

# Heckler

Week 9 Published 13 November 2020

## Singing for Children in Need



HECKMONDWIKE  
GRAMMAR SCHOOL

We're supporting



**BBC**  
Children  
in Need

Blossom has sung with Opera North since she was 6 years old and now sings with their Young Voices choir. In October she was selected as one of the four children to sing from Yorkshire on Children in Need this year. Blossom spent a beautiful autumn morning, filming with the BBC at a 'secret' Yorkshire location and they also recorded her singing a 'secret' song that will be aired on the Children in Need show as part of a virtual choir. The other three children went at different times to record their singing too and to be filmed at a different part of the location. It was very exciting and her family can't wait to see the result of this special day on the TV.

At school Blossom can be heard singing to her friends during break and lunchtime so I can't wait to watch her performance, I know we are in for a treat. At school we are very proud of Blossom sharing her talent and supporting Children in Need.

Please see the following link for anyone who wishes to make contributions to the Children in Need appeal. This is not mandatory but for anyone wishing to donate it does record donations generated via school so we can see a total raised, rather than the general funding raised direct on the Children in Need web pages.

<https://app.parentpay.com/ParentPay-Shop/Foc/Default.aspx?shopid=1318>



Watch out for Blossom Palmer Year 7 on Children in Need tonight.... preview available on <https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/m000pc7f/look-north-yorkshire-evening->



# Mr Tipler smashes 15 miles for Children in Need



Mr Tipler, Deputy Headteacher, ran from his home in Holmfirth to Heckmondwike on the morning of Friday 13 November 2020 to raise money for Children in Need. He set off on the 15 mile route at around 6.45am and arrived at school 2 hours, 2 minutes and 19 seconds later, where staff and students were waiting to cheer him in.



Staff and students were given the opportunity to predict his run time, with the person guessing the closest to his actual time winning a giant Pudsey Bear. Well done to Year 7 student Lewis Monaghan for his prediction which was just 11 seconds out.

Here's what Mr Tipler had to say:



I started running seriously about 3 years ago after I realised middle age had very much crept up on me, and sadly set in and I had to do something about it. I am a person who needs goals and challenges, and so for my New Year resolutions for 2019 I pledged to complete a 100-day run streak which meant I had to run at least 1 mile every day for 100 continuous days. Here I am still going on Friday 13th November 2020; which is Run Streak Day 683 and having just completed the 15 miles from my home just outside Holmfirth to school in a little over 2 hours, in support of Children In Need.



**Thank you to Esther Linsell-Fraser year 9, who rang the bell for Mr Tipler's arrival**



As a Senior Leadership Team, we came up with numerous ideas to fundraise this year, but the traditional 'Sponge the Headteacher' was not met with its usual enthusiasm (something to do with social distancing, apparently) so I volunteered to run in. Because of these unprecedented times, there has been no formal challenges and races I have been able to partake in over the last few months, so this was perfect for me to focus on and raise money. The weather was horrendous as I set out and within about 15 seconds I was wet through and cold, but I was kept in a buoyant mood by the numerous beeps and waves from drivers and passers-by as I passed through Huddersfield and out along the A62. As I arrived at school and onto the MUGA I was greeted by Y9 & Y10 who cheered me on in the last 50 yards towards the finish line. It was a humbling experience, and I cannot begin to describe the emotions I had as I 'broke the tape'. As I sit here writing this with tired legs, consuming vast amounts of flapjack, I have a strange warm glow inside, the kind you get when you know you have set your mind to a task and achieved it; the same feeling I am sure our wonderful students experience as they complete their work, ticking off tasks, gaining knowledge and making fabulous progress. I'd like to thank everyone for all their support, encouragement and of course, donations – you're amazing!



His efforts, along with a non-uniform day and participation in the annual Duck Race Sweepstake has raised an amazing £1,688.39 (and still counting) for the charity.

#### **Duck Race Winners**

**1st Quackman and Robbin - Mrs Donohue & Mr Rippen**

**2nd Quack and Cheese - Miss Hamilton, Ayesha Maniar Year 13 and Jack Branford Year 13.  
Well Done!**

**We know that times are difficult at the moment but please if you or your family are fund raising for Children in Need email your pictures to [adminoffice@heckgrammar.co.uk](mailto:adminoffice@heckgrammar.co.uk) and we will have a display board in next week's Heckler**



# **MUSIC IS BACK!**

Good news...Music is back! Things have been a little different in Music since returning to school. Social distancing and year group bubbles have meant we haven't been able to run a lot of our extra-curricular like we would want to. However, we have been doing our best to keep lessons as fun and practical as we possibly can!

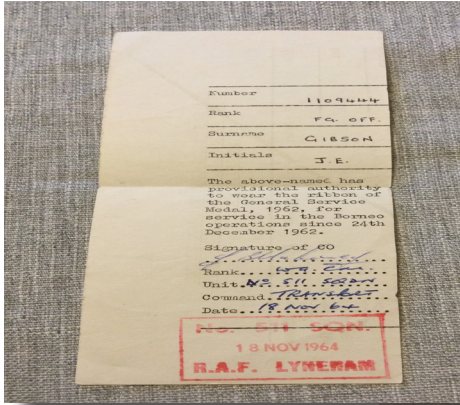
We asked our A Level Music groups to put some performances together, simply to spread some positivity around school for students, staff and parents. Please take a listen on Twitter @HeckGrammar or visit the school link :

<https://www.heckgrammar.co.uk/news/music-is-back/> **We hope you enjoy!**

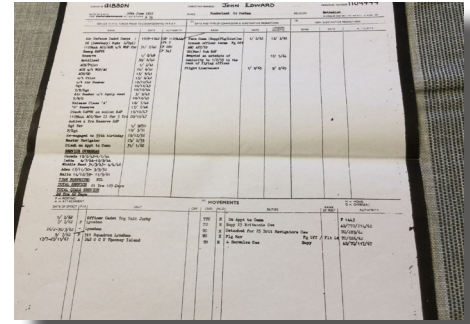
We are currently putting together some Christmas ideas that we will hopefully be able to share with everyone at the end of term!

# War Memories

## Thank you!



Memorabilia shared by Tilly Davitt Year 7, who's great grandfather was a bomb aimer in the Wellington Bombers during WWII



A bombardier or bomb aimer is the crew member of a bomber aircraft responsible for the targeting of aerial bombs. Thank you for sharing



### From Joshua James Turner Year 9



My grandfather John "Joe" Turner, served in the 156th Battalion Parachute Regiment, 4th Parachute Brigade, 1st Airborne Division in World War 2. The Division landed in Holland at the town of Arnhem to secure a bridgehead into Germany and shorten the war. Vastly outnumbered, outgunned and technically outclassed by Panzer Regiments contrary to intelligence reports on the bridge defenders they first captured and then held the bridge, They held 10 days instead of the required 3 with immense courage, tenacity and devotion to duty.



Eventually driven back by repeated counter attacks of overwhelming German forces they were compelled to evacuate a fighting withdrawal. Casualties were massive of 10,000 paratroopers dropped less than 2,000 returned home. The battalion was devastated by its losses and was disbanded with survivors going on to other regiments. Grandad Joe told my father "We just did our duty" and was unable to speak further about the experience.

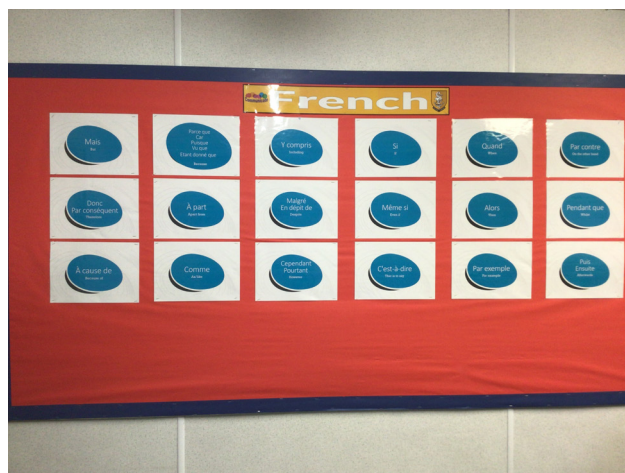
# Department Focus: French

These past few months, the world of education has seen unprecedented changes and in French at Heckmondwike Grammar School, we have experienced a number of significant changes.

It is with immense pleasure that we have welcomed Miss Bowyer to our department. Miss Bowyer is an Oxford University graduate who is one of many former students who have decided to come back to Heckmondwike Grammar School as a teacher.

The first lockdown back in March brought us some very disappointing news: the national advice against all foreign educational visits unfortunately forced us to cancel our planned trip to Paris. Whilst the ever-changing travel advice is still in place, we are unable to plan a new trip in the near future, but we very much look forward to taking our students abroad once again. After all, experiencing French culture while developing speaking skills remains one of the main aims of learning a foreign language.

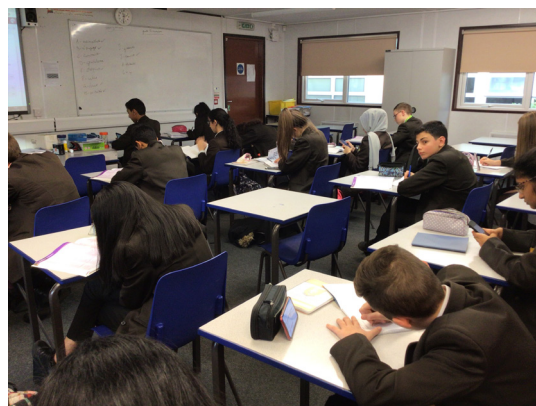
Last summer, GCSE and A-Level grades were centre-assessed but nonetheless fully reflected the linguistic talent of our Year 11 and Year 13, who were rightly rewarded with a fantastic set of examination results. Our current Year 11 students, who have already fully completed the GCSE syllabus, are currently in an excellent position to replicate last year's success, and we wish them every success in their mock examinations.



Since September, some of our new Year 7 students have been studying our new French syllabus, which aims to give them a better understanding of French culture. For example, they have discovered some of the differences between school life in France and in England, and they have explored the significance of a number of French historical figures.

Our older students have shown incredible resilience before the summer by quickly adopting new ways of learning. Indeed, since September, the Modern Foreign Languages department has fully embraced the use of Teams and live video lessons to provide students with a vast amount of learning material, but also to allow students who must self-isolate to continue to develop their linguistic skills, including speaking and listening. We have been incredibly impressed with the willingness shown by our students to take part in lessons remotely when needed: their positive attitude is a real credit to the school.

Moving forward, we are currently building a bank of pre-recorded Powerpoint videos to allow our GCSE and A-Level students to revise their French grammar independently. Some of these videos are already available to students on Teams and many more are still to come.





On Wednesday 11 November, our school League of Legends team had the opportunity to be part of a live broadcast for their 4th match in the British Esports Championships. The circumstances of the match were certainly more interesting than the first three, as not only were we fielding an entirely new roster (with the exception of one player), but there had been a huge update to the game that morning which none of our players had time to test before their game.



The match itself was very entertaining to watch, as the commentators did a great job of giving the students a platform to shine on. The team very handily dismantled The College of Haringey, Enfield and North East London (CONEL for short) and took the victory to continue their current undefeated streak. A big congratulations to Eric Tse, Hazifa Ilyas, Tom Berry, Ty Chatterton and an extra congratulations to captain Omar Jesry who was named MVP of the game.

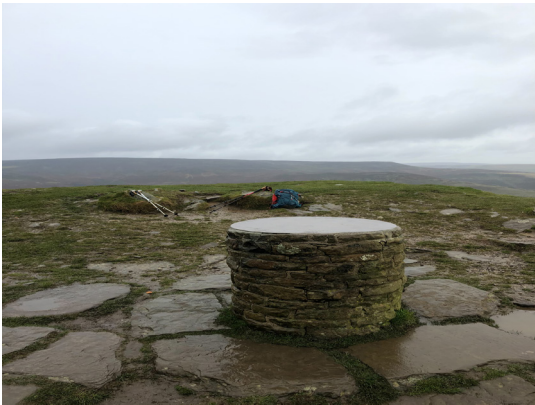
Anyone wishing to catch the game can watch it back here:

<https://www.twitch.tv/videos/799279022> (the game starts at roughly 15:00).

## Covid not Stopping DofE

### Silver Practice Expedition: Friday 23 and Saturday 24 October 2020

This expedition should have taken place in July but obviously this was not possible. After a lot of hard work by the students and careful planning to keep the students safe whilst away, we were good to go on expedition. Unfortunately, on the day we were due to depart we were informed that the group was not allowed to camp even though they were in separate tents so there were no covid risks there at all. However, we were allowed to do the expedition as two day trips. Due to it now getting dark so early this meant that an early departure from school was required.



We met at 6am to travel to the Peak District. Day One's route was a circular route from Edale. It went up onto the ridge to Losehill, down into Castleton, through Cave Dale and up over Mam Tor to drop back down into Edale.

The groups did really well and despite poor visibility they were up on Lose Hill by 9.30. They dropped down into Castleton. Some groups had an early lunch here but other groups carried on going. Despite a couple of wrong turns coming out of Cave Dale all the groups had done really well and were ready to head home and prepare for another early start on the Saturday.

We met again at 6am to drive back to the Peaks for Day 2. Again they walked out of Edale (which is where they should have camped) up onto Rushup Edge. They then went across the moorland to Brown Knoll before dropping down into Hayfield. Again the groups worked well as a team and navigation was good. Some of the groups were even back in time to get fish and chips in Hayfield before heading home. A combination of early starts and long days walking meant they were tired but had managed to complete it. Hopefully by March they may be allowed to camp for their Qualifying expedition. Well Done to all the Year 13 students involved.



# Year 13 University Interview Preparation Sessions



## UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

On Friday 6 November we (virtually) welcomed Grace Glevey from The University of Cambridge to deliver an interview preparation

session for 24 of the Year 13 students who have applied to Oxbridge. Grace was joined by HGS alumni Kate Lee and Sara Saloo, current Cambridge undergraduates, to offer advice based on their personal experiences of the interview process. They stressed that interviewers are not trying to catch you out but to stretch you in order to assess your potential by applying the skills that you already have to a new scenario. Students also had the opportunity to sample maths and history based practical tasks. Further support will be offered in school on an individual basis to help students prepare before the online interview process commences in December.



On Monday 9th November

former HGS student Hannah Griffin delivered a virtual session to the Year 13 students applying for Veterinary Medicine. Hannah is due to commence her studies at The University of Nottingham so was able to provide a very valuable insight into the interview process to help the students prepare. The students were interested to hear about the different aspects to the interview process including MMIs (multi mini interviews), ethical dilemmas and practical exercises.

Due to Covid-19 the university process will be very different. Attending any interview situation will inevitably be a daunting experience. All our virtual visitors stressed there is no such thing as the perfect interview, or the perfect answer to a question. As much as possible, it's important to try to relax and see the interview process as an opportunity to explore a subject both you and the interviewer have a great interest in.

We wish all Year 13 applicants good luck in the process - The Careers Team

### Diary Dates

**16 November - Launch of Reverse Christmas Advent**

**20 November - Yr 11 Mock Exams Finish**

**27& 28 November - Bronze DofE Expedition**

**2 December - Yr 7 Community Day**



**HGS REVERSE**  
ADVENT CALENDAR

Launching 16 November 2020  
further information is  
available on the final page of  
the Heckler

## WorldSkills UK LIVE online: A must-join event



Supported by



[Register here](#)

Want to know more about apprenticeships?  
Have questions about your options?  
Need to talk about university or careers?  
Need a CV or help with interview preparation?



## Call into **Careers Drop-in**

Year 13	Mon-Wed	11:00-11:30
Year 12	Tue	10:00-10:30
Year 11	Mon-Thurs	13:45-14:15
Year 10	Wed	10:00-10:30
Year 9	Thurs	11:00-11:30
Year 8	Mon	10:00-10:30
Year 7	Fri	12:45-13:15

in B0:13

You can email the team on  
[CareersTeachers@heckgrammar.co.uk](mailto:CareersTeachers@heckgrammar.co.uk)

**Changed  
times!**



# Ambition Nottingham – Year 12



University of Nottingham  
UK | CHINA | MALAYSIA

## Ambition Nottingham: 16-18

Turning ambition into achievement



Open to students who meet the eligibility criteria.

### Opportunities include:

- Subject workshops
- Personal statement support
- Mock interviews
- A possible reduced offer to study at Nottingham.

The Quality in Careers Standard >>>



## Find Out More Here

- FREE EVENT -



**UK** university & apprenticeship search virtual fairs

Wednesday 11th November  
12pm - 6pm

80+ Exhibitors | 10 Live Webinars

Register here



<https://ukunisearch-north.vfairs.com>

### Next Step York

[Next Step York](#) supports Year 12 students to progress to higher education through a tailored programme of activities.

Applications are now open.

Please nominate **Mr Oxby** as your referee.



Mr Ross Oxby  
Deputy Director of Sixth Form (Progression)

Heckmondwike Grammar School  
High Street  
Heckmondwike  
West Yorkshire  
WF16 0AH

01924 402202

 HECKMONDWIKE  
GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Deadline:  
1 December

The Quality in Careers Standard >>>



Other, free opportunities are regularly available. Sixth form students should regularly check their emails and look for the 'EXCITING OPPORTUNITIES' heading!

## Industrial Cadets Weeks 2020 and Insight into University 2021 23rd - 27th November



November 2020

#VirtualSTEM tasters

### INDUSTRIAL CADETS WEEK

[www.etrust.org.uk/industrialcadetsweek](http://www.etrust.org.uk/industrialcadetsweek)

Industrial Cadets Week is designed to give your students an 'insight into careers' and will act as a launchpad for our activities and opportunities in 2021. Your students can access the sessions independently, or you can incorporate them into your study plans.

<https://www.etrust.org.uk/industrial-cadets-week>

May be subject to £50.00 fee



## HGS REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR

Normally, with an advent calendar, you open a little door each day and get something. With a reverse advent calendar, you put something in, rather than taking something out.

Every day from November 16th 2020, we will be collecting items for a local food bank, ready to donate to a local food bank before we break up for Christmas. This means the food bank will have time to make up food parcels and distribute the contents before Christmas.

### Why take part?

In the UK, more than 12 million people are living in poverty, of whom 4.5 million are children.

It was bad enough before. This year will be even worse. Many people have seen their jobs or self-employed earnings wiped out by Covid-19. Others have seen their income cut while on furlough. Overall, a third of families have lost income because of coronavirus.

As a result, rising demand for food banks has rocketed. More than half the people using foodbanks at the start of the pandemic had never needed one before. This winter, demand for food banks is predicted to be 61% higher than record figures last year. An extra 670,000 more people in the UK are at risk of being pushed into destitution this winter, unable to afford the basics in life.

No-one should go hungry, least of all at Christmas. By taking part we can help people in our local community, encourage our students to think of others and raise awareness of food poverty.

### How are we collecting?

If every student brought in one item from 16th November, we would have over 1000 items to donate to a local foodbank. If at all possible, please encourage your son/daughter to bring items into school which can then be stored in their form rooms or reception and will be donated to a local food bank before we break up. Students can bring as many items as they wish between 16th November and 16th December 2020.

What should we bring/donate?

A typical food parcel includes:

- Cereal
- Soup
- Pasta
- Rice
- Tinned tomatoes/ pasta sauce
- Lentils, beans and pulses
- Tinned meat

Alongside the standard food parcel, food banks try to provide other essential non-food items to adults and children in crisis.

The list sets out what food banks generally need the most:

- Toiletries – deodorant, toilet paper, shower gel, shaving gel, shampoo, soap, toothbrushes, tooth paste, hand wipes
- Household items – laundry liquid detergent, laundry powder, washing up liquid
- Feminine products – sanitary towels and tampons
- Baby supplies – nappies, baby wipes and baby food
- Face masks and hand sanitiser!

Thank you for your support!