



## Jaguar Land Rover Visit

*Shane McComb*

On 1st February, our Year 13 Economists visited Jaguar Land Rover in Birmingham, where the Jaguar XE, XF and XJ are all built.

Students found out about the history of the plant which first opened in 1938. It was one of the primary producers of the Supermarine Spitfire, and later also made components for Avro Lancasters. At the peak of production, the plant was building 320 Spitfires a month, despite the site being bombed over 200 times at height of World War II.

This visit provided vital research for our girls for their summer exam as it considered emerging markets such as China. Other highlights of the visit included walking around the full production line and the press shop which is where the world's biggest aluminium press cuts out the panels for Jaguars cars. Everyone was amazed by the skills and dexterity of the

technicians and robots who weld, bond and rivet in the body shop and we all marvelled at the miles of tracks moving the chassis around the plant. At the end of the visit Mr McComb was handed a goodie-bag; unfortunately Jaguar Land Rover had forgotten to put any car keys in it.

Our thanks go to Ms O'Leary who accompanied the girls on the trip with Mr McComb. Also, a very special thank you to Laura Vickery a NHEHS alumna who is currently the Global Corporate Social Responsibility Manager at Jaguar Land Rover. She gave our girls an inspirational talk at the start of the day and it really was great to see an NHEHS alumna at the forefront of one of the world's top businesses. She is a wonderful role model for our girls.

Laura also brought along some of her photos from her time at NHEHS and reminisced about the great times she had here.

# The Careers Bake Off Rises Perfectly!

Catherine Parr



The theme this year was 'The Great NHEHS Career Bake Off' and even Bake Off's meanest judge, Paul Hollywood, would have said that the NHEHS Careers Fair was a triumph. Over 85 advisors (parents, Old Girls and friends of the School) from over 46 different professions kindly gave up their evening to act as advisors and chat to well over 200 eager girls from years 9 to 13.

The girls skilfully manoeuvred around the packed halls and quizzed the advisors about the nature of their work and the qualifications they had needed in order to succeed. There was a buzz in the air as girls selected jobs that they thought they might want to try, as well as some they had never heard of before!

At 8pm the first of the two pop up sessions started. Girls flocked into the drama studio to hear seven women describe their careers in 90 seconds! Pupils emerged full of admiration for the speakers, especially for an Old Girl who is now a Detective Constable in Trident Gang Crime Command, a job she never thought she would be doing!

There was no 'soggy bottom' end to the evening as we unveiled the show stopper of an Engineering Technical Bake. Nine engineers, whose jobs span areas ranging from environmental management to construction, answered questions from the girls. Who knows one of our girls might soon be running Crossrail!



***The school is extremely grateful to the Parents' Guild Careers Committee, parents, Old Girls, friends and everyone who helped to make the evening such a success for the girls.***

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## Chamber Concert

David Chapman



On Wednesday 8th February, an enthusiastic audience were treated to an exceptional chamber concert given by the girls of NHEHS.

There was a wide variety of music on offer and all our girls performed to the highest of standards. The flute ensemble got us off to a rousing start with an arrangement of *Bohemian Rhapsody*, which demonstrated the excellent ensemble skills our students are building. This was

followed by music from Handel, Chopin, Fauré and Hess played on a variety of instruments including piano, violin, and even recorder! There were also notable voice contributions. The concert was rounded off with an outstanding performance of the first movement of Holst's *St Pauls Suite*.

Congratulations to all who took part in a first-rate evening of music making

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## Music Dates for Your Diary

**Tea Time Concert:** Thursday 2nd March, Recital Hall, 4.15pm. Tea and biscuits provided.

**Spring Concert:** Wednesday 29th March, St Barnabas Church, Pitshanger Lane, 7.00pm

**Evensong, St Georges Chapel, Windsor:** Wednesday 3rd May, 5.15pm. Choral Evensong, NHEHS Chamber Choir.

For details and tickets please contact the school



## Notty

Year 12 Computer Science students Tamarah Asassa and Lucy Green programming Notty, Computing Club's new robot.



## Dawn Challenge

Over 150 students from Years 9, 10 and 11 took part in the Intermediate Maths Challenge with nearly 80 students from Years 10 and 11 coming in early to take it before school.



## Economics

Our sixth form Economics students at Jaguar Land Rover.



## Year 8 and the Romans

Year 8 ventured into different times zones with a visit to look at the Roman Britain galleries at the Museum of London and the Greek, Roman and Egyptian galleries at the British Museum. We looked at the role of ancient Greek women, considered which artefacts we might use to decorate a Roman house and examined what life was like for native Britons before and after the Roman occupation. We found our trip to both museums intriguing and it certainly provided a great impact on our view of Roman history in Britain as well as being an interesting introduction to the Classical world.

We saw a variety of different pots with quite intricate designs and noted as well the use of dark colours, such as black and brown. We gazed upon weapons the Romans had used to defend themselves in battles and studied the structure of a Roman house and compared it with houses the British lived in at the time of the Roman invasion. These were made of mud and sticks, which is an unusual combination compared to our modern homes.

Although there are many positive elements to this trip, we were disappointed that due to the packed schedule there wasn't as much time as we would have liked to explore the museums' other exhibits and treasures, but overall, it was an amazing trip.

*Prathaayini Sothinathan  
and Santiya Johnpette*

## Year 9 at the Science Museum

*Philip Sheldon*



Year 9 made the annual pilgrimage to the Science Museum on 26 January. The Science Department regularly runs this trip and it is always focused on the Challenge of Materials Gallery on the museum's first floor. The visit aims to consolidate the girls' understanding of the relationships between structure at the level of atomic bonding, properties of materials and their uses.

On the tube journey it was good to see our students offering their seats to older members of the public and on arrival at the museum we headed straight for the Materials Gallery. We also visited the new Winton Gallery on Mathematics and an excellent though harrowing temporary exhibition on World War I Medicine. At Who am I?, we able to see our faces transformed as if we had switched gender, and it was a shocking sight to see myself as a woman.

For some reason neither the Museum's IMAX cinema nor the new Wonderlab were open during the day of our visit but this didn't dent the girls' enthusiasm and there was certainly enough to do, see and learn about.

Returning home that evening after the Year 11 parents' evening and winding down with a herbal tea in front of the BBC News website, I came across an item saying that Tim Peake had been 'launching' a major new exhibit at the Science Museum that day – his landing capsule. I realised that the IMAX had been used that day for this particular jamboree though, sadly, it had completely passed us by during our visit.

Nonetheless, we had a great time and it was a pleasure to be with Year 9.

## ARTiculation

Theresa Morgan



Kenneth Clark Lecture Theatre (no mean feat!) to deliver her presentation on the Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela in Spain.

Her speech placed the audience in the dilapidated boots of a Medieval pilgrim undertaking the arduous, and often dangerous, journey of faith to the Cathedral, the supposed final resting place of St James. This was a trek that Lucia herself had experienced - albeit in somewhat less strenuous conditions (without the threat of wolf attack or plague, for instance!) - the previous summer. A mixture of personal anecdote, Western European religious and architectural history, and Geoffrey Chaucer, her account of the Camino was a compelling reminder in our fast-paced digital era of just how deliberate and laborious journeys used to be.

The new year began in the History of Art Department with a trip to the Courtauld Institute, where Year 12 student Lucia Tremonti represented Notting Hill & Ealing in the ARTiculation Prize quarter finals, a public speaking event which invites sixth-formers to prepare a presentation on any cultural artefact of their choice.

Before the speeches, we were

treated to a tour of the Courtauld Gallery, a gem of a collection featuring such familiar faces as Manet's barmaid at the Folies-Bergère and a bandaged Van Gogh. Back at the Institute, after hearing about topics as diverse as the symbolism of trees in the World War I paintings of Paul Nash and the ephemeral cloud sculptures of Berndnaut Schmilde, Lucia took to the lectern in the

## Digital Leaders

Phil Nelkin



At NHEHS we recognise that Internet safety and digital awareness are of paramount importance and to help us we have organised a group of Year 10 and 11 girls to be our "Digital Leaders". They have undertaken a training programme setup by ChildNet UK and have started to lead Digital Safety and Awareness sessions in the Senior School.

They have already been talking to Years 7 and 8 and we are hoping they will continue to take these sessions and develop

Firefly pages, with a blog and forum, to keep this important topic in the minds of all our students.

## NHEHS Theatre Club

Debbie Whitmarsh



The next two offerings from the Theatre Club look set to continue our season in style.

6th March: the National Theatre On Demand's third show is *Othello* and I know many of us are looking forward to see Adrian Lester and Rory Kinnear in the roles of Othello and Iago respectively. Tickets are free for this performance.

23rd March: we have Splendid Theatre Company coming in to perform *Macbeth*. Splendid create challenging and vibrant theatre; many of you will remember their interpretation of *Antigone* last year. The show runs for an hour and then the company will stay for a question and answer session. Tickets are priced at £10.

To order tickets or find out any further information about any of our forthcoming events, please visit our Firefly page. All shows and films start at 7pm and refreshments are served from 6.30pm. Once you have ordered tickets they can be collected by your daughter from the NHEHS Theatre Club tray which is situated in the main school office.

## It's time to start thinking ahead

Catherine Parr



This term Year 9 have had their first exciting taste of the world of careers.

As part of a PSHE programme they spent 20 intense minutes using a newly developed online tool

called the 'The Career Investigator'. This psychometric test presents the girls with a wide range of questions. Their responses allow the tool to identify each girls' interests, strengths and values. Each pupil then immediately received her personalised career investigator report via e mail. The girls then used these in two more lively sessions to discuss career themes and a range of occupations. Armed with this new information they headed to their first NHEHS Careers Fair with confidence!

## Coding Club

*Phil Nelkin*



Two of our Year 12 Computer Science students, who are hoping to study the subject at university, started a club this term which has involved programming our new robot "Notty".

Tamarah Asassa and Lucy Green

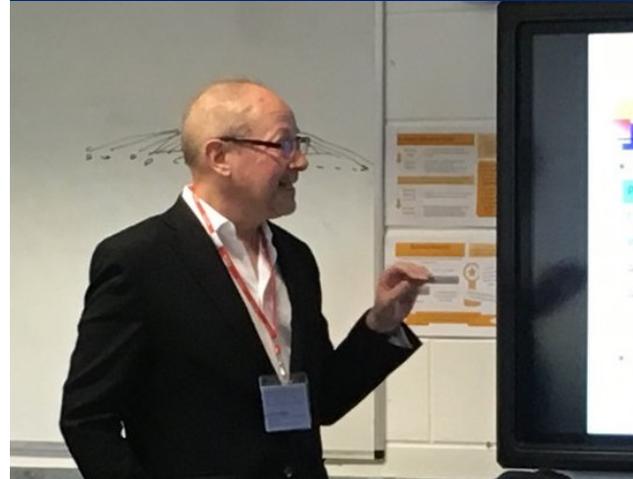
have been taking the younger girls though programming the robot using Scratch, JavaScript and vb.net. In lessons, girls at NHEHS get a lot of experience writing programmes but this is a taste of using code to control a robot.

## Triple Maths

*Helen Critcher*



As a result of doing so well in the UK Maths Trust Senior Challenge, Anouschka Rajah has just taken part in the first round of the British Maths Olympiad (our first student to do so since 2009). Natasha Sharma and Jemima Bradley have taken the follow on round, called the 'Senior Kangaroo'.



## Why Trump Can't Stop China

On 6th February we welcomed Ian Marcouse as the Economics Society's guest speaker. In his early career Ian spent six years in advertising before becoming a teacher and then Chief Examiner for AQA. Ian has written many books one of which has become an educational bestseller, featuring in Management Today's Top Ten Business Sellers. Currently Ian edits the Business Review magazine and he is also a consultant to the BBC.

Ian gave an insightful lecture on why President Trump will not be able to stop the business powerhouse that is China. The talk was well attended by staff and students from across Years 11, 12 and 13 who were all fascinated by the facts and statistics which Ian presented. He used these to challenge a number of assertions made by the British and American media and finished his lecture by summarising how, over the next 20 years, China's displacement of America as the world's leading economic power will accelerate.

The Economics Society would like to thank Ian for taking the time to come in as a guest speaker and we hope to welcome him back to NHEHS in the near future to give another insightful lecture; so budding economists keep your eyes peeled!

*Shane McComb*



## Antigone at the Shaw

Each year UCL 's Classical Drama Society and the Department of Greek and Latin present a classical play in English translation. The play always takes place in February each year (about the same time as the ancient Athenian dramatic festival known as the Lenaia).

So, on Wednesday 1st February, sixth form classicists and GCSE Greek students travelled to the Shaw Theatre to watch this year's production, *Antigone*. On the way there, the A Level Greek class undertook the job of explaining the plot to the younger girls, who were slightly overwhelmed by all the complicated Greek names.

The performance was excellent, although it was not cast as the A Level Greek class had previously imagined it would be, finding Creon to be 'a bit too Prince Charles'. However, everyone enjoyed the amusing interjections of the Sentry, although a few of us were slightly bamboozled when the audience laughed at random parts of the play which were not intended to be funny. We also appreciated the costume choices, and in particular we loved Tiresias' purple socks.

Thank you to Miss Patel and Mr Smith for taking us. We all had an incredibly enjoyable evening.

*Eve Harrington*

## Digital Archives

*Liz Broekman*



June,



1954.

This term we are delighted to have launched a fantastic digital archive featuring photographs and publications going back to our earliest days as Notting Hill and Bayswater High School in 1873.

The online repository features copies of whole school photographs dating back to the 1930s and school magazines from 1885 (the very first edition) right up to the present day. New items are being added to the archive regularly; the very first school registers will be available soon.

As well as being entertaining and engaging, the archive will make it much easier for girls at the school to use its wealth of content for projects. It will also be a useful source of information

for the many family historians who contact the school.

If you are an NHEHS alumna, a parent of an NHEHS Old Girl, or a former teacher or member of staff, the school would be delighted to receive information connected to the school and its history. Recently we have received photographs (some rescued from a skip!), newspaper cuttings, school play and concert programmes and even old school reports.

If you have something of interest which you would like to share, please email the school directly. Any originals can always be returned after they have been photographed or scanned.

[www.nhehsarchives.net](http://www.nhehsarchives.net)

## Trampolining Club

*Lauren Munro-Hall*



Trampolining Club is run by Terri Adams and me on Wednesdays after school.

The club has proved really popular and we have recently moved on to teaching some of the girls somersaults. The picture shows us teaching Victoria Newton (Year 9).

We have put together a team and this term enjoyed a trampoline competition against Godolphin and Latymer where the girls were able to put their new skills into practice and we were delighted to win by a large margin.

## Chrystall Prize

*Lauren Eells*



The final will take place at NHEHS on 10 March where Anika will be joined by girls from Northampton Sheffield, Streatham & Clapham and Sydenham High Schools

The competition this year will be judged by Stephen Sackur (journalist and BBC presenter), James Coomasamy (presenter on the BBC World Service) and Cheryl Giovannoni (Chief Executive, Girls' Day School Trust). The standard of the speeches at this event is always extremely high and we look forward to an exciting afternoon

We are proud to announce that Anika Dhawan won her semi-final in the GDST's Public Speaking Competition, the Chrystall Prize. This is an annual competition

open to Year 11 students across the GDST and was established in 2000 in memory of Mrs Chrystall Carter who was Legal Adviser to the Trust from 1991 to 1999.

## LGBT Week at NHEHS

*Maya Biswas-Whittaker*



Raising awareness and raising money have always come hand in hand for the LGBT community, allies and NHEHS alike. Education about what it means to be gay, bisexual, transgender, and every other variation and combination, and discussions on the issues faced are obviously such an important part of creating a safe, inclusive environment. However, there's only so much that talking can do. Last year we had the assemblies and posters, so this year we took it up a notch and organised a charity event, much like the form classes do each week, in support of the Albert Kennedy Trust.

The Albert Kennedy Trust works in London, Manchester and Newcastle, to do some of the most vital work in the LGBT community: they house and provide loving homes for LGBT young people who are homeless or in hostile environments. It is easy to forget, in our privileged

positions, that there are children who aren't as lucky- which is why AKT is so important.

Of course, we raised money in the usual ways: how many sweets in the jar (492); a lunch time cinema ('Bend it like Beckham' is an iconic film); a bake sale (more on that later) – but we wanted to do something more, something visible to make a statement and show support. So the Friday lunch before The Big Week, armed with scissors and safety pins, and 50 metres of rainbow ribbon, Feminism Club got to work making approximately 250 badges, which were snapped up for donations to the charity, and worn by staff and students.

Now, we all know the old quips about NHEHS girls loving to eat cake, but it is even more exciting to see how much we love baking cake- and the bake sale/cake competition on Friday 3rd was Bake Off Showstopper worthy, if I

do say so myself. With everything from unicorns, to flags, to "love is love" slogans and cakes that were "in the closet", the assembly hall was filled with rainbow treats. It seemed everyone was eager to rack up some house points before the end of term, with each entry earning five house points- and the Head Girl Team, along with Mr Shoults, had the Herculean task of making their way through four tables of cake to find winners for taste and appearance.

With George Michael and the like playing in the background, the cake sale was as successful as the ribbons- every last crumb was gone by the end of lunch.

To see such an event being received with such enthusiasm, and for it to go so well, was heart-warming. With everyone from Year 7 to Year 13 getting involved, it was an encouraging reminder that age does not limit you when it comes to helping others, and it was proof that people will pleasantly surprise you, if you give them a chance.

I hope weeks like this one, supporting LGBT people, can become a tradition that Notting Hill takes pride in.

# The Two Tates

Marcia Teusink



Year 8 enjoyed an action-filled day out with the Art Department in January visiting Tate Modern, to see the Robert Rauschenberg exhibition, and Tate Britain, to see the Paul Nash exhibition.

In between, they were able to relax and take in the views on

the Thames from the Tate Boat.

The gallery visits were a chance for the girls to do research for our current unit on landscape and texture, for which they made drawings from the various artworks, collected materials for a future mixed media project, and wrote poems based on 'found words' they overheard in the galleries.

They learned a great deal about the very different ways the two artists' work, with some preferring the more realistic war paintings and surreal works by Nash and others preferring the more experimental mixed media pieces by Rauschenberg. In the end, there was something for everyone and everyone enjoyed the day!



## Cross Country

The Middlesex Schools Cross Country Competition which takes place at Harrow school is a prestigious event and several of our girls took part this year.

All the girls did really well considering the bitter conditions. A special mention should go to Fiona Coutts (Year 9) and Jess Harbert (Year 13) who both qualified for the national schools cross country event which takes place later on in the year.

Lauren Munro-Hall



## Head Girl Team

The Head Girl Team visited the Junior School to give an assembly and to meet the Junior School Council.



## Art Studios

There is some remarkable GCSE work taking shape in the art studios.



## Awards

Our local MP and Old Girl, Rupa Huq, MP for Ealing Central & Acton, was in school this term to speak to the sixth form and hand out their GCSE and AS Level certificates.

## Mandarin Speaking Competition Final

*Mei-Zhi Li and Iris Chi*



On February 7, our finalists in the group and individual sections of the HSBC/British Council Mandarin Speaking Competition travelled to central London. The venue for the final was the British Museum where they joined 11 other teams from around the UK to compete in this national competition for the top prize of a trip to China.

Every year the number of schools entering the competition grows and the standard seems to get higher and higher – something commented on by this year's judges. Last year an NHEHS team won, so expectations were high and we all felt quite a bit of pressure and some nerves, including we teachers!

After an introduction by Nick Gibb MP, Minister of State for Education the competition got under way. Our girls performed their short play brilliantly and with

great fluency while our individual finalists spoke with confidence and accuracy. We were particularly proud of everyone's pronunciation which was excellent and which (although we might be biased) we thought was possibly the best in the competition.

It was a fantastic event and the students were wonderful. We didn't win this year and have to be content with the runners up prize in the group final and third place in the Advanced Individual category. Nevertheless these are great achievements and we are very proud of all our finalists.

Beginner: (individual) Inanna Sahib: Advanced (individual) 3rd place Maya Caskie (Year 13)  
Group: 2nd place Lily Sideso, Inaya Gharatya and Sabah Suterwalla (all year 8) and from Year 10 Charlotte Grimwade, Ella Mcneil and Miranda Simmons.

## Sixth Form Maths Fest 2017

Helen Critcher



The day started with James Grime of Numberphile fame telling us how messages are sent on the internet. All of those tweets, shared photos, snapchat stories etc are turned into binary and transmitted. How come the signals from all of these messages don't interfere with each other? It's because of frequency hopping, first invented by the Hollywood actress Hedy Lamar during World War II. Security, involving the same idea as the Lorenz Code also from World War II, encrypts the messages and James finished by showing how mathematics is used to fix errors in transmission by using error correcting codes. All completely fascinating and essential for the modern world.

Katie Steckles then showed us some mathematical problems which are currently unsolved but have million dollar rewards for anyone who can solve them. She demonstrated that humans can

be better than computers at solving some types of problems because humans won't just try all combinations until something works. In talking about the Four Colour Theorem, students were introduced to the idea that some mathematical problems can take decades to solve. Maybe, in comparison, maths homework doesn't seem so bad.

Our third speaker was a visual effects artist, Eugenie Von Tunzelmann, who has worked on films such as Harry Potter. She gave us some idea of what a ray tracer is and how she has used them to produce computer generated images. She now works on producing visual effects for theme park rides. This involved some scary looking maths that linked the world of art with computer graphics.

This was followed by a 'Maths Slam', a slot which gave students the opportunity to take to the

stage and present a maths concept. We were thrilled that two of the three entries chosen to present were from NHEHS. Eve Harrington and Jemima Bradley spoke about different number bases which tied in well with the earlier talk from James Grime. Bismah Kazi and Sabrina Ossman's topic linked the signs of the zodiac with the Fibonacci number sequence. Both Miss Croft and myself were so impressed by the professionalism of both presentations.

Following lunch there was a live Numberphile session part of which involved a large pendulum which was used to estimate pi. We will try and recreate this experiment on Pi Day in March. After a short quiz entitled 'who wants to be a mathematician' our last speaker, Simon Singh, delivered a presentation about 'The Simpsons and their Mathematical Secrets'. The plethora of mathematical ideas which are scattered throughout various episodes of the Simpsons is quite staggering. .

The day was compered by the stand-up mathematician Matt Parker and both Miss Croft and myself were thrilled when he signed copies of his 'Things to Make and Do in the Fourth Dimension' book for us, including some binary in his messages.