



## Junior Choir Competes at Music for Youth

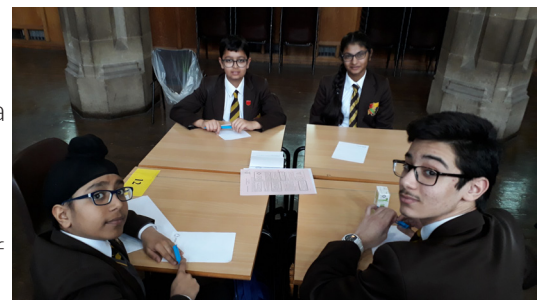
On Saturday 16 March, 24 students across Years 7, 8 & 9 attended the regional competition for Music for Youth, held at Colne Valley School in Huddersfield. Despite the atrocious weather, the whole choir showed up and performed splendidly. The choir sang three pieces, 'I See the Light' from Disney's Tangled, 'Make Your Own Kind of Music' by Paloma Faith and 'How Far I'll Go/Go the Distance' mash-up from Disney's Moana and Hercules. There were many ensembles competing across the whole weekend; big bands, strings groups etc.



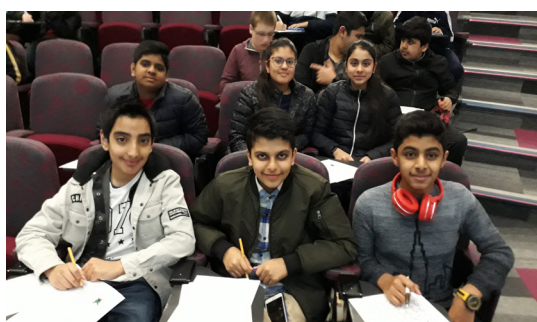
but the Junior Choir held their own and performed with great enthusiasm. The judges gave the choir some positive feedback and some useful tips to try in the future. We will find out in the next few weeks if they have progressed on to the next level of competition. A huge well done to all involved in the choir, and an extra special mention to Eleanor Lilley for another superb performance accompanying the choir.

## Maths Competitions

On Monday 18 March, Mr Bensley took Zain Alkhalidi, Yusha Jeena, Arshbir Sekhon, and Divya Vijayanand to Bradford Grammar School to take part in the Team Maths Challenge. The competition involved four difficult rounds of maths problems, at the end of which our team finished sixth out of 31 teams. Well done boys!



On Saturday 23 March, Mr Bensley and Ms Jarvis took four teams to the Sheffield Hallam Pop Maths Quiz. The year 8 team were Mohammad Ahyan, Yusuf Akudi, Azaan Aziz, Hannah Baporina, Uswa Sharif, and Karthik Vemula. The year 9 team was made up of Umair Dingmar, Imran Hossain, Jazib Imran, Asim Loonat, Adan Majid, and David Tomlinson. The year 10 team included Waqas Hussain, Shreya Khanvilkar, Amna Murtaza, Rutwaj Patel, and Ellis Speight.



The year 11 team were Areesha Aziz, Sonia Boodhoo, Trisha Dubey, Naduni Mapatuna, Nipuni Mapatuna, and Malaika Wajid. The competition involved answering 20 challenging maths questions. In the year 7-9 competition, our year 9 team finished third out of around 30 teams. In the year 10-11 competition our year 11 team finished fifth out of around 30 teams, and just behind them, our year 10 team finished sixth. A very well done to all the mathematicians that took part.

# National Cross Country Championships for Year 7 Student

Year 7 student Adam Pow competed in the National Cross Country Championships in Loughborough on 10 March, representing West Yorkshire schools. He finished the course in 66th position, out of 186 runners from schools across the country in a time of 10 minutes 2 seconds. Adam finished in 4th position out of the West Yorkshire athletes. Well done Adam!



## Your Parents' Association, Friends of HGS



The Friends of Heckmondwike Grammar School are a group of parents who give a little bit of their time to enhance the everyday experience for pupils at HGS by fundraising. We are independent from the school, although we liaise with members of staff to plan and organise events. Our meetings are open to all and are advertised in the Heckler. The next one will be

in May – watch this space. In the meantime, if you would like to discuss ideas, share your feedback or offer a bit of your time to help, email us at [friendsofHGS@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofHGS@gmail.com).



## National Epilepsy Day

Tuesday 26 March was National Epilepsy Day (Purple Day) and a group of sixth form students took to baking and ribbon making to raise awareness for children living with epilepsy. The cupcakes had a purple theme and so did the students, dressing in purple or buying a ribbon to support the occasion. Collectively, they raised over £100 for Epilepsy Action, a charity that exists to improve the lives of everyone affected by epilepsy. The group would like to thank all of the students and members of staff who donated!

## Year 7 Student Secures place in NCO

Huge well done to our Year 7 student, Eleanor Turner, on securing a place in the National Children's Orchestra (NCO), under 12's. At the beginning of the year, Eleanor auditioned for the NCO and got an 'Associate Member' place. Since then, Eleanor has secured a place in the national Under-12 orchestra, playing violin.

The National Children's Orchestras of Great Britain (NOC) inspires children and young people to achieve their full potential through learning, performing and creating orchestral music.

Eleanor will be attending the NCO Spring Course and performing at Port Regis School in Dorset in April and the Summer Course in Lancashire in August. She will also be performing in a concert at Birmingham Town Hall.





# Special Department Focus: Hecky Techies

If you want to know what's really going on in the science laboratories....ask the technicians! HGS has 5 science technicians that are dedicated to work in specific areas of science: Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Year 7 Science. We are the 'invisible ladies in white coats' that don't need gym memberships as we can each generate up to 10,000 steps before the end of period 3. The role of a science technician is varied, demanding and challenging at times. It is our job to ensure that all the requests for equipment by the science teachers are fulfilled, on time and cleared away after use.

In one week at the beginning of March, the Chemistry technicians had to prepare all necessary solutions, set equipment out, clear it out of the laboratory when finished and then ensure all the equipment is cleaned and put back in the appropriate laboratory for around 50 practicals. Technicians have to be good at planning, extremely organised and efficient, when it comes to clean equipment. We can often be seen on our way down to Morrison's to buy a strange array of shopping, and yes, we often get strange looks at what's in our basket.....16 fish for dissection, fizzy pop for the Mentos Challenge, Beetroot, Lemons, Shaving Gel to name a few. Biology technicians can also be found around the school site cutting holly off the holly bush and on the hunt for woodlice!

The Chemistry technicians regularly help out with Science Club, every Wednesday and have done a variety of activities from Extraction on DNA from Kiwi, BrushBots (toothbrush robots) and more recently Bath Bombs. In early March a national celebration took place to recognise the essential role of science technicians in schools. #techognition

Over 1000 tweets per day were posted on twitter with photos of technicians throughout the country performing some of the weird, wonderful and yes even the routine tasks, like loading the dishwasher for the 5th time that day!



## HOUSE RUGBY

**Massive well done to Year 7 House Rugby winners - Priestley. There was a fantastic standard of rugby from all houses, however the final results of the Year 7 competition were 1st-Priestley, 2nd-Bronte, 3rd-Houldsworth & 4th-Clarke!**



## Student of the Week

**Daniel Onobrakpeya 7JMJ** for being a wonderfully supportive friend.

**Oliver Hainsworth & Fahd Hans 8LRD** for great teamwork & peer support in Food Technology.

**Olivia Smith 9NJS** for incredible effort and skill in food practical.

**Seher Ejaz 10SLE** for being a very polite and cheerful student.

**Areej Bilal 11SGN & Jay Patel 11SMN** for supporting fellow students with English revision.

**Hannah Hesketh 12RCB** for leading a bake sale and purple day that raised almost £100 to help young people with epilepsy.

**Ali Bajwa 13KSM** for making a conscious effort to plan his revision and use his study periods effectively.

## Dates for the Diary

**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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