (The Duchess) as well as learning about the history of film music. They have completed various composition exercises and have recently started working on traditional 4-part harmony.



After studying and analysing the set work of Symphonie Fantastique (Berlioz) this week, we are all going to see the BBC Philharmonic perform it live on Saturday.

## MUSIC cont .

As you may have seen, our extra-curricular musicians have already done the following so far this year – Year 11 performance evening, Year 10 performances at Avery Mews Care home, Marsden Jazz Festival, Year 7 performance evening, Remembrance service in Heckmondwike, Year 8 primary school workshop, the Christmas Showcase Concert, Prize Giving Performance, Musica Orchestra performance to year 7, Annual Carol Service performance and our year 8 enjoyed a performance by the RAF Band. Later this year we have further concerts, the Music for Youth Festival, a trip to London, House Music and, along with our fellow drama department students, a production of GREASE!

[Follow us on twitter @HGSMusicDrama](#)

## West Yorkshire Schools Cross Country Championships

Saturday 1 February 2020

Heckmondwike was well represented once again at these championships, with the following members of our school representing Kirklees:



- Adam Pow – Year 8
- Martha Currie – Year 10
- Jacob Pow – Year 10
- Anna Basford – Year 11
- Sam Langley – Year 11



It was an extremely cold afternoon for the athletes gathering at GSAL on Saturday, with athletes having to fight against a very brisk wind.

Unfortunately we had no representatives in the Year 7 races this year, but Adam Pow from year 8 finished 10th in the 'Junior boys' race, competing alongside year 9 students. Adam ran strongly with a time of 14.33 and gained one of the reserve places to represent Yorkshire schools at the English championships.



We also had a 10th place finish in the 'Inter girls' race – over 4km, with Anna Basford from year 11 completing the race in 15.57 and qualifying as a reserve, with Martha Currie from year 10 finishing in 15th place in a time of 16.33. The Kirklees team for the girls finished first ahead of Leeds and Calderdale.



The 'Inters boys' event was over 5.5km and Sam Langley from Year 11 ran very well and qualified to represent Yorkshire by finishing 6th in a time of 19.52, with Jacob Pow from year 10 also competing, finishing with a time of 22.46. Both students contributed to Kirklees finishing second in the team event.

### Parent Notices

**14 February - Last day of half term & A Level Music Trip**

**24 February - School reopens**

**26 February - Year 8 Parents' Evening**

**27 February - Year 10 Mocks Begin**

**2-5 March - A Level Geography Trip - Cranedale**

Well done to all the students involved.