

# Heckler

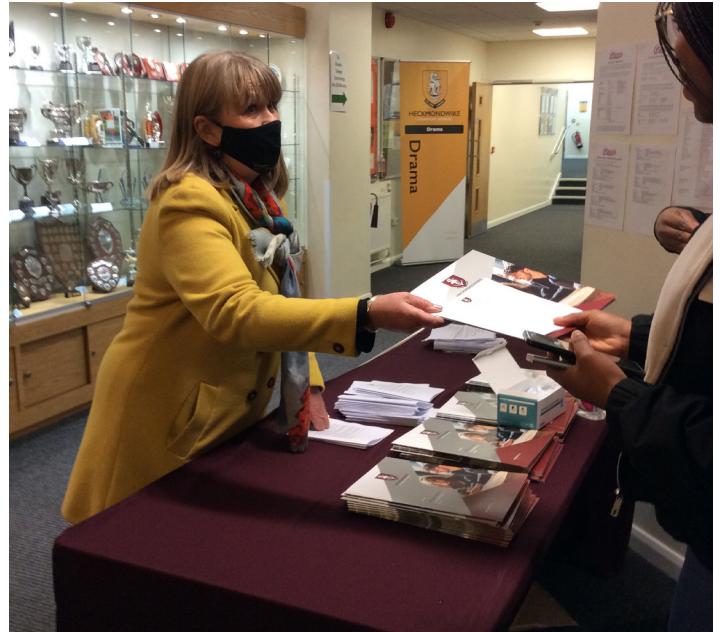


**HECKMONDWIKE**  
GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Week 6 Published 22/10/2021

## Welcome... come on in

'Sixth form Open Evening took place on Thursday 21 October. We were delighted to be able to welcome hundreds of excited year 11 students and their parents into the school to show all that we have to offer in the Sixth form. Students had the opportunity to see for themselves the fantastic experience our Sixth formers have, with a real highlight the cake models used to illustrate key principles in Geography. The smiles and laughter as our visitors left the building was wonderful to see - and we now look forward to welcoming many of them back into the school as the next generation of Year 12 students.



Special thanks go to our wonderful Sixth form volunteers, with over 80 students giving up their evening to support the event. Listening to their passion for their subjects and the way they articulated their positive experiences in the school was inspiring, making the event a truly memorable one.



Alongside the event in school, a virtual Open Evening went live on the evening for those who were unable to make the event. This remains active on the school website and provides a great insight into life in our Sixth form!





At the heart of connecting  
people to higher education

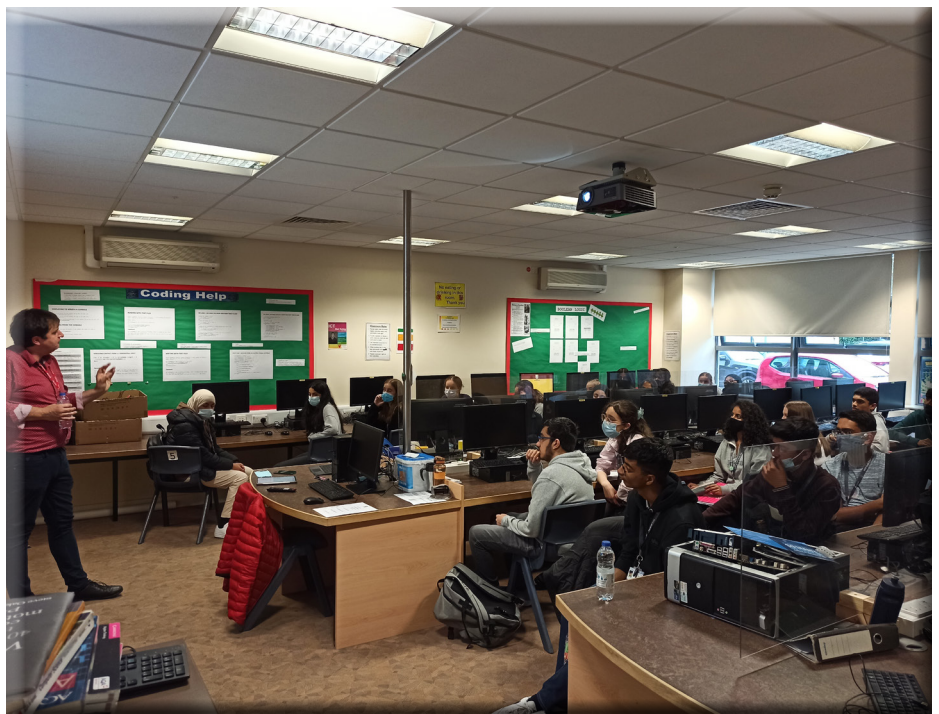
## And So it Begins

The end of the busy October half term traditionally sees a flurry of activity as year 13 students finalise their applications for university courses with an early (October 15) application deadline, specifically medicine, dentistry, veterinary medicine and all courses at Oxford and Cambridge. This year, over 55 students worked hard, with the expert support of their Ucas supervisors, to make such applications. These include 26 medics, 10 dentists, 2 vets and 19 students applying for courses at Oxford and Cambridge. The best of luck to them all!

What these courses have in common is that they typically require applicants to participate in a selection interview. To support our Oxbridge applicants in this part of the process, we took part in a regional Interview Conference at Harrogate Grammar School, during which students had the opportunity to explore their chosen subjects and engage in a practice interview with a subject specialist from another school, affording them a close replica of the interview experience that awaits. The students (as well as Mr Gilroy and Mr Oxby, who attended the conference as interviewers) found the Conference an inspiring and supportive experience. A similar Conference, this time based around the MMI interview model most commonly used by medical schools, awaits our aspiring medics, dentists and vets in November.

To further support our medics, we recently invited in a practising doctor, Dr Zerha Naqvi, to talk to our year 13 students who had expressed an interest in medicine. 15 students attended the lunchtime session, which gave students the chance to discuss current issues within medicine, and to find out more about some of the rewards and challenges of their chosen vocation. Our many thanks to Dr Naqvi for her most illuminating talk.

This time next year, of course, it will be the turn of our year 12 students, who were themselves given an early insight into what it might be like to study at a world-leading university



following a visit from Dr Matthias Dörrzapf, the Director of Scholarships and International Programmes at St John's College, Cambridge. 35 ambitious year 12 students attended Dr Dörrzapf's very engaging talk, which encompassed many of the features of Cambridge's collegiate system and the unique features of Cambridge's Tripos course structure. We look forward to welcoming Dr Dörrzapf back to school to speak to our year 11s in the near future.



# Silver DofE Expedition - Pitched Perfect

On Thursday 14 October the Year 13 students set off for the Yorkshire Dales for their Silver Qualifying expedition. The weather was looking good and they were happy and ready to go. They were walking from Burnsall to Littondale via Grassington and Kettlewell on day one. All groups made it to the campsite safe and well with the last group arriving just as it was getting dark. They pitched their tents and cooked before retiring to bed early just as the wind and rain arrived.

The storm passed through overnight and day two started in glorious sunshine with fabulous clear skies although there was a definite autumn chill. They were walking along Littondale before heading

over Foxup Moor to Horton in Ribblesdale. They made good progress, stopping for lunch at Halton Gill. All groups made it to the campsite before dark. They pitched their tents and cooked. It was a cold evening and by 8.30pm there was frost on their tents so another early night was recommended.

It was cloudy in the morning which meant the temperature had risen slightly and the frost had gone. They packed up ready for their final days walk to Settle. By now they were tired and starting to ache but they kept on going possibly also with the knowledge of the fish and chip shop at the end for them.

Well done to all of them. It is never an easy expedition especially in colder conditions but then again they don't always have the best nights sleep either but, they should be proud of what they have achieved.

N.Swann - DofE Leader

## Group 1

Eden Haycock  
Amelia Kellett  
Molly Manby  
Penelope Gordan  
Molly Haynes

## Group 2

Marcus Rezaei  
Charlotte Smith  
Luke Etchells  
Rahul Ho-Sing  
Karthik Subramani  
Molly O'Connor

## Group 3

Ty Chatterton  
Jordan Tyrell  
Nathan Jones  
Oscar Bowen  
Sam Langley

## Group 4

Claudia Lai  
Codi Waters  
Grace Howell  
Natalie Harris

## Group 5

Raanya Quershi  
Amber Akhtar  
Kamakshi Dinesh  
Aadam Teladia



DofE Silver



# Department Focus - French

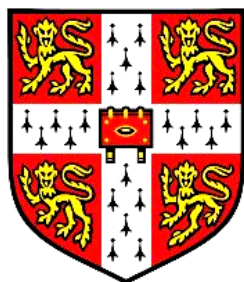
In the past year, Year 7 and Year 8 students who study French have been following our new curriculum: as well as developing their linguistic knowledge, students now spend more time learning about the culture of a variety of French-speaking countries, from historical French figures to the most popular sports played in Quebec. Learning about life in a different country is essential to appreciate our differences, especially at a time when restrictions on foreign travel still make school trips abroad difficult to organise.

At GCSE, last year's Year 11 students were able to cover the entire syllabus, despite long periods of remote learning. They were rewarded with a fantastic set of exam results, thanks to their full engagement with live lessons in the spring term. We even managed to organise remote speaking practice and assessments.

At A-Level, one of our current Year 13 students, Alina Abbas, successfully applied to take part in a summer school organised by Cambridge University. Here is her account of this amazing opportunity:



Historic District of Old Quebec



UNIVERSITY OF  
CAMBRIDGE

*During Year 12, I had the opportunity to take part in Cambridge University's MML Summer School, run by Trinity College. Due to Covid, this summer school took place remotely on Zoom; from 28th June to 1st July, Trinity College delivered webinars for several languages to demonstrate to us Year 12 students that language degrees are quite flexible. While I had initially joined the summer school for the French webinar, I attended the Russian webinar too. The first day covered a French poet called René Maran who wrote poignantly about anti-colonialism, an aspect of French history that is not mentioned enough. Despite Maran's elaborate writing style, the webinar was easy to follow. The lecture (as well as the discussions that it brought about) gave me a clearer view of what the culture modules will entail at degree-level when studying a language.*

*Whilst the French webinar explored French culture in English, the Russian webinar focused solely on the language itself. We learnt beginner phrases and were split into breakout rooms to practice these newly-learnt phrases with each other. It was daunting at first, but to say a couple of phrases in a completely new language within one hour was a wonderful experience. After this summer school, I became more confident in my degree choices; having a taste of many languages before applying assured me that I was making the right decision. (Alina Abbas, 13C2)*



# House News

HOUSE EVENTS	
2 & 9 INTERS BOYS FOOTBALL Yrs 9 -10 Lunchtime	2&9 Nov
5 Nov	HOUSE ART DEADLINE
INTERES HOUSE MATHS - Yrs 9 &10	11 Nov
18&25 Nov	JUNIOR BOYS FOOTBALL-Yrs 7&8 Lunchtime
JUNIOR GIRLS NETBALL - Lunchtime. 22 - SENIOR DEBATES - Yrs 10-13 - After School	22&29 Nov
23 Nov	SENIOR HOUSE MATHS Yrs 11 to 13 After School
For further information see your Head of House and Teams	

## House Points



Full breakdown of results at [heckgrammar.co.uk/houses](http://heckgrammar.co.uk/houses)

# Parent Notices

Monday 1 November Years 7-11 Flu Vaccinations

Wednesday 3 - 17 November Years 11 & 13 Mock Exams

Thursday 25 November Year 13 Exam Revision Evening  
Details to be shared after half-term

In attempt to reduce the spread of covid 19 we are asking families to continue with the twice weekly lateral flow tests and to report ALL results via the school website. The new Antigen Rapid Test, which is nasal only, is in the process of being issued to students.

All students are now required to wear a facemask around school. Please ensure that you send you child with the appropriate face covering. School have a very limited stock.

## Vacancies

We are currently recruiting for a Lunchtime Supervisor.  
Full details are available on the school website -  
<https://www.heckgrammar.co.uk/vacancies/>

## Half-term Notices

### Free Bus Sunday

Bus travel throughout West Yorkshire will be FREE on Sunday 31 October 2021 to mark COP 26 and help raise awareness of next month's United Nations Climate Change conference in Glasgow (COP 26).

*Try it for a day  
for a better tomorrow*



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Tracy Brabin  
Mayor  
of West Yorkshire

West  
Yorkshire  
Combined  
Authority



**Fearless People**  
KIRKLEES  
**SCHOOL'S  
OUT!**

Free  
Activities

**Howden clough community centre**

REGISTER  
TODAY!

to register call 07742251565  
email [fearlessarts@hotmail.com](mailto:fearlessarts@hotmail.com)

4 days of spooky Activities 25,26,27,29th October  
08 to 12 years 9.30 to 12.30  
Howden Clough community Centre 12 to 16 years 2.30 to 5.30  
Leeds Road  
Birstall  
WF17 0HY

Kirklees  
COUNCIL

KIRKLEES  
**SCHOOL'S  
OUT!**