



SFX NEWSLETTER

Love of God. Love of Neighbour.



MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD TEACHER

We have all enjoyed a busy and productive half term with each department making contributions to enhance the richness of school life. Thanks to the hard work of Miss Buckingham I am delighted to report that our students now have the opportunity to take part in the Duke of Edinburgh Award. On the weekend of 14th March, 4 staff and 20 year 10 students visited Marrick Priory to begin preparations for the expedition element of the award. Thanks also to the Xaverians whose tireless fundraising has enabled us to purchase vital equipment for use in this and future expeditions. This initiative is also supporting our ongoing commitment to raise the attainment level for every child in that Duke of Edinburgh students have engaged in a paired reading scheme. Led by Mrs Patterson, they use their time and skills to support and encourage younger members of our school with their reading. Research shows that the use of peers is a very successful way to build confidence and enhance learning.

The Maths department have also been hard at work, with several students performing very well in the Maths Challenge. A group of year 7 and 8 students have been given additional support in their numeracy from Mrs Downs and Mrs Scott and I am pleased to hear they are making very good progress. As part of the English department's drive to get more students reading, all year 7 students have been involved in a Readathon for World Book Day and thanks to support from staff, family and friends, they have raised over £1000.

Students are enjoying many activities in a number of extra curricular areas including, Music, Science Club, Sport and Drama and you can read more about their experiences in this newsletter. We will bring you reports from students who are currently visiting Strasbourg with the Modern Foreign Languages department in the next edition. Tabytha Milton came second in a Poetry Competition; Lucy Padgett won the Wensleydale Singing Competition; Head Girl, Jennifer Eckersley has been awarded a 90% bursary to continue her A level studies at Barnard Castle and Chloe Mignon, our Deputy Head Girl has been selected for a place at Welbeck College, a Ministry of Defence College

where students complete their A levels and prepare themselves with skills for the Armed Forces including leadership, military and physical fitness. After a grueling three-day selection process Chloe was informed of her success, beating 4000 other applicants to achieve a coveted place.

The Religious Education and Music department have continued to dedicate themselves to the task of our religious services increasing the sense of Christian unity within the school. This thought brings me, finally, to wish you all a blessed and joyful Easter.



CALENDAR DATES

Dates for your diary:

APRIL

Friday 4th

School Closes for Easter Holidays

Monday 21st

School Closed

Tuesday 22nd

School Closed, training day

Wednesday 23rd

School open

Wednesday 23rd

Making a Difference in Richmond Awards 7pm

Thursday 24th

Evening of the Arts 7pm

Tuesday 29th

Lourdes Parent & Carers information evening 6pm

MAY

Thursday 1st

Junior Maths Challenge

Monday 5th

School closed for Bank Holiday

Tuesday 6th

Year 9 exams start

Monday 12th

GCSE Exams start

Friday 23rd

Year 11 Thanks Giving

Assembly

Friday 23rd

School Closes for half term

JUNE

Monday 2nd

School opens

Wednesday 18th

GCSE Exams finish

Thursday 19th

Year 10 exams start



SPORTS UPDATE

Basketball

Under 14 girls Basketball team were runners up in the county competition conceding to St Aidan's in the final games. An outstanding performance from Abbie Lovel, Jess Sowersby, Maisie Humphries, Laura Kirkham, Georgia Deacon, Molly Hadfield.

The Year 10 and 11 Basketball team narrowly lost to Queen Elizabeth Sixth Form College, Darlington. It was an impressive performance against players at least 2 years their senior. The team, consisting of Rob Davidson, Nathan Deacon, Will Riley-Fox, Connor Glackin, Tom Goodridge, James McDade, Ashley Birks, and Callum Hall lost with a respectable score line of 32-27. The Year 11 team also came 4th in the county competition at York College on March 6th with a line up change from Ashley Birks and James McDade (Year 10's) to Jake Keeley.

Netball

Well done to the girls for taking part in the under 12 Netball rally at Thirsk. Elizabeth Morrison captained a strong side which included Megan Stanley, Naomi Cooper, Leanne Burton, Charlotte Hardy, Anna Ward, Lauren Christie, Laura Dixon, Klaudia Michalowska, Jess Johnson, Charlotte Brunskill, Abigail White and Megan Nasby.

The under 13 netball rally at Richmond School finished with 5th place overall for our team including Lizzie Morrison, Lottie Robin-

son, Molly Hadfield, Agnes Watson, Laura Bookall, Willow Andrew (c), Tilly Hudson, Leanne Burton and Naomi Cooper .

Karate

Well done to Tom Hadfield on achieving his black belt in Karate.

Cross Country

Well done to 3 SFX girls who represented North Yorkshire in the English Schools Cross Country Competition at Castle Donnington on 15th March. All of them finished with respectable times in a very competitive field with Willow and Issie competing against older girls:

Junior Girls

Laura Kirkham 181/343

Willow Andrew 318/343

Intermediate Girls

Issie Starkey 108/336

Rugby

The Year 8 girls attended the RFU under 13 development day at Mowden park, Darlington. SFX is an RFU target school for women's and under 14 and 15 rugby .

Well done to all the Year 7, 8 and 9 boys who attended the Area Rugby Sevens on March 15th at Wensleydale RUFC, particularly the Year 9 boys who were narrowly beaten in the final. The Year 9 team included Andrew Miller, Theo Colley, Jack Johnson, Richard Kirkham, Jacob Whitfield, Jake Young, Sam Harris, Alfie Thompson, Harry Robson, Oliver Mann, Shay Willis and Callum Watkins.

Our Year 10 and 11 team made

their debut playing games for the school at the Barnard Castle RUFC Tournament. The school was well represented by a team including Elias Gibson, Tom Hadfield, Will King, Curtis Blake-Russell, Seb Bradley, Kieren Marshall, Kenny Moore, Jamie Whittaker, James Smith, Sean Williamson, Callum Haggie and Benedick Vincent.



Football

Congratulations to Thomas Kavanagh who has signed a contract with Newcastle Academy after a successful 6 week trial.

Also congratulations to Year 9 who beat Richmond School 4-1 in a scintillating game of football. Well done to everyone involved with special mention for the scorers, Jacob Tate, George Southern, Ryan Moule and Callum Watkins.

On 20th March the year 7 and 8 girls team consisting of Molly Hadfield, Molly Southern, Natasha Lovel, Laura Bookall, Tilly Hudson, Steph Masterman, Abi Lovel, Sophie Pinkney and Anna King played hard and came a respectable 6th place after a number of close matches.

The school was also well represented at the area 7-a-side tournament held at Risedale on 20th March. All 3 teams (Year 7, 8 and 9 boys) came 2nd in their group and narrowly missed 3rd place by losing the play off, finishing 4th out of 8 teams.

Evening of the Arts

ST FRANCIS XAVIER SCHOOL

Thursday 24th April 2014

7pm



Performances include

'A Pwincess and a Fwog'

by year 7 & 8 students

LAMDA Reading for Performance Pieces

by Year 10 & 11 students



Refreshments and raffle by the Xaverian's
tickets £5 adults; £3 Concessions
(includes children aged 16 or under)

For more information or to arrange tickets please

email contact@sfxschool.org.uk

telephone 01748 823414 or visit Reception



FORENSIC SCIENCE BY LAURA BRADBY

In the Autumn term 2013, members of the SFX Science Club learnt about Forensic Science. We tried many different techniques over a 10-week period, including footprint analysis, taking fingerprints, chromatography, tyre analysis, identifying unknown substances, analysing fibres and crime scene photography. We made footprints in trays of mud and filled them with plaster of Paris, we lifted fingerprints from paper and glass, we looked at our own hair under a microscope and much more. Once we had learnt these skills, we tried them out on a real crime scene. That very Monday night, Miss Alderson had been murdered! Our task was to find the murderer. Later, Miss Cowen did admit that she murdered Miss Alderson over a dispute about some Science equipment. However, Miss Alderson made a miraculous recovery, so we were unable to press charges. On the final night of the club, we had an open evening for friends, family and teachers to come and see what we had been doing and for us to show them our new skills. We created a crime scene, got the microscopes out and set up some chromatography experiments, as well as inviting people to make their own plaster of Paris footprint, among other things. Science Club was really great fun and a great opportunity. We're are hoping to start again next year and study Astronomy.

PARENT PAY & BIOMETRICS

Parentpay is the easy way to pay for your child's school meals and trips - available by visiting parentpay.com. If you haven't yet signed up to the scheme please contact the school for more details. In addition, Biometric thumbprint reading will come into effect after the Easter Holidays, meaning that the existing card system will no longer work. Please contact the school if you have not completed the form for this system or if you have any queries.



HMS HEROES
On Monday 24th March Students from service families attended a 'Blessing of the Standard' at Catterick Garrison. The HMS Heroes standard, which represents the collaboration between service children across a number of schools in the area, was carried by Ethan Royal and Dylan Russell, our flag bearers on the march and by Grace Nash who had the honour of flag bearer at the end of the church service which included a prayer read by James Fitzwater.

The service was attend-

ed by local primary and secondary schools, alongside dignitaries and representatives of the military units in Catterick. After the service, led by Padre Ben Archibald, the procession made its way from Catterick Garrison Church to St Aiden's Church, where another service was being held. Thanks go to Hazel Thomson, the HMS Heroes co-ordinator as well as Mrs Thorpe and Mrs Fisher who organised the trip.



Grace Nash as Flag Bearer



Rehearsals for the SFX production are well under way for this show that it is sure to be an entertaining evening.

Cast List

Theseus
Grace Eyles
Hippolyta
Lauren Fall
Egeus
James Morrison
Hermia
Anna Backhouse
Lysander
Finn Morgan
Demetrius
Chris Smallman
Helena
Tabby Milton
Puck
Ione Harwood-Mann
Titania
Chloe Mignon
Oberon
Elizabeth Lees
Bottom (Pyramus)
Emily Ryde
Quince (Prologue)
Frank Morgan

Flute (Thisbe)
Connor Martin
Snug (Lion)
Elisha McCowan
Snout (Wall)
Tom Thompson
Starveling (Moonshine)
Natasha Dowd
Fairy
Freya Simper
Moth
Imi Milton
Cobweb
Lottie Robinson
Peaseblossom
Grace Nash
Mustardseed
Ella Starkey
Philostrate TBC
Fairies
Lucinda Pennington, Laura Bradby, Izzy Easton, Ruth Metcalfe, Olivia Stockdale, Tilly Hudson, Naomi Cooper, Leanne Burton, Alice Peat, Grace McFarlane, and Hannah Whately.

MATHS CHALLENGE ROLL OF HONOUR

Best in School

Harriet Iveson (Year 10)

Gold Certificate Award

Harriet Iveson
Haydn Simper (Year 10)
Richard Kirkham (Year 9)
Olivia Stockdale (Year 9)

Silver Certificate Award

Isaac Magee (Year 9)
James Morrison (Year 9)
Hayley Land (Year 9)
Grace Eyles (Year 10)
Caitlin McCauley (Year 11)
Laura Kirkham (Year 9)
Stephen Brown (Year 11)
Jasmine Lawson (Year 11)
Thomas Whittaker (Year 10)
Callum Crabb (Year 11)

Daniel Mackenzie (Year 11)
Danielle Phillips (Year 11)

Bronze Certificate Award

Katie-Anne King (Year 11)
Finn Morgan (Year 10)



Lucinda Pennington (Year 9)
Robert Davidson (Year 11)
Holly Smith (Year 11)
Alice Peat (Year 9)
Ella Lees (Year 9)
William King (Year 10)
Isabel Andrews (Year 11)
Fran McShane (Year 10)
Peter Atkinson (Year 10)
Chloe Swanwick-Jones (Year 11)
Sachin Saggarr (Year 11)
Elizabeth Lees (Year 10)
Harry Gill (Year 9)
Ruth Bernard (Year 11)
Katy Kennedy (Year 11)
Robert Wingate (Year 10)
Jordan Simpson (Year 10)
Mary Hewitt (Year 9)
Jessica Adams-Brooks (Year 10)

Special congratulations to Harriet Iveson and Haydn Simper who have qualified for 'The European Pink Kangaroo' round and Richard Kirkham, Olivia Stockdale and Isaac Magee who have qualified for 'The European Grey Kangaroo' round. Well done!



YOUTH CONGRESS

On Saturday 29th March, five of our students from Years 8, 9 and 10 participated in the Middlesbrough Diocesan Youth Congress at Trinity Catholic College, with Mrs Wainwright and Mrs Masterman. The theme for the Congress was 'Called to a Noble Adventure' and launched the first meeting of the Middlesbrough Diocesan Youth Council, which involved young people, aged 13-25, from all of the secondary schools and colleges within our Diocese. The students listened to Fr Dermott Donnelly, Director of Youth Services in the Hexham and Newcastle Diocese and chair of CYMFED (Catholic Youth Ministry Federation for England and Wales). Fr Donnelly shared his passion for developing young people, their relationship with God and the Church; encouraging all involved in youth ministry to have 'outrageous hope' and 'ridiculous optimism' in

their efforts to engage with young people, at their level, because Jesus has called them to 'come and see'. Our students participated in workshops and helped to form the first Youth Council, led by Fr Paul Farrer and the MYMission Team. The Youth Council is an amazing opportunity for our young people to be the voice of Bishop Terence Drainey in the Diocese.

Talks were given by Anthony Towey from St. Mary's, Twickenham, on the gift of the Holy Spirit in action and Andy Preston from The Middlesbrough and Teesside Philanthropic Foundation on his aim to resolve injustice in the North-East by challenging wealthy people across the country to do something good for others.

The day concluded with a liturgy to celebrate our common goal of working with young people for the benefit of young people.

A big THANK YOU to Lisa-Marie Brewitt, Maisie Humphries, Elizabeth Lees, Rachel and Stephanie Masterman, together with James Morrison, who will represent the young people from St. Francis Xavier School at future Youth Council meetings.



DUKE OF EDINBURGH

BY D OF E STUDENTS

On 14th March 2010 students took a trip to Marrick Priory and learnt some survival skills in preparation for our expedition in July. We dragged ourselves out of bed at 7am on a Saturday morning to complete an 8 mile trek from Marrick to Reeth. The conditions were windy and cold but we were having so much fun singing songs and enjoying each other's company that the time passed quite quickly and the hills, although tiring, didn't seem so hard. Molly Magee managed to fall in a stream to the amusement of the group and we saw some unusual sheep and some beautiful scenery. After a while it did start getting painful. The midway point was a tiny hut which we could see in the distance but took forever to get to. Miss Alderson kept slipping and Grace fashioned a fashionable electric blue waterproof to add a bit of glamour to the day. On Saturday night we played team games including completing an obstacle course blindfolded. All in all it was a good, if tiring experience. It shows we need to do a bit more practice before we do the real thing.

