

## Otungeihill School Headteacher's Welcome

Welcome to the Spring Bank edition of the Hungerhill Highlights.

It is fantastic to see the range of opportunities and activities that students have involved themselves within over recent months as part of our Personal Development Programme. We were delighted to invite renowned author Bali Rai back into school to work with students from Years 7 and 8 . Year 10 enjoyed First Aid training, while Year 9 students watched a performance by the PEEL Theatre Group.

We have had lots of sporting success this term, with the highlight being the Year 10 boy's football victory in the South Yorkshire cup. It has been a pleasure to see our students going out and about and being able to compete against other schools again.

We have been very proud of how our Year 11 students have conducted themselves at the start of their examination period. The commitments to their studies have been evident in their attendance and participation at breakfast bootcamp sessions, formtime boosters and after-school interventions. We wish them all the best of luck in their remaining exams which take place in June.

I would like to thank all of our parents/carers for their consistent and unwavering support over this year. Even though we have returned to 'normality' we are aware of the challenges that many families are still facing post Covid.

We are looking forward to the Summer Term and all the further opportunities that affords our wonderful students.

Please have an enjoyable and relaxed break.
Mrs Pond

## PSHE Drop-Down Days - Spring Term

## Year 9 Drop-Down Days



On Thursday 24 March, Year 9 students completed a PSHE drop-down day on healthy relationships and sexual health led by our School Nurse, Mike Bell. On Thursday 21 April, Year 9 also had a day centred on the topics of child criminal exploitation and online blackmail. Here all students were invited to watch a theatre production based around a child criminal exploitation scenario, before being able to ask questions to both the victims and perpetrators in the performance during a hot-seating question and answer activity. Well done to Year 9 students for approaching the day in a mature and sensible manner!

## Year 10 First Aid Drop-Down Day

In order to meet the requirements of the statutory relationships and sex education (RSE) curriculum, Year 10 took part in a 'Hands-On' first aid training session, delivered by two qualified first aid instructors on Tuesday 26 April. As part of the session, students were able to practise the methods of basic life support, CPR and the use of a defibrillator. All students got involved in the training, and approached the session in a positive and mature manner; as a result, they received a certificate as evidence of their new skills.

## Well Done Year 10!




## Careers



## Year 9 My Perfect University

All Year 9 students participated in a full day careers event, My Perfect University. The event helped to dispel myths about higher education and university life and inspired students to think about employability skills required for the world of work.

## Year 11 Apprenticeship Information Event

Staff from ASK Apprenticeships attended an after-school apprenticeship awareness evening to chat to students and parents. Staff provided information and guidance about the benefits of apprenticeships, the different levels and how to apply for an apprenticeship. This was followed by a Q\&A session.

## Careers Ambassadors

This term we appointed 40 Careers Ambassadors within school. These students will work with the Careers Department staff to help promote and raise awareness of the school's careers provision, helping to make careers within school even bigger and better.


## Enrichment Club in Focus Mindfulness Coloring

Mindfulness coloring is a recent addition to the enrichment lunch club timetable. Students from all years have been very excited to try something new and the participation numbers have increased each week over the half-term.
Mrs Kwasniewska who runs the club said 'mindfulness coloring gives the students the opportunity to relax and socialize with their friends. The students really enjoy the calming atmosphere in the library during lunch times.

## Department in focus - DT

## Cooking Club

This year has seen the return of the ever popular 'Cooking Club'. Year 7 and Year 8 have had an opportunity over the year to cook a range of delicious sweet and savoury products and have thoroughly enjoyed being able to try new recipes and improve their cooking skills.

Callum Griffiths, Year 8

## Bad Mablecs iea Party

During the Spring term Year 10 had the opportunity to cater for 150 students for the Mad Hatters Tea Party. They made a selection of sweet and savory afternoon tea goodies including sausage rolls, cupcakes, cookies, scones and sandwiches!
"For the Mad Hatters tea party we made all of the cupcakes. We really enjoyed the lesson as it was something different and prepared us for if we go into catering and have to make large batches of food. We made 200 cupcakes between 4 of us all at once in a double lesson!" - Deven Westwood, Brooke Harvey, Olivia Priddis and Holly Parkin-English

## Department in focus - DT continued <br> Easter Baking Competition

Year 9 Student Leaders Aimee Pell, Levi Smedley and Chantelle Wilson - ran the yearly Easter Baking Competition. A fabulous range of sweet treats were entered for the competition. The overall winners were..
3rd place Molly Cresswell 2nd place: Ewan Mayoh
1st place: Summer Copsey!


## Year 11 GCSE Food Final Practical

For the Year 11's Non-Exam Assessment they were set a design brief to plan, prepare and cook a range of dishes based on Italian cuisine. They worked tirelessly to complete their Non-Exam Assessment and have designed and produced some outstanding products for their final practical, a credit to their hard work, resilience and determination,

## Well Done Year 11!

## Wider Curriculum

## Inter-Form Competitions

All form groups in Years 7-10 have had the opportunity over half-term 4 to take part in an inter-form fundraising challenge to raise money for the Teenage Cancer Trust. Each form group hosted their own event from bake sales to penalty shootout competitions and form groups were awarded points to the overall leaderboard depending on how much money they raised.

A special mention goes to 7 H who raised a staggering £566.19 by hosting various events such as a chocolate raffle, pick a stick, sponsored silence and ring toss.

During Half Term 5 the following competitions from each year group will be taking place:
Year 7 - Rounders Tournament
Year 8 - Football Crossbar Challenge
Year 9 - Basketball Shootout
Year 10 - Table tennis tournament


## Weekly General Knowledge Quiz

Year 7-10 forms take part in weekly general knowledge quizzes over each half term and the results are added to the overall inter-form leaderboards. There is a real competitive buzz between the form groups during the quizzes each Thursday morning, Fraizer Merchant from 91 commented 'I enjoy competing against
 other form groups and trying to get the best score’. Connor Pollard Logan also from 91 added 'Doing the quiz each week brings us together as a form group’.

After the latest round of competitions, the overall leaderboards have been updated and the Inter-Form Trophy awarded to the leading form groups. Congratulations to $7 \mathrm{R}, 8 \mathrm{E}, 9 \mathrm{~N}$ and 10 H who are currently winning for their respective year groups.
Year 7 interform competition


## Year 9 interform competition



## Year 9 and 10 Mock Exams

During May, our Year 9 students sat mock examinations in English, maths and science whilst our Year 10 students completed papers in the non core subjects.

Teachers and students are eager to see the results and the progress that the students have made since September as well as be able to use the students' responses to provide personal feedback to help students move on.

Later in the year, there will be a further set of mocks for each year group, focusing on the subjects they have yet to be examined in.

Parents and carers will be able to see their child's results when they receive a final set of reports before we break up for the summer.

Four our Year 9 s , this will have been the first time students have completed high stakes assessments in a full examination room. Students responded well and showed great resilience during the week, and we are proud of their maturity and focus. Well done! The students also felt that they benefitted from the experience with Miss Locker's form 9 H providing some great feedback as follows:
"They made me want to achieve good things and try my best." "The exams were difficult and challenging but it was good to practice."
"I found the exams helpful as I understand the exam process." "They made me leave my comfort zone."
"They let me know how exams work and how to enter the exam hall and what equipment to bring."
"I found the papers okay, but I think I need to improve managing my time more."
"Makes me want to achieve and recall learning from Year 7 and 8."
"I found the exams quite difficult, but I made sure I put all of my effort into each exam."
"I found them challenging but they gave me an outlook of what exams are like."

## Rewards Update

All year there has been a huge focus on the rewarding of our students. We have taken great privilege in having a range of rewards for Attitude to Learning, attendance and celebrating our core values. The students have enjoyed placing their voice and requests in to shape these and as we move into the next academic year, we look to secure the excellent opportunities further.

Bonus credits and postcards are a daily occurrence in school, where staff have an opportunity to support the students in continuing with their hard work and high efforts in lessons.

The Parent Advisory Group has been an excellent forum for us to shape change. One aspect being the ranking system with the Attitude to Learning reporting system, which will be replaced with a bespoke target setting system for students to monitor their own achievements and set themselves targets to improve where necessary, celebrating in our individual efforts opposed to having this as a comparable measure.

Our end of year Alton Towers trip has been opened to all students. Having had a number of events with restricted numbers, the Form Reps wanted to have an opportunity for all students to have the option to attend at the end of the year. The day with their friends will allow all students to celebrate their achievements for the academic year in a unique way after all the disruption caused by Covid over the last few years. Alton Towers is a family friendly park with a variety of rides and experiences to enjoy. We hope


## Book Vending Machine

Recently, we have had our book vending machine arrive in school, and I am pleased to say it has been a huge success! Many of our students have stopped to look at the many books on offer; it has been great to witness the love of reading that many of our students possess- even though some may not admit it. Students have been nominated for a token (which enables them to purchase a book for free!) because of their exceptional Attitude to Learning in English lessons during the last half term. We will be also offering students the opportunity to purchase a token at a discounted rate from the library in the coming


## Track my Read and Read for Good

We have recently launched a reading competition for our Year 7 students, where they will be competing to read as much as they can; this is all good for a cause - they are raising money for charity as they read. Students track their reading online using their unique URL and there are prizes for who reads the most during the competition. As a school we have already logged more than 15,000 minutes online! Further good news, we are well on our way of raising over $£ 600$ for charity. You can check out their website at www.readforgood.org

## Twisted Tales

Hungerhill School are delighted that eight of their students have had their Twisted Tales story selected to appear in this published anthology. Congratulations to the following students: Robyn (Year 9), Isabelle (Year 11), Chloe (Year 8), Megan (Year 8), Charlie (Year 9), Gabrielle (Year 9), Oliwia (Year 8) and Maya (Year 9)

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