



Politics and History in Washington

Joe Pepper

In the Easter holiday, ten sixth form Politics and History Students, accompanied by Mr Pepper and Ms Eells, enjoyed what was, for many of us, a trip of a lifetime, to Washington DC.

We began with a full day walking tour of all of the major monuments and memorials, enjoying stunning weather and learning a great deal. A particular highlight was being able to stand in the footsteps of Martin Luther King Jr. at the Lincoln Memorial. On subsequent days visits to important political centres such as the Capitol Building and the Supreme Court, where we had the opportunity to rub shoulders with real American politicians, helped to bring both our A Level history syllabus and the Government and Politics syllabus to life, as both demand an understanding of how these institutions function.

There is such a range of museums in Washington DC

that it is impossible to get bored. We visited the American History Museum, American Indian Museum and the Natural History Museum. Soaking up American culture at the Washington Nationals baseball game was a favourite moment for many - even if it was hard to understand who was winning and why!

This was certainly a fascinating time to visit Washington, with the city at the centre of the world's attention following Trump's surprise election victory. It has given all of us a taste of what the United States has to offer, and we are all hoping to go back one day.



Junior Chemists

Fiona Johnson



As part of the NHEHS Junior School STEM week, we welcomed some very eager Year 4 girls to the Senior School labs where our Year 12 Chemists became their teachers for the day.

A quick tour was followed by a spectacular demonstration of burning icing sugar. This showed

them how it burns really fiercely as a powder blown over the Bunsen flame, but if it doesn't have such a large surface area it barely burns at all!

Our Junior girls then got hands on and performed a range of activities and experiments themselves all designed to

investigate rates of reaction. Our Year 12 students demonstrated their detailed knowledge and understanding of the topic, presenting the information confidently and clearly while our Year 4s performed the experiments with skill and confidence and raised some excellent questions as they did so.

New Head Girl Team



After a very successful year for our outgoing Head Girl Team we are delighted to announce our new team for 2017/18. The new team is lead by Dayvana Davabalan-Thevarajah (Head Girl), with Lydia Buckroyd, Imogen Kurek-Smith, Hannah Nicholson and Celia Riddiough as Deputies.

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

Careers Breakfast

Natalie Burns Spence



In April we were delighted to welcome a large group of Old Girls back to school to join current Year 13 Girls for breakfast.

This is now a firmly established event in the school calendar and we began the morning with four short talks from a panel of Old Girls. Although these women represented a wide range of experience and careers, common themes soon emerged and there was plenty of down to earth, practical advice on offer, sympathetically and entertainingly delivered.

Their Year 13 audience found the speakers easy to relate to and absorbed important messages about investing in your own personal brand via work placements and internships (Charlotte Cook, NHEHS 2007, Brand & Campaigns Manager at Tandem Bank), about keeping an open mind (Anne-Marie Pearce, NHEHS 1997, Director Finance

Media Networks, The Walt Disney Company Ltd), about persistence, (Anita Davies, NHEHS 2003, Barrister at Matrix Law) and the power of networking (Sara Sesardic, NHEHS 2007, Music Editor, at Spotify).

The presentations were followed by the opportunity to sit in smaller groups and following a speed-dating format, meet and chat to members of the panel plus another 20 or so alumnae who had come along to give advice and support. This was a fantastic opportunity to make connections and garner information on careers as varied as fine art valuation and civil engineering, architecture and fashion editing, journalism and medical research plus many more.

We would like to thank all our alumnae for giving up their morning to come back to school and sharing their experiences with our students. We hope they enjoyed it as much as Year 13 did.



Evensong

The Senior Chamber Choir outside St George's Chapel Windsor Castle where they sang Evensong.



Tennis

As well as being selected to represent Ealing at the London Youth Games, Lina Meghrani, as one of the south east's top performing girls, was selected to attend the Regional Tennis Academy. Look who she met



Silver D of E

Assessed expedition to the Gower



Community Mandarin

The NHEHS Mandarin Department recently played host to Year 5 pupils from Christ the Saviour Church of England Primary School and Selbourne Primary School for an afternoon designed to provide an introduction to Chinese language and culture.

Our visitors enjoyed Mandarin lessons delivered by NHEHS staff with the help of some of our sixth form A Level Mandarin students.

Introductions, greetings and counting to ten were quickly mastered and then it was on to the art rooms where Year 10 and 11 students (members of the NHEHS team who won last year's national Mandarin Speaking Competition) were waiting to help them try their hands at Chinese calligraphy, making traditional Chinese lanterns or decorating a traditional Chinese mask.

The highlight for many was the session in which teachers from the Confucius Institute for Dance and Performance at Goldsmiths University joined us to introduce the children to Chinese folk dancing including a wedding dance and a fan dance – though some pupils declared that 'Chinese dancing is more tiring than Chinese speaking'

At the end of the afternoon the children left with confident thank yous and goodbyes spoken in perfect Mandarin. We'd like to join them in saying xiè xie (thank you) to HSBC whose generosity made the afternoon possible.

Katie Swift

Sixth Form vs Staff Netball

Sophie Nicholas



Wednesday 17th May saw the annual staff versus students netball match. Competition was high this year, with the Year 13 team, led by Rosie Bettis, putting in some extra training to ensure they were ready for anything the staff had to bring! On the day, the crowds were in full voice and the student team got off to a strong start, leading by 4 goals at half time. Strong attack by shooters Nina Masterton and Nadine Yusef gave Year 13 confidence and they were set for a win.

However, half time saw a change in the tide, and strong performances by staff members Miss Munroe in attack and Mr Cheney in defence, meant the staff team pushed ahead. The game was going down to the wire, with 30 seconds to go, the staff team were up by one goal. Despite getting the ball all the way under the post, the student team could not score before the final whistle and the staff team, for the second year in a row, clinched the win.

Flash Fiction

Melissa Hanbury

The annual National Flash Fiction Youth Competition was founded in 2013 and is organized by the Department of English, University of Chester, and the International Flash Fiction Association (IFFA). Pupils aged 16-19 from across the UK submitted short stories, each no longer than 360 words, and we were delighted to hear that Ally Fowler's story 'Fathomless' been awarded third prize. To read the story <http://www.chester.ac.uk/flash.fiction/youthcompetition>

Goodbye Girls

Jenny Bushell



Year 13 said goodbye to us this year with the energy, warmth and good cheer we have come to regard as characteristic of the class of 2017.

The start of the day brought much excitement to greet the arrival of the bouncy castle, paddling pools, ball pits and bunting, which transformed the school garden into a 'back in time' children's party, the girls' theme for the day. Mr Shoults

was also much surprised to discover that all of the school clocks had temporarily taken up residence in his office!

The girls were treated to croissants and Bushra's cookies in the dining room before going to assembly. Tradition dictates that departing Year 13s wear their old school uniform on this day, and the girls this year also chose to sit

at the front of the assembly hall, as they did when they were in Year 7.

Mr Shoults' assembly was beset with some 'technical difficulty' at the outset, which gave Year 13 the opportunity to sneak in their amazing leavers' film, produced and directed by Nida Adnan.

In between their lessons, the girls spent the day enjoying their outdoor party and lunchtime picnic, although a rain shower drove us all temporarily inside, where the party atmosphere continued with an impromptu disco in the main hall. We rounded off the day with the Leavers' Tea, which was a lovely occasion filled with musical and poetic contributions from both staff and students.

We are very sad to say goodbye to the year group, but they leave us with an enormous number of fond memories of them, many of which were commemorated in a film created by Rosie and Nell which was shown at the Tea.

We would like to wish all the girls the very best of luck in their examinations and for the future, and hope that they will stay in touch with us and come back to visit.

Engineering Success

Josh Schneider

The NHEHS team, with their award, and their mentors from Taylor Woodrow and Network Rail



In the last edition of the newsletter Dayvana Davabalan-Thevarajah (Year 12) wrote an article entitled *Pitching to Crossrail* about the Engineering in Education scheme and the NHEHS team's six-month long, real-life engineering project to improve the sustainability rating of Crossrail's Southall station.

Following their pitch to Crossrail West Delivery Manager, Tony Byrne, and Crossrail Surface Director, Matthew White, the team of Dayvana Davabala, Jemima Bradley, Lucy Green, Ana Indjic Ast, Iola Ryland and Phoebe Rylatt were delighted to learn that Crossrail would be instructing Network Rail

to implement their proposals. This means that Southall station's BREEAM (sustainability) rating will be raised from its current 'Pass' level to 'Very Good'. Even more exciting though, a key recommendation of their proposal: the installation of a building management system and pulsed water meter to manage water usage, will be incorporated not just into plans for Southall, but in all six of the enhanced stations on the Crossrail West project.

This gave the team quite a boost as they went off to the final Engineering Education Scheme's Celebration Assessment Day held

at Imperial College, London. Here the students presented their proposal to a panel of professional engineers and were successful in carrying off the top prize the 'Contribution to the Business Award'. The judging panel commented that the students presented very professionally and they could fault neither their presentation nor their report, adding that the level of detail and how they engaged and accomplished the project was exactly what they would expect from professional engineers."

The NHEHS team have now qualified for the Regional Awards which will be held in London at the London headquarters of engineering giant Alstom on 3 July. Here they will present their work to an audience of 120 industry professionals and educationalists.

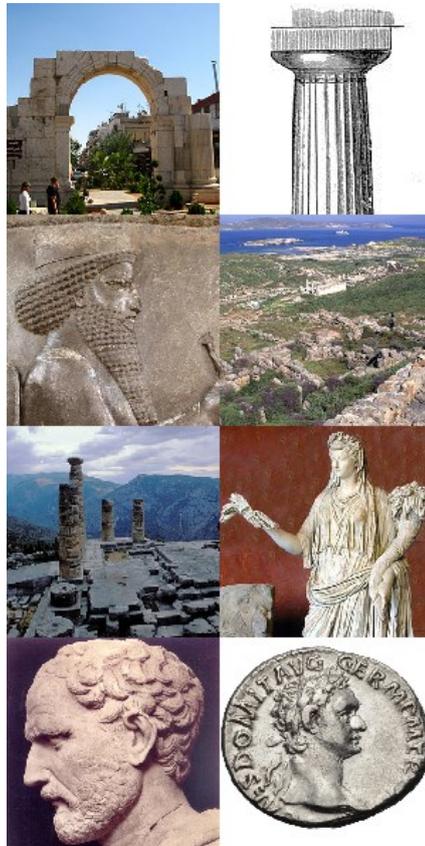
We are extremely grateful to the team from Taylor Woodrow and Network Rail who in addition to their day jobs have mentored our students, particularly Network Rail Project Manager, James Bowry and Taylor Woodrow employees: Design Manager, Brooke Knight, Senior Design Manager, Jon Tree, Site Engineer, Kristina Rorsman, Communication & Community Liaison Manager, Kathryn McGufficke and Environment Manager, Zebrina Hanly.

Classics Prize

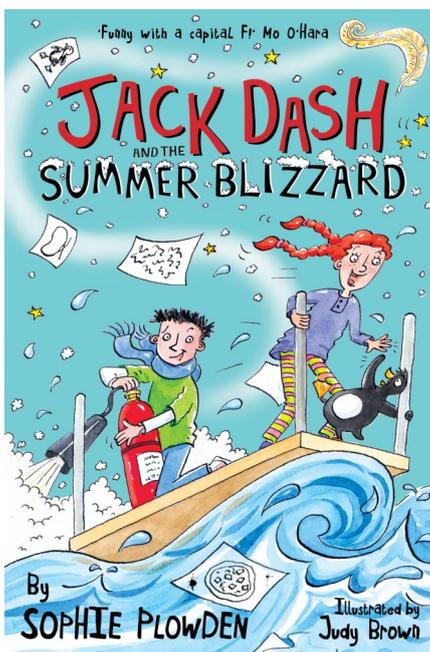
Elly Nicoll

Congratulations to Celia Riddiough (Year 12) who has won the GDST's Nancy Silver Award, its top prize for sixth form classicists.

The prize is used to fund a university summer course in Classics and is awarded on the basis of academic excellence in classical subjects and commitment to studying a classical subject at university. In addition the judges are looking for contribution to school life, the ability to overcome difficulties and evidence of being a good all rounder.



Look Out!



Younger readers, or buyers of books for younger readers, will be interested to hear that the sequel to Miss Plowden's *Jack Dash and the Magic Feather* is published on 9 June. In *Jack Dash and the Summer Blizzard*, Jack's adventures continue with his magic quill pen, which has the power to bring his drawings to life. Can he and Coco escape the fury of Miss Frostbite, the terrifying teacher of Curtly Ambrose School?

Jack Dash and the Summer Blizzard, Written by Sophie Plowden, Illustrated by Judy Brown. Published by Catnip Books



Private View

The atriums and art studios are being transformed as girls hang their artwork in preparation for this year's summer exhibition of A Level and GCSE art work on Tuesday, 27 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



Politics in School

With a General Election in the offing, sixth form Politics students have been leading the debate at NHEHS and have provided all of us with the opportunity to hear directly from the parties.

The labour team invited in Rupa Huq who is defending the seat she won in 2015 for the school's constituency of Ealing Central and Acton and the following week we heard from Joy Morrissey the Conservative candidate. Annabel Mullin prospective parliamentary candidate for Kensington also visited to give us the Lib Dem viewpoint.

All candidates took part in lively question and answer sessions following their presentations with girls seeking their views on Brexit, the economy and foreign policy as well as the more domestic issues of housing, the NHS and tuition fees.

We are currently preparing for a Mock Election on June 8th – recent school polls suggest that anything could happen!

Lauren Eells

The Real Game

Catherine Parr



The Real Game offers Year 8 a day out of normal classes to really get to grips with some important basic issues related to careers decision making.

During the Real Game girls consider their dreams and aspirations, are allocated various jobs or professions with linked exercises on budgeting and time management. In the follow up they are encouraged to think about the implications of what they've done on the day by completing a folder as a useful reminder of some of the issues raised.

At NHEHS The Real Game is an early part of the programme delivered throughout a girl's time here to help her think about herself and what she would like to achieve in terms of Higher Education and Careers.

Judging by their enthusiasm and engagement in the activities Year 8 have made a good start. A task to write about what they had learned even prompted a poem

about the day – possibly a first for careers education!

The Real Game

Amber Bonnor-Morris

*Once separated into teams
We all sat down, and as it seems,
Placed on our tables were
dream clouds
For our wishes, hopes and
achievements to make us proud.*

*Getting jobs either good or bad
Most were happy but some
were sad.
When people weren't getting
enough money
They weren't laughing but others
found it funny,
Finally, after paying all our bills
Some people realised their
tummies won't be filled.*

*So after all the drama of the day
I believe that everyone
should play
The Real Gameand live a day
in the life of reality*

Track and Field Cup County Round

Sophie Nicholas



The NHEHS teams with athletics legend and former Olympic decathlete, Dean Macey

On Friday 12th May the Junior (Years 7 and 8) and Intermediate (Years 9 and 10) Track and Field teams, consisting of 24 girls, travelled to Lee Valley Athletics Stadium for the County round of the competition. In this competition, all team members must complete both a track and a field event and their times and distances are converted to points, which then go towards a team total. The Junior and Intermediate teams compete separately in the competition but school camaraderie is always high.

The Juniors started on the field events, whilst the Intermediate team went straight into the track races. Strong performances on the track by Kira Nygren in the 300m, Anna Mackenzie in the 1500m and Alexandra Michelmores in the hurdles put

the Intermediates in a healthy position going into the afternoon. The Junior team also showed some impressive results during their morning events. Sophie Claxton continued with her season's impressive form in the discus, as did Freya Rylatt, one of the youngest members of the team, in the shot put. Isobel Thornton jumped a personal best of 4.07m in the long jump, keeping team spirits high as they prepared for the afternoon.

In the afternoon the Intermediate team moved onto the field events, whilst the Juniors had their time on the track. An impressive time by Isabella Holmes captain of the Junior team, in the 200m, and excellent performances by all our middle distance runners, Eva-Marie Weintraub, Natasha Jones, Jasmine Palmer and Sophie

Claxton kept hopes of qualifying for the regional round of the competition high for the Junior team. Meanwhile, over at the field events the Intermediate team were really coming into their own with both captains Vicky Newton and Amrita Arneja leading by example.

At the end of the day both NHEHS teams had put in strong performances. The Junior points totalled 275 and the Intermediates 278. When all the results were finally in, it was revealed that the Juniors finished 6th in the county out of 16 schools and the Intermediates 5th in the county out of 13. The Juniors unfortunately just missed (by 4 points) qualifying for the next round. However, this was still the highest points total they have had for a number of years.

The Intermediates' points score was good enough to put them in the top section of schools from five southern counties and to get them to the regional finals. It is the first time a Notting Hill and Ealing team have ever made it to the regional round of this competition and we wish the Intermediate team the best of the luck on the 13th June at the regional finals!

++STOP PRESS ++STOP PRESS++
6th June: The Juniors have also now been invited to compete!