

# School News

## Year 7 trip to Fountains Abbey

On 8<sup>th</sup> June we went to Fountains Abbey in North Yorkshire. It was a great trip and we all learned lots.

We started by registering at school, then we got on the buses and set off to the Abbey. When we arrived at the Abbey we separated into our groups. We then went to the place where we were given our habits, like the monks wore, only theirs would have been made from wool which would have been itchy as they wore no underwear.



We then proceeded to the Abbey gates where we learnt the criteria the Abbey had for men wanting to join the Abbey; they had to be men, young and either able to work in the field or write and read in Latin. They also had to wait outside the Abbey gate for a few days to ensure they were not actually criminals on the run, before they could enter the Abbey and enrol as a monk. Then we saw the area where the monks prayed; this included the hall, the arched window, graves of abbots, the place where the altar would be and a tower. This was unusual as Fountains Abbey was a Cistercian Abbey, and so should not have had a tower. We then saw a crack in the Abbey wall that had been covered with a bust of an angel inside but a green man outside, even though these figures did not appear in the Christian faith, but in pagan beliefs. We then continued our tour and saw the cloister, refectory and the room for storing documents, before entering the Chapter House. There we had to look for symbols on the bricks that turned out to be masons' marks; these were used to see which stone blocks were made by which stone mason, to see who got paid what. We were then given a display of some sins and their

The North Halifax  
Grammar School



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punishments. We continued into the Cellarium, which was the Abbey's version of a cellar as it was very dry. It was also below the lay brothers' dormitories and had their toilets in it, these consisted of a perch hole above the river. This is also one of the reasons that they drank from the fountains and not the river. Then we returned our habits and ate our lunch in the Cellarium, as it had started to rain. In the afternoon we went to look round the Porter's Lodge Museum, which used to be home to the Porter who would give clothes and food to the poor at the Abbey gates.



We learnt that the Abbey was founded in 1132 after monks in an Abbey in York had a disagreement on how the Abbey should be run. Some wanted a comfortable life and some wanted stricter rules, so they left and formed Fountains Abbey, because it had a river and fountains for water, trees for wood, and small cliffs for the stone. They started by building wooden buildings that were converted to stone once the Abbey joined the Cistercian order in 1135. We then went

to the Mill Museum where we learnt about how the Abbey supplied itself with food and water, how they ground their own flour and how the dissolution of the monasteries affected the Abbey. Then we returned to the buses and went home.

**Nathan Greenwood 7(2)**

## **Children's Laureate 2011-1013 Announcement Event**

On 7<sup>th</sup> June my mum and I attended the announcement event for the new Laureate in Kings Place, London. This invite was a prize for an on-line competition I had undertaken during a library lesson. I was one of 4 nationwide winners asked to interview the new Laureate.

Our day began when we were met by a representative from the 'Booktrust'. We had reserved seating in a hall which was packed full of authors, previous Laureate winners, journalists and photographers all anxiously anticipating the heavily guarded secret of who would be the new Laureate.

Before the announcement we were treated to several speeches from a variety of people, including Anthony Browne, the Children's Laureate 2009-2011. He spoke about where he had visited and what he felt his achievements had been during his reign as the Laureate. Baroness Floella Benjamin was very entertaining as she described how she first met the new laureate, Julia Donaldson, when Julia was writing songs for 'playschool'. This was a children's TV programme, which my mum knew all about and she was very excited when we met Floella after the ceremony.

Julia Donaldson, most famous for 'The Gruffalo' book read a very funny poem she had written listing all the previous laureates. She described her ambitions for her new role and commented on her displeasure at the plans for library closures.

After the ceremony we were led to the Green Room, where we were able to interview Julia whilst being filmed for the Guardian's Children's website.

We were also interviewed for BBC Radio 4, which was very nerve racking.



Overall, it was a very tiring but exciting experience which I thoroughly enjoyed.

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**Joshua 7(1)**

### **Year 10 Rounders Tournament**

Team- Kate Machon (Captain), Kizzie Johnson, Izzy Gregson, Jen Lees, Emily Clough, Roisin MacCallion, Molly Shaw, Eve Collett, Phoebe Hornsby, Phoebe Hendy, Emily Whyman and Fram Szworadi.

The year 10 team played in the group stages of the tournament and the results were as follows:

NHGS 3-3 St Catherines  
NHGS 5 ½ - 4 ½ Brighthouse  
NHGS 1 ½ - 4 Crossleys  
NHGS 3- 2 ½ Park Lane  
NHGS 5-6 ½ Sowerby Bridge

The first match against St Catherines was a very close game with both teams scoring 3 rounders each. We still had all our players in at the end of the innings, but we caught three of their players out, with fantastic fielding by Roisin, Kate and Jen.

The second match against Brighthouse was another close match. We began fielding first and Kizzie made two fantastic catches to put the opposition under more pressure. They scored 4 ½ and then it was our turn to bat. Phoebe Hendy and Phoebe Hornsby both scored full rounders, with half rounders being scored by Kate, Roisin, Phoebe Hornsby, Mollie and Kizzie.

Crossleys beat us in our third match. Roisin scored a rounder and Fran scored a half.

The fourth match was played against Park Lane. Kizzie had a fantastic match-scoring 2 full rounders and catching two people out. Molly and Jen both scored half a rounder each, and other catches were made by Izzy, Jen and Roisin.

Our final match was against Sowerby Bridge. Roisin, Kizzie and Phoebe Hornsby scored one rounder each and Jen scored two.

Well done to the year 10 team.

**KDB**

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### **Year 9 Calderdale Rounders Tournament**

On Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> May the Y9 rounders team went to the Heath to take part in their annual Calderdale rounders tournament.

The girls were in a tough pool but made massive improvements as the tournament went on. They played Brooksbank in the first match, narrowly losing by half a rounder on the last ball of the game. The second game was against Ryburn finishing in a draw. The girls quickly learned from their previous close matches and went on to beat Holy Trinity 8 ½ rounders to 3 ½ and Halifax High 8 ½ rounders to 7 ½ . Impressive performances came from Ellen Campsall – scoring a high number of rounders with some powerful hits far into the deep field. Ellen also performed well with the ball; bowling impressively, making it hard for her opponents to hit the ball. Taylor Bray and Katy Walsh also found success with the bat and scored some excellent full rounders.

From these results the girls progressed to the semi final (for the first time ever!) . Here they met Crossley Heath. The girls battled well against a very slick, well drilled CHS side. Crossley's managed to get the whole NHGS team out within the 20 ball innings; the NHGS girls scored 4 rounders . The Crossley's team stepped up to bat and were able to hit far and long causing us problems in the deep field. Crossleys went on to score 6 ½ rounders taking them through to the final.

The girls are to be congratulated for an excellent performance. The team were:

Ellen Campsall  
Naomi Dyer (captain)  
Abi Langton  
Lizzie Wilkinson  
Katy Walsh  
Faye Ilsley  
Alex Rose  
Emily Munz  
Phoebe Todd  
Taylor Bray  
Beth Hill

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**CT**



## **The Dropping off and Collecting of Students by Parents**

Can I please once again re-iterate to parents that the dropping off and collecting of students in the school car park is strictly forbidden.

As clearly stated in the 'School Handbook for Students and their Parents', cars transporting students to school **must not** be driven into the school grounds in order to allow them to alight.

Similarly cars collecting students from school **should not** come into the school yard for collection at 3.00pm at the main entrance.

Your child's safety is paramount to the school and by not adhering to our request you are putting their safety and indeed the safety of other students and the staff who work at the school in danger.

Please drop your daughter or son off in a nearby street not adjacent to the school. Arrange a convenient picking-up point in the afternoon away from the school site. There is a School Crossing Patrol service which the students can use across Moorbottom Road.

Thank you for your co-operation.

**Graham Maslen**  
Headteacher

## **SPORTS PRESENTATION EVENING**



Sports Presentation Evening is being held on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> July at 7.00pm with a 7.30pm start. The event is being held in the School Hall and tickets can be purchased from the school at £2.00 each. Miss Baker has worked extremely hard to find an array of raffle prizes and items to be auctioned on the night, all with a sporting theme. Raffle tickets can be purchased before the night and are on sale in the Lower Foyer each lunch time. If you wish to place a bid for any of the items to be auctioned then please contact Miss Baker at the school with your details.

### **Raffle Prizes**

- Super League rugby tickets for- Hull FC, Castleford, Wakefield, Huddersfield Giants, Leeds Rhino's, Leeds Carnegie. (some are two tickets, some are family tickets for 4)
- One month's gym membership at Fitness First Halifax with backpack, towel, drinks bottle, a fitness log book and a 5 day pass
- for a friend one month membership worth £36, plus the extras!!
- Hull FC Signed poster
- Leeds United signed team poster
- DW Gym day passes for Halifax (2x 2 tickets) tickets are worth £10 each
- DW gym day passes for Birstall (4x 2 tickets) tickets are worth £10 each
- Signed netball by Tracy Neville
- 2 x One to one Swim lessons at Swimrite Halifax worth £18 each
- Fun Swim sessions at Swimrite Halifax
- Leeds Carnegie netball dress signed by Jo Davies

- Leeds Carnegie netball polo shirt signed by Jo Davies
- Wales netball vest signed by Jo Davies
- Leeds United Money Box worth £9
- Leeds United cushion worth £10
- Amir Khan Signed picture in a frame
- 2 tickets to see Leeds Carnegie netball home match worth £15
- Queens voucher for one tennis session, one squash session and one gym session
- One month Boot camp voucher (you can go to 3 sessions per week for one month) worth £35

### Auction

- Leeds Rhinos signed shirt-shirt cost £45, but it has then been signed
- Leeds Rhinos signed ball-cost £15 but has then been signed
- Ricky Hatton signed poster and programme of last fight in Las Vegas
- England Rugby tickets-winner chooses between England Wales and England Ireland prices range from £35-£65
- Signed England Rugby Union Shirt- shirt cost £40, but it has then been signed
- 6 weeks membership at the Holiday Inn Brighouse Gym and spa facilities worth £62
- Hull FC signed shirt-shirt cost £40, but it has then been signed
- 10 weeks of gymnastics at Diamonds gym club on Tuesdays after school
- Framed Manchester City Picture of 3 Internationals-James Milner, Micah Richards and Adam Johnson
- Discover Scuba Diving lesson between £25-£35
- One month Boot camp voucher (you can go to 3 sessions per week for one month) £35
- Netball signed by England Netball Squad
- Yorkshire cricket shirt Andrew Gale Captain-signed by the twenty20 team
- Round of Golf for 4 people at West End golf Club, Halifax worth approx £100
- Manchester United Stadium and museum tour-ticket is for two adults and two children worth £50
- 30 minute lesson with a golf professional coach@ west end golf club

KDB

## Wrong Trouser Day

'Wrong Trouser Day' inspired by Nick Park's Wallace and Gromit film 'The Wrong Trousers' raises vital funds for sick children in hospitals and hospices throughout the UK. This year, held on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> June, was the 11<sup>th</sup> year for the wacky day. Both Sixth Form Charity Committee and Interact Charity Committee organised several events making a staggering total of £450.12!

Both students and teachers got into the spirit wearing 'wrong' trousers. Some came in jeans, pyjamas and even brightly coloured tutus!

On Friday lunchtime we sold a range of ice cream for the students which went down a treat. There was also 'soak the teacher' in the stocks which was very popular with the students!

Mr Wood said: *"I didn't mind the sponges but when the £5 bucket was poured over me I saw a glint in the student's eyes as they got their revenge."*

One pupil said: *"It was a very fun occasion which neither teachers nor students will forget."*

## Challenge of Management Conference 2011

### Think you can Manage?

What are your management skills like? Who taught you to manage so effectively?

As well as delivering an outstanding academic education at NHGS, the school also aims to teach our Sixth Form students how to manage people and business operations. The school hosts the annual Challenge of Management Conference to give each of our senior students' essential vocational skills which will give them a head start for their future careers. In order to achieve this all of the Lower Sixth students are taken off timetable for two days and they are put in unfamiliar groups to perform as a business, running a biscuit factory for the entire conference. The students get practical first hand experience of careers like purchasing, sales, advertising, marketing, accounting or being a CEO. All of the groups get the chance to tune their soft skills in communication, group working, team building and negotiation. This highly regarded enrichment activity seeks to develop in our students the skills needed in business and to give them real experiences to talk about in their future interviews and university applications.

What makes the conference such a success is the guidance that they are given from experienced professional managers who graciously give up their time to help advise the groups about what to consider when running a successful business. This information dialogue with an accomplished business professional is often what moulds and influences many of our student's career aspirations. If you feel that you might be prepared to offer your expertise to the management conference as an advisor or as a corporate sponsor for next year's Challenge of Management Conference please get in touch with Mr Howarth or Mrs Manley at the school.

Thank you to all the school staff and advisors who were involved in making the conference such a huge success again. In particular, the school thanks the following businesses and advisors who helped to deliver such an effective conference this year.

Miss Sophie Adams	NHGS - Teacher of Psychology and PE
Mr Barry Allsop	Challenge Training Partners
Mr Mike Barnes	Coface SA
Ms Claudia Bordogna	University of Huddersfield
Sgt Wayne Chidgey	Army Careers
Mr Andy Clayton	Challenge Training Partners
Mr Steve Dawson	BAE Systems
Ms Nikki Dawson	University of Huddersfield
Mr Andy Dixon	Challenge Training Partners
Miss Nicola Hawtin	NHGS - Head of Sociology
Miss Yasmin Hirst	NHGS Alumni
Mr Mike James	Enterprise
Ms Meishu Mao	Leeds University Student
Ms Fiona Moffat	University of Huddersfield
Mr John Riggs	Africa Asia Venture
Mrs Ann Skinner	NHGS - Head of Psychology
Mrs Nicola Whitehill	NHGS - Teacher of Chemistry, 6th Form Gifted and Talented Coordinator.
Mr Jeremy Wilkinson	Siemens
Ms Janna Wood	University of Huddersfield
Ms He He	2nd Year Accounting and Finance Students at Leeds University

**NIH/LAM**

## Enterprise in Action 13<sup>th</sup> July 2011

The school is hosting a similar one day management conference on the 13<sup>th</sup> July called Enterprise in Action for our Year 10 students. Similarly if you feel that you might be able to contribute in some way please contact school we will be only too happy to receive your assistance.

**NIH/LAM**

## The Young Enterprise Centre of Excellence Award

Young Enterprise (YE) was founded by Sir Walter Salomon in 1963. He was inspired by the American Junior Achievement programme. During that first year, 113 young people founded the first eight YE companies in the UK. In 1981 the YE Company Programme competition was initiated. YE now involves more than 300,000 students per year through the support of 3,500 UK businesses and a network of 5,000 Young Enterprise volunteers.

NHGS has been involved with Young Enterprise for many years. Year 12 students over the course of the year form companies and

- raise real finance by selling shares
- open and use their own company bank account
- carry out market research
- work together to create their business plan
- develop their own product or service
- market and promote their product or service
- trade with the public
- manage the company finances
- take part in local Young Enterprise trade fairs
- compete with other schools and colleges in the company of the year competition

This Year YE have introduced a new award the YE 'Centre of Excellence Award'. NHGS has been awarded this status because the school has:

*"demonstrated an outstanding commitment to the promotion of enterprise and entrepreneurship education for the young people at the school and engaged them in a wide variety of activities. The school has worked very hard at providing enterprise experiences to the students across year groups to develop their employability and entrepreneurship skills. The school has developed active partnerships with YE over a consistent number of years, providing staff resources and curriculum space so that as many of their students can benefit as possible."*

The school is very firmly committed to YE but also to preparing students for employability by organising the Challenge of Management Conference.

Many thanks to Mr Howarth who currently oversees enterprise education at the school and to Mr Jarvis who has supported YE for many years.

GPM

## NHGS School Term Dates 2011-2012

<b>Autumn Term</b>		
	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> September 2011	<b>Staff Training Day</b>
School Opens	Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> September 2011	<b>Years 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 &amp; 12</b>
	Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> September 2011	<b>School Opens for Year 13</b>
School Closes	Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> October 2011	<b>Half Term</b>
School Opens	Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> October 2011	
<b>Two Training Days</b>	Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> November 2011	
	Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> November 2011	
School Closes	Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> December 2011	<b>Christmas Holidays</b>
<b>Spring Term</b>		
School Opens	Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January 2012	
School Closes	Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> February 2012	<b>Half Term</b>
School Opens	Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> February 2012	
School Closes	Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> March 2012	<b>Easter Holidays</b>
<b>Summer Term</b>		
School Opens	Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> April 2012	
School Closed	Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> May 2012	<b>May Day</b>
School Closes	Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> June 2012	<b>Spring Bank Holiday</b>
School Opens	Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> June 2012	
School Closes	Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> July 2012	<b>Summer Holidays</b>

### Dates to Remember

Good Friday	-	Friday 6 April 2012
May Day	-	Monday 7 May 2012
Spring Bank Holiday	-	Monday 4 June 2012
*Queen's Jubilee	-	Tuesday 5 June 2012
Activity Week	-	9 <sup>th</sup> -13 <sup>th</sup> July 2012

*\*The last day of the summer term will be Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2012 instead of Friday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2012 in lieu of the Queens Jubilee on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> June, which falls during a school holiday.*