

School News

ENIGMA DAY

On Friday 9th November, a mathematician came into our school with an Enigma machine.

In the presentation we learnt about different types of codes and the history behind them. We also learnt about the functions of the Enigma machine and how to use it to send messages. For example if you typed in the letter A it could become any letter even itself.

After the presentation, we were given three different stages of codes to crack. Green was easy codes, yellow a bit harder and red the hardest.

There were some codes that you could instantly understand but some others you had to work a bit more on. Some of the symbols for the codes were very strange, like figures dancing, whereas some were just numbers or letters.

Overall I definitely enjoyed the day. I even learnt some new methods about breaking down the codes which makes them easier to crack.

Sorcha Haggath 7(4)

All I can say is it was great fun. When the enigma project came to NHGS I saw Maths in a new light. We came down into an presentation and listened to the wacky and wonderful history of code breaking, like, for example, the Spartans used to send messages by shaving a slave's head and writing the message then waiting until the hair had grown back and sent him off to the person who was receiving the message then, once again, they would shave the slave's hair and read the message.

We then heard about the history of the Enigma machine. This included information about its rotor, depending on the date and weather, determined the way the code is made. If you press one letter twice in the same word of a code the enigma does not use the same letter, it uses a different one just to confuse you. Soon after, we looked at the master cipher maker and we then looked at the Bombe, a special machine made by the British at Bletchley Park to crack codes. GCHQ is now a place where all the magic of Maths is worked. The best code breakers go there. It is a very mysterious place, in the job interviews you're not allowed to ask about the things you would be doing in the position once you

The North Halifax
Grammar School



NHGS News

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worked there, you had to sign the Special Secrets Act.

After this we went to do our workshop on code breaking which was really fun. You could either work in pairs or on your own. There was a mixture of codes to break.

In all, it was a brilliant day and was a great way to get children interested about Maths.

Will Hayes 7(4)

YEAR 9 CITIZENSHIP DAY

On Friday 20th November, all Year 9 students were off timetable for the annual Citizenship Day. The students worked in groups of between six and nine to prepare and deliver a bid to host the 2020 Olympic Games in their allocated country. Students were given a pack of information on their country, but were also expected to carry out additional research on aspects such as political and cultural issues as well as information on climate, physical geography and the economy. This information then formed the basis for the group presentations in the afternoon; heats for each form followed by the grand final in the Hall.



The grand final was made up of Sweden, Argentina, Mexico, Australia, Egypt and Morocco and was judged by Mr Maslen and Mr Wood. The quality of the final presentations was excellent this year and the final was won by a group of students from 9(3) who were representing Mexico.

Many thanks to all Year 9 students, the Student Progress Tutors, Mr Crossland, Mr Maslen and Mr Wood who all contributed to a very successful and enjoyable day.



JLJ

Citizenship day; a day where we would come to school, dressed as if we were going to work in an office to put together a presentation for a specific country's bid to host the 2020 Olympic Games. It was to be a day of teamwork, creativity and professionalism. The aims of the day were for us to learn new things, be sensible and have a 'grown-up' experience.

Our form tutors read out the groups we were in and told us the country which we would be working on. Our group was given Mexico. I was pleased at this because I knew that there were many aspects of Mexico that we could adapt into our presentations. So we gathered together in our allocated groups and discussed ideas. Of course, everybody had their ideas of what they wanted to include in the presentation: Mexican music, Doritos and a large cactus were just some of the suggestions. We then sorted out who would be doing what towards the presentation. I was given the task of researching the country's national anthem, so I set about trying to find it on the web. My efforts were successful and I managed to download the anthem ready for us to play on the day. As well as finding the national anthem, I was given the job of learning a Mexican song on my guitar. I learnt 'The Mexican Hat Dance' because I thought it would fit in well with our presentation.

So the day had arrived. I came to school, dressed in smart clothes and joined the other pupils who were dressed in similar attire. The morning bell rang and, armed with bags of Doritos and the

large Cactus, we were ready to begin the day of preparation. We went to our allocated rooms and began our work. Our first task was to make a big banner, showing our slogan in both English and Spanish. However, as well as all the creative business, we had a lot of research to compile regarding the country's facilities, sports stars and general culture. With only three passes to access the ICT rooms, we had to use our time wisely. We used the first pass to make an emblem for our bid, the second to research the aspects we wanted to put in and the third to edit, finalise and type up the script. With only a short break in the morning and a break for lunch, the day's work was fairly long and quite challenging, but very interesting at the same time. At about 12:50, we had a final run through of the presentation. It started off with me playing the song on my guitar, followed by the group each reading lines from the script and ended with the national anthem playing; all while the banner was being held up and our cactus mascot was propped up behind us. It was important that we read the information with enthusiasm and fluency, so everyone put in maximum effort. It seemed that everything was running smoothly and we were ready for the heats.

So we went and performed our bid and watched the other two groups from our form. The others both did very well and when the judges read out that Mexico would be going through to the final, our whole group was pleased and excited. So we went to the hall, performed our presentation and watched the other presentation. The other groups' presentations were exceptional, everyone did extremely well. It was now time for the winner to be announced. Mr Maslen gave a short speech about the day and then the winning group was to be announced. The tension was mounting up: "The winning group is...Mexico!" Well, everyone in our group suddenly became ecstatic! We went up onto the stage to shake Mr Maslens hand and collected our prizes, each one of us feeling a sense of pride and happiness. Overall, citizenship day was a day enjoyed by all and we learnt many new things. In my opinion, it was a very successful event. Oh, and in case you're wondering, the cactus was called Carlos.

Harry Roper 9(3)

NHGS Parent Prom
Saturday 20th March 2010
 at Bradford Bulls Stadium
A sporting setting for our
Sports Pitch Fundraising
 Details in December and January
 Newsletters – but make a note
 of the date!

M&S Christmas Shoppers Needed!

Will you be Christmas shopping in November, and possibly spending more than £35.00? The PA has several M & S vouchers that entitle the shopper to a £5 discount if they spend £35.00 or more during November. If you could spend these for us (!!!) and give the PA the £5 discount back it would be really helpful. The £5's are used by the PA to buy raffle prizes, coffee/biscuits for Parent's evenings and fundraising events. If you can help, please send in an envelope with £5 in, marked with your name, child's name & form and telephone number, and hand in to Mrs. Beverley at Reception. We will then forward the M&S voucher to you.

AUTUMN CONCERT

On Thursday 22nd October our Autumn Concert was held in the school hall in front of a large and appreciative audience. The swing band, soul band, string orchestra and senior choir performed magnificently and they were supported by some superb performances by the smaller ensembles including the double reed group, flute group, clarinet and sax groups, guitar ensemble, percussion ensemble and the brass group.

CHRISTMAS MUSICAL EVENTS

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Thu. 10 th December | The Concert Band will be playing seasonal music in the Westgate Arcade, Halifax, 4.00 – 6.00 p.m. |
| Fri. 11 th December | Friday Recital in MR1, 3.15 p.m. |
| Tue. 15 th December | Carol Services at Halifax Minster
2.00 p.m. for students
7.15 p.m. for parents and friends |
| Thu. 17 th December | The Handbell ringers will be playing seasonal music in |

the Westgate Arcade,
Halifax, 5.00 p.m. –
7.00 p.m.

DEBATING SOCIETY

Last year, I supported the Sixth Form debating teams and we participated in two competitions – the Daniel Nelstrop and the Cambridge Union. Although we were unsuccessful at the Cambridge Competition, Kathy Ryland, Morrison Brown, Emily King and Sophie Smith were undeterred and, taking on board the feedback that they had been given, went on to improve their debating skills leading to a win in the first round of the Daniel Nelstrop.

Encouraged by their experiences, and determined to do even better this year, they have helped to develop a debating society in school and a range of students from years 10-13 and staff (Mr McKay, Miss Ashwood and myself) have been taking part in regular meetings on a Thursday lunchtime.

In the first formal debate, chaired by Emily King, Kathy Ryland and Mark Holmes argued the proposition that obese children should be sent to exercise camps and be forced to lose weight. They beat David Greenwood and Thomas Platt who opposed the motion.

The second motion was “This house believes that humans should allow natural selection to take place.” Morrison Brown and Duncan Lomax created a strong case against the interference of human beings but were narrowly beaten by Sophie Smith and John Finnerty who produced some strong examples to support their points.

The third debate was a run-through for the Cambridge Union Schools Debating competition, where two teams argued for and two teams argued against the proposition that “This house would ban the consumption of meat...” Sara Roebuck’s account of the actual debate that took place at Bradford Grammar School follows below. Rhiannon Barrow, Vanessa White and Mark Holmes joined Sara at the event on 6th November.

Last week, John Finnerty and Sophie Beverley attempted to persuade us to support the motion that “This house would make voting compulsory. However, Rose Wyatt and Morrison Brown managed to defeat them with a very well-structured argument emphasising the importance of education over enforcement.

It has been really pleasing to see the increased enthusiasm and commitment to the debating in school and participation by members of Year 10 and

11. What we learned last year from our experiences is that practice really does make perfect. We were astounded to watch a Year 8 boy from a private school speak with the confidence and accomplishment of a parliamentarian. He then kindly reassured our sixth form teams that they had done very well for a “first debate”. (He didn’t win the debate – but the fact that he had been practising since Year 5 showed.) With that in mind, we hope that regular debating in school will lead to our students developing the confidence and flair needed for success in the Oxford Union, English Speaking Union and Manchester University Debating competitions that we will be participating in this year.

If you are interested in taking part in debates, please speak to Mr McKay, Miss Ashwood or myself.

ALK

“THIS HOUSE WOULD BAN THE CONSUMPTION OF MEAT”

First Round of the Cambridge Union Schools’ Debating Competition.

After being seated in front of two nervous and rather sweaty-looking Bradford Grammar School boys, I thought to myself, rather smugly, “piece of cake”. Little did I know that they had the speaking capabilities of a new and upcoming David Cameron. Although the motion seemed simple enough: This House would ban the consumption of meat, and both Mark Holmes and I (proud meat-eaters) got to oppose the motion, little did we realise how hard it actually was. Compared to our new over-confident private school friends, we really weren’t good enough. To stand up and present an argument for 5 minutes straight had unfortunately reduced me to a clammy dry-mouthed mess. We came a poor second but Miss Kent reassured us that it was “all good practice”.

It was definitely an experience and, it was fair to say, during the second debate (“This house would ban racist political parties”) I felt more confident, but terrifying was a good adjective to use to describe my first debating experience.

Sara Roebuck L6(2)

PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

The AGM will be held on Wednesday 3 February at 8pm in school.

Accounts to 31 August 2009 will be presented and the election of officers will take place. All parents are welcome to this AGM and any PA meeting.

MEETINGS

Wednesday 6 January 2010 7.30pm-9.30pm
Wednesday 3 February 2010 7.30pm
Followed by AGM at 8pm

LIQUID NIGHT OUT/BAR 11 "MUMS AND DADS SOCIAL NIGHT"

The Annual Christmas Disco at **LIQUID** for Years 7 and 8, 9 and 10 students will be on Monday 14th December this year.

The PA has arranged an informal evening 'gathering' for all parents who would like to kill an hour or two whilst awaiting the end of the "Liquid session". We have booked BAR 11 for our exclusive use (it's usually shut on a Monday evening). Pop in to Bar 11 and have a drink and chat to other parents. We may even have a festive light hearted Quiz for the evening. Bar 11 is only a 3 minute walk away from **LIQUID** so it is very convenient.

If you just turn up on the night that will be absolutely fine – we look forward to seeing you, anytime between 6 and 10.30pm.

If you want further information or if you would like us to meet you near Liquid, please call Helen Simpson on 01274 883906.

Bar 11, Harrison Road, Halifax, HX1 2AF

If it fits in for other students to wait a short while for their time, they can come along to Bar 11 too.

Out of Liquid, turn left, follow path about 100m (Victoria Theatre on your right over the road) turn left down Harrison Rd and Bar 11 is about 20m on you left.

This is an NHGS PA Social event

YEAR 7 FORENSIC SCIENCE 'A CASE OF IDENTITY' WORKSHOP

On Wednesday 4th November, Year 7 took part in a forensic Science activity. A forensic scientist came over from Australia. We had to solve the murder of Sally. She brought in evidence, which we used to narrow it down to three people. The evidence we used included Sally's skirt, DNA and the fingerprints from her coke can. Three volunteers came up pretending to be the three remaining suspects: ex-boyfriend, friend from University and an electrician from Sally's school. We then found out that the ex-boyfriend wore a wool jumper and wool was found on her skirt. The electrician was found running from the scene. Finally the friend's fingerprints were found on the bottle that killed her. He later confessed that he wanted to be more than just friends with Sally. Also Sally was rich and the police believe that she was attacked for those reasons. The friend was sentenced, has served his time and has been released. He still lives in Australia where this case happened. We enjoyed the activity and found it really interesting.

Peter Ashton and Richard Greenwood 7(4)

GB CYCLIST HANNAH MAYHO VISITS NHGS

Ex student and now professional cyclist Hannah Mayho took time out of her busy schedule to come into school to meet with our current PE Gifted and Talented cohort. Hannah talked about her rise from recreational cyclist to now professional athlete. Hannah currently lives in Manchester within the British cycling team, rubbing shoulders with the likes of Victoria Pendleton and Chris Hoy on a daily basis! She trains six days a week, often twice a day.

Hannah showed a slide show of her "best bits" so far, including an impressive medal haul. NHGS students enjoyed the opportunity to ask Hannah questions, ranging from what she eats day-to-day to what she looks forward to doing on her days off. Hannah kindly donated one of her GB competition suits to the school, which will be mounted and displayed in the PE area. Hannah has her sights firmly set on London 2012 and we look forward to seeing her take the necessary steps to make that dream a reality. Good luck Hannah – NHGS waits with baited breath for its first ever Olympian!?

CT



Hannah Mayho with the PE Gifted and Talented cohort

U15 CALDERDALE HOCKEY TOURNAMENT 2009

On Thursday 12th November the NHGS U15 hockey team took part in their annual Calderdale tournament hosted by Ryburn Valley High School. The girls were in a pool of 3 teams and were due to play 2 matches of twenty five minutes one way. Having won the tournament last year, the girls were keen to retain their title.

The first match saw NHGS take on Brooksbank. This was a tough first match with both teams keen to gain a good start in the tournament. NHGS took the upper hand early on with two quick goals from Charlie Moss; one from a penalty corner and the second through a neat passing move from left to right involving Sophie Hardy and Luan Swainbank, finished off by Moss. Brooksbank came back scoring two goals of their own to level things as the NHGS team was caught napping; distracted on one occasion by a heavy fall from an opposing player. Moss completed her hat trick to move NHGS ahead once more, only to be cancelled out late on in the game, resulting in a 3-3 draw.

NHGS were straight back on to play their final pool match versus Holy Trinity. This was a much more solid performance from the team, having warmed up from the first game. NHGS came out as 2-0 winners

with goals from Charlie Moss and a rebound from Luan Swainbank.

As a result of these matches NHGS advanced to the semi-finals of the tournament as pool winners. Here they faced Sowerby Bridge. The NHGS team dominated this encounter with 2 goals from Swainbank and another from Moss. The first goal came following a lovely one-two between Sophie Hardy and Charlie Moss, then Moss picked out Swainbank on the back post for her to sweep the ball home. The second goal was a spectacular effort from Charlie Moss undercutting the ball from the top of the D, leaving the Sowerby bridge goalkeeper with no chance. The third and final goal followed a similar pattern to the first with Charlie Moss picking out Luanne Swainbank on the back post to seal the win for NHGS. Solid performances in goal from Alice Buckle and in defence from Ella Davies kept the "clean sheet".

On to the final versus old rivals Rishworth. The NHGS team had beaten Rishworth on flicks last year to win the U14 tournament so they were keen to make amends this time around. The game started at a very high tempo with Rishworth using the new "self-pass" rule to their advantage. Dogged defensive work from all of the back four as well as Buckle in goal kept Rishworth shots to a minimum and NHGS attempted to hit their opposition on the break.

Charlotte Greenwood was a woman possessed as she made countless crunching tackles to gain possession back for the team in red. The NHGS chance came following the upgrade of possession in the final third of the pitch with NHGS gaining a penalty corner. A well executed routine saw Charlie Moss thump the ball home from a straight strike into the bottom right hand corner of the goal, leaving the goalkeeper stranded; 1-0 NHGS. The match remained tight with Rishworth searching for the equalizer, going close on several occasions. Alice Buckle made several key saves late on in the game to preserve the advantage. On the whistle Rishworth gained a penalty corner which under the rules had to be taken. It allowed the whole Rishworth team to come around the edge of the D to try and convert. NHGS needed to clear the ball out to win the game and retain the title of Calderdale champions for the second year in the row. A lightening quick run out from Ella Davies shut down the ball at the top of the D and it was quickly dispatched from the circle without a real threat to the goal. Final score NHGS 1 Rishworth 0!

Congratulations to the U15 team who retain their Calderdale title for the second year in a row.

Special mention must go to Charlie Moss who was voted as player of the tournament!

The team was: Alice Buckle (GK), Ella Davies, Rachel Cole, Charlotte Greenwood, Sophie Hardy (captain), Luan Swainbank, Charlie Moss and Isobel Mooney.

CT

CHRISTMAS HAMPER RAFFLE

By now you should have received your letter and raffle tickets for the Christmas Hamper Raffle.

This is to be drawn on 11 December so please return stubs and money as soon as possible. Don't forget that the form who sells the most tickets receives an afternoon of bowling!

PARENTS' ASSOCIATION PRIZE DRAW WINNERS

October Prize Draw

1st	£150	5	A & M Moore	Halifax
2nd	£75	145	Mr G Rowntree	Hipperholme
3rd	£25	81	Justine Mellor	Ripponden

GREASE 11-13 NOVEMBER 2009

The course of true love never runs straight and this love story is no exception. Luckily for us it meanders through a forest of magnificent 1950's inspired songs until finally Danny 'Too Cool for School' Zuko gets the girl, Sandy 'Goody Two Shoes' Dumbrowski, in this classic tale of boy meets girl.

Sammi Wright's sensitive portrayal of Sandy as a rather gauche misfit threw Patrick McCallion's brash Danny Zuko into sharp relief. Their relationship was sometimes touching, sometimes funny, sometimes uncomfortable and often all three at once.

However, Grease was more of an ensemble piece. The Pink Ladies, led by the ebullient Betty Rizzo (Fran Verity), appeared street-wise but with an engaging naivety. Fran's version of "There are worse things I could do" was worthy of the West End. This was even more amazing because Fran struggled through all three performances with a heavy cold. The way Fran handled the part of Rizzo made a character out of a caricature and contributed greatly to the success of the show.

Jessica Ramsey and Lauren Barraclough played the slightly comic roles of Jan and Frenchy with style and panache. They are consummate professionals and were a delight to work with in rehearsals. Rose Wyatt played Marty and delivered a tongue in cheek portrayal of a teenager who is not quite as sophisticated as she'd like to think. Rose's expression and timing in the reprise of "Freddy My Love" were exquisite.

Doody (Jacob Simpson), Roger (Lee Fountain) and Sonny La Tierri (Josh Varley) formed the Burger Palace Boys along with Kenickie (John Finnerty). The smooth way they performed on stage reflected the hours of work they put into rehearsals. Sonny's relationship with Miss Lynch (Sarah Payne) provided some of the shows more comic moments. "Rock and Roll Party Queen" is a throwaway song which is really only there to cover a scene change but Lee and Jacob's harmonies with John on guitar made it into a stand out part of the show.

Abi Wood as Patty Simcox was impressive. She played the catty cheerleader to perfection and developed a good on-stage chemistry with Danny. She was ably supported by our nascent cheerleading squad. They were also dancers for the show and their enthusiasm and commitment was first class.

Danny Wilson played the part of Eugene with a light touch. He avoided the stereotypical nerd and instead played Eugene as a straightforward college student with a talent for singing. He sang "Magic Changes"

with a knowing wink to the songs of the time and he brought out the humour in the song.

There were several excellent cameo appearances. Siarlot Lloyd as Julie Casino rocked the house with "Shaking at the High School Hop". Siarlot is capable of tasteful vocal gymnastics and used this to good effect on both her songs. She exuded 'attitude' on stage and made a big contribution to the show. Lauren Gordon as the gum chewing cynic, Cha-Cha de Gregorio, delivered a well structured and flamboyant dance routine to win the dance competition as Siarlot sang "Born to Hand Jive".

Lucy J Robinson was billed as the Prom Night Singer. This bland title does not do justice to the beautiful "Raining on Prom Night" which she sang as a duet with Sammi. I heard this song many times in rehearsal and during the shows and it became my favourite part of the show.

The part of Teen Angel was played masterfully by Tom Ramsey whose irreverent "Beauty School Drop Out" was a moment of comic genius.

Chris Buttrick played Vince Fontaine with a mix of showbiz and creepiness which created a much darker character than Vince usually is portrayed as. Vince's charm worked on Miss Lynch and they made an unlikely couple in the end.

Musical direction was by the uber-talented Matthew MacGregor. He approached the songs sympathetically and welcomed the "It's only Rock and Roll" philosophy with open arms. His band was extremely professional and produced a stunning accompaniment with minimal rehearsal. The backstage crew were magnificent and showed initiative and commitment. Special mention to Freddy Vinehill-Cliffe who handled a fairly complex sound plot faultlessly.

The real star of the show was Greased Lightning. The car onstage was created by Mr Illingworth of the Technology Department. It was crafted from cardboard and wood and was made to the highest standards. Mr Illingworth's talents are beyond praise and we are lucky to have him in the school.

A special name check goes to Kathy Ryland. Kathy was a director of this show and made many valuable suggestions and changes to the production. She was also stage manager and ran a tight ship. However, a fact I bet she never knew, was that her enthusiasm and drive was inspirational to us all in the weeks running up to the show.

Many students, parents and staff played a role in putting this show together. Mrs Hunt, Mrs Beverley, Mrs Kneller and Miss Ryan put together costume on a shoestring. Mr Spreadborough and Miss Duffy

organised Front of House and Refreshments. Thanks also to Mrs Ransome, Mrs Taylor, Mrs Holloway and Ms Robbins for ticket sales and publicity.

The directors are intensely proud of the cast and crew of Grease and would like to thank them for their commitment. We would also like to thank their parents for supporting the production and transporting them to and from rehearsals.

Finally we would like to thank the members of the School community who took the time to come to this production. We hope to see you again and that you will bring your friends next time.

OJC

MUSIC CONCERT 21 NOVEMBER

A Parents' Association fundraising event.

This was a cabaret style evening with entertainment provided by the school music groups. About 200 people attended the event and were treated to a great evening of music with a light supper and the bar staff were kept busy as usual.

There was a raffle and a stall selling books, DVDs and games. The audience highlight seemed to be Mr Ellin's "12 days of Christmas" song with some very enthusiastic audience participation.

A HUGE thank you to all involved, musicians, staff, caterers and everyone who contributed with prizes and their time to make this another successful event.

The amount raised was £1300, which is fantastic.

Helen Simpson
Chair of the Parents' Association

TRIP TO BARCELONA

On the 21st October the North Halifax Grammar School organised its first trip to Barcelona. The trip lasted 6 days and students had the opportunity to enjoy and experience the Spanish culture at first hand.

This proved to be a very successful trip and year 11, 12 and 13 students showed their enthusiasm speaking the language with the locals. The activities were very varied and included the following:

Visit to las Ramblas, the most famous pedestrian and commercial street in Barcelona, the Aquarium, the Nou Camp Stadium, Park Guell, and Sagrada Familia Cathedral from the architect Dali, the Roman Ruins of Ampuries, the Dali Museum in Figueres,

Poble Espanyol (Spanish Village) and Port Aventura which is one of the best theme parks in Europe.



Furthermore, we also saw the Magic Fountains of Montjuic, a great show of water, music and colour, we ate in a wonderful restaurant in the centre of Barcelona one night and we played volley-ball in the beach. We also played bowling and mini golf on one of the last nights.

Overall, it was a great trip and the weather made it even more successful with 24 degrees every day, quite warm.



We stayed in a great hotel called Hotel Vila in Calella, which is a small town near Barcelona. The food was very healthy and varied and there was a big choice of different local dishes which students had the chance to taste.

JMG

"The final visit of the day was to the fountain show. It was really good because as the fountain was going, different coloured lights lit up the water and powerful music was played too. We

watched for about an hour and then went to a restaurant in Barcelona that the teachers had booked for us. It was a buffet with pasta, pizza and ice-cream, it was really tasty. The meal was an appropriate end to our first day in Barcelona which was amazing!"

Miles Brown L6.3

"On the third day we began with a stop at the Nou Camp, Barcelona Football Club's home ground. The stadium is the biggest in Europe and the 11th largest stadium in the world. The stadium was really impressive and looks even bigger that it did on the T.V. It was really hot and not a cloud in the sky, it hit 28 degrees at one point!!

Mark Holmes L6.4

"On the fourth day of the Barcelona trip we started off in the Roman Ruins of Empuries. This had to be the hottest day yet. We had an American guide who was very passionate about the ruins. It was actually very interesting to learn about the Roman and Greek way of life, but by the end I think that the heat had got to everyone and we retreated to the museum out of the sun."

Ciara Lennon L6.8

"After we had eaten our tea we had some Bowling and Crazy golf as a surprise. year 11 and 6th form split up and swapped over bowling and golf, they were both great but golf had to be funniest. It was a great night :) Thanks!!!"

Freya Harrison L6.6

Today we went to PortAventura, a theme Park. It took around 2 hours to get there but we passed the time by singing. Looking at the big rides some people got a bit scared... There were some brilliant rides such as "Dragon Khan" which has 8 loops and "Furious" which was a high speed rollercoaster. "Hurricane Condor" was a huge tower from which you were dropped from an incredible height, it was so scary.

Danica Thoseby 11.6

"Over all it has been a brilliant day and a good way to end this awesome trip!

Sophie Clayton 11.6



School Term Dates 2010 – 2011

Autumn Term		
	Wednesday 1 September 2010	Staff Training Day
School Opens	Thursday 2 September 2010	
School Closes	Friday 22 October 2010	Half Term
School Opens	Monday 1 November 2010	
Two Training Days	TBC	
	TBC	
School Closes	Friday 17 December 2010	Christmas Holidays
Spring Term		
School Opens	Tuesday 4 January 2011	
School Closes	Friday 18 February 2011	Half Term
School Opens	Monday 28 February 2011	
School Closes	Friday 15 April 2011	Easter Holidays
Summer Term		
School Closed	Monday 2 May 2011	May Day
School Opens	Tuesday 3 May 2011	
School Closes	Friday 27 May 2011	Spring Bank Holiday
School Opens	Monday 6 June 2011	
School Closes	Tuesday 19 July 2011	Summer Holidays