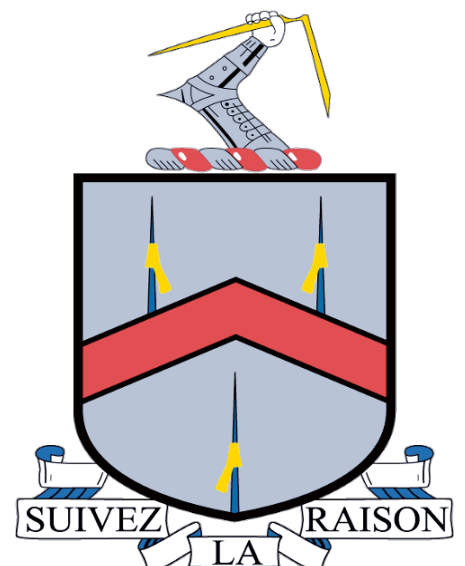


# the chronicles 2011







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November 2010 saw what almost became known as 'Chronicles-gate'. The previous editing team, through no fault of their own, had almost buckled under the sheer weight of proof reading. At the eleventh hour, Mr Clough bowed to the unthinkable. Even the administrative machine himself couldn't proof read the entire Chronicles. Three keener members of his English set, and a reluctant Dave Ideson - thanks for the help Dave - helped snatch victory from the jaws of defeat and The Chronicles lived to fight another day.

It was against this background that we once again rose to the Chronicles challenge; this time with us in the driving seat. (Although this letter was written before going to press, we assume we encountered the same proof reading problems, mad dash to the finish and general tears before bedtime, not that we're incompetent or anything!)

One of our big decisions of the year was the return of The Chronicles to A5. After a brief flirtation with A4 paper it was agreed all round that The Chronicles should return to the format that, for many, is its spiritual home.

Our next major decision was how the content of this year's magazine should actually be written. In a moment of communist fervour we decided this should be the people's magazine, the result being perhaps the widest array of writers The Chronicles has ever seen. Surely this can only be a good thing?

Finally, all that's left to say is that we hope you enjoy reading this year's Chronicles as much as we've enjoyed editing it. Gone are the days when little happened in each issue, and what did happen was greeted with the headline "At last, Petyt have done something!" (Chronicles 1932). This year you'll find accounts of trips, events, fixtures and all the usual, creating what we hope will be a fine vintage of the magazine that can be added to an illustrious line of those gone by (with the possible exception of 1932!)



Pete Howarth



Joe Pugh



Rob Snell

It is both a pleasure and a privilege to be asked to submit an article for The Chronicles, a school publication that has been running for over 100 years. Throughout that time it has recorded, sometimes unwittingly, enormous changes in the life of the school and the experiences of the boys here. I feel the 'hand of history' upon me as I settle to write this and only hope the following piece does justice to both The Chronicles and the school itself.

More than occasionally I reflect on benevolent fortune or fate which has led to my appointment as Headteacher. It is a job which I find hugely rewarding. My wife recently asked me what I felt was the greatest achievement in my life. I answered 'Being Head of EGS' – temporarily forgetting a happy marriage, two wonderful daughters and a fulfilling home life! After a moment's hesitation I qualified the statement by asking whether it was to be a professional or personal achievement – but even in that hesitation I was caught. Being Head of the school fulfils both these for me.

I started my teaching career at Ulverston Victoria High School, a large comprehensive situated in a small market town in South Cumbria. For ten years I taught English across the age and ability ranges with little ambition for promotion but then opportunities arose, first within the English department and then within the school's pastoral system, which eventually led to being in charge of the whole of Key Stage 3. But it was the arrival of a new Headteacher which really developed an appetite for senior leadership. The new Headteacher believed in delegation – and it serves to prove what staff can do when given the chance. For three years I was Assistant Headteacher before deciding that if I was to become a Deputy or a Head I would need to move schools. Apart from that I had started to teach the children of boys and girls I had taught 10-15 years previously. It was time for a change.

And so I moved to Bradford, leaving behind the beauty of the Lake District, the security of a job and role I knew I could discharge standing upside down, and a lovely house and garden close to the edge of Coniston Water. For six months I rented a flat in Ilkley and travelled back to the Lakes at weekends to be with my wife and young family. I can honestly say it was the lowest point in my whole life. But I'd made the decision and I had to stick to it. After six months we finally sold our house, packed up and made the journey here.

I'd frequently driven past EGS and imagined, with more than a degree of envy, what life might be like there. Its imposing look, patrician yet inspiring; the boys reasonably neat and tidy, its academic and sporting success well known throughout the area.

So when the Deputy Headteacher's job was advertised in 2005 I had no hesitation in applying – and in February was invited for interview. The rest, as they say, is history.

Since 2005 I've felt as if I belong here. The school suits me and, I hope, I suit the school. The last six years, especially the last three as Headteacher, have been the most fulfilling of my professional career.

As I look back I occasionally wonder of opportunities missed or not taken and how life could have turned out differently. Yet teaching is a profession which gets into your blood and I don't think I would have been happy or content doing any other job. Yes, occasionally it's frustrating, the bureaucracy is exasperating and now and again you have to deal with difficult people in awkward situations but, on the whole, it's a fine profession in which I am proud to work. The chance to help develop, mould and inspire young people, to be a small part of their formative years and to set them on the road to success is a rich, rewarding and worthwhile experience.

However, this piece should also pay tribute to all my predecessors here at EGS who have built the school into the fine place it is today. It should recognise the dedication and hard work of the staff who help create the outstanding opportunities for the boys, the Governors for their support, advice and assistance, and finally the boys themselves, without whom EGS would simply be an empty shell.

The school holds me in its thrall. It poses many challenges, but in taking up the post of Headship I made a promise to myself that I would meet them with as much energy and commitment as I could muster. I neither regret nor retract that promise.



I am extremely honoured to have been selected as the Head Boy of EGS Grammar School. Over the past six years I have thoroughly enjoyed my time here and I hope, through this role, I can offer something back to the school that has done me so well.

Over this time I have come to believe that this school is so successful in many aspects due to the dedicated staff, the hardworking pupils and the competitive and friendly ethos that drives everyone to work together.

I believe that this school offers a friendly and welcoming atmosphere to all of its students. Whilst there are many challenges in school life, there is a great sense of comfort and security. Those nerves on arrival at EGS that everyone experiences are soon forgotten.

The pupils' enjoyment of their time at EGS is also down to the wide variety of extra-curricular activities offered by the school; there is something for everyone. I have always been interested in sport and have played in the rugby, cricket and football teams as well as participating in the school tennis tournament. I have never shown world-class potential at these sports but I feel it is the school's inclusion of the many enthusiastic students that leads to frequent sporting success.

Even so, EGS offers much more than sport. For those who are not so keen on sport there are many other alternatives, including the highly regarded drama club, chess club and the school's many music bands. Moreover, there are the annual house quizzes and inter-house drama which always provide much entertainment.

I accept this role of great importance with pride and hope to be a suitable figurehead for the school. Over the next year I shall keep in close contact with the Headmaster, the Heads of Sixth Form and the Deputy Heads to ensure good communication between staff and pupils. I also hope that with a great team of Deputies and Prefects, we can work together to improve the school and not lose focus on what is already going so well.

The friendly, competitive and sociable atmosphere of the school offers everyone the opportunity and base to be extremely successful in life and I am sure all pupils thoroughly enjoy being a part of it.

*Ian Newell*



**Dr. Chris Needham** is a Mathematician and Computer Scientist. Before teaching, he worked at the University of Leeds applying mathematics and statistics to video analysis, such as tracking sports players, behaviour-modelling and computational biology, including looking to infer relationships between genes. He is a keen runner and also enjoys cycling and climbing.

**Mrs. Sharon Taylor** has taught all aspects of Technology for the past 18 years, though she now specialises in Food. She has taught in a variety of schools, most recently at St. Charles RC Primary, Rishton and Ashton Community College, Preston. She lives in Clitheroe with her husband and two children, and enjoys going to the cinema, swimming and is a novice mountain-biker. At EGS, Mrs. Taylor has encouraged boys to enter both local and national cooking competitions. She states that the best parts of her job so far have been “the boys’ enthusiasm in Food lessons, and the welcome I have been given by the staff”. As Head of Hartley House, along with Mr. Stewart, she is looking forward to Hartley being ‘House of the Year 2011-2012’!



Following degrees at Newcastle and Leeds, **Miss Heather Potter** starts her first teaching post as a Religious Studies teacher. Heather enjoys running, eating out, and yoga, the latter of which she hopes to gain an instructorship in. In her gap year Heather taught in a school in Tanzania, climbing Kilimanjaro whilst in Africa. She describes working at EGS as a fantastic experience, saying: “all the staff and students have been warm and welcoming. It has definitely lived up to my expectations.”

**Mr. Andrew Fearnley** comes to EGS as a chemistry teacher from South Craven. A graduate of Leeds University, Mr. Fearnley is a Yorkshire man through and through. In his spare time he enjoys gardening, cycling and DIY, three things he is unable to do at the moment, given the fact he is on crutches! His other main passion is the guitar, which he plays in a local band.

**Mr. Gerry Whittington** arrived at this school in January 2011 and left at the end of the year. See Valete for further details.

**Mr. Gerry Whittington** is an RS teacher who came out of retirement to teach at EGS. Having taught at Benton Park School in Leeds for fifteen years, he retired to pursue his hobbies of singing with the St. Margaret's Church choir in Ilkley, tinkering with his MG Midget, and regularly performing the 'Dingham Dash'. Whilst not taking up a permanent post at EGS, Mr. Whittington has promised his excellent services as and when they are needed.



The academic year for **Mr. Bullock** started, by his own admission, "tragically", with many experimental disasters such as flooding S4 and 'accidentally' making a flamethrower out of a gas tap. However, over the months, 'The Bull' came to be loved by all students who taught him. Visiting the south coast whenever he could, Mr. Bullock has returned there after one short, yet valued, year at EGS. We are grateful for his service here.



**Miss Katy Ingall** arrived at the school in 2006 as a teacher of mathematics, teaching to all age groups and to all standards. On top of the thanks we must give to her for five valued years of teaching, Miss Ingall also devoted countless hours to mathematical-related extra-curricular activities; organising the 'Cipher Challenge' and the lunchtime 'Maths Club' sessions. She leaves EGS to live and work in New Zealand and we hope she enjoys the drastically different lifestyle!

**Mrs. Heather Leek** is perhaps the 'unsung hero' of EGS. She has had the duty for fourteen long years of feeding young, angry boys at lunchtime in an attempt to content their stomachs. However, she has decided it is time to retire and we gratefully thank her for her service. And the flapjacks. We love the flapjacks.

The intriguing **Mr. Nabarro**, who once lived a double-life as a top banker in 'The City', has left EGS after one year and goes on to teach at Mrs. Naylor's former haunt of Beckfoot School. The yellow stockings will be missed.

**Head Boy**

Ian Newell

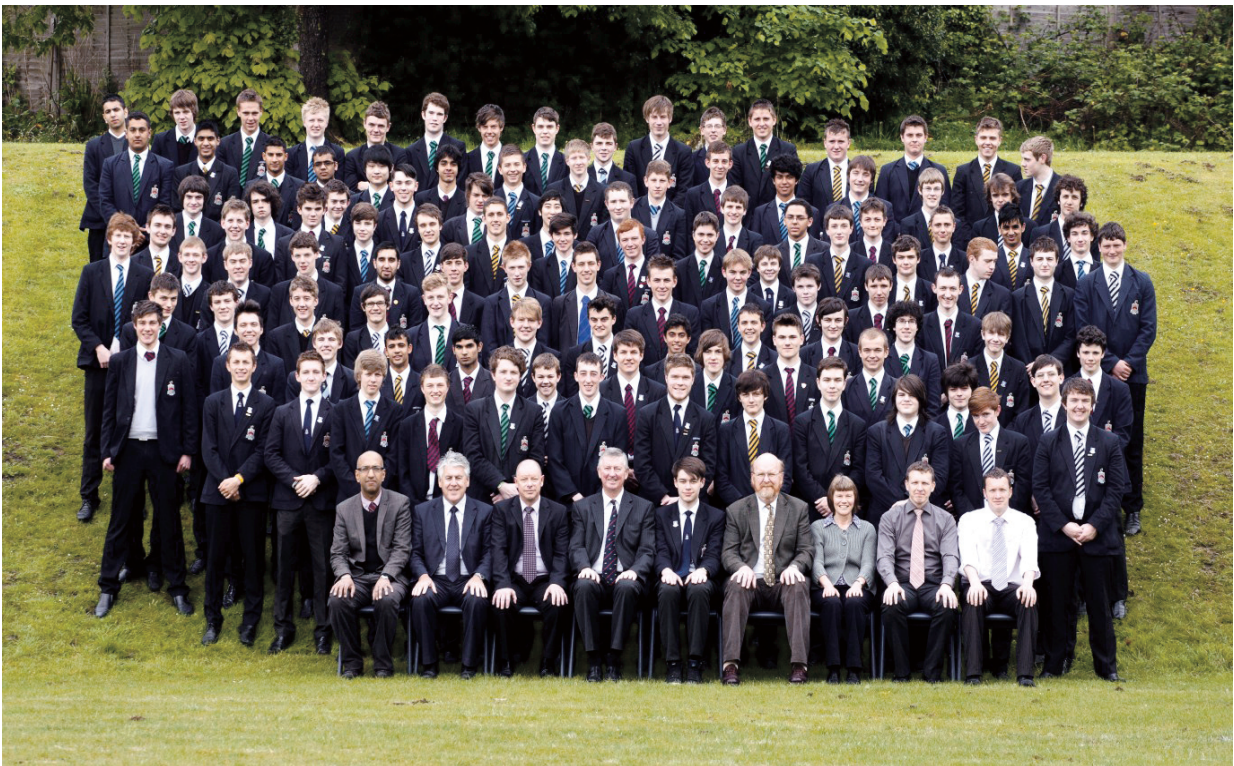
**Deputy Head Boys**Oliver Cicognini  
Matthew Hall  
Michael Loy  
William Smith**Ermysted House Captains**Peter Howarth  
Alexander Moffat**Hartley House Captains**Nicholas Hartley  
James Smith**Petyt House Captains**Alan Beaumont  
Samuel French**Toller House Captains**Edward McParland  
Joseph Pugh

Abrol, Rasit: Manchester Metropolitan University, International Business  
Akhtar, Subhan: University of Bradford, Pharmacy  
Ali, Haroon: University of Bradford, Chemistry  
Ali, Sakib: EGS Grammar School, Resitting 'A' levels  
Ashfaq, Khurram: St George's, University of London, Medicine  
Badge, James: University of Bristol, Music  
Barnes, George: Queen's University, Belfast Film Studies  
Barwick, Nathan: University of Sheffield, Aerospace Engineering  
Bendall, Thomas: University of Cambridge, Natural Sciences  
Berry, Edward: University of Cambridge, Philosophy  
Blackwell, Ben: University of Manchester, Architecture  
Bollen, Jacob: University of Nottingham, Economics and Econometrics  
Boothman, Joseph: University of Nottingham, American Studies and History  
Bower, Jacob: Burnley College, Foundation Course in Public Services  
Britnell, Sam: Northumbria University, Sport Management  
Brook, Daniel: University of Cambridge, Natural Sciences  
Chapman, Luke: University of Durham, Economics  
Clayton-Stead, Duncan: University of Aberystwyth, Physical Geography  
Cooke, Tristram: King's College, University of London, Music  
Coulson, Alastair: University of Bradford, Biomedical Science  
Crisp, William: Loughborough University, Mathematics and Sports Science  
Davies, Lloyd: University of Bangor, Sports Science  
Dawson, Simon: Cardiff University, Masters Degree in Chemistry  
England, Luke: Loughborough University, Sport and Exercise Science  
Fairbairn, Craig: University of Bristol, Veterinary Science  
Farnes, Charles: Gap Year, Resitting 'A' levels  
Geldard, Matthew: Brunel University, Product Design  
Golding, Joseph: University of Manchester, German and Russian  
Grange, Ian: Harper Adams University College, Agriculture  
Griffith, Joel: University of Exeter, Philosophy and Political Economy  
Gubbin, Shawn: University of Warwick, Biological Sciences  
Hall, William: University of the West of England, Geography  
Hargrave, Rupert: Gap Year, Resitting 'A' levels  
Hartley, Gareth: University of Sheffield, Chemistry with study in Australia  
Hawthorne, Nathan: University of Birmingham, English with Creative Writing  
Heseltine, James: University of Nottingham, Engineering with Foundation Year  
Hindle, Timothy: Craven College, Art Foundation

Holmes, Josh: University of Durham, Geography  
Holroyd, Charles: University of Birmingham, Economics  
Holt, Joseph: University of Cambridge, Law  
Hooper, Richard: University of Bath, Mathematics  
Howard, Charles: University of Manchester, Biomedical Science  
Howlett, Benjamin: University of Cambridge, Natural Sciences  
Humphreys, Anthony: Lancaster University, Law  
Hussain, Junaid: University of Bradford, Biomedical Science  
Hussain, Uthmaan: University of Exeter, Mathematics with Economics  
Johnson, Rory: University of Bath, Chemistry  
Kelly, Jake: Leeds Metropolitan University, Sports Marketing and Public Relations  
Kennedy, George: Northumbria University, Mechanical Engineering  
Kilburn, Matthew: Craven College, Foundation Course in Design  
Kimberlin, Dominic : St Andrew's University, English  
Landless, Jonathan: University of Sheffield, Archaeology  
Leeming, James: Harper Adams University College, Agriculture  
Loadman, Michael: University of Durham, Natural Sciences  
Lobley, Sam: University of Bradford, Civil and Structural Engineering  
Locke, Myles: University of Exeter, Economics  
Lodge, Tom: University of Sheffield, English and Theatre  
Loryman, James: Imperial College, University of London, Geology with a Year Abroad  
Mahler, Paul: University of Cumbria, Outdoor Leadership  
Marshall, William: Hull York Medical School, Medicine  
Massey, Alastair: University of Cumbria, Outdoor Leadership  
Mayes, Christian: University of Durham, Classics  
Maylett, Benjamin: University of Manchester, Chemical Engineering with Industrial Experience  
McIntyre, Alex: University of Nottingham, Law with German and German Law 2012  
McKinney, Oliver: University of Bristol, Medicine  
McMahon, Barnaby: University of Bath, Mechanical Engineering  
Mellin, William: Harper Adams University College, Agricultural Engineering  
Messenger, Peter: Gap Year, Resitting 'A' levels  
Metcalf, Jimmy: Apprenticeship with Secret Drawer Furniture  
Morley, Thomas: University of Manchester, Mechanical Engineering  
Naraen, Akarshan: Re-applying Medicine  
O'Neill, Jamie: University of Cambridge, Engineering

O'Neill, Jamie: University of Cambridge, Engineering  
Osborne, Adam: Bangor University, Primary Education  
Parker, Jake: Northumbria University, Pharmaceutical Chemistry  
Pascoe, Christopher: Newcastle University, Electrical and Electronic Engineering  
Phillips, Joshua: University of Oxford, Physics  
Pinder, Billy: Reapplying to Cambridge  
Price, Jack: Newcastle University, Marketing  
Pughe, Tom: Loughborough University, Business Economics and Finance  
Purnell, Samuel: Leeds College of Art, Art Foundation  
Ramzan, Awais: Gap Year, Resitting 'A' levels  
Rennison, Freddie: Gap Year  
Richardson, Rory; University of East London, Civil Engineering  
Robertson, Alasdair: Employment  
Robinson, Thomas: University of Warwick, Philosophy  
Romaszko, Zak: Liverpool University, Physics  
Rook, William: University of Sheffield, Journalism Studies  
Rudden, Tom: York University, Economics  
Rymer, Tom: Employment  
Saghir, Mohsin: University of Bolton, Engineering  
Salorian, Vahan: Guildhall School of Music, Music Composition  
Scothern, Daniel: Oxford Brookes University, English/Film Studies  
Shirazi, Tausiq: Gap Year, Resitting 'A' levels  
Sinclair, Alexander: University of Warwick, History and Politics  
Skilleter, Robert: University of Manchester, Chemical Engineering with study in Europe  
Starkey, Herbert: Huddersfield University, Motorsport Technology  
Sullivan, Andrew: Southampton University, Computer Science  
Sullivan, Ben: University of Westminster, Film and Television Production  
Sumnall, Adam: University of Exeter, History  
Swift, Robbie: Northumbria University, Mechanical Engineering  
Taylor, Ben: Southampton University, Computer Science with Artificial Intelligence  
Tumi, Aessa: King's College, University of London, Medicine  
Wade-Smith, Robert: Gap Year, Resitting 'A' levels  
Waind, Ethan: Leeds College of Art, Art Foundation  
Walker, Jack: University of Manchester, Economics  
Watson, James: Lancaster University, History and Politics  
Webster, James: Queen's University, Belfast, Dentistry

Webster, Sam: Loughborough University, Sports Science with Management  
Willan, David: University College, University of London, Statistics  
Williams, Andrew: St Andrew's University, Philosophy  
Winstanley, Adam: University of Manchester, Chemistry with study in North America  
Witek, Conrad: Queen Mary College, University of London, Medicine  
Womersley, Ryan: Royal Marines  
Wraight, Timothy: University of Dundee, Politics  
Yang, Yanbo: University of Leeds, Dentistry  
Zhang, Nai Yan: King's College, University of London, Medicine



H Ali, bi, ch, en;  
 C Holroyd, bi\*, en\*;  
 B Parker, bi, en, rs;  
 T Rudden, ec\*, gs, gn\*, ma\*, ph;  
 S Akhtar, bi, ch, rs;  
 S Ali, bi, ch, rs\*;  
 M Ashfaq, bi\*\*, ch\*\*, ma\*\*, ph\*\*;  
 J Badge, en\*, el\*, gs, mu;  
 G Barnes, ch, gs, hi\*, ph;  
 N Barwick, cp\*, gs, ma, ph;  
 T Bendall, bi\*\*, ch\*\*, fm\*\*, gs\*, ma\*\*, ph\*\*;  
 E Berry, ec\*\*, en\*\*, el\*, gs, rs\*\*;  
 B Blackwell, fa, gs, hi, ma\*;  
 J Bollen, ch\*, ec\*, gs, ma\*, ph\*;  
 J Boothman, en\*, el, gs, hi;  
 S Britnell, dt, en, pe;  
 L Chapman, ec\*\*, fm\*\*, gs\*, ma\*\*, ph\*\*;  
 D Clayton-Stead, bi, gs, gy, hi;  
 A Coulson, bi, en, gs, ph;  
 W Crisp, bi\*\*, gs, ma\*\*, pe\*;  
 L Davies, en, el, gs, pe;  
 S Dawson, bi, ch\*, gs, ph;  
 L England, bi, en\*, gs, pe\*;  
 C Fairbairn, bi\*, ch\*, gs\*, ma\*;  
 C Farnes, fm\*, gs, ma\*, mu, ph\*;  
 J Golding, fr\*\*, gm\*\*, gs, la;  
 I Grange, ch, gy, ma;  
 S Gubbin, bi, pe\*, rs\*;  
 G Hartley, bi\*, ch\*\*, gs, ma\*\*, ph\*;  
 J Heseltine, fa, ch, en;  
 J Holmes, ec\*\*, el\*\*, gs\*, gy\*;  
 B Howlett, bi\*\*, ch\*\*, gs\*, ma\*\*, ph\*\*;  
 J Hussain, bi, ch, ma;  
 R Johnson, ch\*, dt, el, gs, ph\*;  
 G Kennedy, ch, gs, hi, ma;  
 D Kimberlin, ch, en\*\*, el\*\*, gs, rs\*\*;  
 J Leeming, dt, en, gs, gy;  
 M Loadman, ch\*\*, fm\*, gs, ma\*\*, ph\*\*;

Legend:

Biology – bi  
 Chemistry – ch  
 Computing – cp  
 Drama and Theatre Studies - dr  
 Design and Technology – dt  
 Economics – ec  
 English Literature – el  
 English Language – en  
 Fine Art – fa  
 Further Mathematics – fm  
 French – fr  
 German – gm  
 Government and Politics – gp  
 General Studies – gs  
 Geography - gy  
 History – hi  
 Latin – la  
 Mathematics – ma  
 Music - mu  
 Physical Education – pe  
 Physics – ph  
 Religious Studies - rs

A = \*

A\* = \*\*

J Griffith, bi, ch\*, ec\*, el\*, gs;  
 R Hargrave, ec\*, gs, hi, ma;  
 N Hawthorne, en\*, el\*, gs, hi\*, rs\*\*;  
 T Hindle, fa, dt, en;  
 R Hooper, ec\*, fm\*\*, ma\*\*;  
 A Humphreys, ch, cp, el\*, gs, hi;  
 M Hussain ec\*, gs, ma\*, ph\*;  
 J Kelly, gs, ma, pe;  
 M Kilburn, fa, en, gs, gy;  
 J Landless, cp, hi, ma\*, ph;



S Lobley, ch, gs, ma, ph;  
 J Loryman, ec\*\*, gs, gy\*, ma\*;  
 W Marshall, bi\*, ch\*, el\*;  
 C Mayes, bi\*, ch\*, et\*\*, gs\*, la\*\*;  
 A McIntyre, ec\*, el, gn\*, gs\*, ma\*;  
 B McMahon, ec\*, fm\*, gs, ma\*, ph\*;  
 P Messenger, ch, ec\*, gs, ph;  
 T Morley, ch\*, ma, ph;  
 J O'Neill, ec\*, fm\*\*, gs, ma\*\*, ph\*\*;  
 J Parker, bi, ch, en;  
 J Phillips, ec\*\*, fm\*, gs\*, ma\*\*, ph\*\*;  
 W Pinder, ec\*\*, en\*\*, el\*\*, gn\*, gs\*\*;  
 T Pughe, ec\*, ma\*, ph;  
 M Ramzan, bi, ch, el\*, gs;  
 R Richardson, dt, el, gs, ma;  
 T Robinson, bi\*, gs, ma\*, ph\*, rs\*;  
 W Rook, en, el, gs\*, hi;  
 D Scothern, en, el, gs, pe;  
 A Sinclair, bi\*\*, ec\*\*, el\*, gs\*\*, hi\*;  
 R Skilleter, ch\*\*, fr\*\*, gs\*, hi\*, ma\*\*;  
 A Sullivan, bi\*, ch, cp\*, gs\*, ma\*;  
 A Sumnall, en\*, gs\*, hi\*, mu\*;  
 B Taylor, cp, fm\*, gs, ma\*\*, ph\*;  
 J Walker, ec\*\*, el\*, gs\*, ma;  
 J Webster, bi\*, ch\*, ec\*, gs, gy\*;  
 D Willan, fm\*, gs\*, gy\*, ma\*;  
 A Winstanley, ch, ec\*, gs, ma, ph;  
 R Womersley, bi\*, ch\*, gs, ma;  
 N Zhang, bi\*, ch\*, fm\*, gs, ma\*\*;  
 J Bower, en, gs, gy, hi;  
 T Cooke, fr\*, gs, ma\*, mu\*;  
 W Hall, dt, en, gy;  
 C Howard, bi\*, ch\*, gs, ma\*;  
 T Rymer, bi, ch, pe;  
 A Tumi, bi\*, ch\*, gs, ma\*;  
 J Walker, ec\*\*, en, el, gs;  
 M Locke, ec\*, gs, ma\*, ph;  
 P Mahler, dt, gy, pe;  
 A Massey, dt, el, gs, gy;  
 B Maylett, ch\*, fm, gs, ma\*, ph\*;  
 O McKinney, bi\*, ch, fa, gs\*, ma\*;  
 W Mellin, ec, gs, ma, ph;  
 J Metcalfe, dt, fa\*, gy;  
 A Naraen, bi\*, ch\*, gs, ma\*;  
 A Osborne, en, fa, gs, ma;  
 C Pascoe, ch, gs, ma\*, ph;  
 J Price, en\*, el, gs, pe;  
 S Purnell, en, el, fa;  
 F Rennison, dt, gy, ma;  
 A Robertson, bi, en, el;  
 Z Romaszko, ec\*, gs, ma, ph;  
 V Salorian, bi, ch, en\*, gs, mu\*;  
 T Shirazi, bi, ch\*, gs\*, ma;  
 H Starkey, gy, hi;  
 B Sullivan, en\*, el\*, gs\*\*, rs\*;  
 R Swift, ch, ma, ph;  
 E Waind, fa, gs, ma, ph;  
 J Watson, ch, el, gs\*, hi;  
 S Webster, el, gs, hi\*, pe;  
 A Williams, en\*, el\*, gs, hi, rs\*;  
 C Witek, bi\*, ch\*, en\*, gs, mu;  
 Y Yang, bi, ch\*, ma;  
 R Abrol, gy, ma, ph;  
 D Brook, bi\*\*, ch\*\*, gs\*, gy\*, ma\*;  
 M Geldard, dt\*, ec\*, gs, hi;  
 J Holt, gs\*, gy\*\*, hi\*, ma\*\*, ph\*;  
 T Lodge, en\*, et\*\*, dr, gs;  
 M Saghir, ch, ma;  
 R Wade-Smith, ch, gs, ma, ph;  
 T Wraight, ec\*, el, gs, hi;

J Adams bi\*\*, ch\*\*, clg\*, cz, en\*\*, el\*\*, hi\*\*, it\*, la\*, ma\*\*, ph\*\*, rs\*\*;

C Allatson bi\*\*, ch\*\*, cz, en\*\*, el\*, gn\*, it\*, la\*, ma\*\*, ph\*\*, rs\*\*;

H Anson en, el, gn, it, ma, pe, rs, sc, sc(as);

J Arnott bi\*\*, ch\*\*, cz, en\*, el, gy\*, gn\*, it\*, la, ma\*\*, ph\*\*, rs;

H Ashfaq bi, ch, dt\*, en, el, gn, hi, it, ma\*, ph, rs;

J Baldwin bi\*\*, ch\*\*, clg\*\*, cz\*\*, en\*\*, el\*, gy\*\*, gn\*\*, it\*\*, la\*\*, ma\*\*, ph\*\*, rs\*;

H Barclay bi\*\*, ch\*\*, cz, en\*\*, el\*, gn\*\*, hi\*\*, it\*, la\*, ma\*, ph\*;

J Beetham cz, en, el, gn, hi, it, ma, pe, sc, sc(as);

H Benn bi\*, ch\*\*, cz, dt, en, el, gn\*, it, ma\*, ph\*\*, rs;

R Beresford bi\*\*, ch\*\*, cz\*, dt\*\*, en\*\*, el\*\*, gy\*\*, gn\*\*, it\*, ma\*\*, ph\*\*, rs\*\*;

C Binns bi, ch, cz, en, el, gy, it, ma\*, pe, ph, rs;

S Blakeley bi, ch\*, en, el, gy, it, ma\*\*, pe\*, ph, rs;

N Bohanna bi\*, ch\*, cz, en\*, el\*, gn\*, hi\*\*, it\*, ma\*\*, ph\*, rs\*\*;

O Borrowes bi\*\*, ch\*\*, cz, en\*, el, gy\*, gn\*, it\*, ma\*\*, ph\*\*, rs\*\*;

H Briggs bi\*\*, ch\*\*, cz, en\*\*, el\*, fr\*\*, hi\*\*, it\*, ma\*\*, pe\*\*, ph\*\*, rs\*\*;

S Brown bi\*\*, ch\*\*, dt\*, en, el\*, it\*, ma\*, pe\*, ph\*\*, rs;

J Buckley bi\*, ch\*, en, el, gy, gn, it, ma\*, pe, ph, rs;

D Burnley bi, ch\*\*, cz, dt, en, el, gn, it\*, ma\*, ph\*\*, rs;

W Cass bi, ch, dt, en, el, gn, hi, it\*, ma, ph;

J Chaggar bi\*\*, ch\*\*, cz\*, dt\*\*, en\*\*, el\*, gn\*\*, hi\*\*, it\*, ma\*\*, ph\*\*, rs\*\*;

C Christiansen bi\*\*, ch\*\*, cz, en\*, el\*, fr\*\*, gn\*\*, hi\*\*, la\*, ma\*\*, ph\*\*, rs\*\*;

C Counsell bi, ch\*, cz, en\*, el, fr, hi, it\*, ma\*, ph, rs;

J Cowling bi\*\*, ch\*\*, cz, en\*\*, el\*, gn\*\*, hi\*\*, it\*, la\*, ma\*\*, ph\*\*, rs\*\*;

A Crossley bi\*\*, ch\*, en\*\*, el\*, gn\*\*, it, ma\*\*, mu\*\*, ph\*\*, rs\*;

J Davey bi\*\*, ch\*\*, cz\*, en\*\*, el\*, gy\*\*, hi\*\*, it\*, la\*\*, ma\*\*, ph\*\*, rs\*\*;

M Davidson bi, ch, cz, en, el, gy, gn, it, ma, pe, ph, rs;

J Dawson bi\*, ch\*\*, cz, dt\*, en\*, el, it\*, la, ma\*\*, mu\*, ph\*\*, rs;

A Drake bi, ch\*, en\*, el, hi, it\*, ma\*, pe, ph, rs;

C Dunne bi\*, ch\*, cz, en\*, el, gy\*, gn, hi\*\*, it\*, ma\*, ph\*, rs\*;

H Edwards bi\*, ch\*, cz, dt\*, en\*, el\*, it\*, ma\*, pe\*\*, ph\*, rs\*;

D Ellison-Bates bi\*, ch\*, cz, en\*, el\*, gn\*, hi\*\*, it\*, ma\*, ph\*, rs\*;

G England bi\*, ch\*, cz, en, el, fa, gy\*, it\*, ma, pe\*, ph\*;

B Fletcher bi\*\*, ch\*\*, cz\*, dt\*\*, en\*\*, el\*, gn\*\*, it\*, ma\*\*, mu\*, ph\*\*, rs\*;

H French bi\*\*, ch\*\*, cz, en\*\*, el\*, fa, gn, it\*, ma\*, ph\*\*, rs\*;

W Gains bi\*, ch\*, cz, dt\*\*, en\*, el, fa, gy\*\*, it\*, ma, ph\*\*, rs;

S Goodfellow bi\*, ch\*\*, cz, en\*, el, gy\*, hi\*\*, it\*, ma\*, pe\*\*, ph\*\*, rs;

J Grange dt, en, el, gy, hi, it, ma, sc, sc(as);  
 O Griffiths bi, ch\*, cz, en\*, el\*, hi, it, ma, mu, ph\*, rs\*;  
 J Guild bi\*\*, ch\*\*, cz, en\*, el\*, gy\*, gn, hi\*, it\*, ma\*, ph\*, rs;  
 C Hague bi\*\*, ch\*\*, cz\*, dt\*\*, en\*\*, el\*\*, gn\*\*, it\*\*, ma\*\*, ph\*\*, rs\*;  
 J Haig bi\*, ch\*, cz, en\*, el\*, hi\*, it\*, ma, pe\*, ph, rs\*;  
 T Hardie bi\*\*, ch\*\*, cz, en\*, el\*, gn\*, hi\*, it\*\*, ma\*, ph\*\*, rs\*;  
 J Harman bi, ch\*, cz, en\*, el\*, hi, it, ma\*, mu, ph\*, rs\*;  
 J Hartley cz, en, el, gy\*, gn, it\*, ma, rs, sc, sc(as);  
 J Harvey bi\*\*, ch\*, cz, dt, en\*, el, gn\*, hi\*, it\*, ma\*, ph\*\*;  
 W Healey bi\*, ch\*, cz, en, el, gy\*, gn, it, ma\*\*, mu, ph\*;  
 E Hobbs bi\*\*, ch\*\*, cz, dt, en\*, el\*, gn\*, it\*, ma\*, mu, ph\*;  
 T Holme bi, ch, cz, dt, en, el, gy\*, it\*, ma\*, pe\*, ph, rs;  
 J Holt bi\*, ch, cz, en, el, gy, gn, hi\*, it, ma\*, ph\*;  
 S Holt bi\*, ch\*, cz, dt\*\*, en, el, gn, it\*, ma\*, ph\*\*, rs\*;  
 L Hopley bi\*\*, ch\*\*, cz\*, dt\*\*, en\*\*, el\*, gn\*\*, hi\*\*, it\*, ma\*\*, ph\*\*, rs\*;  
 W Johnson bi\*, ch\*\*, cz, en\*\*, el\*, gy\*\*, hi\*\*, it\*, la, ma\*, ph\*, rs\*;  
 G Jowitt bi\*, ch\*, cz, dt\*, en\*, el, it\*, la, ma\*\*, pe\*, ph\*\*, rs;  
 T Kennedy bi\*, ch\*, cz, en, el, gy\*, hi, it, ma\*, pe, ph\*, rs;  
 J Langtree bi, ch\*, cz, en\*, el, gy, it\*, ma\*, pe, ph\*, rs;  
 D Lawson bi\*\*, ch\*\*, cz, dt\*, en, el, fa, hi\*, it\*, ma\*\*, ph\*\*;  
 M Lawson bi\*\*, ch\*\*, cz, dt\*\*, en\*\*, el\*\*, fa\*, gn\*, it\*, ma\*\*, ph\*\*, rs;  
 B Leach bi\*, ch\*, cz, dt\*, en, el, gn, it, ma\*, pe, ph\*, rs;  
 C Loadman bi\*\*, ch\*\*, cz, dt\*\*, en\*\*, el\*\*, fa\*, gn\*\*, it\*, ma\*\*, ph\*\*;  
 N Lobley cz, en, el, hi, it\*, ma, pe, rs\*, sc\*, sc(as);  
 W Lockyer bi, ch, cz, en\*, el\*, gn, it, ma\*, pe\*\*, ph\*, rs;  
 B Lowry bi\*\*, ch\*\*, cz, en\*, el\*, gy\*, gn\*, it\*, ma\*, pe\*\*, ph\*\*;  
 M Machin bi\*\*, ch\*\*, clg\*, cz, en, el, gy\*, gn, it, ma\*\*, ph\*, rs\*;  
 R Martin, bi\*, ch\*, cz, en\*, el\*, fa, gn\*, it\*, ma\*, ph, rs\*;  
 J McCartan bi\*, ch\*, cz, en\*, el\*, fr\*\*, hi\*, it\*, ma\*, mu, ph\*;  
 M McColgan bi\*, ch\*, cz, en\*, el\*, fr, hi, it\*, la, ma\*, ph\*, rs;  
 G Meehan bi\*, ch\*\*, cz, en\*, el\*, gy, gn\*, it\*, ma\*, pe, ph\*;  
 R Mills bi\*, ch\*, cz, en, el, gn, hi\*, it\*, ma\*, ph\*, rs\*;  
 M Moon bi\*, ch\*, cz, en\*\*, el\*\*, fr\*, gy\*, hi\*\*, it, ma\*, ph\*\*, rs\*;  
 S Mousdale bi\*\*, ch\*\*, cz, en\*\*, el, fr\*\*, gn\*\*, it\*, ma\*\*, pe\*\*, ph\*\*, rs\*\*;  
 L O'Brien bi\*, ch\*, en\*, el, gn\*, hi\*, it\*, ma\*, ph\*, rs;  
 A Palmer bi\*\*, ch\*, cz, en, el, fr\*, it\*, la, ma\*\*, mu, ph\*, rs;  
 J Paterson bi\*\*, ch\*\*, cz, en, el\*, gn\*, it, la, ma\*, mu, ph\*\*, rs;  
 J Pearson bi\*\*, ch\*, cz, dt, en, el, gy\*\*, it\*, la, ma, ph\*, rs;  
 J Peppiate bi, ch, cz, en, el, fa, hi, it\*, ma, mu, ph, rs;

J Pettinger bi\*, ch\*\*, clg, cz, dt\*\*, en\*\*, el\*, gn\*\*, it\*, ma\*\*, mu\*\*, ph\*\*;  
 O Preiss bi\*\*, ch\*\*, cz, dt\*, en\*\*, el\*, fa\*, gn\*, it\*, ma\*\*, ph\*\*, rs\*;  
 B Pullano bi\*, ch\*, cz, en, el, gy, gn, it, ma\*, pe, ph\*;  
 H Purcell dt, en, gy, ma, rs, sc, sc(as);  
 S Qureshi bi, ch\*, cz, dt\*, en, el, gy, it\*, ma\*, pe\*, ph\*;  
 A Raabe bi\*, ch, cz, en, el, gn\*, hi, it, ma\*, mu, ph,\* rs;  
 G Riley bi\*\*, ch\*\*, cz, dt\*\*, en\*\*, el\*\*, gy\*\*, gn, it\*, ma\*, ph\*\*, rs;  
 M Roberts bi\*\*, ch\*\*, cz, dt\*, en\*, el, gy\*\*, it\*, ma\*\*, ph\*\* rs;  
 A Robinson dt, en, el, hi, it, ma, rs, sc\*, sc(as);  
 A Saghir dt\*, en, el, gn, it, ma\*, rs\*\*, sc\*\*, sc(as)\*;  
 T Scothern bi, ch, dt, en, el, hi, it\*, ma, mu, ph, rs;  
 A Scott bi, ch, cz, en, el, gn, it, ma\*, pe, ph, rs;  
 D Sebastian bi\*, ch\*, cz, dt, en\*, el, gn\*, it\*, ma\*, ph\*, rs\*\*;  
 A Sharrad bi\*\*, ch\*\*, cz, dt\*\*, en\*\*, el\*, it\*, la\*, ma\*\*, mu\*, ph\*\*;  
 S Shepherd bi\*, ch\*\*, cz, dt, en\*, el, gn\*, hi\*\*, it\*, ma\*\*, ph\*\*;  
 J Slater bi\*, ch\*, cz, en\*, el, gn, hi, it, ma\*, pe\*\*, ph, rs;  
 J Smith bi\*, ch, cz, en, el, gn, hi\*, it\*, ma\*, pe, ph;  
 W Smith bi\*\*, ch\*\*, cz, en\*, el, gy\*, gn\*, it, la\*, ma\*, ph\*\*, rs;  
 M Spiers bi\*\*, ch\*\*, cz\*, dt\*\*, en\*\*, el\*\*, fa\*\*, gn, it\*, ma\*\*, ph\*\*, rs\*\*;  
 S Stockdale cz, en, el, fa, gy, it, ma, pe, sc, sc(as);  
 M Stoker bi, ch, cz, dt\*, en, el, it\*, ma, pe, ph, rs;  
 C Stone cz, en, el, gy, hi\*, it, ma, rs, sc, sc(as);  
 L Sumnall bi\*\*, ch\*\*, cz\*, en\*, el, gy\*\*, gn\*, hi\*\*, it\*, ma\*\*, ph\*\*, rs\*;  
 T Symonds bi\*\*, ch\*\*, cz\*\*, en\*, el\*, fa\*, gn, hi\*\*, it\*, ma\*, ph\*\*, rs\*\*;  
 M Talha bi\*, ch\*, cz, dt\*, en\*, el, it\*, la, ma\*, ph\*, rs\*\*;  
 J Taylor bi\*, ch\*, cz, dt, en\*, el, gn, hi\*, it\*, ma\*, ph;  
 G Wade bi\*, ch, dt\*, en, el, hi\*, it, ma\*, pe, ph\*;  
 S Walley bi\*\*, ch\*\*, cz, en\*\*, el\*, gy\*\*, hi\*\*, it, ma\*, ph\*\*, rs\*\*;  
 S Westcott bi\*\*, ch\*\*, cz, en\*, el, gy\*\*, gn, hi\*, it\*, ma\*, ph\*\*, rs\*;  
 C Wheeler bi\*, ch\*, cz, en\*, el, gy\*, gn, it\*, ma\*, ph\*, rs\*;  
 M Whitehead bi\*\*, ch\*\*, cz, en\*, el\*, gy\*, hi\*, it\*, la, ma\*\*, ph\*\*, rs\*;  
 J Wilkinson bi\*, ch, dt, en, el, fa, hi, it, ma\*\*, ph\*, rs;  
 A Williamson bi\*, ch\*, en\*, el, it\*, ma\*, mu, ph\*;  
 D Wilson bi\*\*, ch\*\*, cz, dt\*, en, el, gn, it\*, ma\*\*, pe\*, ph\*\*, rs;  
 M Winstanley bi\*, ch\*\*, cz, en\*, el, gy\*, hi\*, it\*, ma\*, ph\*, rs;  
 J Winterburn bi\*, ch\*, cz, en\*, el\*, gy\*, hi\*, it, ma\*, pe, ph, rs\*;  
 P Wrixon bi\*\*, ch\*\*, cz, en\*\*, el\*, gn\*\*, it\*, la\*\*, ma\*\*, ph\*\*, rs\*\*.

**Legend:**

Biology – bi

A\* = \*\*

Chemistry – ch

A = \*

Classical Greek - clg

Citizenship - cz

Design and Technology – dt

English Literature – el

English Language – en

Fine Art – fa

French – fr

German - gn

Geography - gy

History – hi

Information Technology - it

Latin – la

Mathematics – ma

Music - mu

Physical Education – pe

Physics – ph

Religious Studies - rs

Science Dual Award - sc/sc(as)



Students of all ages have continued to challenge themselves and develop their creative potential using a wide range of media. Boys in Year 7 have explored alternative ways of drawing including using salt and a stick. Year 8 pupils have considered the representation of the human form and how it can be abstracted and Year 9 have explored conceptual art through idea-driven creations.

Exam level Art students continue to push the boundaries through artwork which is, at times, shocking and sometimes bordering on disturbing. The most recent moderation visit by the exam board stated that the work was “a visual extravaganza”, which I think means that he liked it!

Years 10, 11, 12 and 13 students developed their analytical skills through trips to the galleries of London and most recently to the Art Biennale in Venice, Italy. This was an amazing experience allowing boys to view cutting-edge contemporary artwork from around the world.

The Department would like to thank all pupils for their continued energy and creativity.



Around spring this year, I joined a small but dedicated GCSE Art group in venturing down to London in search of inspiration from some of the best art the world has to offer.

We began our journey weary eyed, early on a cold Friday morning in Skipton train station as we met to catch the first train to King's Cross Station. After a smooth journey and a short transfer at Leeds station, we were soon immersed in the bustling capital. Travelling early in the morning allowed us to have a full day on Friday and maximize the short time we had in London. We visited the Tate Modern before sorting travel passes on the London Underground and heading towards the Imperial Hotel near Russell Square. Luckily we were blessed with brilliant weather over the weekend and, most importantly, on the second day we had a boat trip up the River Thames as we headed towards the second of the four museums at the east of the city.

In the few days we stayed in the capital, we also managed to visit the Natural History Museum, Tate Britain, which we were lucky enough to catch Fiona Banner's impressive hanging Harrier installation (a personal favourite of mine and one that inspired my final piece) before it left town, and also the National Portrait Museum. I thought the Natural History Museum was a great addition to the trip even if it doesn't have a direct link to art. I still thought it was beneficial as art exists everywhere; even within some of history's oldest artefacts, such as the Inca's decorative jewellery and religious headwear.

On Saturday, after spending the day visiting museums and installations, we went out for a meal near Leicester Square, at an Italian restaurant called Bertorelli, which we all agreed we would recommend anyone try out when they're next in the city. Then we had a quick walk around the city in the early evening to see Piccadilly at its finest. The main aim of the trip was to conduct critical studies on famous pieces of art work and find inspiration for our own GCSE Art project. The trip was a total success with everybody in the group gathering plenty of evidence of fine arts and gaining inspiration for our final exam piece.

We then got the train home in the early evening on the Sunday after a very interesting and beneficial three days in the capital.

In October, Year 11, 12 and 13 students were able to attend the Biennale Contemporary Art Festival in Venice on what will hopefully become a regular school visit to the historic Italian city.

It was an early start; we left rainy Skipton at about half past four in the morning. Once we arrived in Venice, at about mid-day, the weather was nice and the teachers set to deciphering the labyrinth that is the Venetian streets and alleyways. However, this was not a problem as Miss Hughes assured us that the guide book said getting lost was one of the many charms of Venice. The first afternoon was spent sightseeing and it was one of those days when almost every photograph taken was as if it was on a postcard.

We spent the second day at the Giardini as part of the Biennale Festival and it was our first experience of the sort of art we would be viewing over the coming days. To get there, we took the water bus, and this gave us a great view of the wonderful architecture that is literally crammed into Venice via the Grand Canal. When we arrived at the exhibition, the layout was unlike the galleries that many students had visited in London. There are 30 pavilions, each representing a different nation. The art was overtly contemporary and many pieces split the opinions of teachers and students alike. Mike Nelson was representing the British with a large scale installation which was conceived from his study of Istanbul and this was undoubtedly a highlight of the exhibition, no bias there. Another personal favourite was the Japanese pavilion in which the use of projected moving images was second to none.



Upon the third day we headed to the 'ILUMInations' exhibition at Arsenale, another gallery that is part of the festival. The exhibition was situated in an old warehouse and set the stage for a variety of expressive modern art.



The Italian area was particularly impressive; it was full of work of different styles so there really was something for anyone, from more classical compositions (well more classic than a lot of the other work, but in hindsight not actually that classic) to work that was unlike anything I, and I think most people, had seen before. The work that one artist had done on the Mafia, in which he explored the brutal nature of their activities, was a piece that I particularly appreciated. Urs Fischer's life-size wax figures and sculptures were another example of some of the great work displayed at the festival.



The trip was full of opportunities for the students to really push forward their A-level and GCSE projects that have continued to develop since their return. It was an invaluable experience and it will help the Art Department continue to produce the fantastic work that it has been doing for numerous years. I'm sure I say on behalf of all the students who attended the trip; a massive thank you to Mr Matthews, Miss Hughes and Mrs Simms for their organising the trip. I hope that future art students at school will take up the opportunity to go on this trip.

It has been another successful year in Biology with very pleasing exam results at GCSE and A Level. Details of these can be found on the EGS website. The Biology teachers are Mr. Edwards, Mr. Speak, Miss Johnston, Dr. Merrall and Mr. Herring.

Students have enjoyed many enrichment activities including:

- A talk on orthopaedics for Year 7
- Close encounters with invertebrates in a visit by Zoolab for Year 7
- A Science Club visit to Chester Zoo looking at adaptations
- A visit to the Manchester Science Festival for some Year 8 students
- A musical exploration of evolution from Amoeba to Zebra
- First Aid training for Year 10
- Revision conferences for Years 12 and 13 in Manchester
- Field work at Malham Field Studies Centre investigating succession



I didn't expect much from a school trip to Manchester to see the Chief and Principal Examiners of the Biology course, which was partly funded by the school's specialist science status. It took me a while afterwards to realise the importance and significance of what was said on the day.

The day itself was good. It brought some life to the course and although examiners are evil people, it felt like they were on our side! After looking up the address of the venue on Google Street View, it did appear at first that the conference was going to take place in a small, shabby-looking shop called 'Kebabs R Us'.

But Google got it wrong. It actually took place in a smart-looking church, equipped with modern facilities and plasma screen televisions. Going through what had been said at the conference a couple of weeks later, I realised that they had given some extremely helpful hints which then appeared in our exam. No-one seemed to have noticed. Those examiners were definitely on our side. I'm grateful for the school for giving us the opportunity to meet the principal examiners in what was a worthwhile experience. But if you ever go, make sure you don't visit 'Kebabs R Us'. I had to live with the experience for the next two days!



Throughout the school year, Science Club has seen high rates of Year 7 attendance, the pupils no doubt fascinated by the chance to blow things up and the in-depth knowledge that the Year 12 scientists don't have. As a reward for their diligence, the members of Science Club took a trip to the renowned icon of conservation that is Chester Zoo. Happily, the journey did not end in a vomit-streaked coach aisle. The most exciting thing that happened on the way down was the Pokémon battles; staged not by the Year 7s, but by the Year 12s!

The first port of call at Chester Zoo was the elephant enclosure, where many a picture was taken of an infant elephant ambling contentedly around its sizeable pen. After the photo opportunities were exhausted, the groups continued to the monkey exhibits. The antics of the monkeys were no less entertaining than the antics of the Year 7s themselves, who proceeded to imitate the monkeys' behaviour by attempting many of the 'puzzles' designed to simulate what it is like to be a small primate. There was no success.

After a trip on the over-priced monorail (£2 for about 30 seconds!) the party reconvened outside the bat enclosure. Upon entry, we were hit with the overpowering stench of bat droppings, known as guano. The group was besieged by bats of all sizes, which left one or two of us unnerved to say the least. Something I noticed that gained my interest was the evident popularity of the meerkat enclosure. Crowds were gathered around the enigmatic creatures, chirping "simples!" and humming the tune of the now-infamous *Compare the Meerkat* adverts. The power of television!

My personal highlight was the jaguar enclosure. The zoo's overriding message of conservation was most evident here, and seeing such a worthy attempt at educating the public in order to save an endangered species was more than commendable. The Year 7s even managed to remain serious long enough to attend a talk illustrating the problems faced by animals in the wild.

The return journey was equally uneventful; the only highlight being Mrs. Johnston attacking everyone with a parrot puppet. But I am confident that all the boys who attended, both Year 7s and 12s, went away with an understanding of the necessity of conservation, just how vital it is that we all help in the struggle to save the globe's uncountable endangered species.

Another good year for the Chemistry Department saw an increased uptake at A-level, leading to an all time high in student numbers in Year 12.

For the Year 2010-2011, our staff consisted of Mrs. Hilton, Mr. Kelly, Mrs. Abbey and Mr. Bullock, who has now returned south.

Many enrichment activities available include

- Year 13 visiting Leeds University to research spectroscopic techniques.
- Year 12 boys attending an A-level Revision Conference at Manchester University and an optional Practical Skills day at Leeds University.
- Year 10 at York University on a 'Chemistry at Work Day' experiencing the significance of chemistry in the world of today and completing related experiments.
- Four Year 10 boys: Mustafa Sultan, Joslan Scherewode, William Rix and Harry Gregson attended Summer Chemistry Camps at Bath, Nottingham and Imperial Universities.
- Year 9 made biodiesel as part of their Sustainability Day.
- Teaming up with the Geography Department for trips with Year 8 and 9 included visits to White Scar Caves, Ingleton Quarry and Norber Erratics.
- Four Year 8 boys: Isaac Culshaw, Ben Housley, Ryan Birch and Felix Sandoe attended the Salters Festival Chemistry Challenge at Leeds University.
- Year 7 considered packaging materials and the use of the Earth's natural resources as part of their Sustainability Day.

There were numerous other activities completed jointly with Physics and Biology including 'Science Club', run expertly by Year 12 for the interest and enjoyment of Year 7.



Salters' Chemistry Camps are run during the summer term and each year we send Year 10 students to a variety of universities to take part.

Joslan Scherewode told us about his experiences at the camp in Bath.

“Despite the four hour journey down, I was in high spirits on arrival, being very excited about visiting a new town. After the ice-breaker and lunch, I had already made three new friends and we went straight into the first practical. The days flew by as the practicals became more and more enjoyable. The university experience was amazing, especially the breakfast. The private rooms were spacious and comfortable and the lecturers were all legends. Overall, I had an absolutely fantastic time. I would love to go again!”

Mustafa Sultan also went on a Salters' Chemistry Camp.

“From the 22<sup>nd</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> of June 2011, I attended the Salters' Chemistry Camp at Herriot-Watt University in Edinburgh. During this time I made paracetamol, paint and a chemical clock, using hi-tech apparatus such as a Buchner filter and infra-red technology in the process.

All the experiments I participated in were very enjoyable and I felt like a real chemist. I could work with a vast array of equipment, take breaks whenever I felt like it and take the scientific initiative – none of which are possible in school! Then some PhD students gave us an insight into what they were researching and how they had overcome some of the obstacles in their research.

Since all the students at the university were on holiday, we were able to stay in the dorms and the building wasn't very busy. Our rooms were basic; but clean and comfortable and the food was surprisingly tasty.

50 students came to the camp, mostly from Britain - although two students had flown in from Germany and one from Russia. They were all friendly and I made some good friends who I have stayed in contact with.

I thoroughly enjoyed the camp and would advise anyone who likes chemistry to go. The camp is not like chemistry we do at school because there is a small amount of theory and a lot of practical work.”

Danny Hattam spoke to the Chronicles about the Year 8 science trip to Manchester.

“I really enjoyed the trip to Manchester. My favourite part of the trip was the theatre production of ‘Horrible Science’. I enjoyed because it was comical yet educational. For instance, one in eight door handles have traces of excrement on them... Eurgh! I would like to thank the science department for funding this amazing trip.”

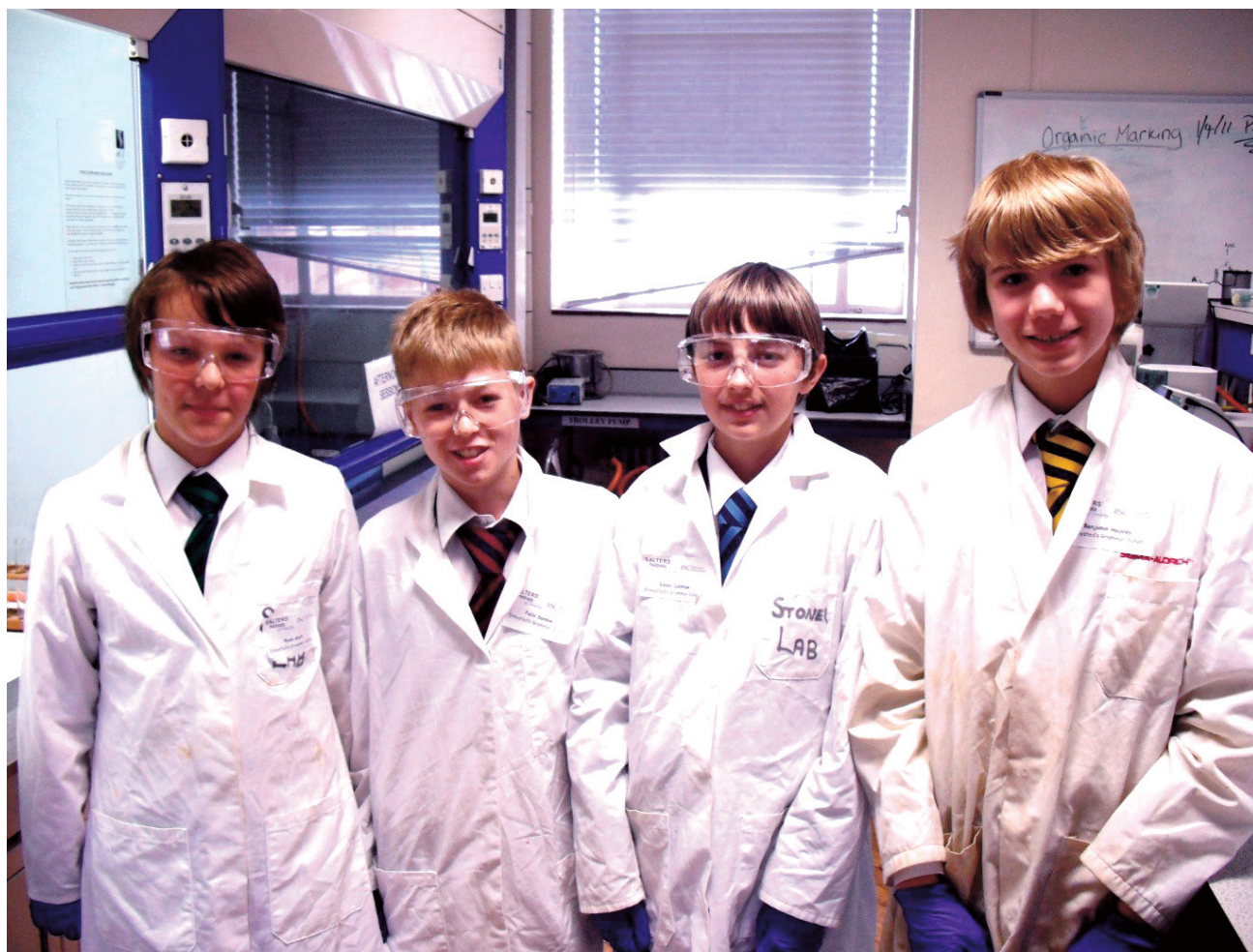
Harry Barnes also spoke to us about the trip.

“After a long bus journey, we arrived at Manchester and walked to the theatre to see a ‘Horrible Science’ show. During the interval, we all got some ‘Boggle Goggles’ to put on for the 3D half of the show. The show was very enjoyable with brilliant actors we all loved. After the show ended, we gathered outside and walked to Manchester Science Museum. We had one hour to look around and visit the gift shop. We all enjoyed the exhibit and gained some very good memories.”



On the 12<sup>th</sup> May we went to Leeds University; we being Isaac, Ben, Ryan, Mrs. Abbey and I. We reached the University at about 9am and found our way through the maze of corridors and stairs to Lecture Theatre A. We were introduced to the staff and went to the laboratories to do the 'Salters' Challenge'.

It was based around a murder mystery and we had to name the secret powder that killed the victim. It was good fun; we had a laugh and almost worked out what the powder was! After lunch we did a challenge set by the university. We had to mix chemicals to lower the temperature of some water – we came very close to the temperature it was supposed to be – only half a degree away. We won 3<sup>rd</sup> prize!! It was a really good fun and a really interesting day – I think we all had a good time.





The department organised a number of local industrial visits last year to Rolls Royce, Hope Technology and Landis Lund. These gave students an insight into manufacturing processes being carried out by world-leading companies on our very own doorstep. We were also invited to go on a VIP tour of the Aston Martin factory; a unique opportunity to see top sports cars being assembled as well as sitting in a range of models and pretending to be James Bond.

Our thanks go to Mr. John Bollen, a local designer, for his presentation on how he designed a range of furniture products. Mr. Bollen took the 40/4 chair, a design classic by David Rowland, now manufactured by Howe, and developed a swivel equivalent. He has also recently given our A-level student vital feedback on their design work, again something we are very grateful for.

2011 was a very good year at GCSE with 65.1% achieving A\* or A, 90.7% achieving A\* to B. Congratulations must go to all DT students for their continuous effort and hard work over the last year.

The Arkwright Scholarship organisation invite Year 11 students, who are heading towards a career in design or engineering, to apply for a scholarship that will assist students through their A-level studies. Thousands of students apply, and after completing an application form and taking an aptitude test in school, followed by an interview at a university, only 298 (2011 figure) are actually awarded a scholarship. In June 2011, following the success of James Boobier the year before, three of our Year 11 students, now in Year 12, Liam Hopley, Christopher Loadman and Ben Fletcher, were successful, putting them in the top 300 nationwide. Oliver Preiss came very close to an award, being put onto the reserve list, meaning he will also be in receipt of an Arkwright Scholarship if further funds become available.

Each of these students not only get a financial reward, but also have a personal sponsor who will be there to offer support, advice, possible vacation work and a detailed insight into their particular branch of engineering. If an Arkwright Scholar achieves top grades in suitable subjects at A-level, ie. Maths, Physics, Design Technology plus other Sciences and Art; they should, in theory, have their pick of universities. Congratulations to each of them.

The Engineering Headstart course was held at Durham University from Monday 4<sup>th</sup> to Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2011 in the School of Engineering and Computer Science.

Starting on Monday, we immediately embarked on the first project in groups of four. Firstly, we manufactured a bund wall used to surround dangerous liquid containers to stop the liquid escaping in an emergency – such as the container breaking. The challenge was to produce a structure using provided materials to withstand and hold water. Once all the structures were built, they were tested and marked for design. All the structures apart from three survived the test; quite an achievement. My team's bund-wall survived but was judged not to be in the top three.

On the following day, we spent the majority of the time on the second project. The project was to design and construct a fully-functioning model of a crane capable of moving “radioactive” metal sheets from one side of a wall to the other in a power station. The basic concept was to build a cantilever crane out of aluminium and use the motors and Lego to transverse along the top of the crane and lift up the metal with the electromagnet. The cranes were tested on Thursday morning to see if they could perform the task they were designed for. Out of the 10 teams, only a few cranes were fully functional due to the complexity of the task. Many teams, including mine, had adequate crane designs but were unable to use the Lego motors to pick up the metal or transverse over the top of the crane.

Wednesday was the busiest day by far. In the morning, we were split into groups of four for industrial visits. I visited the Caterpillar site in Peterlee which manufactures and develops articulated trucks for use mainly in quarries and mines. After a talk and tour of the facility, we headed back to the university where we were asked to produce a three minute presentation on an aspect of engineering we had encountered during the visit. My team presented on health and safety. The presentations were given in front of the other students and were all judged to be of a high standard by the university staff. In the evening, we went bowling, which helped me to get to know the others students better.

Overall, the Headstart course was extremely worthwhile and gave a real insight into a leading engineering department. Although some of the group projects didn't go exactly to plan, we learnt from our mistakes and this will undoubtedly improve our skills in an engineering context.

For the first time in its 500 year history, boys at EGS are learning to cook as part of the curriculum. Currently Years 7, 8 and 9 enjoy weekly lessons, along with a 6th form Enrichment Group learning to cook for life at university. From September 2012, there will be a GCSE option available in Food & Nutrition.



The ongoing inauguration of the Food Tech department continued throughout the first term. October saw the first EGS house cookery competition, with participants having to create a one-course meal to serve two using one red, one blue, one green and one yellow ingredient (in accordance with the school houses). After a gruelling competition, Petyt came out on top with Harry French and Oliver Burrows creating smokey bacon-stuffed burgers with paprika wedges. Hartley came a close second with the Hattam brothers Daniel and Matthew making a Thai green chicken curry. Toller came third with Ermysted trailing in last place. To add an edge to the competition, the school invited former Ritz head chef Michael Quinn MBE to judge the entries. All the houses benefited from the competition with house points being earned by the victors and runners up.

What a hugely eventful time we have had in the last two or three years. After a rather long period of stability, both economically and politically, during the 'New-Labour years' and Gordon Brown's ill-fated boast about "an end to boom and bust"; Economics has exploded back into the public arena.

The 'credit crunch' and its effects have rippled out across the globe, pushing up unemployment, fear and misery, especially in Europe and the USA.

The Euro crisis that has devastated Greece, and badly affected Ireland and Portugal, threatens to spread to the much larger economies of Spain and Italy. The massive cost of bailing out these countries continues to cast a huge shadow over Europe. It is a fabulous time to be studying the subject!! Cheap subscriptions to both The Times and The Economist (6p per issue rather than its £4 cover price), provide plenty of extra reading on such real world events.



The department continues to note the successes of its former pupils, in the business world in particular, with the untold riches it brings. Liam Larke is the latest to find a position with Deloitte in 'the city'. Of last year's Economics leavers around half went on to continue to study this fascinating subject at university.

Finally, this summer saw its best results ever at A2. Always among the best in the school; this year saw 27 pupils entered with 26 A grades (of which 9 were A\*) with only Will Mellin 'letting the side down' with his grade B (actually only 5 marks off an A)! He will go down in history as the boy who prevented the amazing prospect of a clean sweep.



For the second time in three years, students from EGS Grammar School made it through to the National Finals of the ifs Student Investor Challenge.

The Challenge helps teach students the practical and theoretical processes involved in successful share trading. A team of four students has £100,000 of virtual money and are given the opportunity to experience the dynamic world of share trading by investing in the stock market.

This year's team, self-named 'The A-Team', was comprised of Sixth Form students Matthew Blades, Zak Romaszko, Nathan Barwick and David Willan. After only just creeping into the top 25 teams in the region during the online qualifying phase of the competition, the team went on to gain second place in the regional final which was held at St James' Park, Newcastle. Their reward for doing so well was a coveted place in the National Final which was to be held at the ifs headquarters in London. After trying their best, they discovered that they hadn't done enough to be in the top three and, like last time, had to go home empty handed. After coming outside the top three, Matthew said, "It's disappointing not to have won anything, but there is always next year. I hope to be back for a third time".

In the Regional Final, teams had to answer 70 questions that were focused on general business as well as current affairs. The National Final saw teams set a business challenge and asked to answer the question: 'Are banks doing enough to help UK plcs prosper?' Speaking about the competition as a whole, Zak said, "The competition allows us to learn about all the workings of the stock market as if you were in the shoes of a stockbroker. We've had fun doing it and I'm sure we won't regret it".

Thanks to Miss Ingall, Mr Nabarro and Mr Sykes, for helping the team out and giving them all of the support necessary to achieve such a high standard.

**NB:**

***Please ensure the letters "ifs" aren't confused with the Institute for Fiscal Studies (often referred to as the 'IFS') which has no association with the competition.***

As an A-Level Literature and Language student, I spend nearly half my life studying English. And I don't believe I could think of a more enjoyable and thought-provoking way to spend it. We are into the third year of Mrs. Price's rule over the department and it continues to prosper, developing the minds of all those taught in the process through a variety of methods.

Of course the success of the department through examination is well-noted and this year's crop of results follows suit. From analysing Fitzgerald's 'The Great Gatsby' or the poetry of John Donne at A-Level to reading 'Boy', the autobiography of Roald Dahl's childhood, right down in Year 7 we are encouraged to connect with the text and understand emotionally. A2 student Peter Howarth stated that "literature unites the world" through empathy and emotion - and I am only grateful to the department for allowing me to embrace this.

The department also provides numerous trips to educate, entertain and nourish students. I only know of one exception in which the students were cruelly left to fend for themselves, when the staff were invited to a slap-up meal at a top-notch restaurant in Stratford-upon-Avon. All joking aside, the English department provides many amazing trips, from frequent trips to see stage-productions of Shakespearian classics to their own interpretations at the Shakespeare Schools Festival, all excursions are thoroughly enjoyed by the student body.

The make-up of the English department has remained fairly constant. Mr. Nabarro arrived last year gaining experience for a career in teaching the written and spoken word and left in July to take up a post at Beckfoot School. I can speak from personal experience in saying that he is a first-rate teacher and we hope he enjoys his time there. We also welcome Ms. Ricketts who has joined the department as part of her teacher training and we hope she enjoys her time here.

Holding a monopoly over the senior roles within school, the English department has seen another promotion as Mrs. Simms steps into the role of Assistant Headteacher. We know she is capable of the task and hope that the English department continues to thrive in all ways.

Once Mrs. Simms had told me that we didn't have to pay for our tickets to see Macbeth in Stratford-Upon-Avon, I was immediately apprehensive.

"Wait a minute, you're telling me that this man is just giving these tickets to us, free of charge without any payment?" I asked her, fairly abruptly.

"Well yes" she replied, "He buys them for us every year, but we usually take Year 10s."

After my ego had recovered from the fact that I had not been invited in Year 10, I began to grow increasingly worried about this man. Was he a member of the Mafioso? Did he conspire with our fiendish English teacher and kidnap six students every year to work in his sweat shops? I even proposed this idea to Mrs. Price during our walk through Stratford to meet the man and she only cackled as if confirming my suspicions.

However, and fortunately for us, this man was Brent Garner. He is an Old Boy of Ermysteds and a very generous man. We met him and his wife outside the New Theatre, the place of our afternoon's entertainment, and I immediately found him to be a very nice man. He welcomed us with open arms and took our motley crew of eight on a tour of Shakespeare's old schoolroom in King Edward VI's, the local Grammar School. We were all fascinated by the creaking floorboards and rickety staircases. Centuries of work had left desks engraved with names and history reeked from the very grain of the wood. Anecdotes of Japanese tourists being escorted from the school grounds made us feel even more grateful for the experience Mr. Garner had given us.

After a lunch spent in McDonalds, we reconvened with the teachers and Mr. Garner and his wife outside the New Theatre. Mr. McLean, always the provoker, told tales of slap-up meals bought for them by Mr. Garner which worked a treat, because my measly Big Mac meal suddenly disappeared in my stomach.

The performance itself was fantastic. Macbeth mesmerised the audience with his hunger for power, and the misuse of it once he had gained it, as well as the interpretation of the coven of witches as three children was very effective.

One female member of staff commented that "little children are very scary", and this indeed may be true, but it seemed somewhat ironic coming

from the Head of Lower School.

The play was undoubtedly first-class. Of course, this is something expected of the Royal Shakespeare Company. But what is perhaps more stunning was the generosity of Mr. Garner. As an avid Chronicles reader, I was alarmed that I had never heard about this man before.

His desire to give something back to the school he grew up in is, quite frankly, inspiring. If I am half the person Mr. Garner is when I leave this school that I call home, I know my life has been worth living.

Thank you Mr. Garner, from myself, all my peers, and those who your kind donations have educated in years gone by.





I finally took action on Mr. Clough's advice in late November and applied for the 'Arts Challenge Day' at Cambridge University. It paid off and I received confirmation of my successful application. After several rows with the mother over funds, I was sitting on a train bound for Cambridge wading through 'Catcher in the Rye'.

Cambridge was an immediate anticlimax. It looked just like Skipton. Except with more bikes and perhaps a bit more multicultural. However, as I strode towards the town centre and the ancient colleges sprang up around me, I regretted making a superficial judgement. The architecture was outstanding and as I found King's College, a feat of Masonic expertise, my skin came out in goosebumps. Was this really the place?

The course was taking place at Trinity College. Of course, everyone else instinctively collected at the back and I was chosen as a volunteer every time the speaker needed one – not that there was anything voluntary about it. But the talk itself was very informative and explained a lot about the application and selection process and life at the University. We were briefed on the plans for the afternoon and set off for lunch which we took at Selwyn College, a fifteen minute walk from Trinity. Having been encouraged to mingle with the other students, I discovered that I wasn't intellectually oppressed by them and even won a small quiz that took place.

The afternoon brought lectures on Linguistics and Crime and Punishment, two courses I had never thought to look into. The Linguistics lecturer was a man called Prof. Bert Vaux – the kind of name that planted an immediate image in my head. White wispy hair and handlebar moustache, an aging mouse corseted in tweed. I could not have been further from the truth. Wearing a New England Patriots hoodie and joggers, his relaxed attitude and subtle humour soon put us at ease. He was evidently a teacher of world-class quality and this provided unequivocal proof for Cambridge's position as the top university in the world.

If I had to give one lesson I had learnt from the day, it would be about the diversity of the courses offered at the university. I was previously unexposed, but I left the course debating whether to seriously consider Linguistics as a course option. I would seriously recommend the course for any Year 12 next year.

The Extended Project entered its second year as an AS qualification at the school in 2010-11. 29 students took it, gaining eleven A\*s, eleven As, four Bs, two Cs and a D, resulting in an A\*-A rate of 76%. This is an outstanding outcome, given that the work undertaken by students entering for the Project is done wholly independently and without any timetabled lessons.

Candidates are invited to submit a dissertation of 6,000 words, a field study, a performance or an artefact. So far, all of the work sent off has fallen into one of the first two categories. Students can, within reason, choose to research any area that they think will prove interesting so long as it is not something which could already be studied as part of an A-Level course. The dissertation, which the vast majority of EGS pupils have chosen, must follow a set structure and is at least in part supposed to prepare those who take the Project for university level study.

In 2010-11, there was a diverse range of topics under discussion. These included the Battle of Quiberon Bay, possibly every bit as important a naval victory as the much more celebrated triumph at Trafalgar, according to Adam Sumnall. Another project was the 'Serious Police and Organised Crime Act of 2005' which was quite probably an attack on our rights to free expression and assembly said Anthony Humphreys. Histology was also studied by Conrad Witek, who stated that it is an important development in our understanding of human skin.

Though the Project is an additional and not-too-straightforward complement to an already crowded Year 13 agenda, the majority of the 29 students confirmed its value and interest. In at least one case, the A\* gained was instrumental in securing a university place which might otherwise have been in doubt.

The Project continues to flourish at the school and those of us who mark the submissions are often amazed by the extremely high quality of much of the work on show.

The contribution of supervising staff should not be overlooked – many of them gave up a substantial amount of time to guiding their tutees in the right direction of travel and they are thanked once again for their efforts.

On Friday 24th June, by kind invitation of Mr. Nabarro, a group of students from Years 7 and 8 made the long and arduous journey on foot from EGS to Skipton Castle to watch a performance of William Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night". Before curtain up, we participated in a workshop designed to help us understand some of the 17th century lingo used in the play.

Dean Taylor Productions and the cast members themselves organised and delivered the workshops. First of all, we had an activity which helped us explore some of the play's unusual vocabulary. Actors displayed signs stating several possible meanings of a word, for example "renegado". We then had 30 seconds to decide which meaning we thought was correct and gather around the appropriate sign. This definitely proved successful when watching the play due to the lack of confused faces in the audience. The second activity consisted of us splitting off into groups of five or six with one of the actors. Our group's actor was Michael Goodenough who played Sir Toby Belch and definitely lived up to his name. We then had to produce a 'freeze-frame' for specific scenes in the play, for example, the opening line: "If music be the food of love, play on!" After preparing several different scenes, we performed them to the other groups.

After the workshop, everyone ran for ice-creams and sweets then sported briefly on the grassy areas in front of the magnificent Skipton Castle. Mrs Price took photographic evidence of us tackling giant ice-creams. The weather was idyllic.

And then the play itself. Performed promenade-style, Sir Toby Belch and Sir Andrew Aguecheek stole the show for me with their slapstick humour and drunken antics. Malvolio, played by Dean Taylor himself, was as melancholy and malcontent as they were jovial.

In honour of the occasion, Mr Nabarro wore a pair of vibrant yellow socks.

The Geography department's enthusiasm for fieldwork has continued to ensure that all pupils are given the opportunity to explore a variety of landscapes. From orienteering along the banks of the River Wharfe, to entering the depths of White Scar Caves - this gives pupils a real experience to understand the wonders of our local environment. As part of an introduction to GCSE Geography, Year 9 pupils headed to the sand dunes of Formby, where a strangely competitive Mrs. Simms and Mr. Marsden helped to inspire a timed survey of the vegetation – a real roller-coaster experience!

The Geography department is continuing to develop links with our partner school, Zahira College, Sri Lanka. In Year 7, pupils learn about the physical geography, and compare the similarities and differences between Skipton and Hambantota. In Year 9, a comparison of our National Parks enables pupils to discuss the issues of Tourism and Conservation.

From Fair-Trade Fortnight to splashing in rivers, Geography continues to thrive. This year, we are delighted to have seen a significant increase in the number of pupils studying GCSE and AS Geography. In Year 13, eight boys are currently applying to study Geography-related courses at university. Our results continue to reflect the hard work and commitment shown by the boys.



In November of last year, a group of Sixth Form Geography students participated in the biennial trip to Iceland. Prior to our visit, few of us knew what to expect from Iceland beyond glaciers, volcanoes and the infamous ash cloud produced by Eyjafjallajökull.

We arrived in Iceland's only international airport. The emptiness of the country became immediately apparent - miles upon miles of uninhabited lava fields. Travelling along the island's only major road we caught our first glimpse of Reykjavik. Reykjavik is the world's most northerly capital city and has a population of 200,000 making it by far Iceland's biggest urban area. The highlight in Reykjavik was the Hallgrímskirkja church, a 75m tall building, which provided an ideal photo opportunity for many.

On our first full day in Iceland, we visited the Great Geyser area of Iceland. The Great Geyser area has a collection of hot springs, mud pools and geysers; the most impressive of which was Stokkur. Erupting every five minutes or so, it shot hot water tens of metres into the sky which everyone found extremely impressive. After another short drive on the coach, we reached the Gullfoss waterfall. The path down to the waterfall was extremely slippery, as Mrs. Suter and Miss Collins will no doubt testify.

Thingvellir was the next stop on our 'Golden Circle' tour. At Thingvellir, it is possible to see both the Eurasian plate and the American plate; creating a very geographically interesting area. However, for a lot of people it will be remembered for gale force winds which made it difficult to stand up.

The next day we drove east along the coast to visit the village of Vik and the Mýrdalsjökull glacier. This provided an opportunity to climb on the ice whilst trying to avoid slipping into a crevasse. This was my personal favourite part of the trip.

We also visited the Seljalandsfoss and Skógafoss waterfalls: both equally impressive. Skógafoss is the highest waterfall in Iceland and it was possible to view the waterfall from both the top and the bottom. At Seljalandsfoss, the majority of the waterfall was frozen and overhanging icicles prevented us from walking behind the water.

On the way back to our hotel in Selfoss; we stopped off below the Eyjafjallajökull volcano which had caused so much disruption with the ash

cloud in April 2010. Within seconds of stopping we obviously became tourists rather than geographers and collected a cupful of ash to take home as a souvenir.

On our penultimate day we visited the Blue Lagoon which certainly lived up to our high expectations. The Blue Lagoon is a naturally heated outdoor pool which provided the unusual situation of swimming in an outdoor pool surrounded by snow.

When we arrived back in England we actually appreciated England for its 'warmth'. However, despite the freezing conditions in Iceland, the majority of the group would grab any opportunity to go back repeat same tour.



Miss Collins first consulted 12CL about Fairtrade Fortnight 2011 in February and, shortly after, a meeting was set for during the following week for all people interested in getting involved. The ball was rolling.

The two weeks, running in school from 28th February to 11th March, saw many events and activities for all year groups. Assemblies for the entire school kicked off the festivities; while KS3 pupils were challenged to create a poster and/or video to raise awareness of the Fairtrade Organisation and its work. In the end, we received over a hundred entries to the poster competition and just short of twenty videos. Our thanks go to the teachers who devoted lesson and form time for students to perfect their entries and nurture their artistic talent!

The showpiece event was the bunting competition. All KS3 pupils were given a triangle of Fairtrade cotton and asked to decorate it to show what Fairtrade means to them. There were some great entries, all of which were on display in the canteen entrance foyer after the Fortnight. Entries were taken down shortly after and sent to the Fairtrade Foundation's HQ in London, where they are now helping in the organisation's effort to break the world record for the longest piece of bunting. They also played a pivotal role in conveying the Fairtrade message in school, particularly the current worldwide cotton shortage – well done to all involved!

Competitions were not without their merits, as prizes were up for grabs. We welcomed Liz Roodhouse (former Head of Geography at SGHS) and Jacqueline Williamson (from NYBEP) to help us judge. Decisions were not easy to make given the range of high quality entries but, after much deliberation, we reached some conclusions. For the videos, we were all won over by Sam Burton's (8LA) simple, informative and hard-hitting entry that gained him first place. Close behind in 2nd place was Thomas Lowe of 7MA, who submitted a brilliant re-mastering of the official Fairtrade promotional video, while Daniel Renhard of 7HU was highly-commended in third place for his impressive use of his animation skills developed in ICT lessons. The best form for bunting was 8HU.

Fairtrade Fortnight would simply not be complete without the Fairtrade Stall, which stood proudly in the canteen foyer for the duration. With the help of loyal form members including Josh Griffiths, Ed McParland and Pat Martin, to name but a few, we collected over £250.00, mainly through the sale of Fairtrade-branded fruit, chocolate and cereal bars.

This year, the department took part in the National Geography Awareness Week, organising a series of competitions and assemblies to promote the joys of Geography. Boys were invited to write a poem based on 'What is poverty?' or a design a poster to describe their favourite place.

What is poverty?

When babies cry,  
And mothers groan,  
Few have two shoes,  
Forget a phone.  
Drugs and violence,  
Plague the streets,  
Where slaughter, flu  
And madness meet.

Where disease,  
Stands hand in hand,  
With filth and dirt,  
Good jobs are banned.  
A mad man sits,  
Upon the throne,  
More clever men,  
He can't condone.

Street urchins clothed,  
In ticks and fleas,  
This my friend,  
Is poverty.  
So help them out,  
And don't delay,  
Be generous,  
And quick I pray.

By Smith Middleton 7HU



In July, Year 8 went to White Scar Caves near Ingleton. This was a great trip that let us put what we'd learnt in the classroom into practice and see one of England's natural wonders. 8LA and 8HG went on one day before 8CL and 8HO went the next day.

We entered the cave; its entrance was extraordinarily on the sea bed only three hundred million years ago. Walking through the walkways, we stopped to look at the limestone formations known as the 'Judge's Head', 'Devil's Tongue', and 'Witch's Finger' on the way. We eventually reached the Battlefield Cavern, only discovered in 1971, and were amazed by the hundreds of incredibly thin stalactites hanging from the roof. They are so thin you actually have to whisper so they don't shatter! We also saw a huge boulder called Big Bertha.

On the journey back to sunlight, we learnt about Christopher Long and the original discovery of the caves in 1923 while he was on holiday in the area. One million years ago, the caves were formed when the ice warmed between the ice ages. When we exited the caves, we were each given a booklet with questions on what we'd seen. When we'd completed the work, we were allowed to go into the shop. We then got back onto the bus to visit the quarry - it was a really interesting morning!



**Formby Trip**

On the 11<sup>th</sup> of July, the GCSE geographers set off to the coastal town of Formby, to explore the famous sand dunes on the beach. We arrived in Formby in just over one and a half hours. Roasted on the coach, we tumbled out into a woodland brimming with millions of pinecones scattered around the area. After sorting out groups; we eventually set off around the woodland to the sand dunes. Walking around, we learnt that the area was home to the rare red squirrel. After about an hour of walking and a quick lunch of, for most of us, ice cream; we moved down towards the sand dunes. Our aim was to find the height of each sand dune, the type of plants growing at the sand dunes and the percentage covering of the sand dunes. We measured the sand dunes five metres apart from each other and shot clinometers, angle-measuring tools, to measure the angle of elevation and depression. At the same time, other members of our group would record the different types of plants on the sand dunes. After much fun on the sand dunes, we set off home. We were tired but enjoyed a Brilliant day overall.

**Langdale Trip**

The Great Langdale valley is known by many for its breathtaking beauty and fabulous hill walking. However, on a typically English day, with horizontal rain and thick mist; the AS geographers called it a fieldtrip. Led by Mrs. Suter and Mr. White, a qualified mountain leader, we scaled the steep heights and knife edged ridges up to Stickle Tarn. The aim was to study features of glacial erosion in the valley, but the task was made near impossible due to the fact that you couldn't see ten metres in front of you. A brief window in the weather allowed the spectacular scenery to be seen; with the characteristic steep back wall and over-deepened hollow standing proud. But as quickly as it appeared, it was once again engulfed by mist. In conclusion: a classic Geography trip.



On the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> of October 2011, Year 9 went on a Geography field trip to the Norber Erratics in order to give us a better understanding of the formation of the limestone landscape.

After the coach dropped us off, we walked up to the limestone scar, formed 12,000 years ago, during the last ice age, when a glacier scraped off the surface rock. This produced limestone cliffs and pavements, cracked by seismic activity from the South Craven Fault line. We also studied and drew the geology of the scar and the scree beneath.

Following another short walk to a higher limestone pavement, we circulated through a variety of activities lasting 35 minutes each. These included; studying the limestone pavement with Mr. Clegg, experimenting with limestone chippings and hydrochloric acid with Mr. Fearnley, orienteering and compass work with Mr. White and measurements of the erratics with Mrs. Suter.

Mr. Clegg told us about the formation of clints and grykes (gaps and top surfaces) of the limestone pavement. We then drew diagrams of the pavement highlighting the clints, grykes, depressions and different methods of erosion: physical, chemical and biological.

In our activity with Mr. Fearnley, we reacted small chippings of limestone with dilute hydrochloric acid. We then mixed the gas given off with limewater and discovered it to be carbon dioxide.

In the orienteering section we practised compass work. We followed bearings, racing to reach erratics and the first one to climb them won a prize.



In Mrs. Suter's activity, we measured the height of the limestone plinths beneath the erratics to determine the rate of erosion. We divided the height of the plinth by 12,000 giving the number of centimetres per year. Unfortunately, an otherwise brilliant day ended with a scorching hot bus journey back to school!

2010-2011 has been another productive year in the annals of the History Department. The normal programme of events and trips took place, culminating in the annual Year 10 trip to the Battlefields of Ypres and the Somme in July. Numbers participating were much lower than usual. A Historian's first weapon of analysis would explain this as a consequence of the glut of foreign trips vying for the crammed Year 10 market or, multifactoral as ever, the difficult economic climate.

On the exam result front, Year 12 stole the limelight. Fourteen out of twenty boys received A grades; in Mr. Blanchard's set, studying the Experience of Warfare in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, five boys scored maximum UMS points. Top performers overall were Rob Snell and Peter Howarth. A2 produced modest results. Joe Holt very narrowly missed out on a deserved A\* grade, whilst joint Senior History prize winners Alex Sinclair and Adam Sumnall gained A grades before going on to study History at Warwick and Exeter respectively.

At GCSE, the recent adoption of the modular approach continues to bear strong results with 82% of Year 10s obtaining A\*/A grades. Year 11 successfully completed the first run through of the modular system with a very welcome 100% A\*-C grades, 68% at A\*/A. James Davey was the top performer with an amazing 240/240 UMS marks; Jack Cowling, the Middle School History prize winner was successful in gaining a top grade.

Elsewhere within the department, our crop of Historians within the Lower School looks very promising, with Thomas Blanchard gaining the Junior History prize. Shades of the Spanish Inquisition rated the Department successful as the Senior Staff navigated it through a pseudo-Ofsted internal review in November 2010.

Amidst such excitement, it went largely unnoticed that the staff clocked up another milestone of an aggregate of 40 years of service at EGS; Mr. Howarth contributing eighteen years, Mr. Peters twelve years and Mr. Blanchard ten years. They continue to gel and work effectively as a unit as their teamwork is no doubt a factor in recent success for the History Department.

Eugene Black, or Geno Schwartz in his native language of Czech, is, quite frankly, the most amazing man I have ever encountered. He was giving a talk at Aireville School and, kindly organised by Mr. Peters, Year 13 historians were given the opportunity to listen to him talk about his time in this world. I went into the lecture hall without a massive amount of knowledge, or enthusiasm, for the subject of the Holocaust. This was changed within the next two hours.

After years of persecution in his hometown of Munkacs, Geno Schwarz was bundled into a back of a cattle-wagon with his family and taken to Auschwitz in 1944 for belonging to Judaism. He witnessed his mother being slapped across the face as his family were forced into submission. Auschwitz Birkenau is now an iconic place, and aged 16, Geno was separated from his family at the gates, the last time he ever saw them.

He commented on “being able to smell bodies burning in the crematorium” knowing that they could be his family. Geno remained at Auschwitz for only ten days before he was selected for slave labour and transported to Buchenwald and then to Dora-Mittelbad where he manufactured the German V1 and V2 rockets. Working twelve to fourteen hours a day and weighing only five stone, Geno contracted pneumonia and came very close to dying until a German doctor nursed him back to health. Geno was, for the last time, moved onto Bergen Belsen in March 1945. He described it as “a hellhole with people lying everywhere”; typhus was rife and sanitation non-existent.

Geno was liberated from Bergen Belsen on 15<sup>th</sup> April by the British Army. My mind was blown by the story of this seemingly ordinarily old man who walked with a stick and spoke with a croak. His story made my eyes well-up on several occasions, most notably when he told us of the separation from his family. However, one question – ‘do you believe that humankind are innately bad’ – provoked an answer which included:

**“Hate is a cancer. It will kill us all in the end.”**

I believe that this is a message which can only be beneficial to the world. We owe it to people gone by to live our lives with the right moral and interpersonal attitude. Professor Charlton, who hosted the event, told us we had “heard life-changing words”. This is true to the fullest extent; I am sure that everyone who heard Mr. Black speak will live the rest of their life with his life in mind.

It's been a busy year again in the ICT department; in particular because we aren't just the ICT department any longer. This academic year has not only seen the further development of computing at A Level, but also the introduction of a new Computing GCSE. The department has also organised various trips out of school to promote computing.

In the first year that our students have completed A2 computing modules, they achieved very good results with two grade As, two grade Bs and one grade C. At GCSE, results were excellent with a 100% pass rate and over 70% percent of students achieving the distinction grade (GCSE grade A).

Our first trip of the school year was for Year 12 to Manchester University. The workshop was fantastic and taught us some of the dark secrets of the Linux command prompt. The journey to and from the university was equally memorable as we found ourselves in a student demonstration about tuition fees, and we were also asked to change trains on the return because of an accident with an owl. Our second and third trips of the year came in the same week at the end of June. Firstly we visited the computing department of Bradford University to learn about how to program AI in computer games, then secondly to Manchester for the finals of the national Schools animation competition. We didn't come away with any prizes this time but we'll be back next year!

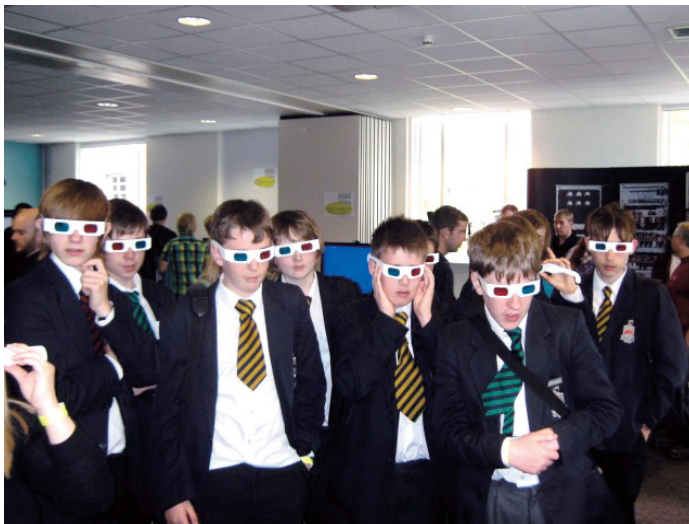


One Friday during the summer term, a group of ten Year 9 students went on a trip to Manchester University for the Animation '11 Computer Science Festival. Unfortunately, Mr Justice hadn't had the foresight to fill up the tank beforehand, and so the eager students had to wait for five minutes at Morrison's petrol station, while the forgetful teachers filled up the tank.

Upon arrival at Manchester University, we were ushered into a cinema-like theatre hall to watch some of the animation prize-winners. Sadly, this year our pupils hadn't won any of the prizes. After the morning of watching winning animations (most of which we thought we had surpassed), we went across the road into an eating hall to eat our packed lunches, while the prize winners ate a 'gourmet lunch'. Lucky them!

After we had eaten our lunch, we came back into the main university building for some computer science activities, one of which was a flight simulator on which I had the first and only go. Some other activities involved an 'Xbox Kinect', which we all had a good play with, and a variety of computer based games and challenges. We also went for a short 40-minute presentation on 3D Stereoscopic vision, and how we can make computers 'see'. After an enjoyable and eventful day, despite the fact that we didn't come back with the iPads that some prize-winners got, we all piled into the minibus and headed back to school.

Overall, it was an enjoyable and interesting day. Except for Mr King, who lost a bet, as I didn't manage to crash the flight simulator!



In July 2011, Year 12 Computing students were treated to a trip to the Computing Department at Bradford University led by Mr. Justice and Mr. King.

The day started at the National Media Museum where we spent the morning playing retro computer games such as 'Goldeneye', on the N64, 'Manic Miner', on the Spectrum, and a Pacman arcade cabinet.

In the afternoon, we visited Dr Peter Cowling, a professor of Computer Science, and one of his research students, Dr Stephen Remde. They introduced their C-Link project, which uses Wikipedia to answer queries based on related concepts. It seemed very similar to a certain game played by Sixth Form students.

We also tried our hand at writing an AI program to act as an opponent in a tactical computer game. The afternoon then continued with a demonstration of third year AI projects given by Dr P. Jiang. He demonstrated solutions to the challenge of guiding a robot out of a maze, as well as talking to us about the aims of all Robotics students and the ultimate challenge for robot builders, which is to beat that year's human world cup champions.

All in all, it was an enjoyable day and we learnt a lot about Computing at university and the projects being worked on at Bradford University.





This was another record breaking year for the Maths department. Achieving a 100% pass rate at GCSE, with 83% gaining A\* or A grades. Similarly, AS results yielded 81% A-B grades, and the Year 12 Further Maths A level class achieved an unprecedented 50% of pupils gaining the A\* grade. In Year 13, 81% of pupils got A\*-B, meaning that for the first time ever, the department exceeded the 80% mark for all three sets of results.

Outside of the classroom, students have reached the final of the Student Investor competition and the Intermediate Team Challenge, as well as the semi-final of the Jaguar Challenge.

A group of students also went on a trip to the historic Bletchley Park, famous for code-breaking during the World Wars.



This year saw the departure of two valued members of the department, Mrs. Keane (see next page) and Miss Ingall. In the same vein, the department are pleased to welcome Dr. Needham, who joined the school in September.

Having taught at the school for an impressive 22 years, Mrs Keane decided to retire at the end of this year. Part of the Maths department furniture, it is no understatement to say that Mrs Keane will be greatly missed by staff and students alike, and we caught up with her to capture her final thoughts on leaving the job she devoted so much time and effort to.

**Throughout your time at EGS, what have been your biggest highlights?**

This is a tough one, there have been a few. The opportunity to start a 'garden' and the (near) completion of the greenhouse. Getting good results with both Sets 4 and 5 for GCSE Maths, and in the process building up the confidence of the students. Working with great people, both colleagues and students. Simply, every now and again seeing that moment of revelation when a student grasps a concept in Maths which they have been struggling with. And finally, being the first female member of staff to be on the Board of Governors.

**What do you feel has changed the most during your time at the school?**

Obviously, the number of female staff and the *eventual* provision of ladies' toilets, although we (ladies) have to work harder in this male-dominated environment. The facilities have also improved greatly, with the addition of new teaching areas and interactive whiteboards. It is also refreshing to see that children are now addressed by their first names, rather than their surnames.

**What do you think has changed the least?**

The ethos, the expectation and the pride of being a member of EGS.

**Are you sad to be leaving the school?**

Yes and no! Yes, because it has played a huge part in my life in many ways – as the wife of a House Master in the boarding school days; as a teacher; as a Staff Governor; but most of all as a member of a friendly and supportive establishment. No, because I won't have to set my alarm clock!

**What do you look forward to doing in your retirement?**

(See last comment!) But also, spending more time with my family which includes four grandchildren. I also look forward to practising my golf up in Scotland, where we have a caravan.

**What would your advice be to your successor?**

Enjoy the best times – put the challenges and bad times (and there will be some) in perspective and be proud of being part of a long and well-respected tradition.

**What will you miss most about the school?**

The people of course – all of them! Also the fantastic setting and beautiful grounds. Most of all, the feeling of belonging to something; knowing that when I come up the school drive in the future, it will always be as a visitor.

**Is there anything about school life that you won't miss?**

Marking! Meeting targets. The cold – when it's warmer outside than in, a regular feeling in the Maths department!

**Have you got a final message for the school?**

All of the best to you all. I hope that there'll still be plenty of familiar faces to greet as we pass on the High Street!



Mark Kong, Jack McKeivitt, Robin Severs and Omar Shah were chosen by the maths teachers to represent EGS in the regional final of the Junior Maths Team Challenge at Bradford Grammar School on the 15<sup>th</sup> of March 2011. It consisted of several rounds:

- A group round in which we had to answer several puzzle-like questions within the allotted time.
- The cross-number, done in pairs, similar to a crossword but with mathematical questions.
- The head-to-head competition, also solved in pairs, which was carried out in several sets of four questions, each answer depended on the last.
- Finally, the relay race in which we had to solve puzzle questions in pairs, run with our answer to get it checked, and carry the next question to the other pair.

Omar Shah spoke to us about the Junior Maths Team Challenge.

“After completing the regional final, we were surprised to learn that we had won it! We were to go to the national final held at the Royal Horticultural Halls in London on the 20<sup>th</sup> of June. We were taken by Mrs Adamson and Mrs Keane and had to reach Skipton train station by 6:40 in order to get to London on time!

The questions were similar, but harder, with a competition to create the best poster on the golden ratio and a round with more practical puzzle questions to replace the group round. Unfortunately, we didn't win the main competition or the poster competition. But we intend to next year!”

Numbers remained healthy for German with 21 boys having pursued the subject in the 6th Form and 67 boys in Year 11. We were very pleased with our A2 results where all candidates scored grade A. Joe Golding is now pursuing German and French at university. News also reached us that David Machin, who left in 2010, had won the student of the year award for German at Exeter University. Well done, David!

The Year 11 group was the first to sit the 'new' GCSE in which Writing and Speaking are assessed by Controlled Assessments. Whilst results were very much in line with previous years, the German Department staff feel that too much teaching time is taken up with these assessments. Consequently, the MFL Department will be the first in the school to teach the iGCSE from September 2011. This is a traditional and challenging course where all skills are examined at the end of Year 11.

The highlight of the year for the Department was the traditional Simbach Exchange which was ably led by Dr Heron (see separate report). Here too changes are afoot as, from this year, the EGS/SGHS pupils will visit Germany in July though the Simbachers will still visit us in March.

The traditional trip to Manchester to Thomas Reiman's Updates Conference for Sixth Form Germanists was disappointingly cancelled this year. The event did not go ahead owing to lack of bookings. This writer clearly recalls former years when several hundred students attended and this is evidently a consequence of the decline of German nationally and particularly in the North. We are determined to buck this trend.

Early on in the year some of the Year 13 students attended a talk on Berlin organised by the town-twinners. The talk proved interesting and particularly relevant to one of their cultural topics.

We were pleased to welcome Miss Cara Berg as German Assistant. She was very popular with the boys and did particularly good work with Year 13 on the cultural topics (the film 'das Leben der Anderen' and the historical topic 'Berlin 1945 – 1973'). She returns to her native Braunschweig with our best wishes.

Most of us had little idea about what to expect when going on the German Exchange. Despite some communications beforehand with our partners; we still had no idea what they would be like, what we would get to eat or even whether we would just get along with them! However by the end of the week, our partners were great friends, and I think most of us would agree that the Skipton-Simbach Exchange was an unforgettable experience.

The journey was long. Very long. Almost 25 hours each way. But that didn't put us off at all because it gave us plenty of time to get better acquainted with the female students from up the road! Roughly an hour before we arrived, the nerves kicked in and the bus was host to forty-odd students frantically trying to memorise useful German phrases at the last minute, all whilst trying to remember what our partners looked like.

On the first weekend, many of us were given the grand tour of the area. We visited places such as Munich, neighbouring Austria and other iconic landmarks of Germany. Traditional 'essen' was 'gegessen', the weekend gave us a chance for us to absorb German life and culture. From the delectable cakes to the slightly stranger 'horse festival', that one student participated in, we soon came to realise that our partners were very enthusiastic to show us all the treasure that Bavaria had to offer. Everyone we met seemed to be so accommodating and hospitable, from teachers to random people we passed in the street, everyone talked to us and made us feel truly welcome in their town.

Next we visited the Dreiflüssestadt, or 'City of Three Rivers', otherwise known as Passau. Taking a trip on the confluence of the Inn, Danube and Ilz from the north, this gave us our first chance to mingle with other students as well as giving us all our first taste of German culture (all exploring the hidden depths of the Berchtesgaden Salt Mine and riding on the mine train had great fun - which was added to by the presence of a slide, bringing childish glee out in everyone.)

Next on the agenda was Salzburg. From side-street cafés, quaint Christmas shops, large boutiques, the famous castles and even some living statues; everyone enjoyed being allowed to explore a completely new environment as well as having an opportunity to bond with the students from up the road over a Mozartkugel or two. The organ recital was a unique experience, which went on for just a little too long to cause some restless

shuffling but was interesting all the same. One of the most memorable trips was to the Königsee, which stunned everyone into silence with the pure, untainted view of nature that was painted before us. Travelling across the lakes in electric boats, stopping to listen to the echo of a flugelhorn from the sheer rock walls repeated back seven times, we soon reached the peninsula. The lake and surrounding area can only be described as picturesque. Large expanses of crystal-clear water and unblemished landscapes conveyed just how amazing nature can be.



The disco was... entertaining. From desperately trying to get that one friend who refuses to dance onto their feet, to the 'dad-dancing' by Mr. King and the mass conga line, everyone had a brilliant night and cemented the friendships they had made over the week.

One thing that every student took away from the German Exchange was that no matter where you are in the world, speaking whatever language – teenagers are teenagers. Whether we were sitting in a café eating apple strudel or running around re-enacting our favourite scenes from Titanic and the Sound of Music – everyone liked to cut loose and embrace their inner child. For people from such different backgrounds, our attitudes were very similar, with the younger children eagerly asking for rude words in English. For one hundred adolescents thrown together in a foreign country, everyone bonded remarkably well; both with students from England, their exchange partners and even people who we met in Germany. The entire exchange was a huge success and everyone involved made lifelong friendships both from this country and Germany.

It has been a good year in the Physics department, with a very pleasing set of results at GCSE and A level. A detailed analysis of the results can be found on the department's page of the school website.

Away from the classroom, there were a number of successful and enjoyable trips based around the subject. These included taking Year 7 to Drax power station at the start of the year and then, at the end of the year, to Lightwater Valley to consider the physics of amusement park rides. Year 13 had a similar trip to Alton Towers! A small group of Year 9 boys had an interesting day attending the "Physics at Work" day at York University in the summer term. We hosted a number of visiting speakers including David James from Sheffield University who spoke to KS4 and 5 students about the Physics of Sport.

The GCSE astronomy course has gone from strength to strength with a number of Year 9 boys successfully completing their GCSE this year, together with a number of older students from the wider community who met one evening each week. The pressure of the new controlled assessment scheme in Astronomy led to the decision to start the course with interested Year 8 boys at the end of the summer term. At the time of writing there are around 20 boys (now in Year 9 of course) attending lessons one lunchtime a week.

### **DRAX POWER STATION TRIP**

I really enjoyed our trip to Drax Power Station. It was informative, interesting and I would certainly like to go back. My favourite part of the Drax trip was when we went on the bus tour around the plant and visited the nature reserve. It was hard to believe you were next to one of the biggest power stations in the world whilst inside the nature reserve; it was mind-boggling how they managed it! However, I have one criticism; I felt they perhaps could have explained in more detail about the power station, but we were against the clock as we had to get back to school. Overall, it was a fantastic trip which could only be improved if we stayed longer.



We set off from school at about 9.00 am to travel by minibus to York University for the 'Physics at Work' Day organised by NYBEP, York University and the Institute of Physics.

When we arrived, we were given a presentation about the advantages of nanotechnology, a glimpse of the future and the next generation of phones and computers.

We were then divided into groups before visiting three different presentations looking at some of the current applications of physics. The first of these was given by a physicist from the Home Office. His job is to design machines used in counter-terrorism. He had brought one of these with him and explained how it was used in airports to detect people who may be hiding guns or bombs underneath their clothes. These machines are currently in use, but because of the way they work, you never see them! We then went to a presentation by two archaeologists who explained how sensors are used in archaeological digs to determine what is underground and how deep they are.

Our final presentation was given by a physicist from RAF Fylingdales in North Yorkshire. He explained how the former RAF base, which during the Cold War was an important part of the defensive 'early warning' system, was now used to track space debris. He explained how they used physics to try and stop this space debris from causing damage, by predicting when and where it would fall to Earth.

We then had lunch before the afternoon session began. This involved talking to physicists from all sorts of different occupations about their jobs and was organised like speed dating!

This was a very enjoyable trip and we learnt a lot from it; especially from the afternoon session, listening to several different people.

The RS department has seen some change over the past year. Helen Sellers departed in order to support former head of department Andy Sellers in his new role as Baptist minister in Clayton, Bradford. Her temporary replacement was Mr. Gerry Whittington, who proved an instant hit. In March, we appointed Miss Heather Potter as a permanent replacement.

In the February half term, a full minibus and two teachers made a tour of the Cumbrian stone circles (see picture), for an enrichment project looking at how and why these mysterious ancient peoples felt the need to position heavy stones in muddy fields.

In the summer, the GCSE students set off to Chester to compare and contrast places of worship (see picture).



Helen Sellers first arrived at the school in 1993 as a part-time French teacher. She eventually re-trained as a teacher of Religious Studies and worked with her husband, Andy, who was head of department. Helen proved herself to be an excellent teacher of RS. She was amazingly organised and planned meticulously. Her teaching of philosophy at A-level right down to comparative religions at Key Stage 3 was both sensitive and thought-provoking. She was a particularly dedicated teacher who thought nothing of attending school trips on her day off and organised a 6th form philosophy club called 'Philosophise' which hosted guest speakers followed by discussion.

Helen departed EGS in December 2010 to join Andy who had recently qualified as a Baptist minister. They both serve at Clayton in Bradford, though they have retained their connections to Threshfield and the Dales. She was replaced by Gerry Whittington on a temporary basis, and by Heather Potter on a more permanent basis in September 2011.



It has been another eventful year in the PE Department, where the numbers of people taking examination PE and playing extra-curricular sport continues to grow. The appointment of Messrs. King, Jackson and Stewart has brought enthusiasm and some fantastic new ideas to the department. It really is an exciting place to be.

GCSE and 'A' level PE continue to grow in popularity and the new GCSE course has proved to be interesting, enabling pupils to be assessed in more diverse activities such as climbing, event organisation and mountain walking. Our A2 students also embarked upon pastures new, with four of them achieving A\*s in their exams.

The department continues to have an extremely vibrant extracurricular programme, with many pupils partaking in extra curricular sport after school at lunchtimes and at weekends. This includes: Rugby – 185 players at KS3, 4 & 5; Football – 126 players at KS 4 & 5; Cross Country – 61 runners at KS 3, 4 & 5; Cricket – 173 players at KS 3, 4 & 5, Basketball – 22 players at KS 4; Volleyball – 16 players at KS 3; Frisbee – 12 players at KS 4, Climbing club which has to operate on a rolling programme, such is its popularity and Badminton – which involves 48 students per week on a first come, first served basis. More seasonal activities include Archery and Fencing.

Special mentions must go to the U13 badminton squad and the U15 hockey squad who were both county champions, the U15 rugby team who won the Plate at the Giggleswick Sevens, the U14 rugby squad for reaching the final of the Sedbegh Sevens and to the U13 and 12 squads who won the Wharfedale RUFC 10's.

Thanks you to all of our athletes who continue to perform both in and outside of school. We are proud of all of you.



Could this have been the coldest and wettest season on record? As we embarked on the season in September, 109 fixtures were in place across the 6 teams and many determined boys were ready waiting and eager to take on Silcoates in September. Unfortunately, if we fast-forward less than 3 months; featuring heavy rain, snow and temperatures that plummeted down as low as  $-18^{\circ}\text{C}$ , no games were played after the 17th November; only 4 games in the half term before Christmas.

Nonetheless, the 1<sup>st</sup> XV, captained by a talismanic leader in Lloyd Davies began the season brightly. We travelled to Yarm in early September for the first of two trial matches in a week and it was pleasing to see youngsters Joe Slater and Luke Sumnall 'stepping up' from U15 to U18 rugby, with what looked like relative ease. A superb try from Sumnall, from 40 metres was the highlight of the opening 20 minute encounter. The remaining two periods were a war of attrition between two England players, Oli Cicognini of EGS and Zach Kilbrige of Yarm, both playing at full-back. Both players had started the season vibrantly, full of confidence, and their effort coupled with the good work that had already been done by the youngsters in the first third saw EGS home 25-22.

Our first block fixture; against Silcoates School in Wakefield soon came around and despite many years of playing school rugby, the 8am leave doesn't get any easier for the boys! EGS started brightly with tries from Davies and Cicognini put us 12-0 up, but this was a ferocious contest and Silcoates soon pegged it back to 12-10. The feedback at half-time was to step up defensively and we did. Despite losing Ian Grange to the sin-bin, we defended heroically and Cica relieved the pressure late-on with a superb try, resulting in a 17-12 win. Special credit must also go to Joe Buckley who started at fly-half. Joe is a talented rugby league player, who made, and has continued to make, fantastic progress in rugby union.

A disappointing 8-7 defeat at home to Crossley Heath was just what we needed prior to our next Daily Mail Cup fixture; this time against Woodhouse Grove, who have been growing in strength for a few years now. Our pre-match preparation was good; everybody was fit and we were really 'up for it'.



This showed from the outset, where captain Davies was his usual commanding self at 12, James Smith was cutting some brilliant lines at 13 and Jake Norton, who scored the opening try, was running hard and straight down his wing. However, the stand out performer had to be Oliver Cicognini, who was truly unplayable from full-back, scoring two tries and making countless breaks. His second try, beating what seemed like every player on the 'Woody Grove' team, was described by one rugby aficionado as the "best try he had ever seen!" EGS ran-out as comfortable 34-15 winners.

Then we hit problems; Cicognini damaged ankle ligaments in a PE lesson; Lloyd had an injured back; Will Smith, who had marshalled the back line so well from his position at scrum-half had an Achilles injury; and James Smith damaged his AC joint. A close yet disappointing 19-12 loss to QEGS Kirkby Lonsdale took us into half-term and, on our return, Bradford Grammar School defeated us 38-0, knocking us out of the Daily Mail Cup in the process.

The New Year brought renewed optimism. Our injured boys had returned and the 'sevens' season was looming. Defeats in the finals of the Austin Friars tournament to Durham School, the Kirkby Lonsdale tournament to RGS Lancaster and the Keswick School tournament, to Sedbergh, made us the eternal 'Bridesmaids'. But, nonetheless, we were playing some good stuff. The two national tournaments that we entered, at Fylde and Birkenhead Park, resulted in nothing more than pride and an understanding that we can compete with some of the top schools nationwide. The season ended on a high with Oliver Cicognini again being selected for the England U17 squad, playing in fixtures against France and Scotland.



A great deal of thanks should go to all of the players who have moved on to pastures new, including Lloyd Davies, Paul Mahler, Jack Price, Rupert Hargrave, Ian Grange, Dan Scothern, Barney McMahon, Duncan Clayton-Stead, Rory Johnson, James Webster, Oliver McKinney and Alex McIntyre. We wish you the best of luck and are proud that you wanted to devote so much of your time to EGS Rugby.

We set off to Holland on Wednesday 19th of October with a group consisting of 50 boys aged between 15 and 18. We arrived in the Port of Tyne early afternoon to board the overnight ferry to Amsterdam. The morning was started with a full English breakfast while we pulled into the Amsterdam port. From here we went through the Dutch customs and travelled to our fantastic hotel in a town outside Amsterdam called Noordwijk. Our first activity in Holland was a visit to the Ajax football stadium; the biggest in Holland and very impressive. I am now, of course, a dedicated Ajax fan!

That night the 2nd team and Footballers had their first game in Hilversum against Hilversum RFC and SC t'Gooi. The game kicked-off under floodlights at 8pm, and the EGS boys looked to be in the right mind-set for the tournament curtain raiser, with good midfield work from captain Josh Griffiths creating early chances for Matt Walker and Miles Thompson. Hindered by a picky referee, who seemed outwardly determined to ensure the game could get no rhythm, the home side nearly grabbed the first goal, but somehow the Dutch striker managed to stumble his effort wide of the target. In the second half, more neat passing from the EGS midfield almost paid dividends, creating more chances for both Walker and Thompson, with the latter missing a volley from point blank range. By hook or by crook the game finished goalless and penalties were inevitable. With the scores at 3 -2 to EGS in the shootout, Jack Beetham stepped up to win the match, crowning a memorable victory for the away side.

The 2nd rugby team had a close game against a strong Dutch side. By half time the home team had put over twenty points past EGS without conceding. However with a shuffle of players and a rethink we managed to pullback in the second-half and score a handful of tries. The game ended in a 36-26 defeat.

On Friday we travelled to the theme park Duinreill for the day where we were let off to go on the rides for a few hours. We then met and went into the onsite waterpark or 'Tikipool', which for many was the highlight of the trip. There were lots of great slides like the vertical 'Tyfoon' slide and double-person 'Starfright' slide. That night the first team had their first fixture of the tour against a representative side called Amstelveen. This was made up of the best players from the area and nine of the U19 national side making them a fairly elite squad. Regrettably we couldn't play the full

national side as planned because they had pulled out a few days before the trip. The team were very well-drilled and had a big powerful pack. After a relatively tough game under the floodlights, EGS beat the side 39-10. We never looked overly threatened by the home team, but had to work hard to maintain the ball as they had a good attack. The game had to be called off a few minutes short due to one of their players being knocked unconscious by prop Jack Hirst after his flying run down the wing!

Saturday was game day. All three teams had games, and it was a crisp autumn day as the 1st XV kicked off against Tilburg. We scored twice in the first five minutes, however we dropped off slightly towards the end of the first-half, which allowed them to slip a try past. In the second-half our score carried on to increase but the home team stuck at it to score again. The final score was 52-12 to EGS.

The 2nd XV then played against a selection of players from the PSV Eindhoven and Tilburg under 17's side. It was immediately apparent that the touring team were playing at a much higher standard as the score went up and up, with the game finally finishing 63-0, a massive win for EGS.

Meanwhile the football team were having a tough game against a fast and competent team called SC t'Zand. Dogged defending by centre back pairing Daniel Bates and Patrick Martin couldn't prevent the home side grabbing a 3-2 victory, with the EGS goals coming from Miles Thompson and Will Driver.

On Sunday, the group rose slowly to watch the World Cup final in the hotel bar. We then packed and headed to Amsterdam for a spot of sightseeing; I think it's safe to say Amsterdam was a new experience for all and a good way to end the trip.

The trip was thoroughly enjoyed by the entire group. The rugby squad had a chance to play against some very good sides at a high standard and similarly the football team had two challenging games. The week was a great way for us to bond as a team, and this was especially helped by the social activities that we did. All three teams improved vastly from the experience and I hope to go back next year!



This year, fifteen EGS boys entered the annual British Heart Foundation Golf Championships at Starbeck. Every year group from Y7 through to Y11 was represented in the event, which is in itself an unmatched feat, and one which we are proud to be able to claim. The real purpose of the day was to raise money for the BHF and, between our fifteen young men, we managed to raise £795! This represents a huge boost to the charity in our region. Special mentions must go to Joe Grayson and James Beatham who managed to raise £135 and £200 respectively.

Scoring was always going to be tough on this very wild and windy day. Most holes seemed to head into the wind and added so much length to the course. This, combined with the abundant sand traps and mature woodland, provided a true test. The Year 10 trio of Nick Woodhead, James Beatham and Ali Jordan came home with a collective of 81 'stableford' points which secured them the 2<sup>nd</sup> place spot in the entire tournament. Only Rossett High School hoarded more to send them off to the prestigious Belfry in July. A prize which will hopefully spur on EGS challengers in years to come!



## O'Rourke Posts Superb Score To Claim Prize

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2011 saw eleven EGS golfers travel the short distance to Skipton Golf Club, who had kindly provided use of the course to compete for the Annual Open. Played under the 'stableford' scoring system from the yellow markers, the competition provided a perfect format for a closely contested competition which included boys ranging from Year 8 through to Year 13.



In damp and breezy conditions, six boys managed to shoot 36 points or better, that score represents par in relation to handicap. Michael O'Rourke came home with an outstanding 42 points from his six handicap to be crowned champion. His score of 70 gross matched par for the course which deserves much credit! In second place, again with an outstanding score, was Sam Goodfellow who gathered 40 points from his 26 handicap. Sam's playing partner, Ben Lowry, another Skipton member was third with 37 from 17 handicap beating James Beatham into fourth place on the countback.

## ERMYSTEDS VS. SOUTH CRAVEN—FEBRUARY 2011

On a day where two of EGS basketball teams produced pleasing performances, the confidence of the players must be sky-high after their impressive wins. Both the Years 9 and 10 basketball teams were victorious against visitors South Craven this afternoon and to suggest that the results were in any way fortunate is misleading. Both matches featured outstanding performances from the EGS teams and coach Mr. Stewart commented on how they were examples of 'the best basketball played so far this year'. The future certainly looks promising for EGS in upcoming fixtures.

The Year 9s started proceedings, in what was a thrilling match, which ended in a nail-biting finish as EGS deservedly sealed a win by just two points, beating South Craven 22-20. Brilliant performances from Ross McMillan, Ben Jacques and Ben Booth helped the side to victory.

The Year 10s now had a lot to live up to; the Year 9s had set excellent standards and expectations were therefore high. Come their turn, the Year 10s did indeed match the quality of their juniors and, arguably, improved on it. EGS netted after just four minutes and before the first quarter had increased their lead to a confident five goals. Soon after the fifth was put in, however, South Craven managed to pull one back. This proved unproblematic for EGS though and, if anything, urged them on to increase their lead. The last ten minutes saw the home side net another four baskets to the opposition's two, bringing the final score to 33-17.

Dan Judkowski was prolific throughout while he received excellent support from Brandon Yeh, Ryan Coones and Ali Jordan. Overall, both EGS teams were a pleasure to watch and, at times, played superb basketball.



We had another very successful season with numerous individual and team victories. Highlights were the English Schools' Cup competition where both teams reached the final, our Area Championships winning four of five team competitions, the Northern Schools where Tom Blanchard and Billy Pinder claimed individual titles and the English Schools' Fell Championships where we won two team titles with our other two teams being national runner-ups. Add to this the numerous team victories in lesser events and it is easy to see that the 2010-11 season was one of our best.

These performances were inspired by some excellent individual performances. Three of our Year 7s won races; Alastair Harvey, George Maloney and Ben Archer, as did Year 8 Jack Paul. Tom Blanchard had another exceptional season as he won five times, Sam Westcott won the school cross country whilst George Meehan won our home cross country and ran fastest in our relays. In the Sixth Form, we had some more wins from Alex Sinclair and Billy Pinder.



In addition, we had eighteen runners qualify for Area Colours, nine gaining County Colours and Billy Pinder gaining another prestigious England Vest through his exploits for Skipton on the fells.

It is also important to recognise and thank our senior boys for their efforts this year and throughout seven successful years, retiring captains Joel Griffith and Will Marshall, Alex Sinclair, Will Crisp, Robbie Swift and the outstanding Billy Pinder. This team have collectively been runners-up twice at national level in cross-country and won National Titles on the fells in both of the last two years.

The weather was glorious for this year's race. No rain for nearly a week had firmed up the ground, with only the long grass in the golf course and the obvious hills slowing down the runners. The good conditions made breaking records possible, but both Alistair Harvey in Year 7 and Year 9 Tom Blanchard just missed out. We had our closest event ever in the House Championships as every House won an age group and 670 runners finished the course.

Our Year 7 runners showed that they have bags of potential as Alistair Harvey ran within five seconds of George Skocki's long-standing record. Matthew Thompson was next inside last year's winning time before his brother Luke completed the podium places. With five runners inside the top ten, Hartley, chased around by their Form Teacher Mrs. Hudson, won the House event.



The Year 8 and 9 race saw Thomas Blanchard chasing Billy Pinder's course record again, but just missed it by just nine seconds. Phil Done had a great race coming a close second before fellow Ermystedian Laurence Edwards claimed third and helped Ermysted clinch the House award.

The Year 10 and 11 race saw a continued return to form by Sam Westcott, ahead of Harvey Briggs and George Meehan in his first race after falling on the Sedbergh Fells. Petyt, with five of the top seven, won the team.

In the Seniors, Billy Pinder was missing but that did give Mr. Edward a chance to break his duck in this race. He did as he came back just three seconds clear of first student Alex Sinclair. Mr Edmondson was next ahead of debutant Matthew Dyson and Robbie Swift who claimed the top three student certificates. The house competition was taken by Toller to make it one age group each, but with two second places Toller claimed the overall House Champions Crown.



April 2011 saw the second trip to Cuba from EGS; this time run by Mr. Smith, the last trip having been organised by Mr. Grady with the inspiration from Mrs Keane. So it was that a group of boys departed for Heathrow Airport at midnight on Tuesday 12th, not to return until the 21st. After the usual hassle of the airport, doubled by a stop at Paris, we arrived in Havana in the early evening on Wednesday, tired and hungry. After a quick meal in the Hotel Sevilla, we progressed up to our rooms. The hotel was exactly as one would imagine Cuba to be: quite posh at one time, that time being long gone though.

Our first full day in Havana broke with a hazy sun and we were able for the first time to see the city in all its glory from our ninth floor hotel room. The day was spent wandering around Havana's old town, made up of museums, cobbled streets and crumbling colonial buildings. The best way to describe it to anyone who hasn't been is like the settings in the 'Pirates of the Caribbean' films, granted with locals trying to sell everything from cigars to their sisters. As a group we resembled some sort of 'Panama hat' convention, with Mr Marsden having brought enough to equip the majority of people on the trip. I suspect he may have some involvement with a supplier of headwear. We were in Havana just a few days before the Bay of Pigs anniversary, so many of the streets were bedecked with flags and bunting. It was all quite charming even if it was celebrating a brutal communist defeat of American forces. At this point I realise I should mention all the old cars people expect to see in Cuba. I suspected this was just for tourists, like expecting to see beefeaters on every corner in London, but no, the place really is crawling with the so called 'Yank Tanks'.



From Havana we drove out into the country, stopping en route at a cigar factory, where we saw some of Cuba's finest being made in a room that looked and smelled like a cow shed. Suitably stocked up on cigars (purely as souvenirs of course) we continued to our second location; the Bay of Pigs itself. There we had a polite look around the museum. I say polite as it was rather awkward for us (it seems the British sold weapons to both sides in the battle, we just didn't know where to look!), before moving on to our next hotel in the town of Cienfuegos. There we stayed in another pleasant

hotel, with views from the balcony overlooking a huge bay, displaying spectacular sunrises and sunsets.

One of our excursions from Cienfuegos saw us venture up into the mountains. There we encountered waterfalls, patches of tropical forest, and views that can best be described as jurassic. Before lunch, we had a chance to go swimming in the pool at the foot of the waterfalls - truly an opportunity not to be missed. After a lunch eaten in the middle of the forest we ventured back mid-afternoon to the coaches, where, in the car park, we saw a man riding a cow with a saddle, signifying for me that things could get no better than this.

After several days in Cienfuegos we continued to the town of Trinidad, viewed as one of the most traditional Cuban towns in Cuba. This part of the island was to the south; whereas Havana faced the Atlantic, we were now on the Caribbean coast, and it really did feel like it. Overlooking sugar plantations, humid lagoons and palm lined squares, this no longer felt like the Cuba we imagined, it was pure Caribbean. The next day, after trying to explain the Royal Wedding to some locals, we headed to Santa Clara, home of the mausoleum of Ché Guevara. Whatever your own views of Ché might be, the Cubans sure do love him and a visit to the mausoleum is a must. Looking around; you could see that this was a place of pilgrimage for the Cubans and you began to realise just how highly he is still viewed.



The last day was spent back in Havana, with free time to explore anywhere we had missed on the first day. In an attempt to use up all of our unspent pesos we rushed out and returned with the largest assortment of tat ever assembled, (although I'll admit that I bought most of it!). After bidding a fond farewell to Havana, our tour guide Norkis and our coach driver Eduardo who appeared to have a worrying penchant for drinking on his breaks, we set off from the airport, destined first for Paris, then on to Heathrow, before finally arriving back at school. It had been an interesting, exciting and a once-in-a-lifetime trip that has changed all of us.

True Adventure first approached EGS with the idea of a South Africa Expedition in September 2010. 36 boys signed up and on the 7 July, nine months later, myself and the 18 other boys in Team B set off for Durban accompanied by Mrs Hopkins and Mr King. An air of nervousness pervaded the group for our first few days, due to the stark contrast in culture, and the distance we were away from home.

Our first destination within South Africa was Oribi Gorge, a baboon's playground that accommodated us for the first two nights. Here we acclimatised by doing two day walks, one to a waterfall, and the other to the peak of the Gorge. The view was indescribable and unfair to try and capture in only a few words. Day 5 and we were settled at what was to be our base for the 3 coming weeks: Khotso Horse Farm. From here we ventured to the Giant's Cup Trial: a trek through the Drakensberg Mountains that was an imposing medley of rugged peaks, scarps, pinnacles, forest, waterfalls and rivers.



After the Giant's Cup Trial we rested and washed our clothing at Khotso for three days before we started the climb up to our project in Lesotho, based at 2,000 meters, the highest independent state in the world. The climb itself almost resembled a scene from Lord of the Rings, as we journeyed on horse back through the mountains. In Lesotho we were introduced to poverty.



Money was in very little supply, however, the community spirit was overwhelming. Our tasks were to paint both the interior and exterior of the school, and to make a stone water butt. Midway through our project we were stumped by the weather - it snowed. Being trapped inside for two days made the group not only restless but worried about our point of exit.



We finally left Lesotho on day 24, and the journey out was terrifying. What seemed like an abandoned industrial wagon carried us to the border on a barren path with cliff drops either side - and no I'm not exaggerating.

The last week was our rest and relaxation, based in St Lucia and Hluhluwe. An African safari ride was our treat, however, due to our location in the wetlands area, a trip to the Spar could be eventful if met by the hippos that wander the streets at night.



South Africa showed us a lot. A life lesson from a country that has suffered greatly in the past, but is now recovering and moving on in leaps and bounds. There are other things in life as well as money, and the strong sense of community brought new meaning to the word cultural. Well done guys, we did it.



Henri Matisse may only be an artist, but he knows what EGS Big Band is about. "There are wonderful things in real jazz, the talent for improvisation, the liveliness, the being at one with the audience." The last point may sound slightly distant when related to the Big Band tour, bearing in mind that at many of the venues in Germany we played in front of merely had a few parents and an elderly German lady who had lost her way and was having a brief sit-down.

Despite this; the entire band performed outstandingly to the German public, so outstanding that Mr Gregory was breaking news on national German television. We all experienced the Schnitzel and virtuous morals of the Germans as we took boats and funicular railways around the Rhine Valley, enjoying Berg Rheinfels in particular as everyone, including an adventurous Mrs. Gregory, who managed to squeeze herself into claustrophobic tunnels. After an eight hour journey across several countries, we established camp at a Chitty Chitty Bang Bang-esque hostel; a Bavarian castle towering over the Rhine. A congregation of locals flooded into the courtyard of the hostel on the first night to listen to what could've been one of the best concerts on the tour.

Overall, despite the four godly marble pillars of the venue in Bad Ems hiding our brass section - perhaps not a bad thing - the tour was as successful as ever and we can carry on bravely into yet another year of fantastic live music and performance. "Jazz is not dead - it just smells funny" (Frank Zappa). A big thank you to Mr. Gregory and the staff for organising the trip.



Amongst academic studies, drama productions and sport fixtures, students at EGS did not shy away from going the extra mile and doing something for charity over the last year. Half-termly non-uniform days for causes such as 'Bullying Awareness', the 'Lighthouse Appeal' and the Schools Partnership with Zahira College were held throughout the year and consistently brought in over £700 for each charity.

'Children in Need' was once again well supported by Mrs. Hopkins' form and their ever-popular cake sale; providing a wide selection of iced buns, biscuits and flapjacks to munch over during a charity showing of 'Murder in Shakespeare' – the drama group's 'filmette'. The winner of



the grand cake raffle was Mrs. Hilton who generously shared her prize with her Year 12 class! The Head Boy's charity of choice at the 2010 Founders' Day was 'Candlelighters', a local charity supporting paediatric oncology and haematology in the regional area for Leeds, recently relocated to Leeds General Infirmary. In February, EGS hosted a concert organised by Dr. Merrall and SGHS pupil Felicity Chilton in aid of 'Children With Cancer'. The concert was well attended and included acts from soloists, dance groups, drama groups and a piano solo from Dr. Heron!

Throughout the entire year, a group of 6<sup>th</sup> formers sacrifice the opportunity to play competitive and social sport on Wednesday afternoons and attend volunteer placements. From admin to café work, charity shops to outdoor centres and working with primary school children to working with the elderly; all placements provided fantastic opportunities to develop a range of skills (and to have some good fun!) and have had a wholly positive impact on all involved. Many thanks must go to Mr. Peters, Dee Pollitt and her team at the Craven Volunteers Centre for organising the volunteer placements.

The partnership between EGS and Zahira College is continuing to flourish through staff exchanges, joint curriculum projects and whole school events. During visits to partnership schools, joint planning has enabled schemes of work to embed a range of Global Partnership projects in Geography, IT, English, Art and Human Rights. As a result, resources and pupil work have been shared and exchanged.



This year we have successfully won a bid which will provide an opportunity to develop fully-funded student exchange visits for two pupils to visit from each partner school. This November, EGS hosted two members of staff from Zahira College; Mrs Aroosiya and Mrs Fasmiya. A week's programme of events included visiting classes, updating and sharing project ideas, and an opportunity to develop school and community links.



Chess club, run by Mr Speak, is open to pupils interested in chess from all year groups and acts as the qualifying stage to the British Land Chess Championships; the largest chess tournament in the world. All those who gain a sufficient number of points can attend the next stage, which this year was held at York High School on the 20<sup>th</sup> June. Alistair Harvey (7HU), Owen Cooper (8CL), Kieran Haden (8HO), Isaac Culshaw (8HO), Callum (7EM) and Josh Ellis (8HO) and I all qualified. But, unfortunately, only Callum, Josh and I were able to attend. It was a day-long event, and no matter how many games you lost, you would play up to the end of the day. There were five rounds to play, but you had to win four points with one point for a win, a half for a draw and none for a loss in order to reach the next stage. I almost reached the next stage but lost the last round, ending with three points. Callum got two points (beating his brother in the second to last game) but he didn't get extra points, and Josh ended with two points. None of us reached the next stage, but we'll try again next year.

Peter Howarth went on to tell us about how the chess year progressed: And so the chess calendar progressed to the main event of the season: the inter-school chess tournament. As the rounds progressed – countless members of the junior school were ruthlessly destroyed by Year 12 Matthew Wilson. Omar Shah was defeated in the semi-finals of the competition by Wilson who adopted Gary Kasparov's 'four-move obliteration'. Leaving Shah rocking back and forth in a corner of S3, Wilson was pleased that he now had fifty more minutes for lunch than he had envisaged.

However, the final would be a different tale for Wilson. He was to come up against the ominous Year 13 Charles Farnes – the alpha male of the chess club for the last seven years. As an eyewitness, I recall sitting in 'Bizzie Lizzies' a mere half an hour prior to the match, as he stated "It's going to be tough. Very tough."

Wilson and Farnes battled it out for an entire lunch. This was a war of attrition. A parallel was drawn to the Battle of the Somme by myself – no one was going to win this war for at least five months. However, when the two resumed play the following day; conspiracy was rampant. The sheepish friend of Wilson, Matthew Jeeps, harmlessly distracted Farnes in playful banter as Wilson made his killer move. Queen to King – checkmate.

**'A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO THE FORUM'****EGS MUSICAL 2011****THURSDAY 24<sup>th</sup> MARCH – SATURDAY 26<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2011***"Tragedy tomorrow, comedy tonight!"*

For this year's school musical, EGS' drama group decided to undertake the Herculean task of bringing a Broadway musical to the school stage – none other than Stephen Sondheim's hit Roman comedy musical 'A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum'. The plot follows a cunning slave, Pseudolus, who tries to help his dim-witted master win the heart of a beautiful courtesan - who has already been sold to a Roman general - in order to secure his freedom. The madness of the play developed as the troupe of bumbling buffoons (played to perfection by the cast!) began swapping guises - was that the mother of the dim-witted master or the household slave who just ran past dressed as the virgin? Is Pseudolus still himself, or is he adding yet another disguise to his repertoire of freeman, bawd and Nigerian soothsayer?

The cast was comprised of stage veterans and newcomers alike, from all age groups - and even of both genders with many thanks going to SGHS for letting us 'borrow' their girls for this show! Nathan Hawthorne brought to life an unforgettably energetic Pseudolus; he'll be famous one day, trust me; and was joined by the equally hilarious Tom Lodge, Alan Beaumont and Mason Boycott-Owen in a side-splitting rendition of 'Everybody Ought to Have a Maid'. With two subsequent encores! Alex McIntyre, as Captain Miles Gloriosus, brought Act I to end in style with his unbelievably powerful performance of 'Bring Me My Bride', and is also to be thanked for the vocal coaching which he provided the cast in run up to the performance... well, someone had to, considering the show was left with a director who couldn't pitch a single note.

No review of this show could be complete without a special mention of Oli Rookwood who, as well as playing the befuddled old man Erronius, worked with Mr. Macro to construct a Roman street set, complete with working doors, and then subsequently stayed many nights after school to paint it. Thanks also to everyone who put in innumerable hours over the show's five month pre-production period to ensure that every song was as energetic and catchy as it should be; to make sure that all the costumes were as elegantly bright and striking as possible; and to make sure that the

fiendishly confusing final farce sequence was clear and hilarious to the audience. This was helped once the cast all sat down some four and a half months into the show to read the script and work out what was actually going on.

And they did it. 'Forum...' was a musical comedy extravaganza, running for three nights, with a special charity performance for the residents of local nursing homes. With a real show-stopping performance, EGS pupils showed that even the challenges of Broadway aren't too much for their hard work and dedication.



In March this year the local MP for Skipton and Ripon, Julian Smith, kindly visited the school and answered questions put to him by a number of Year 12 and 13 pupils. Following on from David Curry, who had served the constituency for 23 years, Julian Smith was elected in the 2010 election following a spell in the recruitment industry.

He explained his plans for the local area to us, with his policies ranging from increasing the speed of broadband for residents, to leading the fight for high speed rail in Yorkshire. Mr. Smith then consented to let us question him on areas of national policy, perhaps the most contentious issue being the tuition fee rise, which was particularly topical at the time. We also discussed the concept of the 'Big Society', and the public sector wage freeze and subsequent cuts.

As an ardent Labour man myself, I was reluctantly impressed by Mr Smith, who came across as a committed local MP who cares about supporting both our school and projects in the surrounding area. On matters on national policy however I was less convinced, and I feel that the eight of us gave him a suitable grilling, considering the enormity of the cuts which his party has made. All in all, talking with Mr. Smith was an enjoyable and valuable experience, and he has pledged to come back in the future, giving more students the chance to hear his views and put across their own.





One of the more interesting aspects of editing the Chronicles involved a pile of old copies lent to us by Mr. Clough. On thumbing through these illustrious volumes from times gone by, we stumbled across some intriguing and, quite frankly baffling curios. Did you know, for instance, that where the Maths department now stands there once were hen huts and a potato patch? During the First World War it was decided that the school ought to try and be more self-sufficient. As a result this smallholding sprang up, later to be built on in the interwar period.



1920-1931.

The school also seems to have had a habit in days gone by, of collecting war souvenirs. Shortly after the end of the Great War, the school was presented with two field guns (a highly practical choice of gift, sadly long since gone) and also a rifle salvaged from the Somme battlefield which, to this day, is kept in the school archive.

The spirit of Victorian exploration was also displayed in the school, with an array of hides, horns and skins shipped back from Africa in a moment of imperialist ambition. One item from this period that has eluded our searches is the sword of the Mahdi. (A brief history lesson: The Mahdi was an African military leader who was defeated by the British at the Battle of Omdurman in 1898). Intrigued by this macabre curio, we set about unearthing the story behind it. It would seem that when Lord Kitchener (the one with the moustache pointing in the poster) defeated and killed the



Mahdi, he took his sword and his head as souvenirs (for want of a better word!). The head he was forced to rebury by Queen Victoria, whilst the sword he gave to an acquaintance, Mr Walter Morrison of Malham Tarn House, who then donated it to the school. Despite inquiries to both the British Museum and the Imperial War Museum the sword remains unfound, perhaps lost forever or maybe just behind a cupboard in one of the history rooms!

The Annual General Meeting was held in the School Library at 6:00pm prior to the Founders' Day Dinner. A total of fifteen Officers and Members were present.

The Vice-Chairman reported the deaths of the following members: W. B. Swainson (former Secretary of the Society and member of staff), Arthur Norton, Kenneth Holmes, H. Watson, J. Manock, D. Burgess, R. Mason and A. Zanker.

Since the A.G.M. two further deaths have been reported: David Thornton (1946 - 1953) – He will be remembered as an all-round sportsman, captaining the school at both cricket and rugby as well as being an outstanding athlete. As a runner he gained his university “blue” and unfortunately missed selection for the 1956 Melbourne Olympic Games by less than half a second.  
Mr. Sievwright, a former music master.

A Society working party was set up in 2009 to discuss the Cricket Pavilion replacement and the provision of a Sixth Form Common Room and has recommended that a replacement should be built between the Sports Hall and the “Top”. Plans have been drawn up for a Sports Pavilion / Sixth Form Common Room. A target date for completion is the Centenary of the Old Boy's Society in 2012. An appeal was launched at the “40 years on” day on 2nd July. Plans and general views were on view at the event.

On a further note, Old Boy Joe Binns has been appointed as Durham University Rugby Club Captain for the forthcoming year. EGS wish him luck over the next season.

Len Price ( Hon. Sec.)



EGS has a very active Parents' Association. We warmly welcome new members to join and help us with fundraising activities. Of course, all parents and friends are also invited to enjoy the many social events we hold.

**Events we have held in the last year:**

Cookery Demonstration by Celebrity Chef Craig Allan

Wine Tasting Evening

Christmas Music Concert

Big Band Night

Spring Music Concert

EGS Spring Ball at the Cavendish Pavilion

Indian Evening - a wonderful evening, including a Cookery Demonstration of authentic Indian starters, followed by a delicious meal.

Thank you to everyone who contributed so generously to the Parents' Committee's Town Hall Cafe on 2nd October. The cafe was a great success and a tremendous fundraiser. We were very grateful for the wonderful donations of homemade cakes, buns, soup and chilli. Thank you too to everyone who gave their time on the day to run the cafe and to the parents, pupils and teachers who came to support us.

A big thank you also to the parents and boys who helped raise £1070 bag-packing at Morrison's on Sunday 7th November. We are really grateful to you all for your hard work and commitment, with each boy completing a 2 hour shift. Thanks!

**Here are a few ways we have helped the school recently:**

2 digital recorders

Scores for the Band

Trophy Shields, Climbing Wall upgrade, Cross Country Tops, Cricket Tops and other Sports Kit

Measuring tapes

CDs

PE Development Programme

Contribution to Merit Trip

Netbooks & CD players

Flash gun and digital cameras for use within the school and on outings

Plus supporting Zahira National School in Sri Lanka

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