



Year 8 respond to global climate catastrophe

Year 8 students have come up with an innovative way to respond to the growing global climate catastrophe. While many students around the country have been participating in the international call to school walk-out protests about climate change, our Year 8 Geography students have decided to take a more practical approach. Rather than wasting valuable school time, students have been working on creative projects to help raise awareness of the challenges we are facing and how we can be part of the solution.



Students have designed board games that educate players on climate charities, created web pages on carbon sequestration, made a working model that converts wind energy through a DC motor into electricity to light a house, they have also received responses to letters written to the Environment Secretary and MPs. One student even went as far as to send electronic questionnaires around the world - garnering responses from Australia, Canada and Greece - asking what people see as the most important environmental issue in their region before drawing geospatial conclusions from a statistical analysis of the results. Students will also participate in Earth Hour on 30th March which is a global initiative, led by WWF, to do something positive for the environment - even something as small as unplugging electronics for an hour. The actions mark an on-going commitment by the school and its students to lessen their own impact on the environment and be part of building a more sustainable future.

HE+ visit to Cambridge



As part of the ever-popular HE+ programme, 25 talented Year 12 students visited Cambridge on Thursday 14 March. Based for the day in the grand late-Victorian surroundings of West Yorkshire's partner college, Selwyn, the students enjoyed a tour of the College and an inspiring talk from current undergraduates on living and studying in Cambridge. In the afternoon, the students branched out to explore the medieval Corpus Christi College, which

offered excellent contrast and enabled students to sample the vast range of colleges and facilities across the University, including the oldest continuously-inhabited student accommodation in the world (dating from somewhere between the Black Death and Peasants' Revolt). The day was topped off with an hour's free time to walk among the dreaming spires of Cambridge's city centre, trying to dodge bicycles while gazing in wonder at the magnificent gates of the medieval Colleges that line the narrow streets. Many eyes were opened, ambitions raised, and some of these students will surely follow a long-established path from Heckmondwike Grammar School to Oxbridge, which includes five offer holders from our current Year 13.

Sports News

National Schools Badminton: Yorkshire Regional Round

On Tuesday 19th March the Key Stage 3 Boys Badminton Team travelled to York to play in the National Schools Badminton Competition Regional Round having qualified by winning the West Yorkshire Round a few weeks earlier. They had three matches. The first match was against St John Fisher's from North Yorkshire. They started strong with convincing wins in the singles games and they won convincingly after the doubles games 5-0. Next they played St Mary's College from East Yorkshire. They had looked strong in practice, but again we dominated the match from the start and although there were some closely fought games, the boys again won 5-0. The final match of the day was against Silverdale School from Sheffield, South Yorkshire. They knew that this was going to be the toughest game as they had also beaten the teams from St John Fishers and St Mary's College.



The first singles game was close, but we won, however, at the same time we lost the first doubles game. The score was level. The second singles game was a real battle with Sumedh Chittamuru fighting hard for every point, but every time his opponent came back. The final score was 21-15 to Silverdale, however, we had managed to win the second doubles game during this time so the score stood level at 2-2 going into the final doubles game. The winners would secure themselves a place in the National Finals representing Yorkshire. Both teams knew the pressure they were under to win, every point was a battle and it became a tense competition. Both teams played so well, but eventually the boys had been outplayed and the final game score was 21-12, putting the match score at 3-2. There was great disappointment by the team. They had given everything and unfortunately it wasn't quite their day. The team were awarded Silver Medals and can be very proud of how they represented the school with an amazing performance. The team: Asish Chittamuru, Sumedh Chittamuru, Suhas Gudla, Akhil Maddula.

First outing for Year 9 Rugby Team



The Year 9 boys rugby team competed in their first rugby union tournament hosted at Whitcliffe Mount school last week. They were drawn to play the host in the first match and put in an excellent performance against very experienced and physical opposition. Tom Burrow was very effective in the fly half role, organising the team in both defense and attack. Jacob Grierson played in the second row and put in some dominant tackles and was superb, winning a lot of possession in rucks. Despite their efforts, the team came off second best by 3 tries to 1. In

the second match against Trinity school, the team made a great start and defended their line against a very strong pack. When HGS got possession, they moved the ball wide to make use of their wingers pace, Oscar Lau beat two defenders to score what was to be the match winning try! Well done to all of the players for their efforts and positive attitudes. The team has a lot of potential for the future.

Year 11 Boys Rugby Tournament

Last week our Year 11 boys rugby team travelled to Keighley to play in their first tournament. They played Oakbank school in their first match and made a slow start conceding two tries. The team then started to gain a foot hold in the match with Lewis Smith and Luke Nixon making effective runs and scrum half Edward Brown controlling the play. This resulted in a late try to set up a tense finish with HGS scoring a second with the final play of the match to secure a well deserved draw. In their second game, they faced South Craven who were a well drilled and experienced side. The team struggled to match the pace of the opposition and lost by 3 tries to 1. The team regrouped and faced Bigley school in the last match. They dominated possession and ran in a number of tries with winger Chris Carter diving in to the corner to put the icing on the cake after great work by the forwards. This concluded the tournament on a positive note. The players demonstrated a great attitude and played some excellent rugby.



Department Focus: Business Studies & Economics

What a year it has been so far for the Business Studies & Economics department. We have held many workshops for our students in Years 11, 12 and 13 with external speakers from industry bringing context to the dynamic nature of the subjects. The department also organised a visit from a member of the Bank of England, giving our Year 13 Economists the opportunity to engage with industry professionals. A special mention must go to the Year 13 students who have already secured amazing and exciting opportunities after HGS, with many hoping to study Economics, Business, Management and Finance at university. Sara Saloo has secured a place at Cambridge University, Ethan Hall has a place at Oxford University and Kyle Dai has got a place at LSE! Many of our students have also secured apprenticeships including Max Wilson at RSM Tenon, Jack Sharp at Nestle and Hamzah Taram at PWC. It is safe to say, we are a department that mean BUSINESS!"



*****Well done to Year 9 GCSE Food student Olivia Smith for progressing through to the next stage of the Kirklees College Young Chef of the Year 2019 competition. This will involve cooking the dessert that she submitted on her entry form in the College kitchen in early April last year!*****

Femmes De Paix MedBoxes

One of the highlights of our new enrichment programme, the students of HGS Medicine Society recently turned their hands to charity and fundraising, supporting the Dewsbury-based group, Femmes De Paix (Women of Peace). Having raised almost £150 through a bake sale in February, the group of Sixth Formers produced a series of MedBoxes, containing basic medical supplies, that this week were shipped to war-torn countries overseas. The boxes also contained handwritten notes from students, in both English and Arabic. We couldn't be more proud of the students and their contribution to the wider community.



Student of the Week

Sumedh Chittamuru 7SGF for representing HGS in the Yorkshire round of the National Schools Badminton Championships! The team came second - all other members were Year 9!

Adam Kola 8LRD for being super improved in French!

Aaliyah Bhikha 9KMB for producing excellent class-work and homework - Well done!

Katie Carter 10KFD for demonstrating a resilient approach to the challenges of year 10.

Natasha Clegg 11JLD for an outstanding attitude to revision in challenging subjects.

Hollie Smith 13KLB for responding well to mentoring and using her independent study periods effectively.

Dates for the Diary

27 March - House Drama

04 April - Y10 Parents' Evening

11 April - Y8 Parents' Evening

12 April - Students to finish at 2.15 for the Easter Holiday.

29 April - First Day of Term

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