

Heckler



Week 5

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HECKMONDWIKE
GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Bewerley Park...



The Bewerley Park residential is a rewarding and essential part of the Year 7 transition process. Last week, two groups of approximately 100 students embarked on the two-night residential, where students took part in a variety of activities, made new friends and most importantly had lots of fun.

"When we arrived at Bewerley Park, the weather looked set to dry. After the students had found their dorm rooms, were given waterproofs and had eaten lunch, the activities began. Some students went to Blayshaw Ghyll for the Ghyll Scramble, a couple of groups went canoeing and some went Brimham Rocks. An afternoon of fun was had by all and the students had settled into their groups well. After dinner, five of the groups did an orienteering course and the other five did some group initiatives. Students worked together and had fun. The

following day brought more activities; canoeing, raft building, bushcraft, climbing and zip lining, all of which they loved. The activities saw them working together to support and encourage each other. The start to the final day was busy, with beds having to be stripped and bags packed before breakfast and their final activity. Two groups went Ghyll Scrambling and the others canoeing. Although they didn't have quite so long on activities they still made the most of their time. There was just enough time to grab a hot shower and a nice lunch before finding their bags and getting on the coach to return to school."

My favourite activities....by Nav Sasikumar 7JMJ

Rock Climbing.....In this activity you do lots of fun things like run up a steep rock and crawl under a narrow hole in the side of a rock which was a big as a house. In this activity some people (like me) get nervous about going under a giant 2 tonne rock which seems like it is going to fall on you but after five or six times you get used to it. The rocks all had names - some are named due to their shape and appearance and others by how long they have lasted.



Raft Building.... In raft building we used wooden poles and barrels tied with reef knots to make our boat float. We then rode them around the small island before having a swim in the pond.



Canoeing - We got to ride our own canoe on a large pond. You have to be careful because if you lean back too much the canoe will tip, forcing you into the depths of the freezing cold pond water (which tastes horrible). Some people stood up whilst paddling and that was great fun.

Department Focus: Computing

We started the year with some great news about two of last year's Y13 students. Basim Khajwal and Nitish Bala received an award for being two of the highest performing students in 2018 A-Level Computer Science. This was the result of many years of hard work and commitment to the subject and they have gone on to Oxford and Cambridge to continue their Computer Science studies. Basim also went to Japan in September to represent the UK in the International Olympiad in Informatics (the second time he has been to the final) and we are pleased to report that he improved on last time and came away with a bronze medal.

This year both Year 9 and Year 10 start their GCSE courses. With a record number of students choosing Computer Science at GCSE we have been working hard on their algorithm skills with the help of some giant playing cards (Did you know there are 8×1067 different combinations of one deck of cards?). These help students apply computing ideas to real life examples, allowing them to understand more about how a computer will process their instructions.



The Year 13 students have entered the Cyber Centurion Competition where they will be set a series of cyber security challenges to solve and hopefully progress to the national final. These students are also going to run an internal school cyber security competition. Stay tuned for more information in the next couple of weeks.

Student of the Week

Neehira Bhurke 7MLG 7.5 - For positive, friendly and helpful contributions to discussions in class and form.

James Wilding 8MRL - For being all round fantastic!!

Erin Biggs 9KMB - Very impressive start to Year 9. Lovely staff comments regarding Erin's work ethic, classwork and resilience to learning. Well done!

Gemma Hall, 10ALL - For successfully combining out of school music and sporting activities with excellent academic performance in school.

Sam Wheatley, 10KFD - For achieving the most positives last week.

Katherine Walker 11RLN - For a kind & caring attitude to younger students at lunchtime.

Our Sixth Form Team raised a fantastic £274.59 for Macmillan on Friday. Thank you to everyone who donated



We will be holding a non-uniform day with a 'wear green' theme to mark World Mental Health Awareness Day on Wednesday 10th October. Students will be able to pay £1 for the privilege of wearing their own clothes and all contributions will be donated to the MIND mental health charity!

Parent Notices & Dates

10th October - Wear Green to School Day (Mental Health Awareness)

13th October - Old Scholars' Open Day

18th October - Year 13 Parents' Evening

25th October - Sixth Form Open Evening

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