



Debating Season in Full Swing

The Senior House Debating competition is now complete, and on 22nd November a team will travel to Manchester to represent the school in The Mace, a national debating competition organised by the English Speaking Union. In the first semi-final Houldsworth proposed the motion that 'This House would reduce the voting age' and were opposed by Bronte. Adjudicator Mr Evans, a former staff member at HGS, commented that this was the best debate he had seen during his involvement with the school. Congratulations to Maisy Nicholls, Zaynab Ahmed, Amelia Glover Jewesbury and Eleanor Falshaw for the impressive standard they achieved.

In the second semi-final Priestley proposed the motion that 'This house believes in free immigration' and were opposed by Clarke. A lively debate on a sensitive topic ensued, but neither team were able to outperform the speakers in the first semi-final.

This meant that Bronte and Houldsworth contested the final, debating the motion 'This House believes that single-sex schools are good for education'. In another tightly-fought debate Houldsworth again narrowly beat Clarke, by the same margin as in the semi-final, meaning that Houldsworth win this year's senior competition. Maisy Nicholls was named Best Speaker.

In the meantime, Maisy Nicholls and Eleanor Falshaw have been selected to represent the school in The Mace. They will compete in the first round against five other schools by the end of November, with three schools progressing to the second round. The last time HGS entered a team in this competition they reached the final, so no pressure there, girls!

Girls' 5-side Football Champions

A massive well done to the Year 8/9 girls on winning the Spen valley schools indoor 5-side competition held at Manor Croft on Thursday, after competing against six other schools. These included BBG, Westborough, Manor Croft and Batley Grammar School. All schools were placed into two groups playing three matches with the winner of each group progressing to the final.

First game up for HGS was BBG with us dominating the play with excellent passing and movement, winning 1v0. The goal came from a penalty power strike from Bella Lobley. Second game and Bella was at it again with a brace,

joined on the scoresheet by Faizah Mumtaz as we smashed Westborough 3v0. The third and final group game saw us narrowly beat Manor Croft B 1v0 with a wonder strike from Ava Higgins. At the end our stats showed: won 3, lost 0, scored 5 and conceded 0. We cruised through to the final with nine points to face a very strong Manor Croft A team.

Undeterred by this we set about our task looking comfortable in possession and rock solid at the back. Nothing was going to get past Isobel Long with her cat-like reflexes in goal and we soon started to make chances. We were awarded a free kick just inside the Manor Croft half and Bella Lobley only had one thing in her mind. She let rip, setting off an exocet of a shot past the wall leaving the goalkeeper helpless as the ball nestled in the bottom corner of the net. A second soon followed from Bella with a fantastic pass and move down the right hand side with a cool left-foot finish to seal the victory and be crowned Spen valley 5-side champions.



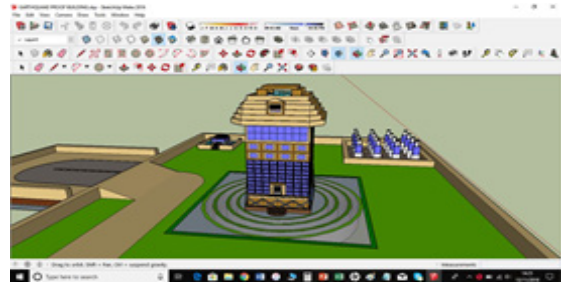
Department Focus: EPQ



The Extended Project Qualification is an option that students can study alongside their A levels. It involves carrying out research and writing a 5000 word dissertation or creating an artefact based on the research. Over the last 3 weeks we have been watching students present their findings on a vast range of subject areas.

This has led to some very interesting presentations and we have been impressed by the standard of delivery and the responses to the audience questions. Whilst many students opted to carry out research and write a dissertation, many chose to undertake a practical project. Questions addressed with a dissertation include

'Can the perfect smile be defined?' This was done by Nabihah Maqbool who carried out primary research whilst doing work experience at a dental practice. Bilal Asif tackled the Middle Eastern conflict with an investigation to identify the key factors behind the failure to establish peace in the area. Joshua Scholefield looked at WWII with his title 'Why did the Axis Powers lose the Battle of Stalingrad?' Practical projects involved Adam Patel designing a building that can withstand earthquakes in Mexico. For this, Adam had to carry out research which covered geology, physics, and technology. After looking at current design principles he was able to design a building using Google Sketch Up.



This came in useful when he attended an open day at the University of Sheffield and was able to talk to a Professor in the architecture department about the effects of Base Mass Dampers. Probably the most ambitious project undertaken so far is by Emilie Crowther, who is making a sum-



merhouse out of recycled materials. For this she has had to research to identify the most suitable materials, create a range of potential designs, create a plan and make a prototype. As this is such a large project Emily is still in the process of building the full size version in her garden at home and is acting as project manager whilst her Dad is her labourer!

We have been impressed by the amount of hard work and commitment shown by students undertaking the EPQ. It has been a hard but enjoyable journey for all concerned.

Student of the Week

Anish Srikanth 7NSE - for always displaying wonderful manners and kindness. A great ambassador for Year 7!

Bella Lobley & Isobel Long 8EGL - for a lovely poem about remembrance.

George Hine 9LAS - for being organised and helpful. Well done George!

Alice Iwanejko, 10CMG - for the determination shown whilst struggling with an injury and her proactive approach to keep on top of her studies.

Muhammad Parmar 11ESC - for working well above his target grades, more so than any other student in the year.

Parent Notices

19th November - Jo Cox Centre Opens

26th November - Teacher Training Day - School closed to students

5th December - Friends of HGS meeting

13th December - Carol Service

17th December - Christmas Fayre (Students Only)

18th December - Christmas Dinner

18th December - Senior Prize-giving

21st December - Swimming Gala - Students dismissed at 12.30pm



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Parent Governor Vacancies

We currently have two vacancies for the role of parent governor on our governing body. Please visit our website for more information.