

# Heckler

Week 15 Published 12/01/2024



**HECKMONDWIKE**  
GRAMMAR SCHOOL

# Carols by CandleLight



It has definitely been long time since we worked so close to Christmas, but there was no better way of finishing a long term half term than with the annual Carol Concert. Held by candlelight at St James Church, Heckmondwike, it was a heartwarming evening full of beautiful music, singing and excellent readings from students across Y7-13.

On Thursday 21st December, the church was full of proud parents and staff, singing carols and enjoying performances by our Concert Band, Junior Choir, Senior Choir, Senior Girls Choir and String group.

The service started with Freya Whiteoak (Y7) singing the first verse of Once in Royal David's City acapella, as per tradition. There followed an abundance of wonderful music including choir performances of songs such as 'The Very Best Time Of The Year', 'This Little Babe' and 'When You Believe' as well as pieces performed by our Concert Band such as 'Carol of the Drum', 'Midnight Sleigh Ride - Troika' and 'An Irish Blessing' which featured four Year 11 students (Charlie Pearse, Veronica Bereza, Daisy Thornton and Harvey Cole).

A special well done to Martha Meredith and Neil Sah for singing a duet with String

Group of 'Evening Song', led by Mrs Preece. We were also treated to another stunning performance from Eleanor Turner and Kyran Russell (both Y12), together playing 'The Christmas Song'. Their Christmas duets are a staple of the Carole Service, and we are so glad we still have one more year to go!

Thank you to all the students who performed a reading as part of the service, and to those who stepped in last minute due to illness: Ben McNally (Y8), Millie Blyth (Y7), Reuben Booth (Y9), Ben-Felix Ani (Y9), Cara Brook (Y11), Abigail Ellis (Y13), Lola Freakley (Y13), Hannah Leadbeater (Y13), Head student Nancy Roberts (Y13) and Mrs Thomas, who kindly stepped in for Mr Roberts who unfortunately couldn't make the service due to illness.

Thank you to Mr Hall for all his hard work preparing the Senior Choirs and accompanying, also to Catherine Fan (Y11)

for accompanying Junior Choir and Mr Brooke-Mawson who played the organ for us during the carols.

The evening ended with the Concert Band and all choirs joining together for 'Somewhere In My Memory' and after a traditional rendition of 'We Wish You A Merry Christmas' everyone departed

ready to enjoy the Christmas holidays.

As always, our students did the school, their parents and themselves extremely proud. We are incredibly

grateful to all the parents of the students who have performed in the concerts over the last few weeks, your support is so appreciated. And our thanks to the students for being incredible and talented students to work with. Thank you to everyone who came for the Carol Concert.



Diary Events	
Monday 15 January	Yr 11 & 13 Revision Event
Wednesday 17 January	Yr 10 Poetry Trip 9.30 - 16.45 Traffic dependent
Thursday 18 January	Yr 8 Parents' Evening & Yr 9 Immunisations
Wednesday 21, Thursday 25	Wednesday 31 January & Thursday 1 February Sixth Form Interviews

\*\*\*\*\*

## Touchdown



Ryan Dawe, a year 10 student, has been selected for the Great Britain U17's American Football squad. This is a great achievement, especially as he is likely to be one of the youngest in the squad.

His club is based at Leeds Beckett University and all ages are welcome – (juniors) 7-14 for non-contact flag football and (seniors) 13-19 for full contact.

We wish you all the best Ryan and look forward to hearing more about this journey.

**LLOYDS**  
BANKING GROUP



## Pathway Update Business, Economics and Finance

We were very fortunate to be visited by a delegation from Lloyds Group who gave a presentation about their company and opportunities on offer. Some of the current apprentices on their schemes told us about their varied paths and how they are enjoying the apprentice scheme as they are gaining qualifications (the scheme can take them to degree or even masters level) whilst getting valuable work experience and of course getting paid. Lloyds offer apprenticeships in range of different areas from data analysis to engineering as well as the finance/accountancy options. Further details can be found here <https://www.lloydsbankinggroup.com/our-opportunities/apprenticeships/>

The event also provided an opportunity for students to develop soft skills such as asking questions. If students are shy or don't know what to ask at such events it was a good chance for them to observe others and pick up tips. My favourite question was 'how can I stand out from the crowd?' ...just by waiting back and asking that question the student made an impression!

Looking ahead we are offering more talks, speakers, trips, visits and opportunities. Interest in the New York trip was high, places have now been allocated as it was oversubscribed but we are looking at planning more trips going forward.

Upcoming events include:

Virtual chat with Kieran Maguire, author of 'The price of football' and football finance expert (often interviewed on TV/radio when football finances are being discussed!) on 25th January.

Visit from HMRC ambassador

Investment workshop (how investing works, how to get started)

Starting your own business workshop

Visit to Trading Room at Huddersfield University

Economics lecture from a visiting university lecturer

Accountancy apprenticeship talk with Mazaars

There are also opportunities to join or help run the BEFSOC, get 1:1 mentoring and more.

Please check out this link to express interest in any of the upcoming events. These are open to all years although priority and timings will be based upon year 12 and year 13 interest.

<https://forms.office.com/e/7AZ2QrEAH9>

Mrs Harker is available for drop-ins on Wednesday mornings in F005 8.30-8.40 for any of your business, economics or finance pathway queries, or can be contacted at [eharker@heckgrammar.co.uk](mailto:eharker@heckgrammar.co.uk). All these events are always publicised to sixth form on the sixth form pathway team - look at the channels for the BEF channel. For lower school, look out for events on the bulletin and posters around school and on the window of F005.

If any parents or friends reading this would be willing to come in or meet virtually, to speak to a small group of students about your own career path or current role please do get in touch.



**MY LIFE  
MY SAY**

## **YORKSHIRE DEMOCRACY CAFÉ MAKE IT MAKE SENSE PANEL**

10th February  
11:00am - 3:00pm

Ponderosa Business Park,  
Heckmondwike, WF16 0PR

## RadioHGS

Broadcasts every morning  
between 8.00 - 8.30,  
break time between 10 -  
10.20, and lunch between  
12.30pm and 1pm



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



More school news available  
on social platforms

<https://twitter.com/heckgrammar>



<https://www.facebook.com/heckgrammar>