



## Creative Writing in Shropshire

*Chin Hwa Myatt*

During the Easter holidays, Mrs Leung and I and fifteen students from Years 8 to 11 went to rural Shropshire to embark on a weeklong Creative Writing Course. While the idea of spending a week of your holidays writing might sound like a lot of hard work and perhaps a strange thing to do, we had an incredible time learning about writing and about ourselves, too.

We stayed at an idyllic cottage called 'The Hurst' for 6 days, cut off from the outside world and wifi, during which we were mentored by the authors Jamila Gavin (author of *Coram Boy*) and Stephen May (author of *Life! Death! Prizes!*), who led daily workshops and gave us one-to-one tutorials on how to improve our writing. We even had a guest poet, Nick Makoha, who came and read his works and inspired us with his stories.

When the students weren't writing, they could wander the

woods nearby or play a game or two of 'Go, Fish!' In the afternoons, students were put in teams to prepare the evening meal for the rest of the group. Some of the highlights included beef burgers, Spaghetti Bolognese, and apple crumble. The teams also took turns washing up after everyone – an activity that was welcomed and enjoyed to varying degrees by the students



The final night of the week included everyone reading their best works. The best pieces were then put into an anthology, called *Go, Fish!* which we will be sharing with the school community via the Library.

## Engineering Education Scheme

*Josh Schnieder*



Five Year 12 physicists (Rebecca Bollard, Rachel East, Nichola Greenhalgh, Priyanka Sethurajan, and Miranda Simmons) have been taking part in a 6-month project through the Engineering Education Scheme.

Working with a local sponsoring firm, CH2M Hill, the girls designed a tunnel to replace the Hammersmith flyover.

This was a chance to work on a serious engineering project with

professional engineers over the course of 6 months. The girls had to perform as a professional engineering team would, analysing costs, traffic diversions, construction methods, environmental sustainability, legal and physical requirements and even take into consideration public opinion toward their project. In January they attended a workshop at UCL to construct a 3D model of their project, and they returned to UCL on 18 April to present their project to a panel of professional engineers as well as other participants in the Engineering Education Scheme.

The girls represented NHEHS extremely well, earning CREST gold awards for their efforts.

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## Enigma Club

*Colin Porter*

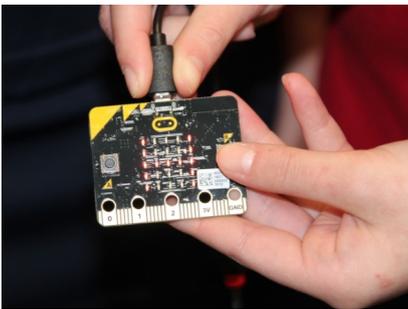
Since the beginning of January, a group of up to twenty Year 7 students have been getting together every Wednesday lunchtime at Enigma Club. They have worked through many mathematical challenges, including trying to solve the Four Colour problem, establishing the traceability of a network, and investigating palindromic numbers.

Every session has also featured an intense Countdown Challenge, with the students often outcalculating the teachers. Special credit must be given to Brianna Freire, Kayla Locke, Annika Malhotra and Inanna Sahib, who have been present for almost every bout of mathematical fun.

The club will run through until December for these all of these students; the new Year 7 mathematicians will then be invited to join.

## A Bit of Fun - The BBC Micro:Bits!

Phil Nelkin



Year 7 parents will know that all of their daughters have received a free “computer” from the BBC.

The BBC, together with Microsoft and Samsung, have designed and built a mini-computer which needs to be programmed via a web interface or through a mobile device. The computer has some of the sensors that our smart phones usually have such as an accelerometer, magnetic field of the earth sensor, thermometer and compass. The code that the girls can write can use these sensors and can turn on various LEDs or power other

devices like motors or switches to make things happen.

We gave out the Micro:Bits in Computer Science lessons or one of the two Computing Clubs which take place on Mondays and Fridays. Our Year 7 girls love the devices and we have spent an interesting few weeks exploring what they can do.

We don't know if the BBC will continue this initiative in future years but we do hope the girls will continue to code their devices.



## Year 7 Art Exhibition

Experiments in colour and form in the Atrium



## Creative Writing

The group outside 'The Hurst' (formerly the home of playwright John Osborne).



## Google Doodle

On 28 April 2016 Google celebrated the 162<sup>nd</sup> birthday of Hertha Marks Ayrton physicist, engineer, suffragette and teacher of maths and physics at NHEHS in the 1880s.



## Borough Prizewinners

Organised by the Mayor of London in partnership with Cass Art, the Fourth Plinth annual competition is open to all students aged between 5 and 15 in primary and secondary schools in the capital. It asks students to produce their own work of art, inspired by the contemporary art commissions for the Fourth Plinth in Trafalgar Square.

Lydia Batalona and Maya Shah (Year 7) are the Borough prize winners for Ealing for their proposal called 'Future'. The girls, their parents and I attended the awards ceremony at City Hall on April 28th, where the prize winners were announced and Maya and Lydia collected their certificates and bags of abundant art supplies from CASS Art. Clare Lilley, Director of Programmes at Yorkshire Sculpture Park, gave out the awards.

A record 2,700 entries were submitted to the competition this year, so winning was a real achievement and honour!

The Fourth Plinth Schools Awards exhibition is on at City Hall, is free to visit and runs from Friday 29 April until Thursday 7 July 2016.

*Marcia Teusink*

## Automatic Weather

*Catherine Parr*



NHEHS, led by the Geography department, has won GDST funding to install an Automatic Weather Station (AWS) enabling us to collect and analyse our own meteorological data.

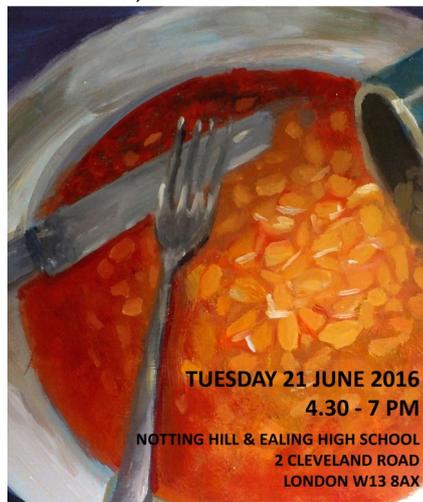
The AWS is now installed on the roof of the new build from where it streams data on wind speed and direction, rainfall, temperature and atmospheric pressure to a computer in school. Data is collected automatically and apart from the odd maintenance visit, there is no need for access to the equipment – even the rain gauge empties itself automatically.

Plans are underway for a range of weather related lessons, activities and clubs with opportunities for girls in both Junior and Senior schools.

## Summer Exhibition

*Sophie Plowden*

NHEHS SUMMER ART EXHIBITION 2016  
AS, AS & GCSE ARTWORK



TUESDAY 21 JUNE 2016  
4.30 - 7 PM

NOTTING HILL & EALING HIGH SCHOOL  
2 CLEVELAND ROAD  
LONDON W13 8AX

Artwork by Beatrice Dallas, Yr 11

This year's summer exhibition of GCSE, AS and A2 art work will take place on Tuesday, 21 June from 4.30pm to 7.00pm. Please join us for a glass of wine and enjoy the original and stimulating works on show. Everyone is welcome, whether or not your daughter has work in the exhibition.

To reserve your place please email: [enquiries@nhehs.gdst.net](mailto:enquiries@nhehs.gdst.net)

## Product Design

*Minnie Young*



Our Year 10 DT students are part way through their GCSE course. The syllabus requires them to design a product to be sold in a tourist attraction such as a museum. As part of the process of design, students have to show they understand who they are designing for and how their clients might use the product. The V&A kindly undertook to be our client and the girls are working on designs for products inspired by a design movement of the past 100 years which might be sold in the museum shop.

In April, the students visited the V&A to look at the 20th century furniture and product design collections, accompanied by Miss Young and Ms Baboollal. As they have to work as professional designers would, they also took the opportunity to do their research, interviewing customers and staff members in the museum shop to find out their needs and wants. Some interviewees found this so interesting they asked the girls to pose for photos (see above).

The highlight of the day was a

focus group with Annabelle Dodds and Aimee Lenthall, the Senior Buyer and Senior Merchandiser for the shop. The girls found out how collections are put together, how products are chosen to be sold and what sells well.

We are very grateful to the V & A for their time, sharing their expertise and for making us so welcome. It was an inspiring day for all of us and the V&A are as excited as we are to see the final products in the Spring.

## Ealing Music

*Paul Jeanes*

In March, Ealing Music Service held auditions for the Ealing Music Awards.

Many congratulations to Julia Flint (Year 11) who was the winner of the Ealing Music and Film Festivals Senior Scholarship after impressing the panel with her bassoon performance.

## Oxbridge Visits

*To get Year 10 students started on thinking about their university planning, the whole Year Group has been to have a look around an Oxford or Cambridge college and to find out more about academic and student life.*



### Oxford

*Cassia Fillingham, Gabby MacConnol and Lucy Psaila*

On the 4th May half of Year 10 ventured to Oxford University. First we visited Jesus College, and received an informative talk from the Academic Director. We learnt about the interview and admission processes, and about the college system and life at the university. The speaker went into detail about the style of teaching at Oxford and how it is different from many other universities. For some of us this was an appealing prospect; however, others were not so convinced by the rather alarming idea of one-to-one

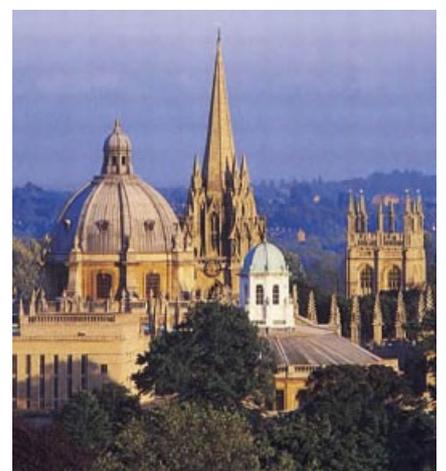
sessions. Next, we went on a guided tour around Jesus College, led by a first year law student, Suzie. She showed us the facilities of the college, and was very keen to answer any questions we might have.

After being able to experience a bit of university life by having lunch in a “quad” (or courtyard), we walked through the historical streets of Oxford guided by Miss Webb and Miss Bushell, who both had first-hand knowledge of the area. They showed us some

local highlights, such as the lamp-post that inspired C.S Lewis when he wrote *The Chronicles of Narnia*. Next we visited Oriel College where we were greeted by three Old Girls from NHEHS (who many of us recognised) and Miss Webb’s sister!

They told us about their academic journeys: from their first term at Oxford to their last weeks and final examinations, apart from the medical student who still had 3 years left of her course. We were able to learn about the differences between varying courses, as all the students were studying different subjects.

Of course, it was an opportunity to understand how much work is required at university level but we were also all interested to learn about Oxford’s traditions, such as the academic robes that they wear during exams.



## Oxbridge Visits



## Cambridge

*Becky Everett and Tamara Al-Saraf*

10CM and 10ABA took a coach ride to the city of Cambridge. After arriving at Jesus College, we were given a talk by a former Cambridge student employed by the university. The talk dealt with what we would need to do in the years leading up to university, not just specifically for Cambridge admissions, but also about what all top universities are looking for.

We found this really useful as it helped us understand the application process, what courses would be available and what we would need to do to get on these courses. After this we had the opportunity to ask two current students at Jesus College about the application process followed by a tour of Jesus College itself.

At lunch time, we explored the picturesque market place. One of our favourite places was the amazing fudge shop which gave delicious free samples.

After lunch, we met a former NHEHS student, Amelia Williamson, who is now studying at Cambridge, and some of her friends who are also at the university. We listened to the students explain their courses and their own experiences of university. We then asked them questions which we found really helpful as it gave us an insight into university life from a student's perspective.



## Networking Breakfast

On Friday 29 April NHEHS welcomed back to school a brilliant group of Old Girls to join our Year 13 students for breakfast and to talk about careers and life beyond school. With a truly diverse range of careers represented, including a radio producer, entrepreneur, medics, women from the media and marketing, as well as representatives from public service and the fourth sector, a solicitor and a web designer, there was something for everyone.

To kick off the morning four Old Girls talked about their own experiences, offering valuable insights and wisdom about how to carve out your ideal career. Following the talks, Old Girls chatted to Year 13 students in small groups, the speed networking format giving students the opportunity to get a snapshot of many different career paths. One Year 13 girl summed up what she learned from the morning brilliantly... 'Luck  $\propto$  hard work'.

We are so grateful to our Old Girls for their support and for coming back to school so full of enthusiasm and so willing to share their experiences. Their input will be invaluable to our Year 13 students as they set off to build their careers.

*Lucia Hull*



## Prize Winners Trip to China

It was only when we were sitting in a classroom, in a maths lesson, in Beijing, that we realised quite what a remarkable prize we had won.

We had entered the HSBC/ British Council Mandarin Speaking Competition not knowing what to expect as NHEHS had never entered it before. We were therefore thrilled when all our hard work paid off! The prize was an all-expenses paid trip to China; a great opportunity to see some of the amazing sites and to experience school life in a different country.

There were six of us in the winning NHEHS team – Cassia Fillingham, Gabby MacConnol, Flossie Morris, Eshana Sarkar, Bella Szczech and Dhruti Vijay – and we were accompanied on the trip by Ms Luo. We were part of a wider group of nine students in total from four schools across the country.

You can read more about our trip and experiences in the School Magazine which will be out this summer.

*Cassia Fillingham, Gabby MacConnol,  
Flossie Morris, Eshana Sarkar,  
Bella Szczech and Dhruti Vijay*

## Experiments in Colour

*Elisa Cagnino*



Year 7 Art focuses on the topic of colour and at a special Private View our Year 7 students welcomed parents and friends to school to see their work. Visitors had the chance to enjoy still life paintings, 3D recreations of famous artworks and experiments in form, shape and

line inspired by the students' visit to the Alexander Calder exhibition at the Tate. There was also musical accompaniment provided by Year 7 musicians.

The works created by the girls were spontaneous, experimental and a lot of fun!

## Parents' Guild

*Alan Brown*

Over 100 Junior and Senior School parents turned up to battle it out at the Parents' Guild Quiz and Curry Night. Quiz Master David came up from Cornwall to deliver his latest set of amazingly imaginative questions, some of which confounded even the brightest parents in the school. But not the winners, the very topically named 'Sadiq Khan but Zac Khant' who came out on top in a very close contest.

A big thanks to Amanda Stanley and Michelle Levman who organised the evening and to Kath Caine, Richa Grover, Sarah Thompson and Kerrie Farrell who made everything run so beautifully.

# Goodbye Year 13

Rebecca Irwin



Traditionally Year 13's last day is a day for lots of photos, a chance to put on school uniform one last time, to say goodbye and to create some special memories.

This year was no exception. Our Leavers created a festival 'Summer of Love at Notting Hill' theme for their final day, adorning the courtyard with

tents and bunting. Then it was off to breakfast with their form tutors and a last day of classes.

The day was rounded off with the Leavers' Tea which combined fabulous food laid on by Mrs Henry and the Catering Department, laughter, performances from girls and staff and tears in equal

measure as everyone said goodbye.

We're going to miss the class of 2016 and we wish them all the best of luck with their exams and for the future.

We hope they'll be back to see us often.

## Young Enterprise Successes

James Adams



Two of our Young Enterprise teams carried off prizes at the Young Enterprise Area Finals.

Team EcoSpeak (Managing Director, Elena Colato) were awarded the Most Innovative

Product prize for their wireless speakers, while Team Cuppa (Managing Director, Saffron Andreae) with their eco friendly, re-usable coffee cups won the award for Best Company Report.

We are very grateful to NHEHS parent Garry Wong and NHEHS Old Girl Karolina Laskowska who mentored teams this year. Their advice and support was much appreciated by the teams.

## Head Girl Team



After a very successful year for our outgoing Head Girl Team we are delighted to announce our new team for 2016/17. The new team is lead by Anoushka Rajah (Head Girl), with Rosie Bettis, Rebecca Bollard, Ammarah Felix and Natasha Sharma as Deputies.

They are looking forward to their new roles and responsibilities as they involve themselves in all aspects of school life.

## Cambridge Classics Videos

Alex Smith



Two entries from NHEHS were shortlisted in the inaugural Cambridge Classics Video competition.

This national competition open to students aged 14-19, drew over 60 entries, which included documentaries, dramas, animations, dance, musicals and more. Content ranged from subjects familiar from the school syllabus (e.g. epic poetry, the Romans in Britain, and the Catiline Conspiracy) to topics which will have required substantial independent research (e.g. Proto-Indo-European, Ay Khanum, and Atlantis). Rinda Naresh and Sharuka Ravichandran, Year 10, were shortlisted for their entry on Greek Astronomy, for a film which takes the form of an animated chalk board drawing. Shalini Chohan, Year 10, did hers on Greek Music and was also shortlisted.

The videos are really interesting, cleverly created and informative. They are well worth a watch and can be viewed below:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C-GMky-qMyU> = Greek Astronomy

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IHCMB4SGou0> = Greek Music

Between them the videos have gained over 3,500 views from the competition's Facebook site.

Although the entries did not win the overall prize, it was a real feat for these two insightful and original videos (and their creators) to have got this far as Year 10 entries.



## Aquathlon

This term we hosted our first Aquathlon. This event consists of a swim followed by a run and requires girls to swim then leave the pool and, donning a pair of trainers and throwing on a t shirt over their costume, complete a run.

The distances involved depend on the age of the competitors with Year 7 and 8 swimming for 200m followed by a 1km run and Year 9 & 10 swimming 300m and running 2km.

On a lovely, sunny afternoon after school, girls from Years 7-10 at NHEHS and St Benedict's gathered for the event. The atmosphere was positive and fun and the girls and staff really got stuck in and enjoyed themselves. Some excellent times were recorded.

As a result of their participation Anaiya Thakore (Year 7), Millie Buckroyd and Hannah Bolden (Year 8), Flossie Morris (Year 9) and Cameron Thomas (Year 10) have developed a taste for the event and gone on to be selected for the Ealing team at the London Youth Games which will take place at Crystal Palace on Sunday 3 July.

*Annette Greenslade*



## Cricket

The NHEHS cricket season is underway.

Our first match was against St Augustine's where we fielded an U14 team which consisted mainly of girls from Year 7 and a Senior team made up of girls from Years 10 and 11. Both teams played very well and we are delighted to report very successful games with each team winning their match by over 20 runs.

The squad train with a coach each Friday at Ealing Cricket Club and also attend an after school session on Mondays run by James Adams, Nic Evans and myself.

We are all very much looking forward to upcoming matches and especially to taking part in the first GDST Cricket Rally on July 1st.

*Diane Dunkley*

## Netball Updates

*Diane Dunkley*



The England Netball International Pathway is a tiered development programme aimed at bringing on our most talented players at local, national and international level.

It begins with Satellite Academy (Years 7 and 8), County Academy (Years 9 and 10) then Regional Academy (Years 11-13). These Academies teach the athlete a higher understanding of netball and as well as skills training, there are sessions on nutrition, sports science and individualised fitness programmes.

We are delighted that a number of our players are developing their interest in the sport and to announce that the following have been selected for the Pathway Programme.

### **Middlesex Satellite Academy:**

Sophie Claxton (Year 7)  
Isabella Holmes (Year 7)  
Honor Hill-Norton (Year 8)  
Nikola Kuzmanovic (Year 8)  
Sophie Rollason (Year 8)

Grace Kenyon, Isobel Thornton, and Savannah Parker have been "talent ID'ed" for Middlesex Satellite which means they have been selected at the trials as having potential and need just that little extra bit of coaching to get to the Satellite level.

### **Middlesex County Academy:**

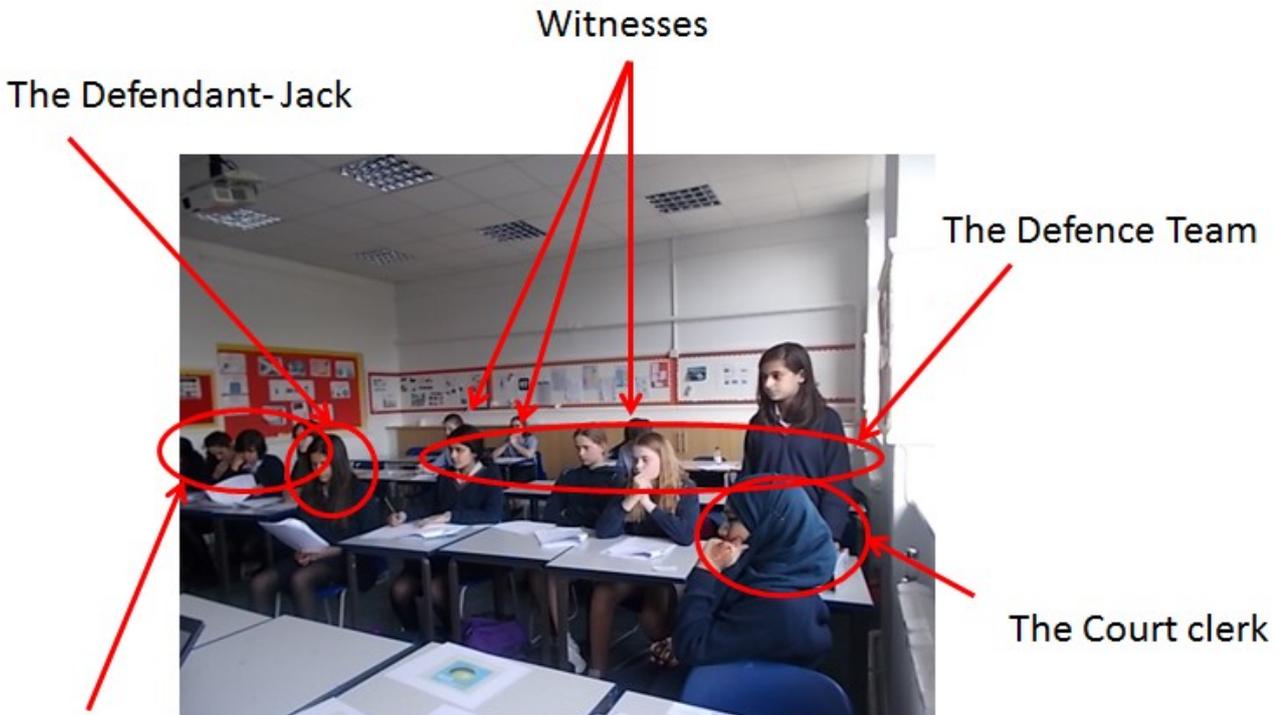
Vicki Newton (Year 8) -selected for Satellite and invited to County  
Hannah Leathem (Year 9 )  
Jasmin Hall (Year 10)

### **Regional Academy:**

Sascha Ootam (Year 10)  
Alice Wells (Year 10)  
Both have been invited to trials for Regional Academy

# A Fairy Tale Case

Sophie Genge



In Critical Thinking Club in May, a crack team of Year 8 girls were prosecution, defence, jury and witnesses for the mock trial of Jack in the matter of the Murder of the Giant, by way of cutting down the beanstalk and/or breaking, entering and theft, of one goose and a golden egg.

After a quick briefing on the very slimmed down court proceedings and the rules on asking leading questions, roles were allocated to the girls who were eager to get stuck in to the task. Armed with a sheaf of papers and assorted exhibits (the egg, the goose etc) they went off to prepare in separate rooms.

Solicitors maintained order within the teams, while barristers honed their questioning techniques.

In Just 30 minutes they were ready to go. The judge was called and the jury 'sworn in.' The barristers demonstrated deftness in their questioning of the witnesses within the very limited timeframe, drawing out key elements for their case and poking holes in the other side's arguments. It is clear that we have a few lawyers in the making here.

The witnesses stayed in character and the Defendant, played by Safiyyah Shah, was especially stoic

in her recounting of events under stern cross examination. The proof of this was in the verdict, with the Jury finding the Defendant not guilty of murder but guilty only of breaking, entering and theft.

The Defendant was sentenced to community service working with elderly giants to help integration and lessen the stigma attached to giants in the fairytale world.

It was a highly enjoyable session and continues to show how creative and confident our Year 8 Critical Thinkers are.