



First Round Victory for HGS

Last Thursday, Eleanor Falshaw (12PAG), Maisy Nichols (10KFD) and Leo Beevers (10ALL) made the journey over the Pennines to the King David High School in Manchester to participate in the Schools' Mace debating competition. The motion we were opposing, that the vote should be weighted to provide those younger with a more powerful vote, saw us set against Huddersfield Grammar. Our debate was first in line. Though I may be biased, I thought that Maisy and Eleanor did brilliantly, and the judges certainly seemed to agree, praising the pair's "confident, clear and very passionate" delivery, as well as their "thoughtful, mature and well reasoned" arguments. The way they adapted their speeches to challenge the opposition and engage with the many audience points was very impressive to witness. Two other debates followed, argued by four other schools. I found listening to our competition's speeches genuinely interesting (and a little nerve-racking), and I'm sure we all enjoyed contributing during the floor debates. A highlight of the evening, for me, was probably managing to gather nearly every other team around our table, discussing the event and having several pleasant conversations during the less pleasant wait for the results. Tension gave way when the judges finally returned. Three schools passed through the first round, one of which was Heckmondwike. Congratulations to Maisy and Eleanor, it was definitely well deserved. I look forward to the second round!



Leo Beevers 10ALL

Kirklees Schools Cross Country



Athletes from HGS competed in the Kirklees Cross Country Championships held at Leeds Road playing fields. There was a very high standard of competition with competitors from schools across the whole of Kirklees. Our pupils produced some superb individual and team performances. The Year 8/9 Girls and Boys Boys teams both finished in 4th place overall in their respective competitions.

The following pupils will represent Kirklees in the West Yorkshire cross country championships later in the year after finishing in the top ten in their events; Adam Pow, Jacob Pow, Martha Currie, Lily Messenger, Anna Basford, Sam Langley, Max Metcalfe.

Well done to all of the competitors for their efforts.

Department Focus: Geography

Geography provides links with many other subjects and that helps us to understand the world and how it works. We cover many issues at different levels, from localised flooding to global problems of development. During the year we are trying to raise awareness, with different year groups, to improve our knowledge of different parts of the world. With Year 9 we are looking into raising money to purchase land in the rainforest ecosystem to use the area in a sustainable way. With year 10 we are looking to purchase aid through Oxfam to buy at least 2 goats, more if we can. Part of Geography is the study of economics and urban areas and the problems that low income can produce. With this in mind, we would like to encourage form groups to get behind the 'Reverse Advent' idea started last year and for one member of a form to bring an item a day to add to a collection which we will deliver to a local food bank to help our local community in the run up to Christmas.

With an interest in connecting with other departments, Mr. Jones is starting a group to connect Geography with other subjects. Next week will see the launch of the first of our 'Geography in conversation with...' lunchtime talks. Our first talk will be in collaboration with the Art department, focusing on the importance of landscapes in painting. The Geography department hope that these talks will help students start to think more critically about the links between their subjects as well as learn something new. Inter-disciplinary thinking is also an important quality universities are increasingly looking out for in prospective students. Through the course of the academic year, we'll be working with lots of other departments on very different topics and the talks will be open to all staff as well as students - so come along!

Friends of HGS Winter Raffle



We hope you've handed in your counterfoils as today was the last day! A big thank you to everyone who has taken part. You're now in with a chance to win one of many prizes, including a very covetable pair of wireless Beats headphones. Find out on 7 December if you're one of the lucky ones... The money raised by this raffle will go to purchasing some of the little (and not-so-little) extras that make HGS an even nicer place to learn at.

Student of the Week

Adam Pow 7JJR - for being selected to represent Kirklees in the West Yorkshire Cross Country Championships.

Jamie Allinson 8MTY - for incredible peer support and participation at Games Club!

Rocco Parkin 8MRL - for being an amazing Physicist - asking really good questions about his subject.

Druvan Tailor 9JDR - for always smiling and being happy to help in any way he can. Wonderful effort in Chemistry.

Leo Beevers, 10ALL - for his contribution to the debates.

Maisy Nichols 10KFD - for her brilliant performance in the National Debating Competition.

Hannah Grason 10CMG - for her hard work and collaboration with Mr Longridge for clearer guidance around the amount of homework that should be set.

Acheala Alexander 11JLD - for teaching herself how to felt and producing some amazing pieces.

Parent Notices

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 for Christmas holiday

7th January - School Opens after Christmas holiday

10th January - Y11 Parents' Evening

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