



West Yorkshire Schools Cross Country Championships

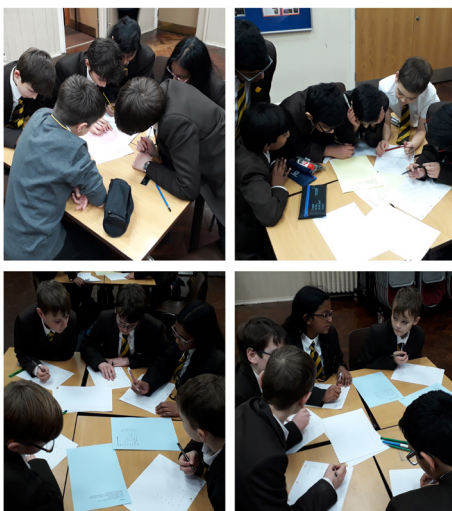
On Saturday 2 February 2019, HGS was well represented at the West Yorkshire Cross Country Championships, with the following students representing Kirklees:

Adam Pow – Year 7 Boys
Martha Currie – Year 9 Girls
Jacob Pow – Year 9 Boys
Anna Basford – Year 10 Girls
Sam Langley – Year 10 Boys
Max Metcalfe – Year 11 Boys



The event got off to a good start, with Adam Pow finishing 8th in the Year 7 boys race, with a time of 8.16mins over 2.3km and qualifying automatically to represent Yorkshire schools. This was followed by the Year 8 and 9 junior girls race, this time over 3.4km in which Martha Currie finished in 12th position, with a time of 13.19mins and taking the final reserve slot for qualification. Jacob Pow ran a good 4km race for the Year 9 boys, finishing 23rd with a time of 15.01mins. Anna Basford competed in the Inter Girls event, again over 4km, and finished 23rd with a time of 16.26mins. This was followed by Sam Langley and Max Metcalfe competing in the Inter boys event, a 5.5km race, representing Years 9 and 10. Sam finished 15th in a time of 20.46mins and Max came 31st with a time of 22.52mins. Excellent performances all round.

House Maths Competition



Last week we held our inter-house mathematics competition. 72 of the school's best mathematicians took part in the competition, in which they worked in teams to answer 20 difficult mathematics questions. The results were as follows:

Junior (years 7 and 8): Priestley 1st, Clarke 2nd, Bronte 3rd, Houldsworth 4th.

Intermediate (years 9 and 10): Clarke 1st, Houldsworth 2nd, Priestley 3rd, Bronte 4th.

Senior (year 11 and Sixth Form): Bronte 1st, Priestley 2nd, Clarke 3rd, Houldsworth 4th.

Putting it all together, Priestley and Clarke tied for 1st place, with Bronte coming in 3rd and Houldsworth 4th. Well done everyone.

Department Focus: RE

The RE department returned to school in September with some of the best GCSE results in the school, boasting 70.3% of students achieving grades 9–7. The A-level students studying Religious Studies, Philosophy and Ethics also performed well, with 73.7% of them achieving between A* and C. These excellent results are a testament to the hard work, dedication and enthusiasm of the students, and the RE department is immensely proud of them. In order to maintain, and hopefully increase, this level of student achievement, the department has strived to better prepare students for the critical thinking and analysis skills required at GCSE and beyond. Students will now be taught about all six of the major world faiths in year 7, giving them an insight into what people of different traditions believe and how people belonging to these traditions conduct themselves. This foundational knowledge of religion will be complimented by the first unit of work in year 8, in which students will have the opportunity to study less well-known, alternative religions. The remainder of Year 8 will largely focus on ethics and logic. Current year 8 students have been enjoying the challenge of explaining what exactly it is that makes an action wrong, and deciding whether the same action would be wrong in all circumstances. The aim of the lessons on logic is to furnish students with an understanding of what it is that makes an argument sound and the ability to create strong, well-formed arguments of their own. This is a tremendously important, completely transferable skill that cannot fail to aid students throughout their academic studies. Current GCSE students are studying a range of fascinating topics, many of which overlap with the ethical theories being taught at Key Stage 3, and all of which require students to provide their opinions through strong, logically sound arguments. Year 9 have recently finished studying the various scientific and religious theories on the origins of the universe, year 10 to what extent men and women are treated differently by society and religion and year 11 whether any crime is deserving of capital punishment. These thought-inspiring topics only continue and advance into A-level, with year 12 students currently questioning the existence of free will and year 13 students investigating

the nature and meaning of language itself. In RE we encourage students to never take anything at face value, to be prepared and willing to question everything, and to never be afraid of offering their own point of view. The results we have obtained in external examinations and the level of engagement students have in lessons demonstrate that students are taking in this message and running with it.

Our Sixth Form students raised an excellent £145.68 doing a lunchtime bake sale on Wednesday to raise money to provide medical equipment to send overseas!



Student of the Week

Ruqaiyah Badat 7JJR and Sumayyah Seedat 7NSE for wonderfully researched and presented history title pages.

Arshbir Sekhon 8DWR for super work in history and great contribution to lessons.

Yusuf Mirza 9RGF for working hard, improving grades, great team player and scoring a fabulous goal at Football Fiesta!

Timothy Lane 10KAR for demonstrating an excellent attitude to studies in History and a great grasp of the statistics of the German economy in the interwar.

Cody Lee 11CES, Kirsty Gregory 11DJH, Rhiannon Sullivan 11RLN, Jack Branford 11CES and Alana Smith 11SMN for their outstanding, thought-provoking performance in Taboo during assemblies this week. Very well done.

Emily Haworth 12JLW for effort and independent learning.

Imaan Nasir 13CVH for her hardworking and determined attitude towards her learning and future goals.

Parent Notices

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

7 March - Y13 Information Evening

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