

School News

NATIONAL COAL MINING MUSEUM VISIT

On October 7th and October 9th Year 8 Geography students visited the National Coal Mining Museum. The museum is based at the Caphouse Colliery near Wakefield. All students donned hard hats and took the underground tour to discover how mining has evolved from the 19th century to when the pit closed in 1985. Each tour was led by an ex-miner and we were very interested in some of the tales that they had to tell! There were many screams when we turned off our lamps to experience what it would have been like to work as a trapper spending all day in the pitch black.



The tour was followed by a workshop called 'Dig Deeper' where students found out more about the geology of coal and the equipment that would be used by modern miners. Each class also spent time in the museum galleries to discover more about how a miner would live. However, the highlight for many was meeting the pit ponies and crawling through the coal seam in the Coal Interface Gallery!

CJM

The North Halifax
Grammar School



NHGS News

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OCTOBER 2008

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COMENIUS APPLICATION SUCCESS

In early August I received confirmation that our application for funding for our Comenius project had been approved. The title of the project is 'Life in Harmony with Nature' and focuses on environmental and health issues. We hope to actively involve as many of the Year 10 and 11 students as possible in activities relating to this project and will start with an activity involving pedometers in the early part of this term. We hope to welcome teachers and students from the partner countries (Germany, Spain, Turkey, Estonia and Ireland) to NHGS in March 2009. I would be very grateful to hear from any parents who would be prepared to host teachers and students for three or four nights at this time. A number of students and teachers from NHGS will have the opportunity to visit the other partner schools over the next two years.

In the Summer holidays I also found out that we had achieved the Foundation Stage of the International School Award in recognition of our international work so far. I hope that the Comenius project will bring a significant boost to this work enabling us to achieve the Intermediate International School Award in the near future.



The group of staff working on the Comenius project in one of the Estonian schools

CJM

Parents' Association Meetings

Tuesday 4 November

Wednesday 3 December

The meetings start at 7.45pm and all parents are welcome.

Enter in the main entrance of NHGS

PRIZE DRAW

Our 3 lucky winners for **September** are:

£150	64	JP and CM Fox, Greetland
£75	23	Mrs C J Roe, Queensbury
£25	85	Mr J Sharp, Clayton

The Special Prize Draw Winners are:

£250	136	R & J Hardy - Outlane
£150	70	Marie Hayes - Wibsey

These were drawn at the Wine & Cheese welcome evening, special draws are held during the year to keep in line with the licensing rules.

The cheques are in the post. Congratulations!

If you didn't win anything – it may be because you haven't signed up for this? Just download a form <http://www.nhgs.co.uk/pa/prizedraw.pdf> or get one from the school office – commit to a £5.00 direct debit each month, and you could be one of our winners. Each month we give away £250 – **it could be you!** Contact Linda Saunders on linda_c_saunders@yahoo.co.uk if you want to know more or just download a form <http://www.nhgs.co.uk/pa/prizedraw.pdf>

YEAR 11 GEOGRAPHY FIELDWORK TO MALHAM

On September 17th a coach load of Year 11 Geography students descended on Malham in the Yorkshire Dales to find out about the characteristics of tourists and the impact that tourism has had on the village. The day commenced with a brisk walk to the base of the cove where Mr Howarth gave a short



explanation of how this limestone amphitheatre had formed. After that we made the steep ascent to the

top of the cove which was a struggle for some! From the top we got a fantastic view of the village to the south and the students were able to observe the limestone pavement and part of Watlowes dry valley. The afternoon was spent in the village carrying out pedestrian counts, environmental quality surveys, questionnaires and a tax disc survey in the National Park Visitor Centre car park. Some students even managed to squeeze in a cup of tea in the Muddy Boots café! We have spent the weeks since the visit writing up our results which will form part of the students' GCSE Geography coursework project.

CJM

Hair & Beauty Charity Evening

Tuesday 11th & Wednesday 12th November 2008, 6.30-9.30pm
Square Road, Halifax (opposite Eureka car park)
Tickets £12.50 (includes a glass of wine/soft drink & canapés)

NHGS Parents' Association has teamed up with Nikki Collins (Nikki Collins Hair Company) and Fiona McCall (Radiance Beauty www.radiancebeauty.co.uk) at 25 Square Road, Halifax to put on a wonderful Hair & Beauty Charity Evening.

Nikki and Fiona and their salon team will be giving up to date fashion advice and practical demonstrations on various topics. You can even volunteer on the night for some of the treatments! The salon (Nikki Collins Hair Company and Radiance Beauty) will both have exclusive Special NHGS Offers for these two nights only (check www.nhgs.co.uk PA link to find out more). So come along with your Christmas present list – because there are sure to be lots of interesting and unusual gift ideas.

There will be an exclusive range of St Tropez French fashion Jewellery on sale on the night – great items at very reasonable prices you just won't be able to resist!

We also have some amazing Raffle Prizes on the night and we will have our lovely Rugby boys to tackle you about buying some Raffle tickets! And everybody will get a 'booty' bag to take home.

This promises to be a great pre-Christmas 'Ladies Night Out' for you and your colleagues and friends. Students/children under 16 years must

be accompanied by an adult. **Tickets are already selling fast** – so if you are interested please get in touch with Petra on 01422 885365 or 07961 006023 to reserve your place/s.

This is an NHGS Parents' Association fund-raising event for the Sixth Form Learning Centre. Registered charity no.1097637

NHGS Christmas Hamper Raffle

Season's greetings – and this year Christmas could be coming to you via an NHGS Christmas Hamper!

Each Form in years 7 to 11 will be creating a Hamper for our Christmas Hamper Raffle. This could be

- **A Christmas Goody Hamper**
- **Chocoholics Hampers**
- **Pretty & Pink Hamper**
- **Car Care Hamper**
- **Pamper Hampers for men and ladies**
- **And many more....**

This is a new fundraising event, which gives each lower school Form a chance to do something collectively involving all the Form members. Students will be asked to donate items, package and display the Hamper. There is to be a prize for the best Hamper created.

This is to be launched after half term when a detailed letter and tickets will be sent home, so please watch out for these.

This is an NHGS fundraising event to raise money for the Sixth Form Learning Centre

PARENTS' CONSULTATION EVENINGS

If you are able to help serve tea and coffee (to parents and staff) at any of these evenings, please indicate which dates on the form at the end of this newsletter and return it to school marked FTAO Helen Simpson (Chair of PA). Or phone me on 01274 883906.

This is a welcome service provided by the PA for parents on the night they see the teachers, 3 or 4 are needed on most evenings, please volunteer for 1 slot.

Grand Raffle 2008

This was a huge fundraising event, organised by the NHGS PA to raise money for the second stage of the new Sixth Form Learning Centre. We would like to thank everybody who bought and sold tickets, and to all the Forms who took part in the 'Grand Raffle Form Incentive'! Over £4000 has been raised in this event.

The prizes are listed below and winning tickets are drawn on 24 October:

1 st Prize	Nintendo Wii Game Console
2 nd Prize	Garmin SatNav
3 rd Prize	Banquet Meal for 4 at Rim Nam Thai Restaurant
4 th Prize	£50 Dining Voucher at Holdsworth House
5 th Prize	Nikki Collins Hair Voucher
6 th Prize	Morphy Richards Big Pod Vacuum Cleaner
7 th Prize	Family Portrait Session
8 th Prize	Signed Halifax Blue Sox Rugby Shirt
9 th Prize	Matching Suitcases
10 th Prize	2 JJB Halifax, Day Passes
11 th Prize	Matsui MP3 Player
12 th Prize	Case of Wine

The NHGS Form who sold the most Raffle Tickets is: **FORM 7(2)**, congratulations to them. They will have the privilege of having a non-uniform day AND an afternoon at **Electric Bowl** Congratulations!

Other forms who deserve a mention are 7(4), 8(5), 9(1). Well Done.
(Winners will be listed on the web site – www.nhgs.co.uk PA Link)

VISIT BY AUTHOR JOANNE HARRIS

"Seven O'clock on a Monday morning, five years after the end of the world, and the goblins had been at the cellar again..." This is the first line of *Runemarks* a new book by best selling author Joanne Harris, who we, and our fellow year eights, had the pleasure of listening to and meeting last Tuesday afternoon.

Ms Harris, author of best selling novel and feature film starring Johnny Depp, *Chocolat*, explained about her passion for gruesome stories of Viking gods as a child, and how as a young adult she wrote her first novel based on them, but it wasn't right for publishing so she went on to write more adult novels.

But, a few years ago when her daughter was young she read the tale of goblins and demons. She was fascinated and wanted more of these stories. So now, several years later Joanne Harris has published her first dark tale of adventure and magic.

Runemarks is about a teenage girl living in a world very different to our own. Where dreams and imagination are strictly banned by *The Order*. Anything or anyone different or unusual is thought of as evil. So unfortunately, for our heroine Maddy, the Runemark engraved on her hand means she is thought of as a Witch, an evil being. So with the help of her only friend *One-eye* can Maddy bring stories of magic and adventure back into the world?

The talk from Joanne Harris left all budding authors inspired and impressed, and her wit and humour made her a pleasure to meet.

We were thrilled to be able to purchase the new book and as a bonus get it signed.

We can't wait to finish *Runemarks* and read some more of her impressive novels.

Roisin McCallion and Alice Whettlock 8(2)

THE ENIGMA PROJECT

On Friday 3 October a man from Cambridge University came into school to teach Year 7 students about code breaking (cryptology), he even brought a real Enigma machine!

An Enigma machine is a code breaker used by the Germans in the Second World War. This one was found after the war in a French battlefield, so it's about 60 years old. He taught us how it worked and how the English broke the German codes using the bombe (which is like the enigma machine, but better), which was very interesting.

After that we split up into groups within our forms to solve codes such as the cipher shift and we had to find out a code name from all the code answers in the puzzles. It was a fun activity and the group who cracked the most codes won a virtual enigma machine on the computer which sounds really good.

Jamie Gwilliam 7(4)

Rim Nam Thai Restaurant – Special Offer to NHGS Parents



Hello, my name is Sam Ran (the lady in the middle), the owner of Rim Nam Thai Restaurant, Butlers Wharf, Hebden Bridge, 01422 846 888.

I would like to offer you a special NHGS Parents' Evening. For you and your friends (for a Parents' Form Evening) we will give you a special price of £9.99 per person for a two-course Thai meal including jasmine rice and tea/coffee. This is for a minimum of 10 people on one reservation 'Early Bird' reservation (start 7.30pm or before), and must be booked in advance. We think Rim Nam would be a lovely place for you to meet new friends and get to know each other. You will love our genuine Thai setting and authentic Thai food served in traditional costume. See you soon!

Making New Friends

In fact some of our Year 7 parents have already taken up on this offer! Following the success of the Wine & Cheese welcome evening, forms 7(1), 7(2), 7(3), 7(4) have met up for a 'Mums' Night Out' at Rim Nams Thai Restaurant. They had a great time, and enjoyed the chance to meet other Mums and find out about school things. It has been so successful, other Year groups have asked about the PA arranging a 'Mummies Night' for them – so we will keep you posted about new dates. If you would like more details just call Petra on 01422 885365.

Conditions: only open to NHGS parents – not transferrable. No photocopies accepted. Available Monday-Thursday Oct/Nov 2008 only. Call Petra on 01422 885365 to obtain your special voucher.

Cheese & Wine Welcome Evening

What a lovely evening! We had a massive response to this event, with over 70 parents attending. All 5 Y7 forms were very well represented. The evening consisted of a short introductory talk from Mr Paul Jervis, Assistant Head Teacher and School Liaison to the PA about the role of the Parents Association at NHGS. Then there was a 'Parents' School Quiz' – a light hearted quiz to see if parents had soaked in all the VERY important school information – for instance, did they know how much a pudding would cost in the school canteen, or even the name of their child's Form Tutor! The Parents of Form 7(1) were the winners, on a tie break, and tucked in to a special Strawberry Cheesecake for their efforts. Mr Maslen gave a short talk about the new 'High Performing Specialist School Status' and asked for feedback from the Year 7 parents. A lot of cheese and a few (!) bottles of wine were consumed and lots of new friends made.

NHGS Parent Prom (Dinner & Dance)

Date: Saturday 21st March
2009
Venue: The Rock Hotel,
Holywell Green,
Halifax
Time: 7.00pm till late
Tickets: £25 per person
Tables: Up to 10 per table

This promises to be a great night out! The newly refurbished Rock Hotel is tucked away in Holywell Green, it is about 3 miles south of Halifax centre and 1 mile from Elland. The Amethyst Suite at The Rock is an ideal setting for this event so remember to put the date in your diary. If you want to have a glamorous night out, then come along In fact why not get a group of friends together (you don't have to be a parent) and book a table of 10?

Couples and singles can be placed with others of the same year.

Why not have a "rugby mums" table, a "football dads" table, a Form table?

To reserve a place call Helen Simpson on 01274 883906 or email helen1simpson@tesco.net.

Booking/confirmation and payment forms will be with the November newsletter.

OPEN EVENING

The school held a very successful Open Evening on October 2nd. Some 268 anonymous questionnaires were returned; the highest ever! This may be the result of some very persuasive engagement by the school's governors who were out in force during the evening. Prospective parents and children from 104 primary and preparatory schools were represented on the evening. About half the people were from Halifax, about a fifth from the Calder Valley, a further fifth from Bradford and smaller numbers from Brighouse, Elland and Huddersfield. These are similar figures to previous years. Exam results, the school's reputation, support given to students and the challenging nature

of its curriculum were cited most frequently as the key factors which might influence parents in their choice of NHGS as a secondary school for their daughter or son. The Prospectus for 2009 (available on the school's website) was ranked good or better by 97% of respondents, whilst prospective parents' and students' impression of NHGS students, staff and the headteacher were all above 94%. There were very many positive comments on the questionnaires of which the following are a small sample:

- Our guide was absolutely excellent! She was polite, informative and very enthusiastic about the school. I have heard good things about the school but meeting her and other pupils gave me the confidence to select this school for my son.
- We had a wonderful guide who put my (nervous) son completely at ease. Loved the welcoming atmosphere and how positively all of the pupils we met felt about the school.
- Very impressed with the transition procedures in place. We were left with the impression that the school cared about the children and their happiness as much as they did about attaining good academic results.
- Really impressed by the helpfulness and friendliness of all staff.
- Headteacher's talk made my mum and dad think of applying themselves!
- Quality environment throughout. Very high standards of teaching, learning and achievement. Thank you for a superb open evening which has opened our eyes to a new world. Hope my daughter gets a place here.
- Although I was already aware of the school, its reputation and some current students, I was unaware of the fantastic opportunities and well balanced offerings above and beyond (ie all the trips). I am no longer concerned about my daughter settling and using this school as her next step to her future. The social and academic environment would obviously suit my daughter to a 'T'. I hope she passes the exam and makes the most of the opportunities you present her with. 'Phenomenal night!'
- The school has given a very welcoming impression and an atmosphere that makes learning fun for the children. A great combination of academic achievement and enjoyment for the children.
- Lovely environment. As soon as we walked in we felt welcome. Plenty to see. Great to see so much participation of students. Everyone very friendly and went out of their way to help talk to us. Children were very impressed.

I would like to thank the Governors for giving up their time and supporting the school, the staff who

organised helpful displays and coped with large numbers of enquiries during what was a long day and the students who acted as guides, subject helpers or (particularly, given the awful weather) the car park supervisors. The Sixth Form Open Evening is being held on November 18th from 6.00 to 8.00.

GPM

KEY STAGE THREE TESTS

Many parents and students will have heard, seen or read in the media that the Secretary of State for Children, Schools and Families has announced that the external tests in English, Mathematics and Science planned for 2009 for all Year 9 students have been scrapped. Ed Balls, in his statement to the House of Commons said, 'Testing, assessment and accountability must encourage and reward the best teaching – so that it properly supports pupils in their learning and development, and schools are judged fairly on how they support the progress and well-being of every child. I believe that there are three key principles that must guide our approach. Our system of testing and assessment should:

- First, give parents the information they need to compare different schools, choose the right school for their child and then track their child's progress;
- Second, enable head teachers and teachers to secure the progress of every child and their school as a whole, without unnecessary burdens or bureaucracy;
- Third, allow the public to hold national and local government and governing bodies to account for the performance of schools.

The testing and assessment system has also supported rising standards in our secondary schools . . . But having looked hard at the current testing regime, we do not believe that the three principles I have set out justify the Key Stage 3 testing arrangements in their current form.

- Parents want to be able to choose the right secondary school for their child and see how their school is performing – but it is usual for them to look at a school's GCSE results to do so.
- Parents also want to be able to track the progress of their children – but the measures we have already announced to improve real-time reporting of progress will mean that parents get much more regular information than just the results of a single national test.
- And head teachers have repeatedly told me that a more flexible system of assessment throughout Key Stage 3 would allow schools to focus their efforts more effectively on

personalised teaching and learning using the flexibility of the new secondary curriculum.

I have considered a shift to 'stage not age' tests in secondary schools, which we have also been piloting at Key Stage 3 over the past year. But the emerging evidence shows that single level tests at Key Stage 3 are not working effectively – so on the advice of the National Assessment Agency, we will now bring the Key Stage 3 piloting of single level tests to an end. I am today announcing that – as part of a wider overhaul of Key Stage 3 assessment – children will no longer be required to sit national tests at age 14. Instead:

- We will ensure every parent receives regular reports on their child's progress in years 7, 8 and 9 and that teachers have the training and support to help every child make good progress.
- We will continue to provide Key Stage 3 test papers to any schools that want to use them internally;
- We will ensure that schools properly focus in years 7 and 8 on the progress of those children who did not reach the expected standard at Key Stage 2, with effective one-to-one tuition and catch-up learning;
- And we will introduce an externally marked test, with a sample of pupils to measure national performance, so that the public can hold government to account'.

For an alternative account you might like to read the Head's Blog for October 20th ([Head's Blog](#)).

What does this mean for the students at NHGS? The students currently in Year 9 will not sit external tests in English, Mathematics or Science, as planned, in May 2009. We have not yet discussed and agreed this in school but it is likely that students will sit tests within the context of normal annual internal exams. These tests will be the same or similar to the end of KS3 exams and will take place during the internal lower school exams which are currently planned for the week beginning May 18th 2009. Teachers will use the information from the tests together with assessment information gathered through the year to make teacher assessments which will be reported to parents in the annual school report at the end of the year. Students in Years 7 & 8 will also not be required to sit external exams in the three core subjects at the end of Year 9 but they will sit internal exams along with all the other subject exams which are timetabled at the end of each year.

GPM

NHGS GIFTED AND TALENTED WEBSITE GOES LIVE! –

<http://vle.nhgs.co.uk/giftedandtalented>

The NHGS Gifted and Talented website has gone live this week. The website contains useful information regarding Gifted and Talented pupil identification, provision and support. The school is asked to identify approximately 10% of the school community as “Gifted” and or “Talented” – the website gives more information regarding this. It is vital to know that we are looking for the “Gifted” and or “Talented” in **this** school, not in relation to the rest of the country; therefore in our Grammar school standards will be high.

Most significant areas for pupils and parents are “Subject checklists” and “Advice for Parents” sections. There is also an opportunity to use the “Nomination Forms” area to nominate an **exceptional** pupil who may be excelling in an area unbeknown to the school currently (this is available to pupils and parents). This form is sent directly to the Gifted and Talented Lead teacher - Miss Tomlin who may investigate further. Go to the website for more information and guidance.

CT

NEW STAFF

We welcome the following member of staff who joined the school in October.

Mr C Stephenson Assistant Caretaker.

NEW RESPONSIBILITIES

The following staff have or will be taking on new responsibilities this term:

Mr R Farr	Enterprise Education Co-ordinator
Mr M Robinson	Sustainability Education Co-ordinator
Miss K Hemingway	Progress Manager for Years 7 & 8 (Maternity Leave Cover)

GPM



Yes – it's hard to believe that our eBay project is now 1 year old!

So far we have auctioned over 700 items, and raised almost £7000! We have auctioned jewellery, clothes, toys, games, ornaments, a dinner service, a heart monitor, cycle helmets, rugby helmets, riding helmets, sportswear, football boots, a carpet, a ships bell, makeup, a rocking chair, perfume, shoes, music books, a dolls house, baby clothes and a brass Pug dog! The response from our parents has been wonderful, and we would like to take this opportunity to say a very big thank you for your help, support and donations.

We will be carrying this on until Christmas – so if you have anything you would like to donate please drop this into school (Front Foyer) or if you have any queries you can call Lesley on 07841 262611 or Cathy on 07776 172150

MOTIVATIONAL SPEAKER

On Wednesday 15 October, well known author Richard McCann, came into school to give the whole of the Sixth Form a motivational speech. Using the letters 'I' from Richard and 'Can' from McCann, he went on to give a dramatic and heartwarming account of his life. Everyone was compelled as he described how he came back from so many traumas in his life, including the killing of his mother by the Yorkshire Ripper and being in prison only 10 years ago. Developing the 'I can' attitude he went on to tell how he is now married with two children and has successfully turned his life around. I think everyone got something out of the morning, I certainly did and I would definitely recommend seeing him talk again in the future.

Stephen Jennings U6(4)

Craft Fayre – over 30 Professional Stalls at NHGS – All Welcome

**Saturday 8th November 2008
10.30am to 2pm**

Why not call in on Saturday 8th and have a look at the wonderful stalls, offering a range of craft items? We have all sorts of crafts – leather goods, wood, cards, books, gifts, soap, honey, marmalade, glassware, chocolates and the PA will be having a **CAKE STALL** – so maybe you can bake us a cake? Cakes can be dropped off either Friday 7th at school, or just bring them with you when you come to the Craft Fayre. A great place to search out Christmas presents, gifts and treats for yourself!

The Dining Room will be open serving lunches and refreshments.

If anyone is able to help on the day, please contact school or offer on the day.

BEAUTY & PAMPERING DAY

Back by popular demand!!!! If you didn't manage to get a place on the Pamper Day in June 2008, you have an opportunity to book yourself (or you and friends for a 'Ladies Day') on the next Pamper Day! And this time we will have a SATURDAY as well – but be quick, we are running out of places!

This is a unique opportunity to spend a whole day totally relaxed in your dressing gown or casual wear. You will be pampered in luxurious surroundings and have a range of special treatments (Bio-detox, Manicure, Pedicure and Massage) throughout the day. Treatments will be carried out by qualified Beauty Therapists from Calderdale College, Halifax.

And if the treatments are just too strenuous, you could just sit by the heated swimming pool or doze on one of the sun loungers. Your gourmet Champagne lunch will be served by our wonderful Halifax Rugby players – but ladies please be gentle with them!

Dates:

~~Wednesday 29th April 2009 – SOLD OUT!~~
Thursday 30th April 2009 – **LIMITED PLACES**
~~Friday 1st May 2009 – SOLD OUT!~~
Saturday 2nd May 2009 – **ONLY A FEW PLACES REMAINING**

Time: 09.30 – 16.30
Venue: Glen Royd, Stocks Lane, Luddenden, HX2 6PR
Early Booking: £99 for booking prior to 1st December 2008
Normal Price: £115 if booked after 2nd December 2008
Phone: 01422 885365 or 07961 006023
Contact: Petra Sweeney

This is an NHGS Parents' Association fund-raising event. Everything will be donated free of charge for the day and we would like to thank everybody for their generosity and kindness.

CHARITY SLAVE AUCTION

Imagine having sixth form students at your beck and call for a whole week! Well that is what some lucky bidders are enjoying this week following our annual slave auction.

Nine groups of slaves were auctioned last Thursday, turning a dull, wet lunchtime into a fun filled bidding frenzy. Compered by the ever entertaining Mr Woods, the total sum raised was £241.43. This will be split between two charities; The Forester's Fund for Children and Overgate Hospice. Thank you to all who supported this event.



Sixth Form Charity Committee

FIVE MINUTE FUNDRAISER

www.easyfundraising.org.uk

Have a look at this site, it's as easy as 1 2 3.

- 1 Register – easy and free, choose NHGS as cause
- 2 Login
- 3 Click retailer link

This raises money for the school and costs you nothing. When you order goods on line you just go via this web site link and your order, treated as a "normal order" by the retailer, could raise from 1%-10% of the total order value as a charity donation for the school. There are also lump sum payments from some retailers- check it out.

There are always great offers, and it's free! Here are just some of the companies that you can buy from – Comet, Woolworths, John Lewis, Amazon, PC World, play.com, NEXT, phones4u, your M&S, Staples, hotels.com, ELC, La Redoute, Littlewoods, Tesco, Grattan, The Body Shop, Freemans – and lots more.

WESTSIDE STORY - SIXTH FORM VISIT

On 7 October, the Sixth Form Music groups went to see a performance of Westside Story at The Lowry in Salford. The evening commenced with a splendid meal at trendy restaurant Lime after which, we walked over to the theatre and took our very purple seats for the musical to begin. It was a menagerie of love, hate and occasional light-hearted mockery - a balance much enjoyed by the audience, not least Kate and Miriam who couldn't help but shed a tear when poor Tony was killed. The musicianship demonstrated by the orchestra was similarly superb and complemented the moods of the scenes perfectly.

I think it's fair to say that the evening was



thoroughly enjoyed by all and no doubt it will pay dividends when we come to study the musical later on in the year.

Thomas Kaye L6(4)

HAWORTH YEAR 7 INDUCTION

We went to Haworth on 22 and 23 September as a form. All the forms went on separate days. We set off Monday lunchtime and arrived in 20 minutes, just in time for lunch!

When we got there we went to our rooms and unpacked. Once we had done that we went straight outside and started doing really fun challenges.

Our first challenge was something called The Spider's Web. We had to get everyone through a big rope spider's web. This improved our communication skills because we had to work together and learn to trust one another. Afterwards we completed many other tasks.

In the morning we woke up at 7.00am and did an hour's walk through Haworth. This trip was really fun and we got to know everyone in our Form.

Fleur Armitage and Phoebe Todd 7(5)

On the 22 and 23 September we stayed, as a Form, in a youth hostel in Haworth. We set off on Monday lunchtime and it took 20 minutes to get there. We went in a yellow bus.

When we got there we went straight into the ballroom then found our room numbers, unpacked, made our beds and were put into groups for some outdoor activities with the Mixenden Outdoor Centre. We had activities like the Spider Web, Human Jenga, Crates and Planks, Rescue the Bomb and then once everyone had finished we went onto another activity and everyone tried to complete a task. They were really fun.

After we finished we went back inside and had tea, did more activities and had time to play board games and go into the games room. Then we had to go upstairs and go to bed ready for a walk around Haworth.

In the morning we had breakfast then got into groups and set off on our walk. We had to answer questions with clues on our sheet which took about an hour and then we went back, packed up, had our lunch and then set off back to school.

Lydia Shoesmith and Georgia Wood 7(5)

VICTORIA THEATRE GRAND CONCERT

“What a wonderful evening!”

“Thank you all for last night’s excellent concert...”

“We enjoyed the outstanding quality”

“The children...should all be congratulated on a superb show”

“We went home with a song in our hearts and a smile on our faces”

These are a selection of quotations from letters I have received from members of the audience at our Grand Concert at the Victoria Theatre on Monday 20th October.

I was immensely proud of each and every one of the 275 NHGS students who took part in this concert, not only for their truly amazing musical performances but also for their professionalism throughout the final rehearsal and their presentation in the evening.

It was also a great pleasure to work with the Ravenscliffe Music Crew and Signing Choir and a delight to see their sheer enjoyment and enthusiasm during their performances.

It is difficult to pick out any one item from such an enjoyable programme and I’m sure that everyone who attended will have their own personal favourite but, without doubt, the one that brought a tear to everyone’s eye was “Can You Hear Me” by Bob Chilcott performed by the combined NHGS Choirs accompanied by the Ravenscliffe Signing Choir.

Finally, I just want to say thank you to all the NHGS and Ravenscliffe staff that helped to make this event so successful.

GJE

The North Halifax Grammar School
Craft Fayre – Baking Volunteers
Saturday 8 November 2008



Name: Tel No:.....

Item(s) to be baked:

Name of student contact..... Form

**Please return this slip FAO Mr Jervis
 Thank you.**

✂.....

The North Halifax Grammar School
PARENTS' CONSULATATION EVENINGS

My Name:.....

Contact Number:.....

Helen will ring to remind you nearer the date.

Date(s)	Time I am able to help between 5 and 8pm	Please ✓ the evening you are able help.
Tuesday 25 th November 2008	L6	
Monday 1 st December 2008	Y10	
Tuesday 13 th January 2009	U6	
Thursday 29 th January 2009	Y11	
Tuesday 10 th February 2009	Y7	
Thursday 5 th March 2009	Y9	
Wednesday 18 th March 2009	Y8	