



## West Yorkshire Champions



On Tuesday Key Stage 3 and 4 boys badminton teams competed in the West Yorkshire championships hosted by The Grammar School at Leeds (G.S.A.L). The Key stage 4 boys team of Anthony Zhao, David Peng, Nandakishore Kahumani and Srinath Ravi were drawn in a tough group. They put in a spirited performance losing their first three matches by only a single point. They bounced back to produce an excellent win against Beckfoot before losing to the eventual winners G.S.A.L to finish in 3rd place overall.

The Key Stage 3 boys team of Asish Chittamuru, Suhas Gudla, Akhil Maddula and Sumedh Chittamuru stormed through the group stages beating, Beckfoot, North Huddersfield and Q.E.G.S without losing a game and only conceding a handful of points. This set up a final against G.S.A.L. Asish made a great start winning his single match against the number one ranked player from G.S.A.L. Suhas and Akhil then secured a doubles win, followed up by Sumedh winning the second singles match with some high quality play. The players went on to comfortably win the remaining two double matches and secured the gold medal as West Yorkshire Champions. They will now play in the Yorkshire championships. These will be held at York railway institute on Tuesday 19th March.

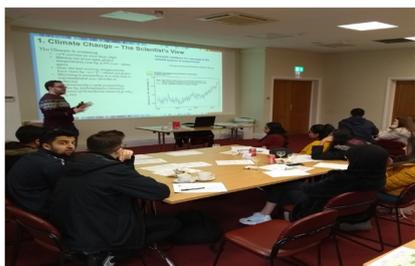
Congratulations to all of the players on their efforts and the sporting way in which they conducted themselves during the tournament.

## Jo Cox Open Morning

We were proud to showcase our brand new Jo Cox Centre on a viewing morning on Saturday 19 January. The converted annex of St James' Church now houses crisp, modern and comfortable study, social and dining facilities for the school's 500 sixth form students. Senior staff were delighted to greet prospective students, parents and local residents, who were most impressed by the building and the opportunities it offers. The school was particularly proud of the many current sixth form students, who acted as subject ambassadors and were pleased to guide parents around the building and talk to prospective applicants about the school and the subjects they study. Indeed, two visitors were moved to email the school with the following words of praise: *"between us we spoke with virtually all the students manning the various subject matters and would like you to know, and please pass on to the young people themselves, how impressed we were with all of them. They must give you tremendous pride and honour to have such a lovely group of youngsters who gave [us] a morning we will remember for many months to come."*



# Cambridge Visit



On a crisp, sunny Friday 18 January, a group of talented and ambitious year 11 students enjoyed a visit to Selwyn College, Cambridge. Among the grand 19th-century surroundings “awe inspiring” (according to David Peng of 11ESC) of what is actually one of Cambridge’s younger colleges, the GCSE students were treated to a student-led tour, a workshop on student life and, a particular highlight, a sample lecture and seminar on climate change science, led by Dr Matt Wise. All combined, in the words of Harleen Kapoor of 11RLN, to “broaden our horizons” about the future.

Students were also delighted to meet Kate Lee, a HGS alumna and first-year veterinary medicine student at Selwyn, who was to share some of her experiences of making the transition from Heckmondwike to Cambridge.

We are sure that this visit will prove most inspiring for all the students as they embark on the final preparations ahead of their GCSEs and begin the process of choosing their A-level options.

## Department Focus: Physics

The physics department returned to school in September in high spirits following a very pleasing and successful set of GCSE and A-level physics results, with 60% of grades at A-level being at A\* to B, and 64% of grades at GCSE being grade 9-7. Take-up of the subject at A-level for Year 12 was also strong, with 45 students opting for physics. The department aims to give students an exciting and interesting experience of physics at Key Stage 3, GCSE and A-level. We are very pleased to see so many students do so well in exams and go on to exciting and amazing degree courses and careers with a strong physics content, that you couldn’t do in any other way.

Recent pleasant reminders of past students include an email from Edward Walters—a student who left the school 17 years ago. There are still some of Ed’s teachers at HGS!

Ed writes: “Time has marched on since I last set foot on your classroom. It’s a little surprising to realise that 17 years have passed (we’ve lost a planet and gained some particles since then!)....after many twists and turns I’ve ended up in Southern California running a mechanical testing lab in the materials engineering department of SpaceX. Not via the path I expected to take, but it’s a fascinating place to work. It’s certainly fun to walk past rockets every day, and we have a spectacular gate guardian!” Last year Tim Gregory, ex-HGS A-level physics student, starred in the BBC TV programme ‘Astronauts: Do you have what it takes?’ Many of his former HGS teachers, friends and classmates were very kindly invited to a family gathering for the announcement of the winner. Tim did amazingly well to come second in this exacting selection process. He continues to work for his PhD.

On the topic of space, recently the British astronaut Tim Peake’s Soyuz spacecraft that he used to return from the International Space Station went on a national tour, visiting Bradford’s Science Museum. The physics department took a trip to see it, and at the same time took what we like to think of as the department’s ‘first album cover’ photo with a 3D camera.



# West Yorkshire Schools Cross Country Championships

Congratulations to the following athletes who have been selected to represent Kirklees in the West Yorkshire schools cross country championships. Good luck to all of our competitors in the event to be held at The Grammar School at Leeds on Saturday 2nd February.

Year 7 Boys – Adam Pow  
Year 9 Girls – Martha Currie  
Year 9 Boys – Jacob Pow  
Year 10 Girls – Anna Basford  
Year 10 Boys – Sam Langley / Max Metcalf

## Netball Results

22 January 2019

Well done to our Year 7 and Year 8 netball teams on winning their matches against Westborough High School

Year 7: HGS 17 - 0 Westborough

Year 8: HGS 16 - 1 Westborough

## ARTiculation Competition

On Wednesday Year 12 students Eve Halmshaw, Emma Buddle and Wadijah Aroob attended the ARTiculation national public speaking competition. Eve was chosen by Miss Bannister and Mrs Whitelaw to represent the school in the North West Regional Final at The Whitworth Gallery in Manchester. Along with students from 5 other schools. Eve had to deliver a 10 minute presentation about a piece of art, sculpture or artefact. She gave a critical analysis of 'Finally she lost everything' by Silvia Pellrosso (Agnes Cecile). The competition was judged by Samantha Lackey who is the Head of Collections and Exhibitions, and Senior Curator at The Whitworth. Clearly impressed by the quality of the papers delivered, Ms Lackey said that Eve's was outstanding because of her in-depth critical interpretation of the piece, as well as the exploration of the emotions it conveys. We are exceptionally proud of Eve, she had to do a lot of research and practice in preparation and was rewarded with third prize. Well done Eve!



## Student of the Week

**Emily Sharp, Anish Srikanth, Maya Khan all 7NSE** for their various acting successes outside school including participation in *Seussical*, title role in a short film to be screened at Kirkstall Vue cinema and a speaking role in *Ackley Bridge*.

**Woody Walker 8DWR** for showing maturity and always taking concern for the well-being of others.

**Alfie Eyre 9AHH** for being all round fabulous and positive at all times!

**Anna Calvert 10 HJP** for successfully combining filming for a Channel 4 programme with her studies.

**Zain Butt 11CES** for his amazing attitude to revision and his studies. Keep it up Zain! .

**Salmaan Karolia 12TSD** for always being kind to others and being extremely polite.

**Luke Frazer 13GSN** for being an extremely polite and friendly member of the sixth form.

## Parent Notices

**30 January** - Jo Cox Centre Official Opening Event

**7 February** - Year 8 Options Evening

**14 February** - Year 12 Parents Evening

**15 February** - Year 11 Sixth Form Taster Day, Year 12 Study Day, Last Day of Term

**25 February** - First Day of Term

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