



## Debating Victory

On Monday 1 July eight Heckmondwike students travelled to Huddersfield Grammar School, accompanied by Mrs Dare and Mr Falshaw to take part in a debating competition with six other teams. The format was particularly challenging, as the teams were only told what motions they would be debating fifteen minutes before the competition began, and whether they would be proposing or opposing.

Two groups of four teams competed in a round-robin stage, each debating against three other teams. A team of Year 7 'novices', consisting of Sadie Tidswell, Chidubem Oseme, Zahra Mahdi and Abdullah Bassam found themselves pitted against mainly Year 9 and 10 students from other schools. They performed very creditably, winning one and losing two of the debates, and learning a great deal from the experience.



A more experienced Year 10 team, of Leo Beevers, Maisy Nichols, Iona Gallagher and Mollie O'Connor, breezed through the group stage by winning all three debates convincingly, to find themselves pitted against St. David's School from Manchester in the Grand Final. A very close debate ensued on the prison service, with an impressively high level of argument and oratory on each side. Heckmondwike were eventually pronounced winners, to add another trophy to the school's cabinet!

## House News

### House Chess: Houldsworth Winners 2019



Houldsworth's victorious House Chess Team.

They defeated Clarke in today's final. Priestley came third and Bronte fourth.

Well done to all those who took part!

# House News continued

## House Cricket: Clarke Winners 2019



Congratulations to Inter House Cricket winners Clarke. Excellent standard of cricket from all houses throughout the competition with two students retiring at the agreed 25 - Henry Pollard of Houldsworth and Tom Burrow of Clarke.

Final Positions:

- 1st Clarke
- 2nd Houldsworth
- 3rd Priestley
- 4th Bronte

## House Music: Priestley Winners 2019

Wednesday 3 and Thursday 4 of July was the annual House Music competition and it was a fantastic event. A huge well done goes to everyone who took part in this year's event. Whether the performance was a solo vocal, a solo instrumental, a small ensemble or even a whole form or house; every entry counts and helps gain points for a house. There were some very strong performances heard over the two days making the competition extremely hard to judge, but there was also some very fun and entertaining performances too.

This year's judge was former HGS and A Level Music student Alex Smith. He thoroughly enjoyed his judging role but found it very hard at times to choose winners from the excellent pool of talent our students have. The competition started very close with only 3 points separating three of the houses on entries. As the day went on, Houldsworth began to take a steady lead but towards the end of day two, another house crept up the scoreboard to finally take home the prize.

The winner of House Music 2019 goes to Priestley house. Congratulations! Well done to everyone who entered the competition from all houses – it was a fantastic competition.

These were the final scores:

- Priestley – 85 points – Winners
- Houldsworth – 76 points
- Clarke – 69 points
- Bronte – 52 points

## House Music continued



List of winning entries:

Year 7 Solo Instrumental:  
Eleanor Turner (C)

Year 7 Solo Vocal:  
Eleanor Stott (C)

Year 7 Small Ensemble:  
Dwain & Kyran (P)

Year 8 Solo Instrumental:  
Alec Lai (H)

Year 8 Solo Vocal:  
Elaina Varazinskis (P)

Year 8 Small Ensemble:  
Bella & Darcey (P)

List of winning entries:

Year 9 Solo Instrumental:  
Rowan Lightfoot (C)

Year 9 Solo Vocal:  
Isabel Hudson (B)

Year 9 Small Ensemble:  
Lauren, Izzy, Natalie, Emily (B)

Year 10 Solo Instrumental:  
Leo Beevers (P)



List of winning entries:

Year 10 Solo Vocal:  
Sophia Mencattelli (H)

Year 10 Small Ensemble:  
Alec & Claudia Lai (H)

Year 11-13 Open:  
Kirsty Gregory (P)

Musical Theatre:  
Isabel Hudson (B)

Whole class/form:  
Priestley House (P)

# Department Focus: Music

On top of the day to day classroom curriculum teaching, the music department offers all students an opportunity to take part in our huge extra-curricular programme. We have four vocal groups - Junior Choir, Senior Choir, a Senior Girls Choir and a new a cappella group. We have a 35-piece Concert Band as well as a Soul Band that regularly plays gigs outside of school. Our smaller 'chamber' ensembles include a String Group, a Guitar Group and a Percussion Group. We also run a Music Theory club as well as 'Tuned-In' - a music club for rehearsing, composing or recording. Whilst some ensembles naturally favour certain instrumentalists, there is always one for any student of any ability to join. Our groups rehearse most lunchtimes and after school, so the music department is always busy and a musical place to be.

We undertake numerous performances and concerts throughout the year and these take place both in and out of school. This year has included the following performances - Marsden Jazz Festival, Birkenshaw Music Festival, Christmas Showcase Concert, the annual Carol Service, Senior Prize Giving, Jo Cox 6th Form Centre opening, 'Music For Youth' Festival, GCSE Performance Evening, our Spring Disney Showcase Concert, The Great Get Together Big Sing, Transition Day and an afternoon performing at the Avery Care Nursing Home.

Students are always encouraged to develop their solo and small ensemble skills throughout the year. Our House Music competition has been running this week which gives all students of all abilities an opportunity to showcase their talents. Most weeks we have live performances in our various year group assemblies - nerve-racking, but extremely rewarding. We also encourage our musicians to undertake ABRSM or RockSchool music exams and this year we have had a staggering 56 of our students taking these exams!

All that remains this year are performances at Junior Prize Giving in the last week of term and a London Musical Theatre trip next week!



# Year 7 Transition Days

On Monday 1 & Tuesday 2 July saw the arrival of our new year 7s who were invited to join us for 2 transition days. Both days were packed with activities across the curriculum including MFL, Science, Drama, PE and DT. Science saw the students learn about the Bunsen burner safety and in DT they were challenged to build the tallest tower possible that would support a 2p coin at the highest possible point for 10 seconds. As you can see from the pictures below there was plenty of thought and teamwork put into this task. All students and staff had a fantastic time and we look forward to them joining us in September.



## *Students of the Week*

**Oliver Marques 7JJR**

**Georgia Carey 8JPW**

**Year 9 students who  
assisted with transition day**

**Maisy Nichols, 10KFD**

**Leo Beevers 10ALL**

**Iona Gallagher 10CMG**

**Mollie O'Connor 10CM**

**Saman Rizwan 12 AMM**

## Stop Press: New School Bus Service

With the help of parents from the Leeds area and Coach Travel Services we are delighted to confirm that a new dedicated bus service will run from LS17 to the school from September 2019. Parents who wish to use this service should contact the Leeds parent group directly by email: [hwsgleeds@gmail.com](mailto:hwsgleeds@gmail.com).

## Parent Notices

Thursday 11 July - Year 8 York Trip

Friday 12 July - Netball World Cup

Monday 15 - Wednesday 17 July - Year 9 YMCA Lakeside Residential

Friday 19 July - Sports Day Students