

Heckler

Week 7

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HECKMONDWIKE
GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Marsden Jazz Festival

On Sunday, the HGS Soul Band performed at the renowned Marsden Jazz Festival. Spanning the whole weekend, the Marsden Jazz Festival has been running for over 25 years and is one of the UK's longest established jazz festivals, bringing together a wide variety of music from professional acts to local and school ensembles.

Our band opened the Sunday festival with a morning performance at the bandstand in the park. Despite the heavy rain and no visible audience, the band played on regardless - with a few students looking perplexed as to what was going on. However, during the first number the audience arrived with umbrellas at the ready and were hugely supportive. Even though the rain kept coming, the audience grew and grew during our hour set and were really appreciative of the performance.



Our singers Holly Ward and Kirsty Gregory were once again in fine voice, with songs such as 'In the Midnight Hour' and Dusty Springfield's 'Spooky' and 'Proud Mary'. There were notable solos from David Brown (trumpet), and Lyndsey Hepworth (alto sax). Thanks to ex-students Alex Smith and Michael Upham for coming back from Uni and giving their support and it was great to see our new year 7s, Jonah Beck (trombone) and Emma Dye (sax) taking part in the band already.

The rain didn't stop the band from giving a super public performance which was enjoyed by all.

Syngenta Visit

On Tuesday 9th October, 45 year 9 students visited the Syngenta Site in Huddersfield. After a talk which highlighted the role and importance of agrochemicals, the students then visited the community lab. In the lab, the students undertook experiments investigating the effect of acid, fat content and temperature in the preparation of cheese from milk (we are now hoping to undertake this experiment in Science club). Students also had the opportunity to wear industrial protective equipment and undertake some engineering activities. We were then taken on a tour of a chemical plant which enabled the students to gain an appreciation for the huge scale in which industrial production is done and they even had the opportunity to look in a vessel to inspect some crystals.

The students had a fantastic time and we would like to thank Syngenta for inviting us; hopefully we will have the opportunity to go again next year!



Department Focus: Drama



After some wonderful results at GCSE (100% 9-7) and A Level (100% A-B), the Drama department embraced the new academic year hoping to replicate our success.

As always, the department has been a constant hub of activity since September. Youth Theatre, our extra-curricular drama group for students in Lower School, has had record attendance at the start of the year – 75 students! They are currently busy planning, writing and rehearsing their own pieces with the support of GCSE students in preparation for their Drama Showcase in November.

Nameless Theatre, the Drama department's own theatre company, auditioned and interviewed aspiring actors, directors and playwrights and are delighted to have made the following appointments: Amelia Glover-Jewesbury as Lead Writer, Iona Gallagher and Shreya Khanvilkar as Writers, Maria Jenkinson as Stage Manager and Marketing / Publicity Officer, Emma Dagogo-Jack as Assistant Director, and Amelia Kellett, Brandon Radford, Alana Smith, Caitlin Tansey and Maisy Nichols as Actors. We are currently in rehearsals for 'Taboo'; an original play written by Mrs Barton, which we intend to tour to other local schools this academic year.

This year both Year 9 and 10 have started their GCSE course and are preparing for their own first devised performances, which will be performed for their peers. Year 10, who have been devising in the style of specific theatre practitioners, have created some very impressive work so far. We are looking forward to their final performances! Year 11 are busy selecting play choices for their externally examined performance exam and preparing for their written mock exams. As part of this, our Year 11s (and 5 Year 10s) went to Liverpool Everyman Theatre on Wednesday 17th October to watch Anna Jordan's The Unreturning.

Upcoming Events
Tuesday 23rd October from 3.30 – 4.45pm - Year 10 GCSE Devised Performances.
Thursday 29th November from 6.30pm - Youth Theatre Showcase
Thursday 24th January 2019 - Year 10 'The Crucible'.

Sports News

Year 8 Boys English Schools Football Cup Competition

The Year 8 team travelled to Brighouse High in their first ever eleven aside match of the season having received a bye in round one. The game started at a frantic pace with both teams trying to assert their dominance through the midfield but failed to capitalise on the space out wide. Half time looming and the game at stalemate, a speculative shot from Brighouse seemed to wrong foot our defence and goalkeeper ending with the ball nestling into the bottom corner of our net. A positive team talk at half time appeared to do the trick with us flying out of the traps, showing greater determination, and it was not long after that we got our reward with a well worked move down the right hand side finished off in style by Jack Blakeley. A second goal soon followed from the boot of Rory Aveyard whose first time strike flew into the top corner giving the Brighouse keeper no chance. Leading 2v1 with minutes remaining we conceded a free kick on the edge of our box. The Brighouse player hit the ball so sweetly that Woody Walker, our keeper, had no chance, taking the score to 2v2 and extra time. Undeterred by this we started again and looked the more likely to score as we were awarded an indirect free kick in the Brighouse box. Once again, Jack Blakeley was in the right place to react to our shot and tap in from close range to give us a 3v2 lead. As the extra time minutes ticked away we stood firm and resolute showing real team work to see the game out and take the victory. Well done to all the squad and particular mention must go to Noah Chapman and Sam Sepehri for their man of the match performances.

Student of the Week

Thomas Haigh 7JJR - for his thought-provoking question which challenged the older students during the recent House Debates.

Hannah Baporia 8JPW - for having the most positives in Year 8 & being the first to gain the bronze award

Harriet Haycock 9JDR - for producing excellent pieces of classwork and homework. Well done!

Rishabh Das 10 HJP - for generously giving up his time to help students with their work

Parent Notices

25th October - Sixth Form Open Evening (2.15 closure for students)

26th October - Training Day - School Closed to Students

5th November - School opens after half term

11th November - Remembrance Service in Heckmondwike

