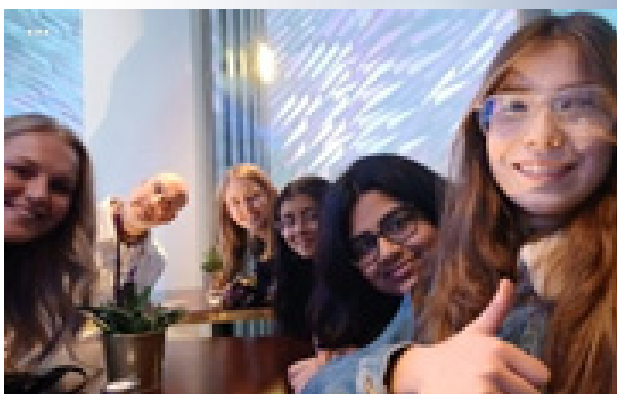


## Cyber First Girls- Computing

It started with an assembly we had in year 7, where last year's winners told us about the competition. We would spend most lunchtimes in Mr Snowdon's room, where we learned new skills and facts about the competition. Our team, Bagel Bytes, one of 3 teams for the school, was formed.

We met up every Wednesday lunchtime, where we learnt how to use CyberChef, basic encryption and decryption. We also got a chance to practise our own specialities such as morse code and the Python coding language. At the beginning, we were falling behind the other teams but slowly we started creeping our way to the top. During the finishing stages of the school's competition, we did not know if we were able to win or not as the leader board had been shut down. But before you knew it, we ended up being the top team from HGS and on our way to the final of the Cyber First Girls Competition.

For the final, we went to Sheffield Hallam University, extremely excited for the day ahead. Once we got there, we had a quick introduction of why the Cyber First Girls Competition was formed and we were completely in shock at the fact that the number of women in the cyber security industry is only 25%. We went to the competition room, where we stocked up on snacks and drinks (a bit too much sugar was included). We went off to a brilliant start, where we were the first ones to solve a challenge. We stayed the top of the leader board throughout, but after lunchtime the leader board had closed (well it was supposed to, but some people could still access it. It was a cyber security competition after all). We were a bit scared that we would lose our place, and it was very rushed, but then time was up. We were amazed to find that, we had won! We got amazing prizes, like a laptop, air pods, a Hydro flask bottle, and many more goodies.



A couple of weeks after our win, we were informed that our awards evening was going to be in the Titanic Hotel in Belfast! We had so much fun there. We had to take a plane to get there, which as you can imagine was extremely exciting when travelling with friends! After we landed, our day started off with some much-needed lunch then quickly progressed to some healthy competition. Unfortunately, no electronic devices were supplied if we won but we did end up getting quite a cool pop socket.

# Cyber First Girls- Computing continued

The activities consisted of solving a murder by cracking different codes, we programmed a Sphero to play bowling with, we also had lots of fun in an escape room with the help of Lindy Cameron (CEO of NCSC).

We had many more activities to do following that. After that we got to take a guided tour around the Titanic Museum! We learnt all about how the Titanic was built, how many men were needed to build it, and we even got to go in a cable car which had a man telling us about the story of the workers. We were allowed to go the gift shop where we bought some souvenirs (one worth mentioning was a duck keychain that looked like a captain, and it was really cute) then we returned to the hotel, and then got ready for the evening dinner. We went to the Titanic Hotel, where we were given very inspirational messages and words of advice from Lindy Cameron and actor Hannah Khalique Brown. She recently starred in the Channel 4 TV show "The Undeclared



The next day, we went to visit Carrickfergus castle and it was highly informative. We got a tour of the castle by the one and only Mr Snowdon who had quite a shocking but interesting knowledge of how attackers were punished for trying to invade it. Unfortunately, that was where our trip came to a close. We went to the airport and had lunch, and Mr Snowdon fanboi'd out when Hannah Khalique Brown walked past in the airport! She was very generous, and we got a selfie with her.

This competition is only for year 8s, so our time is up, but we are looking for year 7 girls to take our place next year. We will be running a club every Wednesday lunchtime in S001 where we hope to help you with any difficulties and share our experiences of what to expect in the CFG competition:)

Try this challenge to get a head start on your cyber security skills:

## Challenge: Be Bold - Cryptography

This doesn't look like traditional ciphertext, but can you find the flag using this unusual looking key?

**H**ickory **d**ickory dock

**T**he **m**ouse ran up the clock

**T**he clock **s**truck one

**T**he mouse ran down

**H**ickory dickory dock!



**SCHOOLS**

# Congratulations

Congratulations to the following students for passing their grade exams from the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music.

Alex Stone - Flute Grade 3 Merit

Eden Amakoh - Musical Theatre Singing Grade 3

Edward Rushfirth - Musical Theatre Singing Grade 3 Distinction

Eleanor Stott - Musical Theatre Singing Grade 3

Emaan Badshah - Cello Grade 3 Merit

Martha Meredith - Singing Grade 3 Merit

Nancy Roberts - Singing Grade 5

Sarthak Sarkar - Violin Grade 2 Merit

Zoha Siddiqui - Piano - Grade 5 Merit

Congratulations also to Lily Dillon who has passed her grade 5 trumpet exam with Merit from the Trinity Music Exam board.

## Summer ABRSM Exams

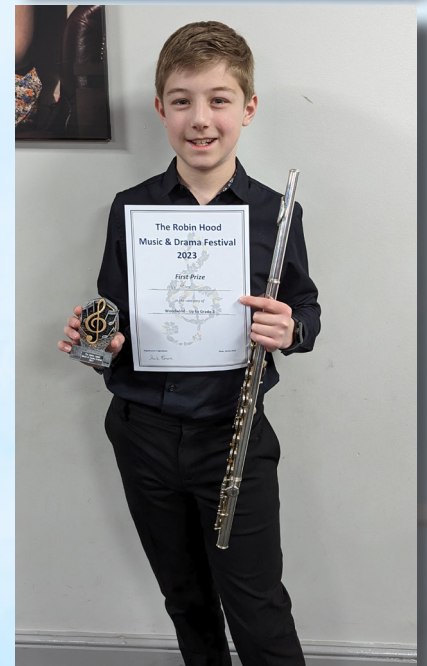
If you wish to enter for an ABRSM exam in the summer series please discuss this with your instrumental/vocal teacher or speak to Mr Cole.



# Robin Hood Music and Drama Festival

A massive congratulations to our Year 7 student Alex Stone who competed in the Robin Hood Music and Drama Festival last weekend. The competition is a community music festival for young people in Doncaster. Alex competed and won in the Piano - Up to grade 5, and the Woodwind - Up to grade 3 categories. He played 'Sonatina in F' by Beethoven on the piano and 'Pokarekare ana' (Traditional Maori) and 'He's A Pirate' by Hans Zimmer on the flute. This was his first ever music competition and the judges were really impressed with his confidence, his ability and how well he played all of his pieces. Alex has already thrown himself into all things music at HGS and is part of many clubs within school such as Junior Choir and Concert Band.

Keep up the incredible work Alex, well done!



# Rugby League Success



Congratulations to Henry Grierson, year 11 student has secured a place with U16 Scotland Rugby League Team. They will be playing international matches against England (June), Ireland (July) and Wales (August) over the summer. Henry is really excited to have the opportunity to represent his country and play in matches of this calibre.

We wish him well!

# Diary Dates

Monday 27 March  
Yr 12 Maths Inspiration Trip  
Leeds Playhouse

Wednesday 29 March  
Rescheduled Year 13 Remote Parents' Evening

Thursday 30 March  
Rock and Pop Night - 6PM Drama Studio

Monday 3 April - Friday 14 April  
School Closed - Easter Break

Monday 17 April  
School Re-opens 8.40 am

Monday 24 March  
Rescheduled Staff Bake-Off

Tuesday 25 April  
Year 8 HPV Vaccinations

Thursday 27 April  
Year 12 Remote Parents' Evening  
details to follow shortly

Monday 1 May  
School Closed - May-Day Bank Holiday

## EXAMS

Year 11 & Year 13 GCSE/A' Level exams :

The contingency dates for this summer exams are

**Thursday 8th & 15th June p.m**

**Wednesday 28th June - All day**

These contingency days are used should there be exceptional circumstances (in the event of national or significant local disruption to examinations) that may require exam boards to reschedule an examination. Students would only be required to attend on those days should an examination be rescheduled

# Gold Practice DofE

## Lake District – 17 – 20 March 2023

After school on Friday the group set off for Coniston to start their Practice Gold DofE Expedition. They had a night in Coniston YHA where the group were able to sort out their kit and go through the routes for the last time before setting off after breakfast on the Saturday morning.

The route started on the shores of Coniston. There was a brief climb to start with to avoid the main road before picking up the footpath that followed the shoreline all the way into Coniston. From here they climbed up to Tarn Hows where they stopped for lunch before heading over to Little Langdale and onto Great Langdale to the campsite at the end of the valley. Although it isn't a particularly high day, Day One is a long day and they were happy to be able to take boots off, pitch tents and relax.



Day Two was a slightly shorter day, so they left a little bit later, but after a walk along the valley they did have quite a tricky climb over the Craggs above Chapel Stile. From here they dropped down into Elterwater and then continued over to Low Wray for their second nights camp on the shores of Windermere. They were in high spirits after a dry and bright day.



It started to rain about 8pm on Sunday night and didn't really stop until we got to the motorway on the way home. It wasn't torrential rain but a persistent drizzle which meant everything was packed away wet and waterproofs were definitely required. They headed off up Latterbarrow to start their day. With zero visibility they didn't hang around long before getting on their way, heading back down to the Lake. From here they climbed up to Far Sawrey and on past the



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Tarns to eventually finish in Hawkshead.

The group had worked hard for the three days and are now ready to tackle the qualifying expedition later in the year after their Summer exams.



# KEEP BRITAIN TIDY.

## Big Batley & Spen Clean Up

On Friday 17 March a group of students, all members of the HGS Eco-Committee, along with Mr Currie, took part in the launch of the Big Batley & Spen Clean Up in Heckmondwike. Many other schools and members of the community took part in the event, which is part of the wider Great British Clean Up. The group met at the Green before dispersing across the town to pick up as much litter as possible. Our students managed to fill 56 bags of rubbish in just one hour and were amazed as some of the things they found. They said it was great to be part of the event, which had a great community spirit.



HECKMONDWIKE GRAMMAR SCHOOL

**ROCK**

and

**POP**

**NIGHT**

featuring

**4 DECIBELS**

**MIDNIGHT DREAMS**

**Black Noise**

**Floor Candy**



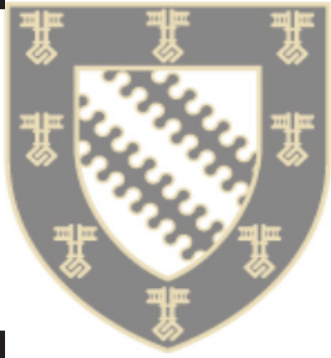
**Thursday 30 March 6pm**

Come along and see HGS' very own rock artists perform their favourite rock Athens.

Tickets are limited so ensure you book early to avoid disappointment.

<https://heckmondwikegrammar.schoolcloud.co.uk/>





# EXETER COLLEGE OXFORD

Exeter College, Oxford is pleased to announce the launch of their essay competition, open to UK-based pupils in Years 7, 8, and 9 (and their equivalents).

Write about something you find interesting. Is there a problem you think needs fixing? Or perhaps there's an important aspect of your favourite subject you'd like to explore in more detail. This competition is your chance to do so! Essays will be accepted on any topic you find interesting – the choice is yours. You can talk about problems in your local community or in a country of your choice, problems affecting young people, or issues such as climate change, natural disasters, technology, sport... or any other topic you can imagine!

Your task is to: Tell all about a problem facing the world today. Explain what the problem is and offer a solution.

Tell us about a topic you find interesting, and let us know more about it!

You are welcome to write a new heading for your essay, or to use the one above on its own. There is no minimum or maximum word limit, so you are free to write as much as you want to! Watch out for your spelling and grammar, too!



EXETER  
COLLEGE  
OXFORD

## Essay Competitions 2023

Win  
Prizes!

*Is there a current issue you think needs solving? Or perhaps there's an important aspect of your favourite subject you'd like to explore in more detail. This competition is your chance to do so. **We will accept essays on any topic you find interesting***

*- the choice is yours!*

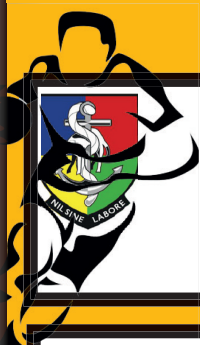


Deadline for KS3 entries: **10th July**  
Deadline for Year 12 entries: **1st August**



More info here: <https://www.exeter.ox.ac.uk/applicants/undergraduates/visit/outreach>

# HOUSE EVENTS



## W/c 20 February

Inters Boys Rugby - Year 9 - Lunchtime  
Inters Girls Hockey- Years 9 & 10 - Lunchtime

## W/c 27 February

Junior Boys Rugby - Year 8 - Lunchtime  
Senior Girls Hockey- Years 11 & 13 - Lunchtime  
House Art Launch

## W/c 6 March

Junior Boys Rugby - Year 7 - Lunchtime  
Junior Girls Hockey- Years 7 & 8 - Lunchtime



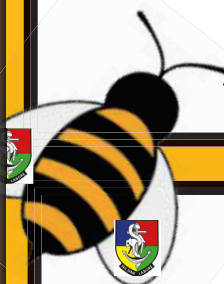
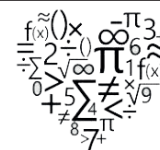
## W/c 13 March

Staff House Bake Off

Moved to  
Monday 24 April

## W/c 20 March

Junior Spelling Bee - Year 7 to 9 - Lunchtime  
Senior House Maths - Years 11 to 13 - Lunchtime



## W/c 27 March

Senior Spelling Bee - Year 10 to 13 - Lunchtime

For more information see your Head of House!  
Specific days to be confirmed in house assemblies and on Team