



TANZANIA 2016

Iceland 2016

by Mrs Willis

On Wednesday 26th October 50 students and 5 staff travelled to Iceland to start an unforgettable tour of the south of the island. As soon as we landed we made our way to the famous Blue Lagoon to bathe in the milky blue waters and experience the silica mud masks whilst watching the sunset. Our first night was spent in the quirky Hotel Viking where the students were treated to hot water that smelt very strongly of sulphur due to its geothermal origins.

The following morning, we met our guide Salka who was the fountain of knowledge about the geography and culture of Iceland. No question seemed to faze her and she was even able to answer Mr Ward's query about the ratio of dogs to people on the island! The first full day in Iceland took us to the Seljalandsfoss waterfall which is one of the best known waterfalls in Iceland. Some of our students got rather wet when they walked behind the waterfall to experience the water tumbling over the 60m drop. We then went on to visit the Eyjafjallajökull visitor centre to discover how a farming family in the foothills of the volcano were impacted by the famous 2010 eruption. In the afternoon, armed with ice axes and crampons, the group walked to the snout of the Solheimajokull glacier, which is very

close to the Katla volcano. Due to climate change the walk to the snout is much longer than it used to be as the glacier has retreated about a kilometre in the last decade. After receiving a full safety briefing by our guides we stepped onto the glacier and spent an hour or more learning about the features and erosive power of the ice. We were very lucky that the wind speeds were low enough to enable us to take part in this unforgettable activity! We stayed in the Hotel Dyrholaey for the second night. Salka spent a lot of time consulting the forecast for the Northern Lights online whilst Mr Ward was watching outside in case they made an appearance. Unfortunately, some persistent cloud meant that we were unlucky on this visit!

After a very stormy night, we made our way down to the black sand beach at Reynishverfi, which is famous for its magnificent coastal features and basalt columns as well as being the filming location for Take That's 'Patience' video. The weather was particularly wild on the beach and we were also able to experience the sheer power of the waves. We kept the group safely away from the shoreline as this beach is known for its freak waves due to the very long fetch. In the afternoon, we made our way to the Skogafoss waterfall and climbed the steep

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steps to the viewing platform at the top. The waterfall has been used in many films and music videos including Justin Bieber's 2015 hit 'I'll Show You'. The weather was glorious in the afternoon and we spent it in the town of Hveragerdi, which is built above a hot-spring field. We visited the geothermal park where we were able to boil eggs in the geothermal stream and eat geothermal baked bread. Before arriving at our final hotel in central Reykjavik we visited Perlan for a panoramic view over the capital and did a walking tour of some of the city's main sites.



Unfortunately, the weather turned very inclement on the final day but it didn't stop us as we drove around the famous Golden Circle. Our first stop was the Hellisheidi geothermal power station followed by a visit to the greenhouses of Fridheimar, where the students were able to learn about tomato cultivation and taste the product! Lunchtime was spent at Geysir where we observed the lively geyser, Stokkur spout hot water 30m into the air. The afternoon was rounded off with a trip to the Gulfoss waterfall and a walk between the continents in the Thingvellir National Park.

This was the inaugural trip to Iceland for NHGS and both students and staff returned with some fantastic memories. We are already looking at repeating the trip in October 2018 so look out for further information in due course.

Mrs Willis

"Iceland 2016 was the best school trip that I have ever been on. I couldn't recommend the trip more highly to keen geographers and I definitely intend to return to Iceland!" **Matthew Hofton**

"The variety of visits was amazing; you would be at a geothermal spring in the morning having a quick swim and then walking on a glacier in the afternoon." **Nathan Greenwood**

"With a brilliant tour guide, stunning views and amazing hotels, this trip to Iceland was a truly unforgettable experience." **Harry Birkinshaw**

"Salka was an excellent tour guide who gave us countless, bitesize nuggets of information about Iceland." **Ellis Jammeh**

"Four days in Iceland flew by as we hiked on a glacier, explored a geothermal lagoon and boiled eggs in a stream. It was a brilliant and unforgettable experience." **Joshua Blackhurst**

"Amazing sights, wonderful people – I loved it!" **Elliot Rothery**

"A great trip that I would recommend to future students – very educational!" **Jack Skelton**

"Actually seeing all of the amazing features of Iceland such as huge waterfalls, hot springs, geysers, glaciers and volcanoes was the greatest experience of my life and made me love geography even more! I really enjoyed seeing the Eyjafjallajökull visitor centre as it showed some amazing footage of the 2010 eruption and was something I could never have imagined

without seeing it for myself. The glacier walk was incredible as it actually put into perspective how large and incredible these structures are. It put into context all of the things we had learned in class." **Vicky Trudgill**

MFL Matters

by Mrs Harrison-Law

Barcelona Trip – Year 11

On 20th -25th October 2016, Mr Godoy, Miss Rigby and Miss Johnston took a group of Year 11 students to Barcelona.

In October 2016 we visited Barcelona. There were about thirty of us, which made it really enjoyable as there weren't too many people. This allowed it to be relaxed and we could make the most of all of the fantastic opportunities. We visited an aquarium, the Camp Nou stadium (which is great, even if you don't like football) and a theme park called Port Aventura. As everything we did was so fun, we didn't realise how much Spanish we were learning and speaking!



Overall, Barcelona was a great trip to discover Spanish culture with your friends, enjoy lots of free time and great Spanish cuisine, and obviously learn a lot. A trip I highly recommend!

Sean Nolan

The best part for me was walking up La Rambla and going to the Boqueria market. The fruit and caramel nuts were amazing! There were also lots of ice cream stalls, which sold probably the nicest ice-cream I've ever had. I also really enjoyed the visit to the Camp Nou stadium – it was amazing to walk out of the tunnel to pitch side.

Alex Kingsley



Spelling Bee – Year 7

The form competitions are already under way and will finish by Christmas. Names of students who have secured their place in Stage Two will be in the next newsletter.

Language Perfect Northern Hemisphere Championships – Years 7-13

All students had the opportunity to take part in the latest competition from 7th – 17th November 2016. It was fantastic to see so many students participate across all year groups. Certificates were awarded to students who gained 300+ points. Their contribution saw The North Halifax Grammar School in the top 5 of schools in England that competed.

CREDIT AWARD (300+)

Rosie Baylis
Mark Harris
Sanaan Haq
Jamie Taylor
Henry Jackson
Megan Long
Haleema Ali
Samuel Poutney
Olivia Jalil
William Campbell
Natasha Parker
Martha Ramsay
Libby Hargreaves
Trishna Sargunarajan
Robbie Heath
Emily Evans
Harvey Oakes
Oliver Chatwood

CREDIT AWARD (400+)

Mollie Eccleston
Morgan Fairhurst
Fintan Rowlinson
Niall Collins

CREDIT AWARD (500+)

Ben Wilkinson
Alex White
Ben Plant
Phoebe Sykes
Vicky Thorpe

CREDIT AWARD (700+)

Harry Harwood
Robert Voong
Fiona Wright
Lucy Cade

BRONZE AWARD (800+)

Rory Neal

BRONZE AWARD (900+)

Jac Fearnley
Joshua Obleada

BRONZE AWARD (1000+)

Rachana Prabhu
Aidan Forbes
Rebecca Kirby
Amy Syrett
Harry Ray
Michael Voong
Kaishi Bates
Kacie Holgate
Edward Hartley
Isobel McIntosh
Samuel Burns
Daniel Dixon
George Ellis
Neesha Shazad
Tiegan Hill
Peter Millar
Alice Fielding

SILVER AWARD (1800+)

Tania Charles
Sommer Berrington
Nancy Tupling

ELITE AWARD with 29,800 points and
4th in the Northern Hemisphere!

Vamsi Sridhar

Oxford University German Olympiad

Can you imagine a conversation between a German Shepherd from Bremen and a St Bernard from the Swiss Alps?

This is one of the questions the University of Oxford is asking our students who study German.

Professor Kohl and her team in Oxford organise this national competition every year; this year's focus is on German and/or Germans outside Germany. The University has a page of resources to get us all thinking. Students then have a choice of tasks (either individually or in a group of 4+). To be successful, they will need to do some research, be creative and use the German they have been learning. The deadline is 17th March 2017.

The Second Coming of the Platinum Christ

by Elena Bradley

I'm integrated amongst the druids, though I'm issuing a warning that my disguise is soon to be identified. The chrome ink I retrieved from the heliotrope-x is serving well as a tint for my irises, aiding in the congruence objective you issued me with. Regrettably, the method of glazing my eyes with the mercury-fluid is slowly claiming my vision as obsolete, and even when my brown, human shade is veiled, the metallic film on my eye doesn't fully match theirs. I still haven't mastered the sterile numbness of the druid interactions but my synchronised swimming from the x era has proved limited blinking a tolerable ease.

I have since solved the issue we last discussed on the visibility of my femininity. The abandoned x store I reported had beneath the rubble and bones a small amount of x era black duct tape, which compensated for the high risk of being witnessed by the druid cardinals who I feel are beginning to sense a foreign presence; the air feels more silent and sub-zero than usual. I wound the tape tightly around my waist and breasts and when in the standardised black velvet cloak I appear successfully shapeless and sexless, much like one of them. They say in the texts that when the platinum christ returned the will of God ordered the desexualisation of the humans, forming the druid era; but we know this not to be true. The mass-medication of 'platinum eucharist' (what I believe to be a metallized form of opiate) is the real force behind the druid regime, not wilful fundamentalism; as we once thought.

The platinum eucharist is the real danger to my objective. It rains down at hourly intervals from the sky like iron-filing snow, permeating the skin and respiratory systems of the druid population, triggering enough dopamine to sustain the fundamentalist orthodoxy they live in submission to. Their skin and eyes glazed with a silvery film, the narcotic numbness seen through the slow, floating movements of the daily processions. It is becoming increasingly difficult to avoid the opiate snow, and harder each day to maintain the false metallic iridescence on my skin and eyes necessary to appear unnoticeably foreign, I need more instructions.

NHGS Beat Greenhead in Bar Mock Trial

by Mr Kennedy

Ten pupils from NHGS took part in the Bar Mock Trial (BMT) competition on Saturday 26th November at Leeds Crown Court. The BMT is an opportunity for young people to learn more about the legal system and develop their debating skills through taking part in mock trial role play. Nine schools from Yorkshire and the North East took part in the competition which involved students from NHGS taking part in three trials against Brighouse, Castle Hall Academy and Prior Purslove College. The NHGS team advanced to the final where they played the 2014 and 2015 winners Greenhead College. During this titanic battle all competitors gave a fantastic account of themselves with NHGS coming out as winners at the end of the trial. Congratulations go to all the pupils from NHGS who took part and they now move on to the national final at the Royal Courts of Justice in London on March 25th 2017.

Participating students:

- Ella Binns
- Sophie Roberts
- Nicole Haley
- Annabel Hartley
- Hannah Kilcoyne
- Elena Bradley
- Nancy Carter
- Louise Howell
- Hannah Clark
- Charisse Heer



Google Expeditions

by Miss Lewis



How can you take 485 students and teachers from The North Halifax Grammar School, West Yorkshire, England on an ocean safari, to visit the volcanoes of the world, marvel at the Palace of Versailles, fly to Iceland and the Moon all in one day? *Answer:* Google Expeditions, a Pioneer Programme from Google for schools.

Google visited the school equipped with a tablet for the teacher and cardboard Virtual Reality viewer and a mobile phone for each student. This allowed teachers to each lead an expedition. Expeditions are a collection of virtual reality panoramas - comprising of 3D images and 360° photo spheres - annotated with points of interest and questions controlled via the teacher's tablet. This all helps to give students a deeper understanding of the world beyond the classroom. As one Year 7 student said: "We like how the expedition leader [teacher] could add arrows to direct our attention to things."

about Syria and Climate Change enabled teachers to talk about current affairs.

Regarding a virtual trip inside the human digestive system, students in one class said, "We discussed in detail each job that every organ in the digestive system has. This expanded our knowledge because we got to experience the inside of our body and the process our food goes through when we digest it." Although they learnt a lot from it, some found it "quite disgusting," prompting some students to suggest that Google should do a trip about the effects of smoking, with pictures of the inside of the body of a smoker and a non-smoker.

Integrating an expedition into a lesson was modelled by one teacher who took his students on a trip to the Palace of Versailles, France. There the students were able to explore a part of the Palace and draw it in their Drawing books, before moving onto another part of the Palace. Perhaps the greatest feature of the VR experience was being able to comprehend perspective, as many students commented on the size of the bed in the King's Chamber. Being able to have a 360° view made them feel as though they could just reach out and touch the objects.

What should google expeditions create next?

We think google expeditions should create a presentation of why smoking is dangerous to health. They should maybe include some pictures of the inside immul system. They should show what happens when you smoke. Also of how a body looks like when someone doesn't smoke and then when someone does smoke. So the children understand what the difference is and how much it can destroy your body.



Other places visited during the day were Angel Falls, the New 7 Wonders of the World and Googleplex (Google HQ). Students were going inside the human body. Expeditions

WHAT DID WE SEE?



We saw beautiful architectural buildings and a king's bed chamber. There was also wonderful fountains that you could look at and the plants, shrubs and trees that were in the grounds. The architecture inside of the building was also amazing the details in the ceiling and the furniture was so precise it was outstanding.





As for the teachers, they thought that they would use it again, especially in Geography - although they said it would be useful in other subjects. They liked the fact that students seemed to be engaged in the experience and how the visual imagery helped the teacher in explaining.

Students' views were positive: "It was the highlight of the whole half-term and will probably be the highlight of the whole term." - Year 8 student.

"I really enjoyed the google expedition, it allowed me to be immersed in an amazing 360 degree view of some amazing volcanic landscapes." – Year 12 student.



93% of students surveyed said they enjoyed it and 88% thought that they got more out of the lesson seeing a place in 3D rather than reading a book or watching a video. The only negative comments were that some had feelings of motion sickness, but the expeditions can be split into shorter sections to minimise any adverse effects. Perhaps (as one teacher suggested) having the students find the answer to questions via the VR, then transferring that answer to a worksheet or diagram would help to give active eyes a rest. However, the expedition aims to be all-inclusive, and if a student feels the need, they can remove the cardboard viewer and experience a 2D version on a mobile phone or tablet.



A Level Computing students Danny Roberts and Matthew Dove were involved in helping the teachers and students during the day. Matthew reflects: "Google Expeditions was very interesting, all the staff and students were excited to use it for everything from Art to Geography and it was a good topic starter for any lesson." Media and Photography students Emily Williams and Hannah Welch filmed the day with Ella Farley and Kainat Hussain providing the photography. These are all available to view on a website, which the school has

produced: <http://www.nhgs.co.uk/googleexpeditions>

Mr Bowles took his students on an expedition said: "You are transported...into another world. It is a magical experience for students, but needs careful structuring to make sure it's relevant and well-planned."



Whilst nothing replaces hopping on the bus for a field trip,...as one student said, "it's cheaper than buying a plane ticket." The experience certainly got the students thinking about what else they'd like to see. One said that they'd like to see "...a 360° view of all 721+ Pokemon in a room", whilst another thought that "Google should send an astronaut into space and make a 360° view of space,"... maybe that astronaut might be one of these students? Certainly one of the most special moments of the whole event was when an entire class of Year 7 students gaped in amazement upon

visiting the moon only to realise that ‘their’ shadow on the moon’s surface was Neil Armstrong’s!

The verdict: In a well-planned and structured lesson, Google Expeditions helps to make teaching and learning stimulating, active and effective.

Website including video and photos produced by the students: <http://www.nhgs.co.uk/googleexpeditions>

Parents’ Association News

You did it!

Look at the amount you raised for school this month...

We are getting closer to our target of £20k for sports equipment for the new school Sports Hall.

The Christmas Hamper Raffle has just raised a record **£4,347 for** school!



This year’s hampers were absolutely amazing and showed how much a class of children and their form teacher can do with a bit of cardboard, sticky tape and some paint! A special well done goes to the overall winner 11 (2) Mr. McCloughlin, with their Fireplace Hamper, and here it is:



And a big cheer to the other form winners:

- Sixth Form Winner -12 (2) Mrs Willis, The Great British Bake Off
- Year 10 (4) Mr Bowles, Fairytale Town
- Year 9 (2) Mrs Dent, Donald Trump.
- Year 8 (1) Miss Newsolme, Breakfast
- Year 7 (4) Mrs Terry, Sleigh

To see the winning hampers take a look at the PA website: nhgs.org.uk

A huge thanks goes to all of the ticket sellers as well as their parents for digging deep and helping the PA to hit our £4k target. Particular mentions go to these spectacular sales folks:

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Thomas Stott - 206 - WOW! | Taylor Brooksbank - 130 |
| Jemima Evans - 115 | Austen Hadcroft - 111 |
| Amy-Lee Parkinson - 90 | Evan Walsh, Alisha Ali and Fiona Wright - 50 |
| Ilan Smith - 45 | Charlie Myers - 40 |

Our Christmas Fayre also raised a grand total of £2,731, over £1,000 more than in 2015!

A huge thanks goes to all the volunteers on the day, those who made us cakes, everyone who donated chocolate and bottles and of course everyone who came and had a great day.



We also wish to thank the NHGS staff who worked above and beyond their usual duties with special mentions going to: Mrs. Hunt for all the buns and biscuits, Sue in reprographics for the posters and flyers, Debbie and her catering team for an amazing spread, Andy for his lovely laser cuts, Mrs Quigley and her 6th form elves, Mrs Pegg and musical teams for the fabulous music, Mrs Emmett, Paula Wright, the caretakers, and of course Mr Crossland who worked tirelessly with the PA committee to co-ordinate it all. We could not have done it without you, thanks!

For more PA information or to get involved then like us on Facebook: Search: North Halifax Grammar School Parents' Association



(<http://www.facebook.com/groups/1414873465412640>) or Follow us on Twitter @NHGSPA or see our website: nhgspa.org.uk

This week the PA hope to have seen many of you after the Carol Service at the Minster for a traditional glass of mulled wine (or non-alcoholic alternative) and a mince pie. Always a lovely way to start Christmas.

Thank you for your support and we hope to see new members joining the PA in 2017.

Merry Christmas from the NHGS Parents' Association!

Hamper Raffle Winning Numbers

| Form Group | Hamper Name | Ticket No |
|------------|----------------------|-----------|
| 7.1 | ALPHABET | 6700 |
| 7.2 | SANTA'S ELF | 9339 |
| 7.3 | CHRISTMAS MOVIE | 6543 |
| 7.4 | AMAZING SLEIGH | 6723 |
| 7.5 | FRIDAY NIGHT IN | 7580 |
| 8.1 | BREAKFAST | 7753 |
| 8.2 | ALL AROUND THE WORLD | 7928 |
| 8.3 | BAKING HAMPER | 6805 |
| 8.4 | FAMILY NIGHT IN | 9221 |
| 8.5 | MOVIE NIGHT | 6026 |
| 9.1 | CADBURY | 6265 |
| 9.2 | DONALD TRUMP HAMPER | 6224 |
| 9.3 | HAMPER VAN | 7669 |
| 9.4 | PIXLES | 2578 |
| 9.5 | COCA COLA | 4166 |
| 9.6 | STAY WARM IN WINTER | 5979 |
| 10.1 | CORNER SHOP | 6491 |
| 10.2 | TEMPTING TEA CUP | 5495 |
| 10.3 | HOUSE HAMPER | 6241 |
| 10.4 | TOY TOWN | 9719 |
| 10.5 | CHOCOLATE HAMPER | 7439 |
| 10.6 | SCHOOL SURVIVE | 6324 |
| 11.1 | POLAR EXPRESS | 8809 |
| 11.2 | FIRE SIDE | 9710 |
| 11.4 | GOOD BAD & UGLY | 5949 |
| 12.1 | SANTA CAR | 5939 |
| 12.2 | GREAT BRITISH HAMPER | 10506 |
| 12.3 | SANTA LAPLAND | 3858 |
| 12.4 | COFFEE CUP | 7411 |
| 12.5 | COSY CHRISTMAS | 4581 |
| 12.6 | ROALD DAHL | 7983 |
| 12.8 | USEFUL UNTENSILS | 9733 |
| 13.1/13.2 | CHOCOLATE BOX | 9892 |
| 13.4 | COLOURFUL CHRISTMAS | 6600 |

West Yorkshire Netball

by Olivia

Pia and I both play netball for different clubs, and for West Yorkshire.

I started playing in primary school, but only high-5, and then went on to all positions. I now play for Yorkshire Terriers and Hot Shots. My main positions are GA and WA.

Pia started playing netball in Year 7, and now plays for Shipley Seniors, Huddersfield Giants Performance, and playing both seasons of Athlete Development Programs with Yorkshire Jets. Her main positions are GD, C and WA.

Both of our lives are pretty much taken up with training, with only one rest day. For West Yorkshire, we train on Tuesdays. Terriers train on Mondays and Wednesdays and Giants train on Thursdays. Our match-days are on Sundays, and Shipley's match days are on Saturday.



Royal Society of Chemistry

by Miss Lawson

43 students from year 9 and 10 attended a lecture hosted by the Royal Society of Chemistry on Tuesday 13th December at Leeds University. All students were excited to learn how to 'ignite the imagination' with presenter Fran Scott, who is a science TV presenter, science publisher and performs live science shows. She taught us how to expand our minds by taking everyday objects and occurrences, questioning them with curious minds, and then turning them into spectacular demonstrations of scientific relevance. We saw rockets fly using currents from a Van der Graaf generator; we watched in awe as what seemed like normal cotton set on fire due to being chemically changed and loved watching as giant smoke rings were created from garden equipment. To top off the hour's lecture we were pleased when our very own Willow Amber-Danyluk (10.3) volunteered to take part in a demonstration that showed us how we could combine normal gasses with bubble solutions and ignite them to create explosions. So next time you see something mundane, question the fascinating scientific principle that has caused it, and let your imagination run wild!



Charity Committee

On the 31st of October, we ran a Halloween themed non-uniform day to raise funds for Ravenscliffe Sixth form centre. We were very impressed with the spooky costumes and you could clearly see the effort taken to create these outfits. Throughout the week we also sold various flavoured lollipops in aid of the same charity.

Thank you very much for your donations, in total we raised almost £1,000.



The Walton Shield General Knowledge Quiz

The Walton Shield is a competition which aims to promote students' knowledge of and interest in general knowledge and current affairs. I am introducing a new format this year, drawing inspiration from popular shows such as QI, Eggheads and University Challenge. I want it to allow students to show off their research skills and their grasp of a wide range of fascinating knowledge beyond the confines of the school curriculum. Hopefully, by researching answers in advance of the quiz itself, students will be introduced to unfamiliar topics, ideas and subjects which might then spark new interests and areas of expertise.

A "Long List" of questions will be issued before the Christmas holiday, which students (and family members!) can research and learn the answers to. The quiz in school after the holiday will ask students a maximum of 50 questions, at least 30 of which will be drawn from the "Long List". Of the other questions, some will be drawn from the same areas of knowledge as the "Long List" questions and the rest will be drawn from a combination of other areas of general knowledge and current affairs. This will hopefully reward those students who read around the topics a little bit and who keep an eye on current affairs and not just those who research only the answers they need and have good short-term memories.

The quiz is offered up as a bit of fun and students should not be stressed or worried by it. There are no "consequences" for performing poorly, only rewards for doing well.

The topics covered in this year's quiz will include:

History

Myths and legends

Sports and games

Science and technology

Art and literature

Music

Industry and commerce

Exploration

Current affairs

The physical world

Television, film and media

Words

Proverbs and quotations

Medicine and the body

The ancient world

...and some miscellaneous others!

Mr Fisher

Lower School Halloween Disco

by Mrs Finnett

Some students in Year 8 can now add event management to their CVs, having organised a Halloween disco this term which 90 students attended. They managed to raise over £100 for the PTA and got one of their Leadership awards signed off in the process.

Young Enterprise teams also benefitted, providing entertainment in the form of pillow fights, apple bobbing, face painting and photos as well as developing a roaring trade in glow sticks by organising competitions to see who could make the longest chain!

My thanks and congratulations go to Niamh Green, Samuel Pountney (refreshments), Matthew Topham, Ella Cahill (finance), Sam Burns, Alice Fielding (music), Molly Kratz (publicity) and Samuel Brunkhard (chair).

Special thanks should also be given to the parents of these students who ferried students to supermarkets, supervised on the night, donated sweets and provided the DJ! Hopefully the supervising staff were not so deafened that they will avoid volunteering next year!



Interform Football Competition

by Beth Greenwood and Tiegan Searle 12(6)

All the forms managed to get a team together despite a few teething issues, and were ready to go on the field for 11 o'clock. After a brief talk from Mr Downing the tournament began. The teams comprised of both dedicated footballers, casual football players, people who have only played when forced in P.E. and even form tutors. Everyone was prepared to take up this challenge and the team spirit every form had was clear even from an onlooker.

Members of the form who were not playing continually provided support and encouragement from the sidelines despite the mildly bad weather. Sam Steventon in

12.5 reported, "There was some really enthusiastic players and some very good playing". Those who were playing all demonstrated good sportsmanship and determination as despite their

disadvantages in comparison to other forms, they gave 100% in all of their matches.

The eight forms, even though they all played to the best of their abilities, were narrowed down to just two. These two forms, 12.5 and 12.8, played in the finals. They drew in the finals and so Mr Downing decided that it should go down to penalties. 12.8 came out on top in the penalties and won overall. It was not about who won in the end of the day as many strong inter-form relationships were formed during the matches; so really we *all* won.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr Downing, on behalf of the rest of the year, for making the whole thing possible as without him none of this would have happened.

My Firework

by Year 7 Students

FIRE HEART

Waiting on the ground
Ready to take one big bound
I would soon be in the sky
Right about to fly.
Nothing can hold me back
For I'm about to crack
Let my fire burn
Because now it's my turn.

I am to BANG!
I am to CRACKLE!
I am to EXPLODE!

Shining brighter than all the stars
I have enlightened them with my heart
Yellow, orange and red
High up in the sky, my happiness I have shed
A heart is what I am
Now I'm finished. BAM!

By Iqra Ashruff 7(4)

THE BIG BLUE SIZZLER

I'm a loud screamer, eye pleaser,
Big banger, proud popper,
I'm a blue start, orange art,
A big gold oval
I'm in the sky
I please the eye
And then POOF
I am gone.

What am I?

By Khia Chapman 7(4)

THE BOLTERNATOR

The bolternator, black, yellow, red
I got lit and away I sped.
As fast as lightning through the moonlit
sky
Don't come too near or I might take out
your eye.
I circled round the atmosphere a black
and yellow blur
I spun round the silver stars - a bright
colourful whirr
All of a sudden I went fizz, crackle then
pop
I felt frightened, terrified. I tried hard to
stop.
Then it happened. I exploded.
I made an extremely loud bang
An explosion of colour flew across the
sky.

By James Clinton 7(4)

THE REGALY STAR

Off it goes up to the sky making a sound
which goes like this
SSSSSSS
The fire on the end of the string gets
bigger,
Soon we will see a fantastic display
The yellow star with the red background
The blue top with the spikey ends.
The sparks are getting higher and higher
Bang goes the firework and the star is
formed
The sparks are yellow then change to red
After a while they turn to green
Then the sparks fall and disappear.
That was the Regaly Star

By Evan Walsh 7(4)

THE GLITTER BOMB

Fiery blue rocket zooms up into the black
night sky
In moments it explodes in golden and
green colours
Radiantly pops and cackles and cracks
Endlessly spreading across the midnight
sky in a stunning spiral shape
When will it die out or fade?
Or will it perform another trick?
Randomly it releases golden glitter, falling
like rain
Kicking out a graceful sprinkling sound
Slowly the glitter falls to the ground and
creates a golden carpet.

By Libby James 7(4)

THE FIZZ BANGER

It was getting dark as I headed to the
bonfire
Lighting it warmed us all up
Afterwards came the fireworks
Lighting up the sky.

One special firework took me by surprise
It was the Fizz banger
And it went like this.

It fizzed all the way up in white
It went bang in a yellow cluster
Finally it popped away into the sky
Leaving a red trail.

By Ella Conroy

U12 indoor hockey A and B squads
from the U12 Calderdale Indoor Hockey
Tournament

A team won the tournament and B team
came 3rd. Eve Craig was awarded
player of the tournament.

Congratulations to all involved



U12 Calderdale Indoor Hockey Champions 2016



School Term Dates 2016/2017

| Autumn Term 2016 | | |
|-------------------------|--|----------------------------|
| Training Day | Thursday 1 st September 2016 | Staff Training Day |
| Training Day | Friday 2 nd September 2016 | Staff Training Day |
| School Opens | Monday 5 th September 2016 (Y7 & 12 only) | |
| | Tuesday 6 th September (all year groups) | |
| Training Day | Friday 7 th October 2016 | Staff Training Day |
| School Closes | Friday 21 st October 2016 | |
| School Opens | Monday 31 st October 2016 | |
| Training Day | Monday 7 th November 2016 | Staff Training Day |
| School Closes | Friday 16 th December 2016 | Christmas Holidays |
| Spring Term 2017 | | |
| School Opens | Tuesday 3 rd January 2017 | |
| School Closes | Friday 17 th February 2017 | Half Term |
| School Opens | Monday 27 th February 2017 | |
| School Closes | Friday 7 th April 2017 | Easter Holidays |
| Summer Term 2017 | | |
| School Opens | Monday 24 th April 2017 | |
| School Closed | Monday 1 st May 2017 | May Day |
| School Closes | Friday 26 th May 2017 | Spring Bank Holiday |
| School Opens | Monday 5 th June 2017 | |
| Training Day | Friday 30 th June 2017 | Staff Training Day |
| School Closes | Friday 21 st July 2017 | Summer Holidays |

School Term Dates 2017-2018

| Autumn Term 2017 | | |
|--|---|---------------------|
| Training Day | Monday 4 th September 2017 | Staff Training Day |
| School Opens | Tuesday 5 th September 2017 (Y7 & 12 only) | |
| | Wednesday 6 th September (all year groups) | |
| 2 Staff Training Days in the Autumn Term to be confirmed | | |
| School Closes | Friday 27 th October 2017 | |
| School Opens | Monday 6 th November 2017 | |
| School Closes | Friday 22 nd December 2017 | Christmas Holidays |
| Spring Term 2018 | | |
| School Opens | Monday 8 th January 2018 | |
| School Closes | Friday 16 th February 2018 | Half Term |
| School Opens | Monday 26 th February 2018 | |
| School Closes | Thursday 29 th March 2018 | Easter Holidays |
| Summer Term 2018 | | |
| School Opens | Monday 16 th April 2018 | |
| School Closed | Monday 7 th May 2018 | May Day |
| School Closes | Friday 25 th May 2018 | Spring Bank Holiday |
| School Opens | Monday 4 th June 2018 | |
| School Closes | Friday 20 th July 2018 | Summer Holidays |

Dates to Remember:

| | |
|-------------|------------------------------------|
| Good Friday | Friday 30 th March 2018 |
| Polling Day | Thursday 3 rd May 2018 |
| May Day | Monday 7 th May 2018 |

FAST FACTS

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Hot Christmas Dinners with dessert and a drink were served at our Christmas Dinner on Wednesday 14th December!



Mr Fisher preparing the Yorkshire Puds!



Mr Wood, potato scoop at the ready!



Sports Hall

by Mrs Wright & Mrs Casson

As you can see from the photos, the Sports Hall build is progressing at a rapid pace; we now have walls and floors in some areas!

The build is on time and we expect it to be finished and ready for use by the end of summer 2017.

Look out for details of the official launch and opening date in our Spring Term newsletter.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact the school on 01422 244625 or email mail@nhgs.co.uk

The North Halifax Grammar School

Moorbottom Road

Illingworth

Halifax, HX2 9SU

School Administrators

Mrs Ramsden – Years 7 & 8

Mrs Garnett – Years 9, 10 & 11

Mrs Charles – Years 12 & 13