

Heckler



Week 13 Published 06/01/2023

HECKMONDWIKE
GRAMMAR SCHOOL

HGS Ranked the 2nd Best in the North of England

Heckmondwike Grammar School has achieved the prestigious accolade of this top ranking in the Sunday Times Parent Power survey for 2023. Peter Roberts, Headteacher said, "the ranking reflected the outstanding work of students, staff and parents over a number of years and was just reward for the teamwork exhibited. "We have been ranked the number 1 secondary school in Kirklees and Calderdale for a few years and it is particularly gratifying to also be recognised wider afield."

"During a very difficult period we have all pulled together to provide the best possible education to enable our students to fulfil their potential. 2022 saw record school results at both GCSE and A level, which is real testament to the students' hard work and resilience. We had another excellent year for students progressing to university, with record numbers attending the top Russell group and Oxford and Cambridge."

Mr Roberts went on to recognise the contribution to this success, of exclusively live remote lessons during the national lockdown phases, which maintained the very high standards of teaching and learning. He also commented the wearing of facemasks and high uptake of the vaccine had kept infection rates much lower than national and regional comparative data, so keeping students and staff in school.

"Such accolades are very pleasing and we are delighted to be recognised, but they only come about because of the week in week out hard work from students and staff and I salute my colleagues and students, they are an exceptional team."





HOUSE EVENTS



w/c Monday 9 January

Senior Girls Football (Y11-13) - Lunchtime

w/c Monday 16 January

Senior Boys Rugby (Y11) - Lunchtime

Junior Debates (Y7-9) - Afterschool

w/c Monday 23 January

Inters Boys Rugby (Y10) - Lunchtime

Junior Debates Finals—Afterschool

w/c Monday 6 February

Inters Boys Rugby (Y9) - Lunchtime

Senior Girls Hockey—lunchtime

Whole school events this half term

House Drama Launch

Creative Writing Launch

House Chess Launch

House Art Launch

For more information see your Head of House!

**Specific days to be confirmed in house assemblies and on
Teams**

Subject Focus - Politics

The 2022-23 academic year began with a celebration of the successes of the class of 2022. This amazing group of talented students battled through two Covid-disrupted years to achieve outstanding results in the first true public exams in three years, both individually and collectively. An incredible 72% of students achieved a grade A* or A, with almost 80% achieving at least a grade B. Unsurprisingly, the 2022 cohort are well represented in some of the best universities in the country – including Oxbridge and the Russell Group – as well as on highly-competitive apprenticeship schemes. It was a real pleasure to catch up with many of these former students at the recent senior prize giving at Dewsbury Town Hall, and we wish them every continued success in the future.

The new academic year started with Politics merging with the History department (we now share a Twitter account - @HGS_History – which students are encouraged to follow) and the welcoming of a Miss Briggs to the Politics teaching team.



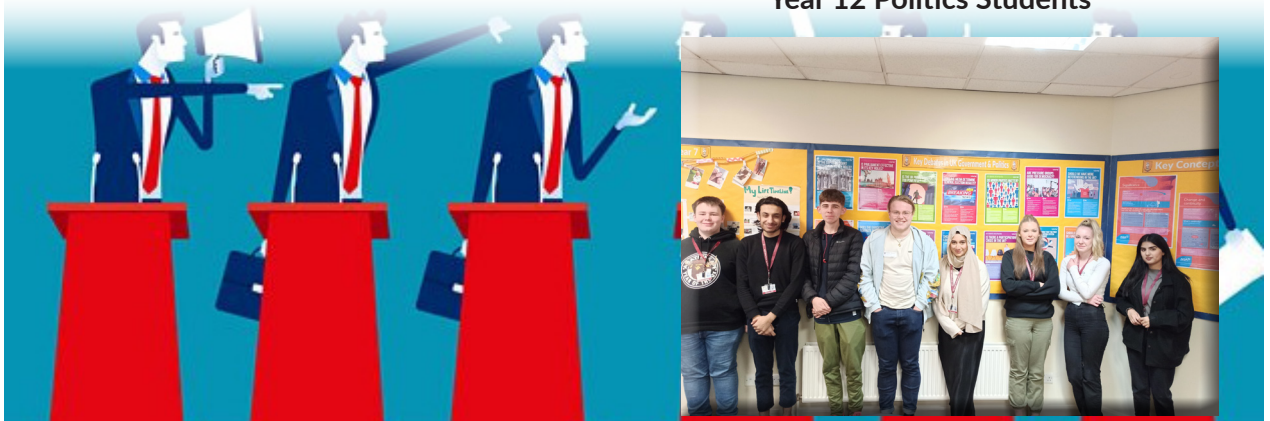
Miss Briggs

The fresh year 12 cohort have settled in and adapted exceptionally well to an unusually-fluid time in UK politics (even by recent standards): it is sobering to reflect that, during their 4 months studying the subject since September, the new year 12s have seen three Prime Ministers and two monarchs! As ever, the joy and challenge of studying Politics lies in applying theories and concepts from the social and political sciences to contemporary developments, and students have been assisted in this endeavour by participation, for the first time, in a national news quiz with students across the country. The students have acquitted themselves well, and in a competition that started with over 365 teams the year 12s currently sit 108th and the year 13s camped are at the dizzy heights of 37th. We have also been impressed by the year 12 students' endeavours in independent research tasks, including researching and delivering presentations on local backbench MPs and exploring the impacts of different electoral systems on election results.

It is always gratifying to see so many politics students aspire to pursue the subject or related areas at university, and this year's year 13s stand out in this regard, with students submitting applications to read Politics and related subjects (including Law, International Relations and History): we wish them all every success. This term, the students have enjoyed building on the foundations of year 12 by studying US government and comparative politics, with the 2022 US midterm elections and landmark Supreme Court decisions relating to abortion providing contemporary interest and challenge to their studies.

Finally, having considered politics students past and present, it is only fitting that we turn to the future. The sixth form taster day is always a highlight of our year, particularly as a subject entirely new to students, and we greatly enjoyed exploring trends in UK voting behaviour with very engaged, confident, and knowledgeable aspiring political scientists in year 11. We look forward to seeing many of them in Politics lessons soon, and we're sure that they will enjoy this dynamic and challenging course as much as previous cohorts of students have.

Year 12 Politics Students



Young People's Board for Change are here to be heard

Aged 13-16?

Want to help other children
and young people?

Want to have your views heard,
meet new people and have fun?

Be unstoppable – join the
Young People's Board for Change!



Share what matters most to you

Apply now to join the NSPCC
Young People's Board for Change
and find out more at
nspcc.org.uk/boardforchange



NSPCC

EVERY CHILDHO

NSPCC

Recruitment is
open from
5 December - 23
January 2023
and interviews to
be held during
February and
March

If I become a member, what am I signing up to?

As a member, you must be:

- Committed to being a member for two years.
- Available to come to online and in-person sessions with other young people.
- Happy to share your views and ideas.
- Willing to work as a team.

How do I apply?

Head to our website nspcc.org.uk/boardforchange to fill in an application form by 23 January 2023. You will need to be available for a virtual interview with one of our friendly team members in February or March.

What sort of things will I do?

- Take part in lots of fun group activities.
- Work together with other young people, virtually and in-person.
- Share your views.
- Get training in campaigning, public speaking and more!

I've never been on an advisory board before. Can I still apply?

Don't worry, you don't need to have any previous experience of being on an advisory board, or with the NSPCC. There will be lots of fun training sessions to learn new things and develop your confidence. We're here to support you through every step of your journey.

See the information sheet for more details.

For more
information
click
[here](#)



WANTED

Donations of old GCSE/A Level revision booklets/guides by Monday 23 January. They need to be of good condition and applicable to the HGS syllabus.

Please bring all donations to
Student Services

Our student led Eco-Committee will be holding a secondhand revision guide bookstall - more information will be shared closer to the event.

Thank you

Senior Football kit – Sponsorship opportunity



Thanks you to the school for providing our senior football teams in Year 10, 11 and sixth form with a new kit. We would like to offer the opportunity to sponsor the shirts if any individuals or companies are interested. Please contact Mr Walker -

dwalker@heckgrammar.co.uk





Christmas Present Appeal



2022

In the run up to Christmas the school participated in the annual food and gift appeal to support our local Salvation Army branch in Heckmondwike. The Salvation Army receives referrals every year for families in need of help and support. They do fantastic work throughout the year supporting local families but especially at Christmas.

We started the appeal after October half term and were overwhelmed by the support from our students, parents and wider community. Every day, students brought in gifts, food and toiletry items to donate to the appeal. These were then collected centrally and taken down to the Salvation Army, who were incredibly grateful.

A large group of our Sixth form students gave up their time to help to organise, pack and distribute the gift packages in early December. The Salvation Army were full of praise for their attitude and commitment. As a result of your donations, they were able to help over 244 children this year with toy and food parcels and it ensured that the Christmas period was not as bleak as it could have been.

We would like to thank the staff in school for organising the appeal, especially Mrs Smith

and Mr Currie, and the following Sixth Form students for giving up their time: **Libby Doran, Saneha Kauser, Harriet Haycock, Emily Bradford, Faye Cavanagh, Beth Hesketh, Sally Rutledge, Rowan Lightfoot, Martha Currie, Olivia Smith, Amy Johnson, Mia Harrison, Haadi Hassan & Druvan Tailor**



Most importantly, it could not have happened without your generous donations – a massive thank you for your support for our local community.

Even after we had delivered and packed the gifts, the donations kept rolling in so we were also able to make substantial donations of food and toiletries to the Heckmondwike and Batley food banks, just before Christmas.





Heckmondwike
Church & Community
Centre

Barrack Street
Heckmondwike
West Yorkshire
WF16 0EJ

Wednesday 14th December 2022

Dear Mrs Currie

Thank you once again to you and the staff and students at Heckmondwike Grammar School for the many ways you have supported our Christmas appeal this year.

Your donations of toys and food have helped us to fulfil all the toy and food parcels requested by social services and schools for local families in need. This year we have supported 244 children with toy and food parcels (which is 70 more children than last year), and we may still get more referrals for help. The work of the Salvation Army couldn't continue without the support and donations we receive from other groups, schools, churches and organisations.

The sixth form students who have been to help with sorting food, packing food parcels, sorting toys and packing toy parcels have been amazing. As well as working hard for the entire time they have been with us, they have been willing to chat about their future aspirations. They have also shown interest and gained an insight into the work of the Salvation Army in supporting the local community. We really could not have managed this year without their help. They even thanked us for having them, when really it is we who are thanking them! We wish them well with their 'A' Levels and university applications.

Thank you once again and I hope we can continue to work together to support those in our community that need help.

May I take this opportunity to wish you a happy Christmas

Blessings

Janet Devine (on behalf of Heckmondwike Salvation Army)



Planned Lincoln University Trip

The careers team have planned a visit for year 10 students to Lincoln University on Wednesday 8th February. The trip is an exciting opportunity for students to visit a university campus, meet current university students and participate in workshops which are designed to help them start to think about if university is the right path for them. Details will be sent out to parents early next week

PHOTOGRAPHY

COMPETITION 2023

THEME: HUMAN PORTRAITURE

CREATIVE CHALLENGE:

We want you to capture a portrait of someone you know. You could use a friend, a family member or even do a self-portrait.

WHO CAN ENTER:

Students in Years 9-11 from Kirklees, Calderdale and surrounding areas.

HOW TO ENTER:

Contact Student Recruitment for brief, guidelines and entry form pack. Send one image with the entry form and explain how it represents 'Human Portraiture' to sturec@kirkleescollege.ac.uk

FIRST PRIZE:

£100 high street vouchers

SECOND PRIZE:

£50 high street vouchers

THIRD PRIZE:

£30 high street vouchers

FINAL:

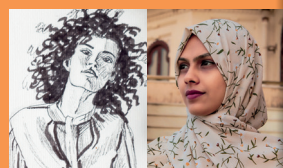
Held in June at the Pioneer Higher Skills Centre

DEADLINE:

Friday 21 April 2023
at 12pm

SHORTLISTING:

Friday 19 May 2023



Please call **01484 437092** or email sturec@kirkleescollege.ac.uk for more information



Diary Dates

Thursday 12 January

Yr8 Options Evening - staggered start -
6pm Bronte & Clarke, 6.30pm Houldsworth & Priestley

Wednesday 18 January

Year 9 Food Tech Students -Foxes Biscuit's Trip

Wednesday 25 January

Year 11 & Year 13 Revision Event (during the school day)

Thursday 26 January

Year 8 Parents Evening - details to follow

Wednesday 1 February

Year 8 HPV Vaccine (Dose 1)

&

Year 8 History teaching groups 8.4 & 8.6
Holocaust Ctr Trip Huddersfield (during the school day)

KIRKLEES COLLEGE WOULD LIKE TO INVITE BUDDING CHEFS FROM ALL OUR SURROUNDING SCHOOLS TO TAKE PART IN



YOUNG CHEF OF THE YEAR 2023

YEARS 7 & 8 ONLINE DESSERT CHALLENGE:

Create a restaurant style dessert and send us your pictures

OPEN TO YEARS 7 & 8

ENTRY DEADLINE:

Friday 17 March 2023, 12 Noon

WINNERS TO BE ANNOUNCED:

Friday 26 May 2023

To enter please send us pictures of:

- 1 - You making the dessert
- 2 - You holding the dessert
- 3 - The recipe
- 4 - Your final dish

KIRKLEES COLLEGE WOULD LIKE TO INVITE BUDDING CHEFS FROM ALL OUR SURROUNDING SCHOOLS TO TAKE PART IN



YOUNG CHEF OF THE YEAR 2023

YEARS 9, 10 & 11 DESSERT CHALLENGE:

You will have 2 hours to create and serve 4 portions of a restaurant style plated dessert and sweet sauce



OPEN TO YEARS 9, 10 & 11

ENTRY DEADLINE: Friday 17 March 2023, 12 Noon

HEATS: Wednesday 3 May 2023

MASTERCLASS: Wednesday 24 May 2023

FINAL: Wednesday 14 June 2023

Contact student recruitment for guidelines and entry form sturec@kirkleescollege.ac.uk or visit our website www.kirkleescollege.ac.uk



HGS Radio Weekly Schedule

All shows are between 12.30 and 1.00pm.

Here is the link:

<https://s3.radio.co/se51908b51/listen>

AMon : The Throwback Show

ATue : Alex Li (New Show)

AWeds : RadioAsia

AThu : Cinquo

AFri : Definitive Collection - the teachers show

BMon : Planet Rock

BTue : Sessions of the Soundtracks

BWeds : RadioAsia

BThu : Cinco

BFri : Reuben & Noel





Pass It On - Heckmondwike

Our charity shop in Heckmondwike sells a variety of preloved homeware items, reconditioned white goods including fridges, freezers, washing machines and tumble dryers. We also sell brand new beds, mattresses, and cookers.

All proceeds from sales are used to positively further the work of the charity, and the different projects we deliver across our communities.

We offer a free collection service for preloved furniture, electrical items and white goods.

Please note that all upholstered items of donated furniture must have a fire label stating that the item/s meet the required fire regulation act. Our drivers will not be able to take items without an appropriate fire label. Everything must be in good clean condition suitable for resale.

To arrange a collection, please contact us on 01924 40 40 89 or at PIOHeck@yccuk.org.uk and a member of our charity shop team will get back to you as soon as they can.

We can also arrange delivery of any large items purchased from the shop. Please speak to our shop team who will advise you of the delivery fees for the areas we cover.

Full information about YCC is available on our website
www.yorkshirechildrenscentre.org.uk

HGS

trips



Senior ski Trip Killington USA

Saturday 11 February 2022 - 1 week

