



## Tenner Challenge

*Shane McComb*

Well done to the 68 students who entered this year's Tenner Challenge – the national enterprise competition for Year 9 students.

Everybody was really impressed with the creativity displayed by our Year 9 entrepreneurs as they generated innovative, imaginative selling ideas within the short space of time allowed. Their efforts culminated in the Year 9 Trade Fair in which 18 teams of 3 or 4 girls set out their wares. This hive of activity and salesmanship was reflected in the profit the teams made this year – a grand total of £1469.76.

Motivational and inspirational team names would have done credit to *The Apprentice* and the range of products on sale ran from a variety of sweet treats to school stationery, jewellery and anti-stress products.

The judges awarded Best Marketing Campaign Award to

JT Productions (Jessica and Teeya) for their excellent marketing poster and company logo. Overall winner was team J.E.T (Jess, Ella and Talya) -with a total profit of £245.10 and their scrumptious bubble tea proved very popular with customers.

Special thanks go to the 17 economics students from Year 12 who acted as business mentors to the Year 9 students. We are grateful to them for giving up their free time over the four-week run of the Challenge to help motivate and guide all our Year 9 entrepreneurs with such excellent results.



## Women of the Future

*Ayesha Sehgal*



on offer (various cakes and fresh lemonade!) we made our way to the conference room where we heard talks from Pinky Lilani, the founder of 'Women of the Future Award' and Nejra Cehic, one of our hosts at Bloomberg where she works as television reporter and radio anchor, covering financial markets and European business stories. We also heard from and other staff at Bloomberg, Lloyds and a number of previous winners of the Award.

A few weeks ago, Ms Bushell sent round an email announcing an opportunity to attend a Woman of the Future Ambassadors Conference. The Women of the Future Ambassadors programme connects award-winning women (the Ambassadors) with sixth-formers. Run in association with Lloyds Banking Group, it aims to provide sixth form students in London and the south-east with mentors and role models. The

annual reception serves as a mini "careers fair" for the students, connecting successful women with invited students from around 20 schools.

The event was hosted by Bloomberg and we arrived at their offices on a Wednesday afternoon and after getting our passes, made our way to the conference floor. After helping ourselves to the food and drinks

After a short break, we were then free to network and speak to any of the 188 women at the event. We were lucky enough to meet some wonderful women including entrepreneurs, women in the public sector, women in the medical professions, lawyers and many more. It was an extremely fun evening and we were lucky enough to meet some extraordinary women, some of whom we will happily stay in touch with.

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## Painting Challenge

*Elisa Cagnino*

Some of our Year 12 art students have been filmed by the 'Big Painting Channel' the BBC's digital platform which supports the current TV series, 'The Big Painting Challenge'.

You can watch each girl talking about an individual piece of work, what inspired it and the medium and techniques they used to realise their vision at <https://www.mixital.co.uk/channel/big-painting-challenge>

## Linguistics Conference

Ella Lidstone



In late February, the English Language A-Level students attended a day of lectures from various linguists.

First up was Dr Rob Drummond, who discussed urban youth language, and in particular his research into grime music. This lecture brought to light the strong relationship between language and identity, a theme which ran through the subsequent lectures. Next, UCL's Dan Clayton explored the use of language in the media and Amy Bidgood, (Research Associate for the Language 0-5 Project) gave the next talk, explaining some of her findings about children's linguistic and cognitive development. This was followed by Tim Grant's discussion of forensic linguistics. As part of this, we all got involved in an experiment on Twitter

which demonstrated just how differently individuals use language, and how this can be used to do things like prove whether or not a suspect is guilty of a crime.

The final (and much-anticipated) lecture was from renowned linguist Professor David Crystal, who explained the story of punctuation in English, and how it has changed so much over time, and how it continues to do so. For example, he discussed how the full stop has come to carry so much emotional charge in interactions online, used to express anger or frustration.

Overall, the day was fascinating, as we were given further insight into English Language and Linguistics, and the role linguists can play in society.



## Fencing

As well as fencing in school some girls are fencing for local clubs and taking part in competitions



## Natural History

Year 7 working hard during their visit to the Natural History Museum



## Ski Trip

This half-term 40 girls from Years 7, 8 and 9 spent a week skiing in Bardonecchia, Italy



## Easter Egg Hunt

The Head Girl Team get ready to hide the eggs for the traditional end of Spring term Easter Egg Hunt in the sixth form centre.



## Bristol Tea

We were delighted to invite Old Girls living in and around Bristol to meet up for traditional afternoon tea at the Bristol Marriott Royal Hotel on a sunny Saturday in March. It was a fantastic occasion to catch up and network with other alumnae living locally. Many memories of school and teachers were shared, making for a very enjoyable afternoon.

*Natalie Burns Spence*

## Spanish in Salamanca

*Kathleen Webb*



Our Spanish students from Years 10 and 11 headed off to Salamanca at half-term to consolidate their Spanish skills with daily lessons and an extensive cultural activities programme. Lessons were in small groups, and specially designed to meet our curriculum by the native speaker teachers at the Mester language school. There was also plenty of fun with classes on making the perfect

'tortilla española' and one on mastering the steps and rhythm of the salsa.

The girls stayed with local host families which made practising their Spanish fun (and necessary) and in the afternoons and evenings there was the city of Salamanca to explore with its easily negotiated, compact centre, cathedrals, cobbled streets and buzz of student life.

## GDST Travel Scholarships

Iman Khakoo and Priyanka Sethurajan (Year 13) have both won GDST Travel Scholarships. The GDST receives a large number of applications from sixthformers in schools throughout the Trust for these awards so many congratulations are due to both girls. We look forward to hearing about their travel plans and experiences in due course.

## Cabinet War Rooms Westminster

*Georgina Redhead*



Year 12 History students had an entertaining and educational visit to the Churchill War Rooms. The Interactive Churchill Museum offered the opportunity to learn lots about Churchill's life and we were also able to explore the

underground bunker which protected the staff and secrets of Britain's government during World War II. The rooms were arranged the way they would have been left on the last day of the war, which gave a fascinating

insight into the life of the people at the heart of Britain's wartime effort. We read diary entries written by some of these people and listened to broadcasts Churchill made from the War Rooms.

Meanwhile, above ground the Queen was unveiling the Iraq and Afghanistan Memorial which honours the thousands who served between 1990 and 2015, including the 680 military who lost their lives in the region. On leaving the War Rooms, in an additional highlight to our day, we saw many politicians who had been at the ceremony including Nicola Sturgeon, and two of us saw the Queen herself!

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## Chemistry Olympiad

*Philip Sheldon*



The Chemistry Olympiad is a seriously challenging exam, designed to stretch the best Year 13 Chemists.

You might think that if you scored 55%, that would be a fairly ordinary score. However, in this exam there are no easy marks and it would have been worth a Gold Award – won by only the top 4.9% of

competitors, which represents about 0.4% of A level students.

So well done to the 4 Year 13 girls and 2 Year 12 girls who had a go and sat the 2 hour exam after school in January. Congratulations especially to Natasha Sharma and Hannah Lefroy for winning Silver Awards and Rebecca Eckles who won a Bronze Award

## Flamenco!

*Emma Bamber*



En febrero 2017 un grupo de estudiantes visitó Sadlers Wells para ver un espectáculo de flamenco, en el que había una gran variedad de diferentes tipos de bailes y canciones. Por ejemplo, había una mujer que bailaba con un mantón como capa, un baile en dueto que era muy romántico y sensual, y mucho más. Los instrumentos que usaban eran las castañuelas, las manos, los pies y las guitarras para producir un sonido tradicional.

Muchas veces, los artistas se sentaban en sillas en un círculo y como resultado crearon un ambiente muy íntimo con la audiencia. ¡Queríamos participar! Algunos bailarines y cantantes podían mover los pies tan rápido y cantar notas altísimas. ¡Fue fenomenal! Este viaje nos enseñó mucho sobre la cultura en España y fue seguramente una experiencia inolvidable. Es increíble que podamos experimentar esta cultura aquí en Londres. ¡Tenemos mucha suerte!

## Flamenco!

*Emma Bamber*



In February 2017, a group of students visited Sadler's Wells to see a flamenco performance in which there were a huge variety of different types of dances and songs. For example, there was a woman who danced with a shawl as a cape, a very romantic and sensual duet, and much more.

The instruments that they used were castanets, hands, feet and guitars, producing a traditional flamenco

sound. Often, the performers sat on chairs in a circle and, as a result, they created a very intimate atmosphere with the audience. We wanted to join in! Some of the dancers and singers could move their feet very quickly and sing extremely high notes. It was phenomenal!

This trip taught us a lot about Spanish culture and it was definitely an unforgettable experience. It is incredible that we are able to experience this culture right here in London. We are very lucky!

## Water Polo Nationals

Rob Bent



The NHEHS U15 water polo team travelled to Alleyns school in Dulwich on 9th February and fought against tough opposition from the likes of Highgate, Old Palace and Alleyns to successfully qualify for the English Schools Swimming Association national finals.

These were held on 16th March and our team of 13 girls from Years 8-10 made an early start at 6.30am as we travelled to Northampton School for Boys, the venue for the final. Six teams qualify for the finals in this competition, two from the North of England (Manchester High and Kesteven and Grantham Girls' School), two from the Midlands (St Mary's and King's Warwick) and we represented the South of England alongside Alleyns. The competition was very tough and

we were eventually placed sixth in the medals but the girls enjoyed the day, playing with enthusiasm and commitment and can certainly hold their heads high.

The competition made it clear to us all how increasingly popular this sport is becoming and how tough but rewarding the training and matches can be. We are now looking forward to the U13 qualifiers which take place after Easter.

NHEHS U15 Team:

Sophie Rollason, Honor Hill Norton, Nikola Kuzmanovic, Victoria Newton, Sopia Claxton, Mia Mutadich, Issy Blackwell, Aditi Dhawan, Hannah Schroeder, Caitlin Brazell, Jenny Read, Hannah Bolden, Cleo Deitsch



## Two Classics Greats

An audience of excited Classics students from Years 9-13, welcomed Dr John Taylor who came down from Manchester University to give us a lecture on Alexander the Great.

As the author of popular and widely used Classics textbooks, including our own GCSE Greek textbook, Dr Taylor was already very well known among the students, and his visit had been hotly anticipated.

Dr Taylor's comprehensive and fascinating lecture focused on the life of Alexander the Great, delving deep into the personality of this famous Greek king – from his early life to his many conquests and victories. The lecture was followed by a lively and thought-provoking question and answer session and it was obvious that Dr Taylor's retelling of the life of Alexander the Great had intrigued his audience. After the lecture had finished, many girls stayed behind in the hope of getting their textbooks signed by such a legend.

It was a pleasure to welcome Dr Taylor and we are grateful for his time, kindness and generosity.

*Ally Fowler*



## Nightingale

*Ayesha Sehgal & Katie Gabra*

'Who's gonna win this?' 'N! N! N! N!'

The cheers could be heard a mile away. It was official. 2017 House Shout had begun. 12 weeks since the beginning of term, since the fateful day the House Captains were told that the theme for House Shout that year would be 'International Superstars'.

Chaos ensued, shock rippled through us. Who would we choose? Which lucky international star would win us this year's House Shout? The answer was obvious to us all. Justin Bieber, of course. And the song? Only his biggest hit to date - *Baby*. And how could we do the song justice? With a brilliant dance, of course!

So, with our choreography down and our hymn (*Make Me a Channel of Your Peace*) sounding great – although there was some confusion about whether or not a backing track was allowed – we entered the hall on Monday morning with the intention of blowing everyone away. Our audience seemed particularly amazed by the fact that almost every single one of us had our faces painted and by our mascot-in-a-morph-suit, not forgetting the hoodies and sunglasses and a rather suspicious Shrek toy.

It was a thoroughly enjoyable experience, and leading our house this year was both fun and a little scary - as it almost marks the end of our Notting Hill lives. However, we're all looking forward to what comes next and may the best House win (as long as it's us)!



## House Shout 2017



Rehearsals were slightly stressful as it does feel fairly awkward to tell people around your own age to be quiet. It was difficult to find a balance between being able to control what was going on without becoming overly bossy and annoying.

## Eliot

*Inika Claerhout & Bismah Kazi*

It felt strange to finally be leading House Shout and we were excited, until we realised the challenge that lay before us. When Ms Hardy told us the theme, 'International Superstars' we had a complete mind block. We brainstormed and used Wikipedia to help us find the nationality of artists we had previously never even heard of. That was until we remembered the one and only Shakira!

For our pop song we chose the banger that is *Waka Waka*. We were relieved to finally have found a song that was international, fun and well-known. Then we moved on to the daunting task of choosing a hymn. We are not too clued up when it comes to hymns, so, we again used Google and found the BBC's top 100 hymns list extremely helpful. We listened to more hymns in an hour than we had in our entire lives and selected *Be Thou My Vision*.

When the day came we felt ready and made sure our house did too by running around the school (obviously only figuratively speaking as we are fully aware of the dangers of running through the corridors !!!) painting everyone's faces.

We were really pleased when we were drawn to sing last for both the song and the hymn and thought our house sang and danced just like Shakira (not really, that's quite hard...but we did try.) As we write this we do not know the result for House Shout, but, although it would of course be great to win, we do think that all the Houses performed really well this year and whoever wins will definitely deserve it...(and hopefully it's us!)

Although it was stressful we gained a lot from leading our House in The Shout and could not have done it without all the help from our Year group and all of Eliot.

## House Shout 2017



### Hepburn

**Hannah Nicholson, Ella Murphy, & Dayvana Davabalan-Thevarajah**

High School Musical, A Beatles mash-up, Toni Christi, Bon Jovi and Jessie J... I will admit Hepburn's history of House Shout songs is a strange selection when put in a list all together. However, so far it seems to have done the trick. In recent years we have reigned victorious, with the House Shout crown placed firmly on our heads (with definitely no boasting involved whatsoever, obviously) and this year, we were determined continue our House Shout reign.

The event: the most important moment in history. The place: the assembly hall. The twist: 'International Superstars'. Being a bunch of cliché British girls used to feasting off Frank Ocean and Justin Bieber, the idea of 'international' meaning anything but American or Canadian

**See page 11 for results**

seemed rather daunting, and the only song we knew that ventured further on the map was 'Waka Waka' by Shakira (which Eliot had very helpfully shot-gunned :)) One of our original choices, *Barbie Girl*, seemed great, as the theme tune to our early childhood, until we decided that perhaps the lyrics wouldn't be entirely appropriate.

So, back to the drawing board we went. Eventually we settled on *Waving Flag* by K'aan which seemed to embody the international theme, and the idea of unity which we wanted to stress in these recent times of uncertainty, whilst also just enabling us to have a laugh.

From the very beginning we knew that to be in the running to win, we would have to do something big. Granted we probably tried a bit too hard, as we undertook the

mammoth task of making over 200 flags, one for every member of Hepburn to wave over their heads.

For our hymn, we chose *Give Me Oil in my Lamp*, which turned out to be a tad too high in pitch for the majority of the House. I don't think I've ever heard anything as interesting as the first time it was sung in rehearsal and, what with various technical difficulties, it seemed that our first experience of leading House Shout was not going to be very successful. And, if I'm honest, at that point it wasn't.

However, with the second and third rehearsal Hepburn pulled through. On the day itself as the opening chords sounded and the first hands were lifted for our Mexican wave, we saw that all the effort we had put in had really paid off. We had done it!

It was a lot of hard work and admittedly, a lot of stress, but it was amazing to see the whole House come together to produce something rather incredible. There is no experience quite like House Shout, and even if we don't win, the memories of violently waving our homemade flags alongside the rest of Hepburn while blasting out the probably unrecognisable lyrics at full volume, is something we will never forget.

## 3.1415926535897932384626433832795028841971693

*Eve Harrington*



On 14th of March, in the USA 3.14 and therefore otherwise known as Pi Day, we endeavoured to calculate pi in two different ways. First of all, we used the equation for the time period of pendulum swing to calculate pi, which involved Miss Croft dangling a weight from the second floor atrium and two

helpers timing. Next up was the pi recital competition, which revealed some impressive memory skills, and where Li An Tan from Year 8 came out on top with a fantastic 109 decimal places of pi.

The pi-nnacle of the pi day celebrations was when we tried to calculate pi using real pies. We

did this by making a circle out of pies with a diameter of pies and dividing the number of pies in the circumference by the number of pies in the diameter. Pi came out to be a reasonably accurate 3.114, which we were very pleased with. The spectators were equally pleased with the fact that they could now eat the pies used in the calculation.

## Material Girl

*Fiona Johnson*



During Science Week we were delighted to welcome back to school Old Girl and Oxford graduate, Chloe Coates.

Chloe delivered a lecture to girls from Years 10-13, speaking passionately about her undergraduate Chemistry studies at Oxford, and explained to her audience her reasons for choosing to return there for her Phd. As a materials specialist she spoke eloquently about the overlap between Chemistry, Physics, Engineering and Technology, and has no doubt inspired more of our girls to follow a career in STEM.

## Forces

Fiona Johnson



NHEHS Science week 2017 started with a bang, with Dr Emma King from the Royal Institution delivering a show-stopping performance to Year 7 and 8 girls. They watched in amazement as Dr King showed us just how much energy there is in a jelly baby, (during the screaming jelly baby demonstration), and this was

followed by a gripping tug of war competition to show the strength of various magnets.

We all thoroughly enjoyed the demonstrations and explanations as well as Dr King's potted history of the Royal Institution and the many amazing discoveries that have been made there.

## House Shout Results

Rebecca Irwin

The judging panel of Mr Shoults, Mr Chapman and the Head Girl Team had a hard job this year.

There were special mentions to Nightingale for House inclusion and their amazing green suited mascot, to Eliot for best hymn which featured impressive harmony and to Hepburn for best song and their amazingly choreographed Mexican wave.

The overall results were; in third place, Nightingale, in second place Eliot and this year's winners were Hepburn.



## Learning Amazons

A record number of 18 girls from Year 8 completed the Learning Amazon Project, an independent, voluntary research project run every Spring term. 8 girls have already given presentations to Years 7 and 8, where they impressed us with their confidence, knowledge and enthusiasm. We look forward to hearing from the other 10 girls next term. This year's projects are:

Livia Harris *What is art for?*

Freya McNeill *The work of a historian is as much invention as fact. Discuss*

Brianne Friere *Should the NHS fund alternative and complementary medicines?*

Zahra Mahmood *What is the most challenging aspect astronauts face when in space?*

Georgie Condie *Who are the people that influence my daily life?*

Ellia Yazdi *How has google changed our lives?*

Inanna Sahib *In a world where English is a global language, why learn a foreign language?*

Annika Malhotra *Trump's Consequences*

Kayla Locke *Climate change*

Sabah Sutterwalla *What is the most important political issue for you and why?*

Maya Shah *What current social issue is the most important for you and why?*

Sofia Stidham *Does literature make us better people?*

Izzy Smallman *Will automation kill creativity?*

Mia Mutadich *How are we manipulated when we are unaware of it?*

Ellie Ritchie *What helps us get a better night's sleep?*

Isabel Hepburne-Scott *Elizabeth I - what made her great and has she been overrated?*

Carmel Webb *What is the greatest scientific discovery?*

Inaya Gharatya *In a world where English is a global language, why learn a foreign language?*

Elly Nicoll



## Charities Update

We started the term with 9LE supporting St. Mungo's Homelessness Charity with an own clothes day and a clothes collection drive. A total of 42kg of clothes were collected and delivered to the charity. This was followed by 9ML's Cereal Killer Café with Friends in support of Action for M.E. 9JRS raised money for the David Nott Foundation and rounded off their week with an excellent Teachers' Quiz.

Then it was the turn of Year 8 who galvanised our support, and cash, for The Little Princess Trust, Dementia UK and ACE Africa. Their events included a brilliant Teacher Make-Over competition, and cakes galore.

The Year 7 classes supported in turn the Ella Fosbury-Hill Fund for the Brain Tumour Charity, the UK Thalassaemia Society and the Make a Wish Foundation. Among raffles, hair braiding and a henna bar their most memorable event was "I'm a Teacher, Get me Out of Here", which had teachers eating bugs and dunking their arms into slime.

Thank you girls for all your hard work which has raised over £2000 this term for your chosen charities. Thank you too, to all the staff and parents who have supported their efforts.

*Marina Heppenstall*

## Pitching to Crossrail

*Dayvana Davabalan-Thevarajah*



The Engineering Education Scheme is a 6-month long scheme designed to give Year 12 students a realistic insight into a career in engineering. This year, our mentors were Network Rail and Taylor Woodrow and our project was based around the construction of the Crossrail West stations.

Our task was to conduct a BREEAM pre-assessment on the new plans for Southall station. BREEAM (Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method), is the world's longest established method of assessing, rating, and certifying the sustainability of buildings. As well as our assessment of the new plans for the station, we also had to try and improve this BREEAM rating by at least 1 level within the given the budget of £100,000.

On 20th of March, research complete and presentation

polished we went to the Crossrail headquarters in Canary Wharf to present our improvements as a business case to Crossrail. The purpose of the presentation was to convince Crossrail to incorporate a BREEAM assessment and our proposed improvements into their current design and so to make Southall station a more environmentally friendly building.

We presented to a small panel including the Director of Crossrail West which was quite scary at first. However, they were all very enthusiastic about our cause which helped the presentation run smoothly. Our ideas were very well received and we hope that our work will be incorporated into the station and perhaps into other Crossrail stations as the panel judged our proposals to be scalable and perhaps easy to replicate across other sites.

## FIRST Lego Robotics Finals

*Hannah Coxhead and Cassia Fillingham*



The FIRST Lego League is a competition involving designing and programming a Lego robot. In addition to this, contestants also have to come up with a project to help human and animal interaction.

In November 2016, despite this being our first time entering the competition, we won our regional heat and were invited to the UK and Ireland finals in Bristol which took place on the 26th February against 48 other teams. Although we were not the overall winners we did win the 'Government's Insight into Learning Award' which is a prize awarded by a group of MPs to the team showing best cooperation, clear strategy and communication. As a result, we have just sent applications citing our achievements in this competition and our commitment to Robotics Club, and are hoping to achieve a Silver

Crest Science Award.

On the day of the competition, we all met up at Ealing Broadway and got a train to Paddington and then another one to Bristol. There we were greeted by our mentor, Peter, an IT specialist. In the evening we all had a meal together and then there was a long night ahead, for some of us, who were preparing for the robot games the following day. Bright and early the next morning we arrived at the University and were welcomed by the friendly judges before being shown to our designated working area.

At the competition there were three, two-and-a-half minute rounds of robot games which we had been working on for months. During these two-and-a-half minutes the robot had to be programmed to complete tasks on a specially constructed and animal themed arena table.

After winning the regional heats, we had modified the robot design significantly so it was better adapted for the more complicated animal tasks. The more complicated the task—the more points your robot could win. We had designed and built various new components using mechanical systems such as a claw and a delivery system. Furthermore, we had also faced the challenge of learning how to programme and teaching ourselves of how to get our robotic components to work.

Another element of the competition was the product design task for which our team came up with the concept of a dog suitcase called 'Woof Wheels' which folds out into a dog bed. We created a prototype and had to present our product as well as our team's core values to the judges.

Overall, we really enjoyed the three aspects of the competition and are hoping next year to take our problem solving skills into other STEM related competitions. Finally, we would like to thank Miss Young and Mr Schneider for their help and support throughout the competition and for giving up their weekends to accompany us to Bristol.

## No Writing Day

Hannah Nicholson



*Year 12 Art History students sketch Rodin's Burghers of Calais as opposed to discussing and taking notes*

No Writing Day I hear you say. Music to the ears of any student, a day that is dedicated to not doing anything, a day when you don't have to pay attention in class, a day full of pointless exercises that don't really matter, a holiday in school. There was going to be a real challenge in trying to change these perceptions and explain that the aim of No Writing Day was to broaden understanding of how we learn and to get people to learn in different ways.

The initiative was set up as a way to raise awareness about different learning styles rooted in the quote by Einstein "Everybody is a genius. But if you judge a fish by its ability to climb a tree, it will live its whole life believing

that it is stupid."

The day was first started by the Communication Trust, a charity which helps children with learning difficulties and which supports schools in how to best help students with all sorts of different learning styles.

The day itself started with the assembly which went smoothly up until the point where I was sharing my own story as a learner and I seemed to accidentally shatter the dreams of some in the audience who were still unaware that Father Christmas really does not exist. Oh well, they would have to have found out at some point...

The day was a whole school

initiative so every year got involved, from Year 7's Chinese Has Talent to the Year 12's Supreme Court Debate.

As part of the day we collected feedback from students and staff to see what they had taken away from the exercise and to see if it was worth doing again. Of course, different people mentioned different things as the aim of the day is to encourage each individual to think differently about their learning and to accept that everyone learns differently. However, it does seem to have been successful and I think we are all now aware that reading and writing are not the only ways to learn.

*"In Geography we watched a video about Mexican's trying to get into America. This is a topical issue and it was an interesting way to learn more about the human factors influencing migration"*

Poojia Pillai

*"Economics class became a debating chamber where the topic was the economic effects of Brexit. We were able to hear other people's opinions and we were able to bounce our ideas off each other. It helped me to develop my analytical skills whilst also shedding a light on a new side of economics"*

Sophia McGowan

## Look, No Pens!

Kaya Sidhu



I started the Monday morning as usual with Politics. All of us, bleary-eyed and yearning for sleep, were woken up with a sharp tap on the white board. The topic we're currently doing is the US Supreme Court and Mr Pepper decided to bring it to life by allocating each of us the name of a Supreme Court Justice. Unfortunately, I was Samuel Altio, which I wasn't particularly happy about because he's considered to be towards the "conservative" end of the spectrum. Nevertheless, I accepted my new persona and did my research. It turned out he wasn't such a bad guy after all and I actually agreed with some of his rulings.

Next stage: the actual debate. We debated a range of potential political cases; some of them, such as "Trump's Travel Ban", requiring some very up to date political knowledge. As the debate got more heated I found myself really immersing myself in this new character and enjoyed

having to see things from a different perspective. I also had to be very quick on my feet and ready to come back at the liberals with any counter-arguments!

Our afternoon Latin lesson also required some quick thinking as our weekly vocab test appeared in a slightly different guise. In the centre of the table Ms Nicoll drew a tiny dark spot which we had to smack if we knew what the word meant and its grammatical format. As the "test" progressed I realised I had actually racked up quite a few points. Not only did this style of vocab test bring out my competitive side but it forced me to really think about my Latin vocabulary and grammar carefully, and also very quickly, if I wanted to win!

So, to sum up I really enjoyed No Writing Day. Not only did it make the school day less predictable, it also allowed me to develop skills other than my writing, such as communication, teamwork, resourcefulness and resilience. I hope to experience more of these types of days in the future.



## Round the World

On Friday mornings girls from Year 11-13 assemble in the Hall for a series of inspiring and thought-provoking talks from a range of invited speakers. On 14th of March, it was the turn of former NHEHS teacher, and adventurer, Mr Andy Kerrison who joined us via Skype as he is currently living in New Zealand. We were all really glad to see him as he had taught many of us DT and had also been a Form Tutor.

In summer 2015 we'd said goodbye to Mr Kerrison as he set off on the Clipper Round the World Race, an 8-leg, 40,000 nautical mile race on a 70-foot ocean racing yacht. Many of us had followed his progress on yacht Garmin via the race's website and he'd even sent us a couple of messages but everyone was now intrigued to hear about it all from Mr Kerrison himself. He told us many anecdotes about his experience including one in which he had a run in with the Chinese authorities whilst sailing near the Spratly Islands and another about how he'd broken two ribs during one leg of the race, but did not tell anyone, as he feared that he would be taken off the boat and not be allowed to finish the race. It was fascinating and inspiring to hear him talk and we are really glad that he was able to join us.

*Tamarah Asassa*

*Like Andy Kerrison most of the participants in the Clipper Round the World Yacht Race have no previous sailing experience. Some join the race just for a single leg while others sign on for the whole round the world race. On Andy's team, an overall group of 61 took it in turns to crew Garmin. At any one time there were between 14 and 22 people on board. Only 10 planned to stay on the boat for the entire journey. Of these, only five achieved it – one of whom was Andy.*



## Ealing Cross Country

On 22nd of March, 15 girls across a range of Year groups took part in the Ealing Schools Cross Country Relay Event. Each team consisted of five students, one each from Years 7, 8, 9, 10, and 12. All the Year 7s started the race at the same time and after completing their lap of 1.6km they would then tag their team member in Year 8 and so on.

All the girls who competed did extremely well and overall our teams came 1st, 3rd and 4th. This meant we regained our title as Ealing Schools Champions (we last won in 2015.)

The 10 girls that came 3rd and fourth were:

<b>Team B</b>	<b>Team C</b>
Sofia Bevers	Amy Taylor
Juliet Kose	Natasha Jones
Martha Price	Isabella Lawson-Smith
Jenny Read	Amira Nusiebh
Megan Burns	Deepa Kumaran

The winning team who received gold medals were:

Eva Marie Weintraub  
Jasmine Palmer  
Fiona Coutts  
Anna Mackenzie  
Emma Bamber

Eva Marie, Jasmine, Fiona and Anna also received additional medals for being the fastest girls in their year group!

*Lauren Munro-Hall*

## Minimus at North Ealing Primary

*Kaya Sidhu*



Every Wednesday afternoon this term we (sixth form Classicists and some additional volunteers from Year 11) have walked down to North Ealing Primary School, come rain or shine, to teach Latin to 20 pupils from Years 5 and 6 who are all enthusiastic members of Minimus Club.

Many of you will be familiar with Minimus, star of a Latin course for children based on a real family who lived at Vindolanda in 100AD: Flavius, the fort commander, his wife Lepidina, their three children, assorted household slaves, their cat Vibrissa - and Minimus the mouse! In the first half of the term we each worked with groups of 4 students and having introduced them to the adventures of our larger than life mouse found teaching them some introductory Latin vocabulary and grammar great fun.

Once we felt our students had a firm grasp of the basics it was time to turn our attention to the annual Minimus Mythology

Competition. NHEHS Classicists have been running a Minimus Club at North Ealing Primary School for several years and every year they have entered their pupils for the 'drama film' section of the mythology competition. Every year, for the last 6 years, an NHEHS team has won the competition, so we felt we had something to live up to.

This year the challenge was for us sixth formers to write a script in Latin for the story of Odysseus and the Cyclops and for our students to act it out. Although some of the children initially found performing in Latin rather daunting, after lots of practice they were ready for filming and began enthusiastically planning their costumes and props. These ranged from wine bottles to one eyed masks, and one girl even brought in a glass of "fake blood" from the London Dungeon which we, of course, pretended was a glass of wine!

Working at North Ealing Primary School and making our film with our group has been a very rewarding experience. Our students were so excited and it was really great to be greeted by a crowd of eager grinning children every time you entered the classroom.

# Art History in Florence

Theresa Morgan



Over the February half term, Year 12 and 13 art historians spent four nights in Florence. After arriving late on Saturday and starting as we meant to go on with a very large plate of pasta pomodoro, we awoke on Sunday to the first of four sunny days – the perfect weather for our city strolls and discussions of outdoor sculpture and church facades (as well as our daily dose of Italian ice cream!).

Our art and architecture – and culinary - tour kicked off with a trip to the Accademia Gallery to see Michelangelo’s monumental and muscular David, who was followed by a chocolate fair, where we made the dangerous discovery of a pistachio equivalent to Nutella. Our sugar high extended into the afternoon and ensured we made it

up the steep hill to the Romanesque church of San Miniato al Monte. Here, we had panoramic views of the city, with the skyline dominated by the Cathedral of Santa Maria del Fiore, topped with Brunelleschi’s pointed, half-Gothic dome – the tallest masonry dome in the world. This impressive feat of 15th-century engineering was the main event of the next day, as we ascended the 463 steps to the top of the cupola for more astounding views.

Other cultural highlights on this and subsequent days included: the Palazzo Medici, where we were surprised and captivated by an elaborate Baroque ceiling fresco by Luca Giordano; seeing Donatello’s more delicate and androgynous David at the Bargello; Masaccio’s

devastated Adam and Eve in the Brancacci Chapel; and, of course, the afternoon we spent in the Uffizi, the world’s largest collection of Renaissance art containing works by such heavyweights as Leonardo, Raphael, Botticelli, Titian and Caravaggio. At these various locations the students sketched, visually analysed and presented on new paintings and sculptures, while also spending valuable time engaging with works previously studied in class.

85,870 steps and 55 kilometres of walking later (according to Ms Eell’s Fitbit!) we were on the plane back home and ready for some well-deserved rest.

Alla prossima, Firenze!

## World Book Day



World Book Day 2017 at NHEHS was celebrated on Thursday 2nd March and this year we chose as our theme 'World Myths and Legends'. This theme was chosen as a response to the work of Jamila Gavin, children's author and NHEHS Old Girl, whose much-loved *Coram Boy* was winner of the Whitbread Children's Book Award 2000. The 2005 stage adaptation of the novel went on to be nominated for six Tony Awards.

Ms Gavin talked about her latest writing in assembly and ran writing workshops with Year 10. She also led a lively Question and Answer session on her work and her life as an author for girls in Years 7 and 8. She wrote to us afterwards to say she'd particularly enjoyed this lively session as well as the "quite extraordinary experience" of returning to NHEHS and recalling her time here.

Of course, it wouldn't be World Book Day without our school-wide Fancy Dress Competition. Students and staff entered into the spirit of the day with interpretations of the theme 'World Myths and Legends' and those who dressed up, each donated £1 to support Book Aid International – a charity which supplies books to schools and libraries in struggling areas world-wide.

## Intermediate Maths Challenge

*Helen Critcher*



In February, a large number of students from Years 9, 10 and 11 took part in the Intermediate Maths Challenge a national competition organised by the UK Mathematics Trust.

The maths department are delighted to announce that a record breaking 80 students have

been awarded 9 gold, 24 silver and 47 bronze certificates.

In a remarkable triple Diana Razlog in Year 9 scored sufficiently highly not only carry off a Gold Certificate and Best in Year Certificate but she also emerged as Best in School beating all of Years 10 and 11!

Other Gold winners were Mithra Kumaran (Best in Year 10), Isha Lamba (Best in Year 11), Leena Van Surell, Deluxshana Premakumar, Alisha Godhania, Iva Grujic, Chloe Braganca Vasconcelos and Thushika Ravichandran

As a result of doing so well, a record breaking 10 students were invited to take part in a further international competition that originated in Australia and is called the 'Kangaroo'.



## GDST Netball

On the first weekend in March, 27 girls from Year 7 left London for not-so-sunny Shropshire to take part in the annual GDST netball tournament. This involves girls from across all the Trust's schools and takes place at Conover Hall, a gorgeous Elizabethan house which is now home to a residential activity centre. As well as pitches, the centre offers facilities for abseiling, kayaking, archery, fencing, laser maze, and zip wire, some of which the girls were able to enjoy in between their netball matches

The tournament traditionally runs for two days over Saturday and Sunday. On Saturday our Year 7As played 5 of their 9 games winning them all. They were very impressive and quite a crowd gathered each time they played! The Bs and Cs also played well and finished the Saturday with places in the competition for the plate trophy. Sunday came with heavy rain, sleet and hail and after much debate, the organisers had to abandon the tournament to the elements! They did however lay on a great programme of indoor activities, which certainly kept the girls busy, and which were voted a lot of fun.

So, the final results of this year's competition were decided by the standings at close of play on Saturday. The Notting Hill & Ealing As won the Year 7 As cup (the second year running a NHEHS team has won this trophy) and the NHEHS Bs and Cs were placed third in their division.

*Diane Dunkley*



## Spring Concert

With the light evenings of spring upon us, an enthusiastic audience was treated to a concert at St Barnabas Church featuring the NHEHS Senior Choir, Symphony Orchestra and Chamber Orchestra. The Symphony Orchestra opened the concert with an energetic performance of the first movement from Bizet's *Symphony No. 1 in C*, played with a real panache. Pricilla Yu was the first soloist to wow the audience, showing exceptional technique and style performing the first movement of Mozart's *Flute Concerto in D* delicately accompanied by the Chamber Orchestra. Leah King-Kline gave a superbly poised and musical performance of the second movement of Beethoven's *Piano Concerto No. 5*, which was followed by Erin Holder's passionate and virtuosic performance of the first movement of Bruch's *Violin concerto No 1* well known as one of the most demanding violin concertos in the repertoire.

The first half came to a close with a world premiere of '*Fantasie*' a piece written, orchestrated and performed by Maya Caskie. Written to depict the power of the ocean waves Maya's intelligent orchestral writing and technical expertise ensured a rousing end to the opening half. The Senior Choir provided a captivating finale to the concert with a superb performance of Karl Jenkins *Adiemus; Songs of Sanctuary* singing with real precision and musicality, accompanied by the unusual combination of string orchestra and African percussion! A wonderful evening of music and a showcase of the exceptional musical talent we have here at NHEHS.

*David Chapman*

## Galleries - in French

*Lisa Vashchenko*



**Year 11 visited the Wallace Collection to view the displays of French 18th-century painting, furniture and porcelain and then went on to see the Courtauld Museum's display of French impressionist paintings. With language practise and (GCSE exams) in mind all guides and lecturers spoke in French.**

Lundi dernier, j'ai visité la collection Wallace et je suis allée au musée de Courtauld, où j'ai fait un atelier. Le matin, je me suis réveillée tôt, et j'ai préparé le petit déjeuner. J'ai mangé des céréales, et puis, je me suis habillée. J'ai porté un haut noir et un jean car même si c'était un voyage scolaire, nous n'avons pas porté d'uniforme. J'ai pris le bus pour rencontrer mon amie, Megan, et ensemble, nous avons pris le train pour arriver à la rue Oxford, la gare qui est près de la collection Wallace.

Malheureusement, nous nous sommes perdues car je ne pouvais pas lire la carte! Finalement, nous sommes arrivées à la collection, et c'était très beau! Nous avons du parler en français, et nous avons trouvé et décrit des meubles et des tableaux. Il y

avait une chambre de Marie Antoinette, où beaucoup de ses meubles étaient. J'ai admiré les sculptures, et j'ai fait une présentation sur un tableau qui était le peintre préféré de Marie Antoinette.

Ensuite, je mangeais un sandwich et des chips pour le déjeuner. Puis, nous sommes allées au musée de la galerie Courtauld. Soudain, il pleuvait donc nous courions au musée.

La guide dans le musée a parlé en français, et nous avons vu des tableaux impressionnistes français. J'ai aimé la visite parce que c'était intéressant et je le recommande.

Après la visite, Megan et moi sommes allées faire du shopping. Alors, nous avons pris le bus à la maison.

## GDST Chrystall Prize



The judges, GDST Chief Executive Cheryl Giovannoni and BBC journalists Stephen Sackur and James Coomasamy, had the unenviable task of picking a winner from what was probably the most polished and accomplished line up in recent years. They were full of praise for all the finalists and in particular for their mastery of their individual subjects, their poise and the way in which they dealt with questions from the floor. In the end they awarded second prize to Cerys from Northampton High School and first prize, and the Chrystall Prize trophy, to Anya from Sheffield High. Worthy winners in the closest of competitions.

Congratulations to all the finalists!

*The Chrystall Prize is named in memory of Chrystall Carter, a long-standing Legal adviser to the GDST. It was set up by her husband, Richard, in her memory and to mark her commitment to the girls in the schools she represented, her pleasure in their success and her belief in the power of reasoned argument.*



We were delighted to host this year's final of the GDST Chrystall Prize for Public Speaking in which five Year 11 girls who had each won their regional round, descended on Ealing to fight it out with words for this most coveted of GDST trophies.

In this competition, each competitor is required to speak for seven minutes without visual aids, to hold the audience's attention, to engage their interest and then to take three minutes of questions from the floor. Cerys from

Northampton High School opened the afternoon with original and engaging argument on whether or not it is true to say young people seem to be disconnected from politics. She was followed by Rebecca from Sydenham High who spoke with great verve on 'do we get the politicians we deserve'. Next up was Streatham and Clapham's Pippa with 'choosing what we wear is a basic human right' and she was followed by Notting Hill & Ealing's own Anika (the only contestant to speak without notes) who offered a closely argued and passionate speech on the importance of restrictive gun laws in protecting society.

Sheffield High's Anya rounded off the afternoon with a nuanced and clever argument on why those of us living in the early 21st century are the luckiest people in the history of the world.

## Maths Feast

John Stark



On Friday 17th March eight Year 10 students set off for the Maths Feast in Central London, an exciting national competition which tests mathematical, communication and teamwork skills. Our Central London group was made up of 10 other schools from the region. The organisers ‘The Further Maths Support Group’ an offshoot of Mathematics in Education and Industry had designed the day to encourage students to think, react positively to new situations and apply previous knowledge to solve problems. Here are some of our students recollections from the day:

“One of the rounds involved being given unseen information and resources with a brief explanation on what they were and how to use them. They were accompanied by a series of questions relating to what we had just learnt, which tested our ability to quickly comprehend new information and apply our

existing mathematical knowledge.”

“There was a problem solving round just before break. By then we were getting hungry – after all, it was a Maths Feast; surely there was going to be food involved? (You should know that we mathematicians cannot function without a good carton of orange juice and some great cookies.) Determined to complete our task as quickly as possible we set to work. Each table was given a pack of six problems that were to be solved; however, we had to choose only the four best solutions to give in. Because the topics were very varied, there was a question that suited the different skills and abilities of each member of the team.”

“The competitive spirit reached a new high when the Countdown round was introduced, involving the classic game of addition, subtraction, division and

multiplication. Admittedly our team did not wholly succeed in this round – partially due to our tendency to over-think and slip up on some rather straightforward addition!”

“The final round of the competition was the relay round. Here we had twenty minutes to complete four sheets of questions. In our teams we had to split into pairs; each pair would solve a question and its answer would be used by the other pair to solve the next problem. Our team teacher would check our answers, and there were bonus points for four correct answers in a row. We worked industriously on these challenging questions and were delighted when it was announced that had won the round!”

“Maths Feast was an eye-opening experience and it was great to pit our wits against some of the best mathematicians from across London.”

## Money Matters

Catherine Parr



*One of our high-scoring teams*

In the week Bear Grylls complained that his own education had failed to teach him essential life skills; there was no such worry for our girls at NHEHS. As the 'Who wants to be a Millionaire' theme tune blasted out you could feel the frisson of excitement in the Hall- Year 9 were being put through their Money Matters paces.

The Money Matters day started with a wide range of activities. The Money Box challenges included balancing a £20 pound note on your nose, finding the places fraud can occur and a quiz on the terms and conditions hidden in the adverts for pay day loans. Some girls meticulously made an origami cat, only to then realise that they should have read the small print first! Our girls did really well, pupils of this age normally score around 70 points and we had three teams who went well over the 100 mark.

There was then a challenging exploration of the world of

government finance, looking at how they raise income and what they spend it on. The teams were then set the task of designing a student credit card. They had to select a name, (my favourite was Kerching), design the card and a publicity poster and then deliver a 1-minute radio ad. They had to make their offers both highly attractive and also profitable. Their brief was to 'sell the sizzle, not the sausage!' Some of their aggressive rapid fire 'terms and conditions' made your eyes water.

Finally, to develop the skills required to negotiate, groups had to bargain for letters in order to make words; it was rather like United Nations meets Scrabble! Year 9 soon mastered the strategies involved in bargaining, discovering which Maths teachers were a soft touch if you told them how much you liked their lessons and which staff were ruthless negotiators.



## Dissection Club

A new club run by sixth form biologists, including Cecily Bell and Bismah Kazi, is open to girls throughout the school. Here we can see the tracheole air tubes of a locust through the microscope at the end of the dissection process.

Dissection club takes place on Tuesdays, with forthcoming demonstrations covering the dissection of a fish, a rat and a heart and lung.

*Rob Cheyney*



## The Science of Ice Cream

As part of Science Week Dr Sheldon and Mr Crame demonstrate how to make ice cream using liquid nitrogen.