



notting hill and ealing high school



Year 8 in Normandy

Jaya Emery

On 30th June, Year 8 French students had the exciting opportunity to visit France to learn more about its culture, language and history in a three-night trip to Merville Franceville in Normandy.

Upon arriving at the hotel Bon Sejour, we were given the rest of the day to relax after our very early start and unpack. The next day, we set off for the town of Avranches, to visit a market and wander through the town. Then we were off again to the spectacular Mon Saint Michel, which is an island with a beautiful town built upon it. With only 40 inhabitants it is famous for the abbey situated right at the peak of the winding streets of the town.

Other highlights of the trip included the trip to see the Bayeux Tapestry, where we learnt about the background of its making and more about what each scene depicts. We also visited the 360 degrees cinema

in Arromanches, where we were shown footage of the D-Day Landings and given some historical information about them. This seaside village was the site of an artificial port and a key location in the defeat of the German army by the Allies in 1944.

As well as sightseeing tours there were also lots of activities arranged for us. The most enjoyable was going the Petit Chef Academy, where we made crepes and bread with the help of the chef. Overall, the visit to Normandy was very enjoyable and entertaining, with a wide range of fun and interesting tasks – all done in French, and picturesque views wherever we went.



GDST Athletics Rally

Vicky Newton



It was a team of tired teenagers who greeted teachers at 6:30am on Monday 12th June to embark on a coach journey to the University of Bath athletics track and the GDST Athletics Rally. However, by the time we had reached Bath everyone had slept a little and morale was high.

The races got underway and we were scoring quite well. It was hot and all teams seemed to be spending a great amount of time sunbathing and eating. The day quickly ticked by and we finished with a reasonably high score. Our team in the Year 5-6 competition was sadly depleted as the rally clashed with the performance of the Year 6 play. However, the

Year 5 girls gave it their very best shot against older, bigger and faster competition scoring a creditable total of 77 points. The Year 7-10 girls scored a total of 319 points, making the grand total of points 396.

This placed us 12th out of 19 schools which is pretty respectable considering the lack of girls from Year 6 and how recently established athletics is at NHEHS compared to some of the other GDST schools. It was also a huge improvement on last year's performance. Everyone performed well and there were a number of girls who did very well in competition against older Year groups.

Special mentions go to:
Vicky Newton (Year 9) overall winner of Year 10+ javelin
Grace Kenyon (Year 8): 3rd in Year 9 Javelin
Mairi Gillespie: PB High Jump 1m20cm
Freya Rylatt: 3rd in Shot
Amrita Arneja: 6th in Year 10 + Shot
Maddie Gibbard: finalist in 200m
Kira Nygren: finalist in 300m
Jasmine Palmer: 4th in Year 8 800m
Keerit Dhillon: 2nd in her heat in hurdles
Jenny Read: 7th in Year 10 800m
Eva Marie Weintraub: 7th in Year 7 1500m
Ella Pilkington: 7th in Year 9 1500m
Year 8/9 relay teams: both teams qualified for their finals

Fashion Runway

Ella Murphy



A perfect summer evening brought the first ever NHEHS Runway Show, an initiative, conceived and organised entirely by sixth formers and led by the Art Secretaries.

The theme of 'nature and its elements' brought us pieces inspired by water, coral reefs, air, waves, flames, crystals and flowers. These were true couture items, one-off creations made with love and passion. They showed real technical skill and design flair and an amazing amount of teamwork from the various girls involved. The outfits were fitted specially for their models whose make up complemented the pieces perfectly and who 'walked' with an aplomb and confidence that would have graced any Parisian catwalk.

Our judging panel of fashion insiders (all Notting Hill & Ealing alumnae), were Antonia Kraskowski currently fashion editor at the Daily Express, Shailina Parti, buying and merchandising director at Jigsaw and Lucy Dartford, fashion PR and director of LDPR. They are pictured here with the winning design teams. They gave expert feedback to all the designers before reaching a decision on the overall winners who received the prize of tickets to London Fashion Week.

All proceeds from the evening will go to two charities chosen by the organisers – The Mango Tree and SEED. We are incredibly grateful for everyone's donations and for the support shown during the evening. A massive thank you to everyone involved, and here's to next year!



Egg Drop Challenge

Girls in Year 8 Design Technology prepare their parachutes



Sports Award Dinner

Shona McCallin MBE, GB hockey player and 2016 Olympic gold medallist was our guest speaker and gave out the awards at the first NHEHS Sports Award Dinner in June.



Schloss Nymphenburg

Year 8 and 9 German students in Germany (see page 20)



GDST Day of Dance

On Monday 12th June, 16 girls went to the University of Bath and represented the school at the GDST Day of Dance. During the day girls participated in a choice of workshops with the chance to learn new dance styles and techniques: commercial street, contemporary, release technique or musical theatre. They were also taught a routine during the workshop which was then performed at the end of the day.

The day provided the girls with the opportunity to perform a dress rehearsal in front of all the other GDST schools of their competition routine for the forthcoming regional heat of Dance Challenge UK. They were amazing, remembering the choreography perfectly and putting on a very confident show which earned them great feedback.

It was a most enjoyable day and we came away with plenty of new ideas for dance styles and choreography.

Terri Adams

The Woman in Black

Thalia Roychowdhury



Linking to the themes of ghosts and the supernatural which we had been exploring in our drama lessons, we Year 9 Drama students all packed into the Fortune Theatre, ready to see *The Woman in Black*.

I was not sure what to expect from this two-man production. I'd of course seen the movie, which was full of "jump scares", but I was not sure how they would bring fear to the stage and truly instil a feeling of dread in the audience. However, I was pleasantly surprised from the beginning by the varied emotions aroused through comedy and the technique of dramatic foreshadowing which built anticipation, created suspense and helped hint about what comes later.

Of course, the atmosphere of the second half is what truly

makes the play. From the eerie nursery rhymes in the abandoned playroom to the red door, which triggers many loud noises when touched. The audience was on the edge of their seats. I will never forget the Woman's first entrance down the aisle leading to the stage. I felt truly sorry for the person on the end of my row!

The sound effects and dramatic motifs truly added to the intensity of the experience. Now, I am not easily scared, but when I heard the tinkle of the Jack in the Box, I was terrified. The ear piercing screams that rung out of the surround sound system really immersed us in Eel Marsh House.

Overall, it was an extremely memorable experience. The *Woman in Black* still haunts me to this day.

Year 10 in Bath

Immi Sandhu



Year 10 Latinists ventured out to visit the ancient Roman town of Bath, formerly known as Aquae Sulis. After a train journey, which featured plenty of spilt tea, we eventually climbed off the train and made our way down the streets of Bath, until we finally arrived at our destination, the Roman Baths.

We walked through the very long corridors, and were greeted by steaming, green waters. Because the baths are now exposed to direct sunlight and there are no longer any bathers

to move the water around, perfect conditions have been created for algae to form which accounts for the green water. Our tour featured insightful, educational information on every artefact to be found around the baths, including statues, curse tablets and more.

We also met some 'Romans' who, as well as adding to the atmosphere, are apparently based on real people who lived and worked at Aquae Sulis 2,000 years ago. Their stories have been reconstructed from evidence

found at the site and they were able to fill us in with lots of details about what went on at the baths.

At the end of the tour, we were given the chance to taste some of the spring water (which was purified), and which, to our surprise, tasted much like blood and metal. We later found out that it was rich in iron.

We then set off for lunch and to explore more of this ancient town, which has changed dramatically over the years. We saw the familiar high street landmarks of Primark and Starbucks, but Bath has still managed to retain some Roman features. We also completed our 'Latin trip challenge' of recreating a myth in three photos. These included Pandora's Box and the Judgement of Paris.

Then, after an eventful and interesting trip, we made our way back to Paddington reminiscing about the day.

More Dance News

Terri Adams

Our girls did amazingly well in their first ever dance competition at the regional heats of Dance Challenge UK. We were the only school without an established specialism in dance to compete. The girls were in the beginner category, for dancers over 12 years of age, and they pirouetted, glided, kicked and leapt their way to second place qualifying for the national final of the competition which will take place at the Opera House in Blackpool during November. We wish them the best of luck!

Year 10 Enrichment Week

Sophie Castano



Enrichment Week offers Year 10 time to look to the future and experience some new styles of learning.

On the first day we had a Model United Nations Day. The whole year group banded together to form their own UN. They learnt how to write resolutions, argue for their designated country and worked on their skills of negotiating and effecting a workable compromise. A war nearly broke out between Russia and the USA in the morning, but by the afternoon they were firm allies. Many have expressed an interest in taking part in the MUN day we'll be hosting at Notting Hill in the autumn. So, watch this space as the girls showed excellent public speaking skills, many surprising themselves I think!

Day two was Sixth Form Experience Day. This was an opportunity to attend a variety of thought-provoking lectures and classes, which gave a flavour of the more informal, but focused, style of Sixth Form teaching here at NHEHS. Hearing their teachers talk so passionately about a specialist area in their subject was a highlight of the day (as were the tuna paninis in the sixth form café...)

Day three was Enterprise Day which offered Year 10 some important lessons in team work and social enterprise. The day was organised by professional presenters who are themselves successful entrepreneurs and through games and challenges they helped the girls gain an insight into the kinds of skills valued by employers. The following day the girls did their Morrisby Test, the feedback from which they'll get in

the autumn term and which will give them some useful personalised career ideas. In the afternoon there was the chance to try out some sporting activities such as Zumba, yoga, self-defence and for the first time, Ultimate Frisbee!

Finally, on the last day of the week the girls visited either Worcester College, Oxford, or Murray Edwards College, Cambridge. As well as hearing from admissions tutors and seeing around the colleges there was the chance to meet some NHEHS Old Girls and get the low down on university life. The girl asked lots of insightful questions, clearly excited about this future prospect.

We'd all like to thank Mrs Hobbs for organising this busy and stimulating week and well done to Year 10 for demonstrating their indomitable enthusiasm, good natured sense of fun and willingness to give things a go.

Enterprise Day

Catherine Parr



As part of Enrichment Week Year 10 had a jam packed, and very lively, day exploring the world of work and developing those enterprise and entrepreneurial skills which will help them into employment or self-employment.

We began by focussing on developing the soft skills of team building and communication. With the incentive of 'healthy' snacks (Mintsrels, Haribos and Maltesers) as prizes the girls started off with a range of exercises, from building an origami frog to a complex word search.

After identifying the key attributes required to be an entrepreneur the girls then set about building a themed roller coaster. The aim was to keep the marble on its run for as long as possible... it sounds easy, except that all they had was some paper and Sellotape! The winning team managed to delay the descent by over 17 seconds. Year 10's

average was 10 seconds; most schools only manage around 5 seconds! More group exercises followed including balancing a fork and a spoon over a cup with only a cocktail stick for support and the trickiest Rubik Cube.

To end the day, the girls looked at social enterprise projects in South Africa. They created the most amazing selection of Makaraba hats, each with a different design. Under very tight time pressure the quality and creative diversity was incredibly impressive.

Then Alan Sugar's brother appeared to set the girls a task - to design, make and profitably sell as many loyalty card holders as possible. The girls set about the mission with incredible enthusiasm and many made record profits. They also quickly grasped which staff members gave them the best prices for their products!

Well done Year 10, Charles Dyson had better watch out!



National Archives

To support their A Level coursework on twentieth century Britain, Year 12 history students visited the National Archives.

On arrival, they were given an introduction to the National Archives including the exhibition space where versions of the Domesday Book and Magna Carta are displayed alongside Cold War documents which inspired the writings of Ian Fleming. They were also shown original documents about surveillance of the Suffragettes.

We were then taken into the strictly controlled reading rooms where the girls requested specific sources on their chosen coursework topics and which were then delivered to them in their personal locker. The girls viewed items such as correspondence between the British Prime Minister and the Soviet Union and newspaper articles about the Notting Hill Riots.

It was a great day to do some active history with original documents at an impressive centre. Mrs Scales liked it so much she returned the following week taking her one year old, who caused havoc among the quiet, serious historians.

Kitty Scales



Access All Areas

Backstage Pass is a lunchtime club where we can qualify to work backstage on school productions. There are two levels and we learn skills such as how to operate a lighting board and operate sound using a laptop via the system in the drama studio. We also learn how to operate the sound and lighting equipment in the Senior School hall. Additional skills like how to carry out a risk assessment and to choreograph scene changes are also part of the qualification.

As well as practising our skills during lunch time we also conduct our own projects once a year. This year our project had a medieval theme, looking at sounds and music.

Whilst being able to apply our skills in lessons and smaller class performances, this year the Level 2 Backstage Pass team have also been able to tech for larger productions. The Year 6 show in the Senior Hall, in which we ran the lighting and sound from the gallery and also ran the floor to make sure that the show ran smoothly, was a real highlight.

Anna Whittock

Pimms on the Lawn

Natalie Burns-Spence



On a sunny afternoon in June the garden at Notting Hill & Ealing was crowded with

alumnae and teachers catching up over a glass of Pimms.

This was an event specifically for recent leavers (2011-2016) and it was a wonderful opportunity to exchange experiences of university and the start of working life. It was also a chance for everyone to meet other

alumnae studying or working within similar fields.

Many staff came along to say hello and the girls were particularly touched that so many former staff had also come back specially to see them.

We hope the girls will stay in contact with us, and with each other, and that we'll see them all soon at other events.

Alchemists Club

Alyna Shamsi and Koushi Souresh

This term the Chemistry Secretaries have set up 'Alchemists Club' for Years 7 to 9 to inspire budding chemists in the school. So far, we have run two sessions, the first being a bath bomb making workshop where the girls made a bath bomb mixture and then proceeded to mould their mixtures into different shapes, before letting them dry and taking them home. Responding to popular demand, we ran a slime making session for our second workshop and the girls got to make different colours of slime using borax and PVC. We've really enjoyed working with the younger years this term and we'll be back with more workshops at the beginning of next year.

Year 8 Language Trip to Spain

Inanna Sahib



On Friday 30th June we, the Year 8 Spanish students, landed safely in sunny Madrid and then went on by coach to the city of Ávila.

We walked through the city and saw many historical features such as the famous medieval city walls and the Cathedral of Ávila or Plaza de la Catedral. The church was beautiful with intricate art on walls portraying religious scenes and vivid stained glass windows. The city itself was tranquil and serene, and it gave us a relaxed start to the holiday.

We then proceeded to travel up to Sierra de Gredos and arrived at the Gredos Centre, where we would stay in tents and experience real outdoor camping. The instructors at the Centre had been told to speak only Spanish to us, which was difficult at first but we eventually

grew accustomed to it and more confident.

We enjoyed a range of activities. The first was *Curso de Cocina* (cookery course), in which we cooked a delicious *Tortilla Española*. This activity helped improve our food vocabulary as well as our knowledge of Spanish cuisine. Next we did *Tiro con Arco* (archery) which proved to be not as easy as we had thought. This activity helped us improve our numbers in Spanish as well as teaching us a new sport. The *Taller Creativo* (creative workshop) in which we painted our own T-shirt, allowed us to learn more vocabulary on our colours and art supplies as well as letting us express our artistic skills. Finally, *Orientación con mapa y brújula* (orientation with a map and compass), helped us practise our prepositions, directions and map reading skills.

The next day we did *Pistas por el pueblo* (tracks through the village), where we walked from the Centre to a village nearby using directions and instructions from our booklets. Later that day we did Aerobics, *Juegos en equipo* (Team building games) and *Programa de TV* (making our own TV programmes), all of which proved really enjoyable with increased vocabulary as a positive outcome.

On the last day, we enjoyed a *paseo ecológico* (ecological walk) where we walked around the entire Centre stopping to admire its scenic features. We wrote in our booklet all the information about it in Spanish, a way to study nature in a different light, or in this case in a different language.

On the final day before we were due to the airport, we stopped at the *Cuevas del Águila* (direct translation: 'Eagle Cave'). It was probably the highlight of the trip in my opinion since the inside of this prehistoric cave was absolutely spectacular with fabulous stalactites and stalagmites.

After this phenomenal stop we went on to the airport and flew back to London, tired yet eager to recount details of our eventful holiday to our families.



Sports Day

The temperature soared and records fell one after another on Sports Day this year. With a full programme of track and field events enlivened by the traditional games run by sixthformers and the much anticipated school vs staff relay it's a day that always manages to combine the best of athletics with the best of NHEHS spirit. As usual there were lots of great individual performances, lots of good humour, laughter and face paint and lots of examples of girls doing their best cheered on by the support of friends.





Sports Day—Records and Highlights:

Year 7

New Hurdles Record – Amy Sheridan 13.21s
New 200m Record – Eva-Marie Weintraub 30.62s
New 800m Record – Eva-Marie Weintraub 2m 53s – taking 16 seconds off the old record (School Record!)
New 1500m Record – Eva-Marie Weintraub 5m 39s – taking 19 seconds off the old record (School Record!)
New High Jump Record – Amy Taylor 1m 15cm
New Shot Putt Record- Hana Azoo 8.11 meters– over 2m further than the old record



Year 9

New 300m Record – Rose Slocock 50.62s
New 1500m Record – Fiona Coutts 6 minutes
New High Jump Record – Honor Hill-Norton 1.43 meters
New Javelin Record – Vicky Newton 22.2 meters



Year 8

New 100m Record - Isabella Holmes 13.56s
New 200m Record – Isabella Holmes 28.77s (School Record!)
New 300m Record – Natasha Jones 49.69 s
New 800m Record – Jasmin Palmer 2 minutes 43s
New 1500m Record – Jasmin Palmer 5 minutes 48s
New Discuss Record – Sophie Claxton 17.12 meters
New Javelin Record – Grace Kenyon 22.1 meters



Year 10

New Hurdles Record – Alex Michelmore 13.06s - (School Record!)
New 300m Record – Kira Nygren 49.52s – (School Record!)
New 1500m Record – Anna Mackenzie 5 minutes 50s
New Shot Putt Record – Issey Blackwell 8.77 meters – (School Record!)
New Javelin Record – Caitlin Brazell 32.5 meters – (School Record!)



Team Spirit

House Captains



Sports Day has always been an important date in the school calendar, especially since the number of House points up for grabs has a drastic effect on the House competition as it grows close to the end of the school year.

Although the athletic events are fun, the main event without a doubt is the programme of lunch time activities, run by sixth formers. For all the students, it's a great release from all the competition that has built up over the morning, and the highlight is certainly the tug of war event. Given the reputation and anticipation which surrounds the lunch time activities, we were under pressure to really deliver and to make sure that the activities remained the best part of the day.

Ms Greenslade was put under intense stress trying to organise the House Captains' team and to prepare us for what was ahead, but nothing could completely prepare us for the first rush of Year 8s, desperate to compete against each other in an egg and spoon race. Trying to get anyone's attention when they are high on the excitement of racing against each other with bean bags balanced on their head is a mammoth task, and needless to say our voices were hoarse after the last round of activities.

The ultimate highlight was certainly the teachers versus Year 12 tug of war. In the first round, Year 12 didn't understand when we were supposed to start, yet we managed to pull it back (literally) and move that all-important, red, tattered ribbon

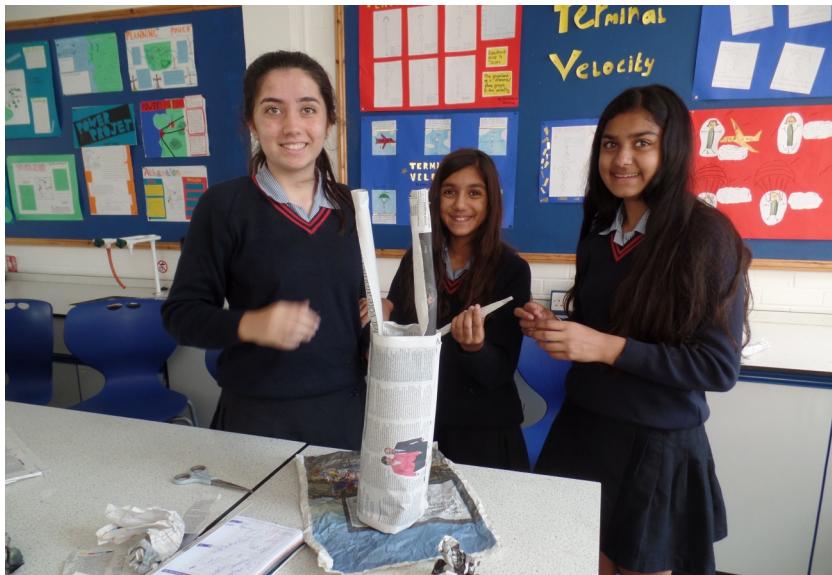


over the green cones, becoming the first round victors. Of course the ever-competitive staff, unable to cope with their clear defeat, demanded a rematch, but again Year 12 dominated the second round.

So, with Year 12 reigning victorious in the tug of war, we declare Sports Day 2017 a complete success!

Year 7 Physics

Holly Cramer



In the period after exams Year 7 Physics lessons take the form of a series of challenges, carried out in teams during a double lesson.

One of challenges was the 'Tallest Tower' challenge. Each group of 2 or 3 girls were given 12 sheets of newspaper, and 2 metres of Sellotape to use to construct the tallest, most stable tower possible. Several very tall towers were assembled, but unfortunately these proved not to be stable, and collapsed. The winners, pictured above, was the group of Jasmin Bains, Zara Waheed, and Ayna Sidhu with a tower of 110 cm.

In subsequent weeks the girls tackled other challenges such as building the strongest possible bridge out of spaghetti, and the longest possible marble run using 'junk' packaging the girls



Royal Society of
Biology

a single unified voice for biology

Biology Challenge

The Biology Challenge is a worldwide competition run by the Royal Society of Biology. It is open to Year 10 students to test their knowledge whilst also encouraging them to take an interest in biology beyond the school curriculum. This year a record 40,000 students took part in more than 560 schools all over the world including some as far away as New Delhi.

Those who score in the top third receive certificates with those in the top 5% receiving Gold awards. 20 of our Year 10 girls took part in the Challenge in April with 10 of those achieving Bronze awards, 4 of them Silver and 2 Gold.

Ella McNeill received the highest mark in the school. The Royal Society does not release detailed statistics but with a bit of investigation of the numbers it looks as though Ella's score is likely to have placed her in the top 100 in the world!

Gold Awards: Ella McNeill and Libby Warren

Silver Awards: Charlotte Grimwade, Floss Morris, Simi Prasad and Miranda Simmons

Bronze awards: Samar Al-Haddad, Shivani Dave, Anne-Marie Harding, Aemaan Khan, Jossika Nanthakumaran, Amira Nuseibeh, Esha Patel, Avani Sethi, Ellen Vince and Elizabeth Williams

Rob Cheney



Year 10 RS Trip

Exams finally over, Year 10 RS students took a trip to the Jewish museum in preparation for our course next year which will look at the social aspects and practices of the religion.

Through information on the celebration of festivals we able to learn about the full spectrum of religious observance. For example were able to see how different Jewish people regard their day of rest, Shabbat. It may just be spending the evenings with friends or some take a more orthodox view and do not use any electricity whatsoever and limit how much they walk.

While in the museum we were also able to try on the prayer costume that some Jews wear on a daily basis and learn how each piece of clothing has a deep significance, and how, when wearing it, they feel connected to their God and their history.

We also explored the nature of God in a workshop and explored how linked this belief is to the practices of Judaism. Finally, we were able to visit a synagogue and watch the way in which prayers are offered as well as seeing the way the Torah is read and how some of the scripts are understood.

Sasha Ahuja

Year 9 Drama , Ghosts - Helen Duncan Thalia Roychowdhury



We were introduced to Helen Duncan via a video showing black and white stills while a voiceover explained her story. She made a living by conducting séances and in 1941, the spirit of a sailor reportedly appeared at one of her séances announcing that he had just gone down on a vessel called the Barham. HMS Barham was not officially declared lost until several months later, its sinking having been kept secret to mislead the enemy and protect morale. Of course, the government was suspicious of Helen's actions and wanted to prosecute her before she revealed anymore confidential information.

To this end, Helen Duncan was found guilty under the Witchcraft Act of 1735 and sentenced to nine months in Holloway Prison. She was the last person in Britain to be jailed under the act. We were shocked by how the government manipulated antiquated laws in this way.

In our drama lessons we explored how newspapers exploited this story and ran it into the ground. We formed multiple archetypes and representations of Helen and her séances and created short pieces based on the headline 'Branded a witch, jailed a spy'. In these pieces half the groups defended her and the other half attacked her to represent the duality of the media.

We also invented our own characters who might have come into contact with Helen. These included ghosts who communicated with her, desperate patrons begging to see their dead loved ones and cynical journalists. This helped to create even more new perspectives on this case.

This exploration of the media, conflict and wartime paranoia really helped to further our understanding of ghosts; the connotations of the word and its often warped meaning.

Introduction to the Sixth Form

Jenny Bushell and Tracey Hobbs



On Monday, 3rd July, all the Year 11 students found their way back to school for 8:45am (quite a challenge for many after a couple of weeks of rising at noon!) to begin their Sixth Form Induction. We were also very excited to welcome our 'new girls' who will be joining NHEHS in Year 12 in September. Everyone was introduced to their new tutor and members of their new tutor group for the sixth form before making their way into central London.

Each tutor group completed a Treasure Trail in a different part of London: Covent Garden, South Kensington, Shoreditch, Trafalgar or Marylebone. The clues tested the girls' observation, maths and problem solving skills. Once the clues were solved it was time for lunch at Pizza Express followed by appreciation of the Arts; Mr Porter and Ms Nuding's

group were treated to a guided tour of the Wallace Collection. Mr Schneider's group (expertly supervised by Dr Sheldon and Mrs Hobbs) saw some impressive sculpture in the V&A, while Ms Critcher and Miss Morgan's group reminisced over life as a child and were treated to tea by some small children at the V&A Museum of Childhood.

Ms Whitmarsh and Ms Craggs' group saw many master pieces at the National Gallery and the group with Ms Bushell and Dr Li experienced the National Portrait Gallery. Here the phrase 'moth to a flame' was clearly demonstrated by Christina Dimitrova who was totally captivated by the new portrait of Ed Sheeran. She was oblivious to the fact that her tutor group had stopped near the entrance to hear some instructions for their gallery visit as she made her way solo towards 'Ed'.

The weather was perfect and the girls were incredibly quick when it came to deciphering clues and navigating the route to lunch (thank you in particular to Olivia Williams from Mrs Hobbs and Dr Sheldon for leading the way to Pizza Express in Beauchamp Place!) Sasha Ootam also gets a special mention for entertaining not only her tutor group but all the guests at the Pizza Express in Trafalgar Square with her skills on the restaurant's piano.

The girls then returned to school proper on Tuesday, 4th July, where they had their formal induction into the sixth form. They met the Heads of Department for the subjects they have chosen to take in September, as well as having some time to make themselves at home in the Sixth Form Centre. They also heard about the exciting opportunities open to them next year, including being Big Sisters to the incoming Year 7 girls, participating in the Engineering Education Scheme, and using the sixth form gym, as well as choosing their Electives and PE options.

We were thrilled to welcome all of the girls to the sixth form, and very much look forward to seeing them again in the autumn.

The Island

Debbie Whitmarsh



Minerva Juniors is the name given to the Year 8 and 9 drama club and this year they worked towards a performance that was staged to an audience of parents and friends on 14th June.

Initially, they worked through workshops on a range of material, but it was a picture of an island that sparked their imagination and led to the writing of an original piece which was developed through these improvised sessions. The narrative stemmed from the idea that a group of girls and women were stranded on an island with no memory of how or why they were there. However, inevitably, one member of the community started having memories of a past life but these images were

unclear and fragmented leading to fear and suspicion.

There was a clear parallel with the novel *Lord of the Flies* and this idea was woven into the story. There was a keen sense amongst the group that although the piece was set in the future, there needed to be some clear sense of tradition embedded in the script and so we researched Latin words which we used at key moments, for example 'the enthymeme' was the name given to the select council convened to deal with disagreements.

The cast worked diligently on exploring ideas for presenting the themes to an audience, their professionalism and creativity was hugely creditable and the

end performance was exceptionally well received.

These intimate studio productions are an excellent way for the girls to hone their skills and develop their confidence. As one member of the audience commented, 'this was a fascinating process of exploration and expression. It was so wonderful to sit and watch the girls bringing those characters to life and showing the ideas behind the idea of the story.'

Huge congratulations to the cast of *The Island* and many thanks to the Back Stage Pass girls who did an amazing job on lighting and sound.

Maths for Years 5 and 6 with Year 7

Helen Critcher



In June, the whole of Years 5 and 6 from the Junior School visited us to work with Year 7 on some maths activities. This is the third year we have run these sessions and as one of the Year 7 students said 'I remember I was exactly like the Year 5s and 6s when I was them! It was an enjoyable experience switching roles as I was the Year 7 this time!'

Other Year 7 students commented:

'I thought that it was a lot of fun! Some questions were quite hard but the Year 5s and Year 6s were clever!'

'I enjoyed working with Year 5 and Year 6. It was nice to know what classes the Year 6 girls are joining'

'I had forgotten what junior school was like. I loved answering their questions and telling them about the Senior School'

Our visitors successfully followed a maths trail around the school and solved some problems based on the United Kingdom Maths Trust Primary Team Challenge.

Here are some of the Questions:

Who was the Head Girl exactly 10 years ago?

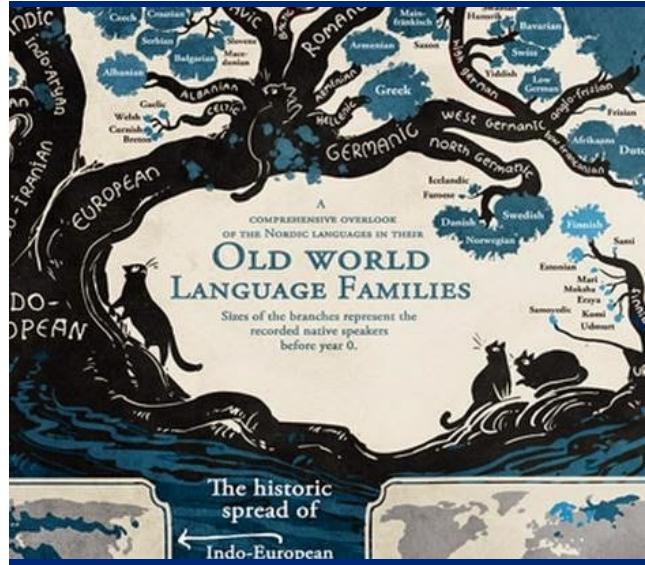
Estimate the circumference of one of the picnic tables

What is the sum of the digits of the school's phone number?

What shape is the gate by the pond?

What does the number 'Pi' represent?

All of the teachers involved were so impressed by the enthusiasm and effort which everybody showed.



Linguistics Olympiad

The UK Linguistics Olympiad is a national competition, like the Mathematical Olympiad or the National Cipher Challenge, for students who are still at school. In the Linguistics Olympiad competitors have to solve linguistic data problems by "decoding" a variety of languages they will never have met before.

This year, our Year 12 linguists translated into Maori and Choctaw (a native American language spoken in Oklahoma and Mississippi) and analysed complicated family relationships in Kaytetye, a language spoken by only 145 people in Northern Australia.

A Silver award is only given to the top 10% in the country and a Bronze to the top 20% so many congratulations to our award winners, in what was a very difficult Olympiad this year.

Silver award: Vedika Dass and Celia Riddiough

Bronze award: Eleanor Jones, Alyna Shamsi and Kishayini Sivakumar

Patricia Essler



Rockets!

Year 5 joined Year 12 art students in the Senior School art rooms for a rocket workshop. Afterwards they modelled their creations and cooled down with rocket shaped ice lollies.



Multitude

Right at the end of the summer term, nearly 500 Year 9 students from GDST schools across the country (including a group from NHEHS accompanied by Mrs Critcher and Mrs Hobbs) attended the GDST's Multitude Festival in the stunning grounds of Ipswich High School. Everything about the festival was voted fantastic, even the camping. Highlights included drama, dance and IEM music workshops, swimming, fairground rides, live bands, an outdoor cinema, a Silent Disco and a firework finale.

National Army Museum

Jennifer Wong and Kira Rai



On 6th June, Year 9 set off on the Tube for the National Army Museum, Chelsea. After making our way through some torrential rain, we arrived and split up into our three Houses so that we could take turns at either exploring the museum or taking part in a workshop about conscription.

The workshop was run by one of the museum's staff, and she explained to us what was meant by conscription, when it was implemented and why it was necessary. We then analysed some propaganda posters, some older and some more recent, and some speeches made in Parliament arguing for or against conscription. The workshop was engaging and interesting, especially because it covered a topic which was new to most of us.

Around the museum, there are 5 galleries:

- Soldier:** documenting the experiences of past soldiers and the equipment they required
- Battle:** a gallery containing paintings and artwork depicting conflict through the years
- Army:** showing influences of politics on the armed forces and exploring their effects.
- Insight:** displaying artefacts from armies around the world
- Society:** exploring our perception of the armed forces and the impacts of the military on society.

We were let loose around the museum to see the galleries, and were given an optional worksheet of items to spot. The exhibits were varied and explored the impacts and influences of the military, giving us a wide range of information. Even though it was a small museum, it had recently been refurbished and we were one of the first school groups to visit after the reopening.

Thank you to the History Department for organising this trip to a thought-provoking, compelling museum.

Middlesex Athletics

Freya Rylatt



On Monday, 26th June, a team of NHEHS girls from Years 7 and 8 were chosen to be among those schools representing Ealing at the Middlesex Championships. This was a fantastic achievement for NHEHS as it was the first time we had ever been chosen to represent the borough of Ealing.

At the competition we had to go against 9 other boroughs in Middlesex in order to be crowned the Middlesex champions. It was a very hot day with almost no clouds in the sky and we managed to come home with some outstanding results.

The day kicked off with field events for Year 7 girls, so Ayna Sidhu and Freya Rylatt were up first doing shot. Freya managed to score 7.03m which meant she came 4th overall, closely followed by Ayna. At the same

time the Year 8s were taking part in their track events. In the 200m Issy Holmes finished the race in 28.5 secs winning her race in medal position. Then Jasmine Palmer ran the 800m in 2 mins 43 secs coming joint 5th/6th overall.

After a short break for lunch we then switched so Year 8 were competing in the field events and the Year 7s were on the track. Grace Kenyon threw an outstanding 23.60m in javelin which put her in second place. Isobel Thornton then jumped 4.18m in long jump putting her in 4th place overall. Back on the track for the Year 7 1,500m where Eva-Marie Weintraub came 4th overall with a time of 5mins 35 secs. Once all the events had finished Issy Holmes joined with other girls from the borough for the relay in a team

which won the Year 8 relay for Ealing, a splendid end to the day.

Overall, our borough came 4th in the Year 7 competition and Year 8 came 3rd in theirs.

Although just being selected in itself is the real honour, I hope that in the future we can continue this kind of performance from our school for many more years to come. Everyone who took part contributed to these fantastic results so very well done to the team of :

Amy Taylor, Freya Rylatt, Sofia Bevers, Eva-Marie Weintraub, Amalie Shakespeare, Isabella Holmes, Juliet Kose, Isobel Thornton, Sophie Claxton, Mia Mutadich and Jasmine Palmer.

Year 8 and 9 in Germany

Freya McNeill



At the end of June, students from Year 8 and 9 who study German flew to Munich to practise our language skills and experience what Germany is like.

When we arrived, we headed to the market near the town hall. Surrounded by native speakers it was a great chance to see how much we could understand from passers by and see if we could order fruit or ice cream in German. It was a good experience and very satisfying when you got what you wanted with your minimal vocabulary. We also visited the new town hall which was great. I really enjoyed going up to the top of the tower seeing the view, and signing our names in the visitor's book.

After a good night's sleep and breakfast we headed out to the

Schloss Nymphenburg (The Palace of the Nymphs). This palace was a gift to a princess who had provided a male heir to the throne. In honour of the nationality of the princess some of the palace was also designed in Italian style such as the outside steps leading up the entrance hall. I think what amazed me the most about the building was the detail and beauty of the paintings, especially the exquisite ceilings in the entrance hall. Around the palace there were frequent references to Roman and Greek mythology in paintings and sculptures and it was fascinating how these two cultures fitted with German royal architecture.

The next day, we went to the main train station and travelled to Salzburg in Austria for the day. We walked to different places in

the city which featured in the film *The Sound of Music*. Despite the pouring rain, nothing could stop us singing *Do Rei Mi* at the top of our voices. Then after lunch we proceeded up the hill to the castle. We took an audio tour around the castle which showed us everything from the torture chamber to the salt cellar. I really enjoyed comparing this building to the Schloss Nymphenburg in Germany and seeing how the features and environment were similar or different.

On our final day, we travelled to The Deutsches Museum and with a guide visited various highlights of the museum. This included learning the basics of how to fly an aeroplane, the origins of power such as steam and water and the history of The Deutsches Museum. I enjoyed the physics section where we could carry out experiments and see how things work and also the special exhibition which put you in the role of an environmental Politician. You had to use your knowledge to solve problems and make decisions which would improve environmental issues.

I thoroughly enjoyed the trip with all the sightseeing and lots of opportunity to speak German along the way.

Thrills and Rides

Kathleen Web



The tradition here at NHEHS is, that once GCSE exams are over, the school treats Year 11 to a day of complete relaxation and fun. In the last few years this has taken the form of a trip to Thorpe Park and so on Thursday, 6th July, we set off for a much anticipated day of thrills and rides.

We'd been enjoying a spell of hot and sunny weather and the day was perfect so armed with water and sun-cream, the students scattered into the park (followed

closely by Ms Baboolall, Mr Pepper and myself as we headed straight for 'Stealth'). The day passed in a flurry of fast food and fast rides, and ritualistic drenching courtesy of 'Tidal Wave', and we returned to school in state of pleasant exhaustion.

Many thanks go to Year 11 for their cheer, energy and self-sufficiency on the day, and to Ms Baboolall, Ms Cheng, Mr Pepper and Ms Plowden for accompanying the trip.

Minimus Club

Elly Nicoll

The sixth form classicists, ably supported by some eager Year 11s, ran the Minimus Club (a primary school Latin club) at North Ealing Primary in the Easter term. As part of this, they entered the annual Minimus Mythology Competition, where the students from North Ealing Primary learnt and performed a play written in Latin by the Year 12 Latin students.

This year the play was the story of Odysseus and the Cyclops. The group received a 'highly commended' award and the judges particularly praised the North Ealing Primary pupils' enthusiasm, the large number of children involved and the last minute cameos from some of our own NHEHS' students, who took the places of some absent primary school children!



GDST Prizes and Awards

Every year the GDST awards a number of prizes, competed for by students in all its schools, either via essay competitions or for achievement in a particular subject or arena.

The GDST Minerva Prize, the Trust's most prestigious award, is awarded to exceptional students for outstanding all-round achievement. We were delighted that Erin Holder (Year 13) has been awarded a Certificate of Commendation to mark her many achievements and exceptional contribution to school life throughout her time at NHEHS.

This year's GDST Nancy Silver Award, the top prize for sixth form classicists, went to Celia Riddiough (Year 12) while the Lorna Cocking Scholarship (another prize for which competition is fierce and which is tenable for 3 years of university study) was won by Maya Biswas-Whittaker (Year 13).

The GDST Anne Hogg Modern Language Prizes, recognise the work of Year pupils in each school, who are taking two or more modern foreign languages. This year's NHEHS winner was Amira Nuseibeh. Our congratulations also go to Jennifer Wong and Rinda Naresh who were Commended in this year's GDST Laurie Magnus Poetry Competition judged by poet and Putney High School alumna, Julia Rawlinson.



Biology Prize

Bismah Kazi and Cecily Bell have been awarded a special prize for Outstanding Contribution to the School in setting up Dissections Club.

They have been professional, organised and dedicated in bringing the club from an initial idea all the way through to inflating the lungs of a sheep before our very eyes. In doing so they have also raised interest in biology throughout the school. Keep your eyes peeled for Dissections' Club distinctive posters featuring Sponge Bob Square Pants next year and look forward to a whole new level with specimens including a brain, a piglet, a starfish, a squid and a shark.

Rob Cheney



Year 12 Fieldwork

The Year 12 geographers went to Slapton Ley in Devon for a sunny weekend in June to investigate the physical and human geography of this beautiful coastline. We stayed at the Field Studies Centre and as well as lots of good geography particularly enjoyed the 10km walk along the South West Coastal path and the food!

Sarah Jones

Volunteering Whizz

Millie Boyse



Whizz-Kidz is a charity which helps encourage and support disabled young people and their families, and works with those affected by a range of different disabilities which make them wheelchair users.

The charity runs Ambassador Clubs which brings loads of young people together, as well campaigning for equality for those in wheelchairs. A current campaign is with TFL to make public transport more disabled-friendly. As a volunteer for Whizz-Kidz, I help out at the Ambassador Clubs and sometimes at other events. At the Ambassador Clubs a volunteer's role is to engage each young person while playing games or taking part in activities such as making smoothies or baking. Last year I even attended a wheelchair dance flash mob at the Olympic Park, an experience which was not only spectacular and memorable but also fun!

My inspiration for volunteering with Whizz-Kidz came from school. We were learning

about a similar topic in Spanish, and then, in PHSE we were asked to research any topic that interested us and present on it to the class. Inspired by my Spanish lesson, I began to research the subject of disability. However I was ill on presentation day so never got to make my presentation but Whizz-Kidz was a charity which I'd come across in my research and what they did looked really interesting. The minute I turned 16, I applied to be a volunteer as I wanted to help.

I attended a training courses where I met other volunteers who were so lovely that I knew I would have a great time! Volunteering is such an amazing experience but in my opinion to get the most out of it you have to really want to do it. However, I would encourage everyone to give it a go- it can be quite challenging and draining but mostly it's so special and a great way to give back to a community.

Millie was recently named Whizz-Kids Young Volunteer of the Year

Historical Fiction Writing Competition

Rachel Gordon



In February, the History Department launched the Historical Fiction Writing Competition. All Students in Years 7-9 were invited to write a piece of historical fiction, of any length and in any form. There was a great deal of flexibility. Girls could write the piece set in any time period, country, create any number of characters, write about any historical event or phenomenon of their choosing. Entries were to be judged based on the accuracy of historical content, flair of writing style and the extent to which they really engaged and 'hooked in' the reader with creative characters or situations.

Nikhita Claerhout won the entire national competition last year; receiving a paperweight, cheque, certificate, house points and her

name in print! This year's applicants look set to defend her title very effectively, with writing on a range of topics from: the Great Fire of London; the experience of a war photographer; the fate of Amelia Earhart and the lost genius of Maria Anna Mozart! We were delighted at the number and quality of entries. Everyone had taken great care to write interesting pieces and demonstrated skills in lucidity, expression and creativity.

The three winners will have had their entry submitted to the National Historical Association Historical Fiction Writing Competition. This is open to all schools and this year will be only the second time that NHEHS has submitted entries.

The History Secretaries read and judged all entries and decided on the best 3 to be sent off to the national final. All entries received 20 house points, while the three winners earned 150 house points each.

Congratulations to the three winners:
Madeleine Taylor (Year 8)
Jennah Agha (Year 9)
Milly Buckroyd (Year 9)

Congratulations to the runners up too: Sian Kalsi, Thushika Ravichandran, Chloe Braganca Vasconcelos, Amber Deane-Johns, Kayla Locke, Freya McNeil, Nina Indjic-Ast, Yasmeen Chishti and Phoenix Rotimi.

Our Future Fertility Trust Campaign

Alyna Shamsi and Koushi Suresh



Following our visit to the John Radcliffe Hospital in Oxford, we were inspired by one of the lectures on Ovarian Cryopreservation to plan our own campaign within the school and our local community for the Future Fertility Trust. The Future Fertility Trust is an independent Charity which offers cryopreservation services for young boys and girls whom face infertility as a result of aggressive cancer treatments, such as chemotherapy and radiotherapy.

Ovarian cryopreservation is the process of safely preserving ovarian tissue using liquid nitrogen at very low temperatures, in order to protect not only the eggs but also the hormone function.

The ovarian tissue is collected during a key-hole operation and the tissue is then cut into thin strips and soaked in preservative fluid. The essential part of this process is that the tissue is slowly frozen and all water is removed before freezing to ensure that the tissue is not torn by the formation of water crystals. Finally, the ovarian tissue is stored safely in the Tissue Bank freezer. When the young woman chooses to use her tissue, it can then be re-implanted under the skin.

So far in our fundraising

campaign, we have hosted a Friday Movie Event, during which we showed the film, *Moana*, and also sold homemade cupcakes. Throughout the summer term, we have also been engaging with all Year groups by giving talks about the Future Fertility Trust and the services which they offer.

In terms of future events, we are planning to have another bake sale, but this time in the Sixth Form Centre and we will also be starting next year by selling handmade jewellery. Over the summer, we are planning to hold a sponsored walk from Ealing Broadway to Hyde Park.

We would like to thank everyone for their donations and support so far and we look forward to holding many more fundraising events in the near future.

Kangaroo Maths Competitions

Helen Critcher

Students who achieve high marks in the national Maths Challenge competitions are invited to take part in an international follow-on round called the 'Kangaroo' (because it originated in Australia).

This year three of our students have done well enough to achieve merit certificates in the Kangaroo papers.

At Intermediate level:

- Diana Razlog (Year 9)

At Junior level:

- Lily Sideso (Year 8)
- Anna Haworth (Year 7)

These awards put these students in the top 1500 nationally for their age groups and are a tremendous achievement.

Emerging Talent Award



We were delighted to learn that Leila Brown (NHEHS 2011) is a winner in this year's GDST Emerging Talent Awards.

The Emerging Talent Award was launched three years ago as part of the GDST's commitment to support alumnae in their lives beyond school. It is aimed at former students who need financial assistance to realise big ideas in particular fields, and in 2017 the focus of the award was engineering.

Leila who studied Mechanical Engineering at Leeds, followed by an MSc in Clinical Engineering at King's College, London, is currently on a three year training scheme as a Rehabilitation Engineer with the NHS. Her work uses engineering principles and solutions to make daily activities easier for people with complex needs, arising, for example, from disability or injuries.

The panel of judges was so impressed by Leila's application that they have made a grant to pay for her to attend a conference (Oceania Seating Symposium) while she is on an elective in New Zealand in November this year.

Leila commented:

'This is an incredible opportunity to meet other clinicians, manufacturers and suppliers in the rehabilitation field and I have no doubt that attending will help me in my career progression as well as in my current role. I am so grateful for this award, and cannot thank the judges and the GDST enough for making this wonderful opportunity a reality.'



Statistics

At its conference each year, the Royal Statistical Society (RSS) awards prizes to distinguished individuals in recognition of their service to statistics. These include the Frances Wood Medal which commemorates Frances Wood OBE MBE, a Notting Hill Old Girl who was at the school from 1897 to 1903.

Frances Wood (née Chick) was one of seven Chick sisters who came to Notting Hill, the school being chosen by her lace-merchant father for its academic record, and strong science focus. Incredibly for the period, five of the seven graduated from university and had distinguished careers.

Frances was initially a research chemist at the Lister Institute but then went on to become a full-time medical statistician being seconded to the Board of Trade and the Ministry of Munitions during World War I. She was made a Fellow of the Royal Statistical Society in 1913 (at the age of 30).

The NHEHS Archives has been assisting a researcher from the Great Ormond Street Institute of Child Health who is writing an article on Frances Wood for the RSS.

Liz Broekman