



The Smithdonian

Smithdon High School Magazine



The February 2022 Issue



Mr Hirst and Mrs Gibbins welcome you....

It always amazes us how quickly the February half term break comes along - even though we begin the term knowing it is short and we have lots to do, it still seems to appear out of nowhere: and this year has been no different.

In this half term's newsletter, we have had the opportunity to reflect on student successes in Food, Sport, Community endeavours and even reflecting on the COP26 Climate Change conference in Scotland. We are proud of the involvement our students have in global issues and the skill with which they present their perspectives on important issues and events. It is a pleasure to read so many articles and texts written by the students themselves and see pictures of the projects they have worked on with such diligence and determination.

As we write, Year 11 are completing the first week of their final PPEs in preparation for this summer's GCSE examinations and using the knowledge they have learned and practised over the last 18 months of lessons, as well as the well-attended revision clubs. We hope they will make the most of this opportunity to reflect on their strengths and areas for development in the lead up to their final GCSE assessments.

Looking ahead to next half term (another short one) there is still so much to come - with our production Matilda Jr, albeit delayed by Covid to the end of term instead of the beginning; World Book Day and Smithdon's inaugural Literary Festival and the Art Exhibition to name just a few.

As always, we wish you a restful and healthy half-term break.

Happy Valentine's Day from the Music Department and the Choir - please visit:

<https://sites.google.com/smithdonhigh.org.uk/music/home/student-performances>

SMITHDON IN THE NEWS

199 Kg of items donated to the Food Bank!



Here at Smithdon, we have made it our Christmas tradition to collect essential food and toiletry items to donate to the Trussell Trust Food Bank. We hope that we can help make some families' Christmas-time a little easier and happier during the festive period.

Oliver, our Year 11 ambassador and Caitlin, our Head Girl, along with Mrs Gibbins delivered the many bags and boxes full of donations.

Rev. Monro, Chair of Trustees sent us a lovely letter of thanks:

"I would like to thank you and everyone at Smithdon High School for the very kind donation of food and toiletries that you brought over today. It weighed in at a wonderful 199 kg and was just what is needed for our pre-Christmas food parcels".

Thank you to everyone who donated, we were so proud to be able to deliver an incredible amount.

The Show Must Go On!

Smithdon's Production of **Matilda JR** has been slightly postponed to 30-31 March 2022.

The crew and cast have been working hard to get the show ready! They really deserve an encouraging audience, so please come along if you can.

Please keep your eyes peeled for when the tickets go on sale; we will all really appreciate your support, laughter and applause.

Tickets will be £3, which includes the programme.

Our students vote in the Youth Parliament!



Smithdon's students took part in the voting for the Norfolk Youth Parliament. The Parliament helps young people to have a voice and make a positive difference in their communities.

The results will be announced in March.

Look out in **yourlocalpaper** for an article and lots of photos on our french-themed breakfast.

<https://www.yourlocalpaper.co.uk/2022/02/04/gallery-french-themed-breakfast/>

Meet our new teachers!

Mrs Johnson joined Smithdon in January as our new Head of Geography and Mr Denton in January as our new PE and Geography teacher and Year 9 and 10 Pastoral Leader.

A very big welcome to you both!

Mrs Johnson's 5 questions:

1) *When did you realise that you wanted a career in teaching?*

About 15 years ago, I was working for an environmental consultancy but wanting a career change. It was my mum who suggested I become a teacher so I decided to give it a try!

2) *Why did you choose Geography as your subject?*

I've always loved Geography. It's a subject that's so relevant as it teaches you about world issues and how we can all be responsible citizens of the planet.

3) *As a teacher of Geography, do you think it is more important than ever to teach youngsters the importance of taking better care of our planet?*

Absolutely! The world is going through unprecedented changes, due to our actions as humans. We have a duty of care to our planet and I think the key to making those changes as individuals, is in education, knowledge and understanding of the issues facing our planet and the impact of them. We all need to be responsible global citizens.

4) *Do you have any advice for Year 11 students who have their exams this year?*

Yes; start revising now, and don't stop until your final exam. Make a revision timetable and be active, not passive, in your methods. Write, don't just read; test yourself regularly and make good use of all resources available to you.

5) *Have you enjoyed your time at Smithdon so far?*

Yes, the school seems lovely. I have had an incredibly positive first impression. Staff are extremely pro-active, welcoming and supportive and work tirelessly to support students to be the best version of themselves. I have also met many lovely students who display such a positive work ethic and really make Smithdon an amazing school to work in.

Mr Denton's 5 questions:

1) *What other career would you have chosen if it hadn't been teaching?*

This is a hard question, as I knew from a very young age that I wanted to be a PE teacher. Unfortunately, my answer is quite boring. I would probably have pursued a career in property development. I like the feeling of seeing something built from the ground up, and the satisfaction of seeing the finished article.

2) *What is your favourite sport to watch and play?*

Rugby! I love my rugby. I play for West Norfolk on a Saturday and spend far too much of my weekend watching rugby as well. I am also very keen on cricket, and spend my summer Saturdays playing for Castle Rising Cricket Club.

3) *What advice would you give to students that would like to go to uni?*

Enjoy it, but know when to knuckle down. University is an exciting experience. You have real independence for the first time. You will meet people from all over the world and learn about their cultures. Join a club or society. But most importantly, when it's time to work, make sure you work hard. Remember that your degree will be the key to opening the doors to your future.

4) *What is the hardest part of teaching?*

If you asked me this question 6 months ago, I'd have said the hardest part is coming back after the 6 weeks holiday!! Those first few weeks are always hard after 6 weeks of lie-ins. However, since then, I have had my first child, a little boy. The hardest part of my job is definitely leaving the house in the morning and saying goodbye to little Flynn.

5) *What is the best part of teaching?*

The best part of teaching is most definitely rewarding the students! Seeing the fantastic things that kids do and the amazing work they produce every day is by far the best, and most rewarding, part of the job.

Library

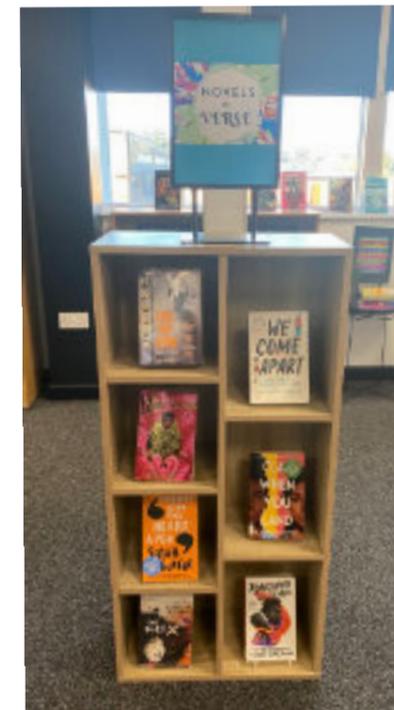
Novels in Verse

Free-verse novels offer readers a slightly different, but nonetheless rewarding reading experience with their short, sharp narratives and evocative writing styles.

They tackle important and empowering themes through beautiful, heartfelt language and captivating imagery, conjuring emotion quickly in a way that can take the standard novel hundreds of pages to do.

The additional benefit of verse novels is the physicality of the book itself. With more white space surrounding the fewer words on the page, and font that can vary in size and style, they are an attractive option for students who may be intimidated by too many words on the page.

These types of books are perfect if you want an almost quick-read with a powerful story-line and a heartfelt message.



One of my favourite young adult authors who captures their stories and characters in this way is Sarah Crossan who writes sad, bittersweet and tragic stories that can bring a tear or two in a few short chapters.

I recommend these books regularly to students who are finding it a challenge to focus or who do not particularly enjoy reading. The actual book feels like a 'big' book in your hands but if you turn the pages you can see how you could get through the book in 1 or 2 sittings.

But I equally also recommend them to students who love reading and want a thought-provoking story.

Look out for Sarah Crossan's books on our bookshelves!

"But when I read, I am completely alone. I have privacy from her and from everyone".
Sarah Crossan, *One*.



Calling all excited readers...

It is that time of year when librarians and English teachers around the country get excited about the forthcoming **CILIP Carnegie Book Awards**.

This year we are once again shadowing the awards, which begins on 16 March.

Being a 'Smithdon Shadower' would involve: reading the six shortlisted books over the 3 months, meeting up with the group to discuss the books so far, posting our reviews on to the Carnegie website, entering competitions and then voting for who we think will win.

This will all end with a celebration tea party whilst watching the live awards ceremony!

If you are interested in being a part of the shadowing group, please speak to Miss Cowles or Miss Taylor. There will be a Carnegie Launch during the week of our Literary Festival - please come along to see what it will entail...

SMITHDON HIGH SCHOOL LITERARY FESTIVAL 2022

28TH FEBRUARY - 4TH MARCH

FEATURING WORKSHOPS WITH HAYLEY LONG AND CHRIS PRIESTLEY,
WRITING COMPETITIONS, AND SO MUCH MORE...



West Norfolk
Academies Trust

'Manga' Author Event By Kira

On Monday 31 February, a few lucky students had the opportunity to take part in an hour-long manga session over Zoom

We were introduced to author Julian Sedgwick and illustrator Chie Kutsuwada of the new book called: *Tsunami girl*. *Tsunami girl* is a powerful and hopeful story based on the tragic, real-life events of the Tōhoku tsunami and earthquake in 2011. We meet 15 year-old Yuki Hara Jones, who suffers from anxiety and is finding school life near to impossible. All she wants in the world is to go to her grandfather, who is a well known manga artist, but he lives in another country- Japan.

One day, she's granted the accessibility to visit him. However, this is the time when the East-Coast earthquake occurred, leaving danger for both herself and her Grandfather.

This is the first time Julian Sedgwick and Chie Kutsuwada worked together on a project. They are

both very passionate about manga and Japanese culture. I feel they worked amazingly together and would love to see it again in their future novels and manga.

During the course, we were given a guide for basic illustration for foxes! I found this really awesome and a lot easier than I expected once it was broken down.

I found this a fantastic experience and loved hearing about Julian and Chie's ideas.



Saskia in Year 8 drew a fantastic fox and character - Manga style!

Mark your calendars: World Book day is 3 March 2022 and we have BIG plans to celebrate the day. Our plans are so big, that one day is not enough!

Here is a sneak peek of what is coming:

- Hayley Long, author of *The Nearest Faraway Place* and *Sophie Someone* returns to Smithdon.
- Chris Priestley, author of *The Tales of Terror* series will visit for the first time.
- Smithdon '500 Words' competition - complete with mega prizes.
- Poetry competition - judged by Poet Laureate, Gillian Clarke.
- Academic Talks.
- Carnegie Shadowing Group launch.
- 'Chase the Story' - with a real-life journalist.

To warm our students up for the inaugural festival, we attended the National Literacy Trust's Secondary Schools Conference. Students participated in virtual sessions, including manga drawing sessions and discussions with authors and journalists about storytelling, writing and the perception of masculinity.

These sessions were recorded so we will be playing them again in the library throughout the Literary Festival week.

There will also be a 'Holocaust Memorial Day' session with writer Tom Palmer and also a session with Dean Atta, the author of *Black Flamingo* - a much loved book within the English department!

WRITING

Ms Wright, Head of English here, writing about - you guessed it - writing!

Writing can be a daunting task for even the most experienced veteran. The team of teachers at Smithdon recognise this, so we work together to write a recipe for extended writing success.

What does this recipe call for?

Ingredients:

Bundles of knowledge about the topic students will write about.

One introduction where students state what they are going to write about.

Two or more body paragraphs: the kind with a topic sentence and supporting details.

One conclusion where students emphasise the important points and maybe even pose a further question.

Instructions:

Look at the essay topic closely to work out what you are writing about and who you are writing for.

Then, make a plan. This could involve mind-mapping.

Next, organise information into an outline. Now you are ready to draft.

Remember, first drafts don't have to be perfect. We begin to perfect the draft after it's written - through reshaping.

Add some more examples or explanations if needed. Reorder the information if it doesn't make sense. There are so many 'right' ways to craft a response.

Finally, check spelling and punctuation.

Enjoy the satisfaction of sustaining the effort of writing a page or more of quality prose!

STUDENTS' WORDS

I can think of so many ways to wake up.

There's the smell of pancakes in the summer or the first cool breeze of fall. The lazy comfort of a snow day, the world buried beneath blankets. When waking feels easy and peaceful, a slow transition from dreaming to daylight.

And there's this: the jolt of curtains thrown open onto glaring sun and the sudden weight of a very large cat landing on my chest. I groan and drag my eyes open and see Grim staring down at me, one black paw hovering over my face.

"Off!". I mutter, rolling until the cat flops sideways onto the sheets. He shoots me a sour look, lets out a soft sigh, and sinks deeper into the bed.

"Rise and shine!" Says mom in a voice that's way too chipper, considering we got in late last night and my body has no idea what time it is.

By Lily - Year 8

On a cold, windy Sunday morning, I went to the beach.

My Labrador, Bob, ran away.

His lead was too far away for me to reach,

Today was a horrific day.

I looked up at the colourful sky,

The sun started to rise.

It was so beautiful I started to cry,

It was a humongous surprise.

When Bob came back,

He had a tennis ball in his mouth.

We started walking on an overgrown track.

Afterwards we chose a path that went South.

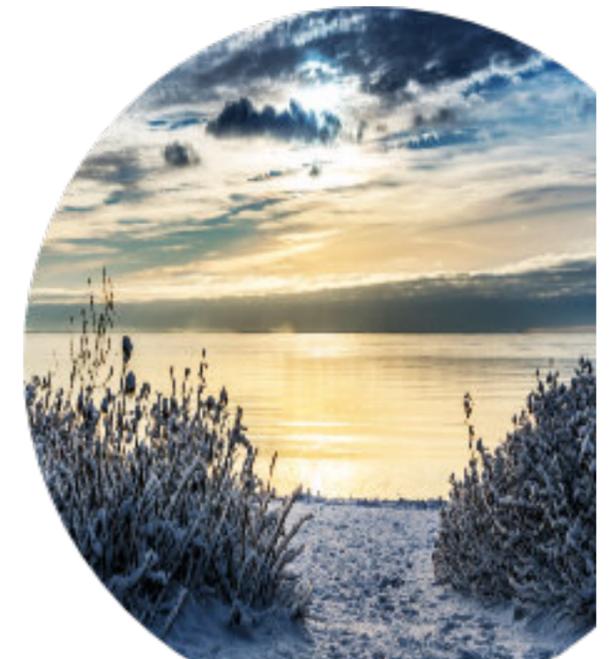
It was almost time to go home,

We got into my miniature car.

I gave Bob a delicious bone.

After a while, there we are.

By Sophie - Year 8





Some of our students used their free time in the Christmas break to cook and bake some delicious French food!

The recipes are still on Google Classrooms if you would like to try yourself and we will feature the photos you send us in the next magazine!

MFL



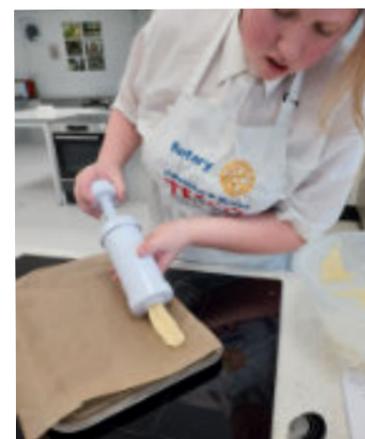
The KS3 MFL Club have been making Schultüten.

In Germany when the children begin school, they receive a 'school cone'. Apparently the thought of attending school every day for the next 12-13 years has to be 'sweetened' with sweets and presents. Their parents fill the cones with treats, school supplies and small gifts.

This is a tradition that dates back to the 18th Century!

MFL CLUB

Come and join our language assistants on Tuesdays, Week 1, 3-4pm for lots of interesting activities.



Food and Nutrition

Lily in Year 9 took part in the West Norfolk heat of the 'Trinity Rotary Club of Kings Lynn' Young Chef cooking competition.

Lily's menu was Mexican-inspired, including nachos with salsa and guacamole, beef tacos with a Mexican salad and churros with berries.

Lily was happy to win the runner-up position and will be attending the district final in Suffolk on 19 February. She will be again using a Mexican theme for her menu but will be tweaking the recipes slightly. She chose Mexican recipes as she finds them "easy to cook, as well as being healthy".

If Lily goes through again, she will be cooking in the Regional final later on this year.

Good Luck Lily!



Back in November 2021, Glasgow was in the news for COP26. This was a summit that brought parties together to accelerate action towards the goals of the Paris Agreement and the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. Climate change is a topic that comes up in Science and Geography subjects regularly.

Students are able to really get hold of this topic and see that something needs to be done. I was delighted to receive so many entries for the competition we ran for students to write a letter to those leaders of the world on their thoughts on how climate change could be tackled.

The winners were Ryan in Year 8 and Summer in Year 9, both winning an Amazon voucher.

The runner-ups were Isabel in Year 8 and Ieuan in Year 9.

Congratulations and thank you to all those who entered! I thoroughly enjoyed reading your thoughts and ideas.

Dear Leaders of the World,

Every living soul on this planet is depending upon you. We need to fix the terrible situation that this world is in, to repair some of the damage done by pollution, climate change and deforestation.

I believe that what we really need is affordable electric cars, because if they are only accessible to a small group of people then we might as well as give up now and wait for the Earth's temperature to increase to the point where there is nothing left to do.

I also think that we should be encouraging homeowners and businesses to use solar panels on their buildings - its is an affordable source of energy once installed as it uses the energy from the sun and increases energy efficiency.

Using wind turbines is another important way to use energy as it uses less energy when it is moved into the transmission system.

Scientists tell us that we need to at least try to reduce the global carbon emissions by 50% by 2030!

I think we should use chicken waste for petrol and diesel to reduce pollution.

Thank you for reading my letter and listening to my thoughts and opinions on climate change and COP26.

Isabel - Year 8

Dear Leaders of the World,

I am a 13 year old student at Smithdon High School in Norfolk. I want to propose some suggestions that may help to improve the world and environment.

I think that using too much paper is going to ruin the planet. This is because too many trees are being chopped down and then being wasted in school books and printing. My solution is to replace school books with iPad's and laptops which would be a good replacement for paper.

Ieuan - Year 9

Dear Leaders of the World,

I believe that we need to act now to reduce climate change! If we do not start to make improvements and change what we and previous generations have done, we will be doomed!

None of you will probably be alive to see what is going to happen but our future generations will and although I cannot speak for all but I know that I don't want this beautiful planet to die. I believe that we all should have a chance to have a long, healthy life but future generations may miss out if we don't start to change for them.

The whole human race is affected by this. There are places in the world that are only just seeing snow for example, meaning the people living there are unprepared and finding it difficult to get to their workplaces which then can lead to poor work performance and possible loss of earnings.

But it is not only the human race that is struggling. With 80% of the world being affected by global warming, half of the world's animals are under threat with the loss of their habitats and food sources.

Here are some things we can do to help:

- Start to decrease the amount of plastic made and used
- Stop cutting down the trees and begin to replant them
- Make electric cars more accessible and affordable to everyone
- Replace the usage of paper in work and school with electronic devices
- Make the electronic devices more affordable for low income families.

I hope that my ideas have been helpful.

Ryan - Year 8



Dear Leaders of the World,

I am 13 years old and I attend school in Norfolk. I would like to propose some suggestions that may help improve our world and environment.

I think fashion is ruining our planet and could be resolved by buying clothes with natural materials so that we don't use so many air miles to get the fabric and clothes shipped to our country. The way it's ruining our world is people in China for example. You have them wasting their time and materials for us to get the clothes and then throw them out. Therefore getting clothes shipped to us from a closer destination could help improve the environment.

Summer - Year 9





The Blight of Plastic

The Sensory Garden

Ecobricks

We all know the marvellous material that's called plastic. We hear about it on the news, we talk about it in school, we recycle and re-purpose it and some of us avoid or eliminate single-use plastics from our lives altogether.

Mrs Bowyer's mission is to teach the students that throwing away used, plastic, non-recyclable items and packaging is not the only option we have.

We can all find ways to re-purpose single-use plastics. One inventive way that Mrs Bowyer has begun to encourage the students to be involved in, is to make Ecobricks for the sensory garden. The bricks will be used to build a shelter with a bench for students that need quiet time or a place to read in the nice weather.

Ecobricks are a way to take advantage



of plastic's pros while protecting against its cons. An ecobrick is a plastic bottle packed with used plastic to a set density. In doing this we take advantage of plastic's durability, longevity, colour and availability to make reusable building blocks. Making an ecobrick is a low-tech, manual, zero-carbon method which helps us to take responsibility for our plastic.

Therefore Mrs Bowyer has set a challenge! The form who make the most ecobricks will win a prize! The deadline is Easter...

This is something you can do at home and get the whole family involved in. You will all be surprised how quickly the bottle fills up with plastic that would usually go to land fill or be incinerated.

This is an example of an Ecobrick that Miles in Year 7 brought in from home. It took his family just one week to fill the bottle!

Making an Ecobrick is a very simple process...

- For your actual brick, use a clear PET bottle such as a milk or water bottle, clean and dry.
- If your plastics are dirty, clean and dry them.
- Use a stick or the end of a long spoon to compress the plastic down.
- Cut up the plastics or fold them and then insert them into the bottle until it is almost full. Squash the plastics down in to the bottom of the bottle and around the sides.
- Fill, squash, repeat.
- It is important that the plastic is compacted the whole way through. You can test it by standing on it, it should be as solid as a brick.
- Cap the bottle and bring to school and give to your form tutor.

Donations:

We are always in need of the plastic bottle-tops to use in the plastic press to make the bats for the wind-chimes. The tops could come from milk bottles, water bottles and squash bottles.

We also need the following for the wind-chimes:

Fishing wire to hang the tinkly objects from.

Nut, bolts, washers, Allen keys and long screws. These will hang on the fishing wire to create the tinkly sound of the metal banging together.

Please bring any donations to Mrs Bowyer in the pastoral office.

We appreciate anything you can donate.



Gardening Club:

The Sensory Garden Club is held every Thursday, 3-4pm.

As it is quite muddy at the moment, it is advisable to bring some clothes to change into.

CSI:

By Kira

On Wednesday 26th January, students took part in our first CSI event!

Thanks to Mrs Pike's awesome ideas, we all got to help investigate intricately. To do this, we used STEMM, otherwise known as science, technology, engineering, maths and medicine.



As we entered, we first put on all our protective equipment to prevent tampering with evidence. Next, we entered the crime scene!

The past investigators had been extremely good at clearing and had left barely anything for us to work with. Luckily, we found multiple pieces of evidence; like blood stains and hand prints, for example.

Next, we began our investigation in the lab. This included dusting for fingerprints, using microscopes on materials and chromatography. In my group, we first tested for the mixtures of stomach acid. Mixing our solvents with our stomach acid, we learnt

that our victim had had a very starchy dinner which eventually revealed her whereabouts. Next, we tested for blood samples, and for what type of blood was found surrounding the body. Using special spy equipment, we found traces of smeared blood around the body and tested it carefully. This revealed the blood type and which suspects had the same.

Next, we all happily had a snack break - thank you, Mrs Pike, for that!

After this, we returned with only 20 minutes, meaning we had to be quick to reveal the culprit. Eventually, we found a system that used the colours of flames to reveal substances found on the victim's body during the murder. This was definitely my favourite bit as the colours were extremely beautiful and all those who wanted to have a go were allowed to. Finally, we luckily revealed the murderer and they were soon arrested.

I found this experience an amazing way to spend my Tuesday evening. I definitely learnt more about crime investigation that I'd ever have thought existed. If another event occurs again, I'd 100% recommend taking part in it if you're interested in science or crime!



If you missed out on this event, don't fear! There will be further events on the following dates:

23 March, 2 May, 20 June, 3-4pm

DT

It has been a busy term within the Design and Technology department!

KS3 have been very hands on with using materials and tools to create their designs, to a high standard.

Wood, metal and electronics have all been worked with to create useful, practical and beautiful products.



This half term, Year 10 have been studying polymers and how they can be used when designing products. They have learned about how polymers are made (including bio-plastics), how to cut and shape them and how polymers can be formed, both in school and in industry. They have also begun to get an idea of the design and research work that will be required, when they start their NEA coursework in June, by working through the same stages in a mini project designing, modelling and making prototype phone stands from sheet acrylic on the laser cutter.



Year 7 have used product briefs and specifications to help them design and create night lights. They have been working with MDF to make the outline for the letters and have been soldering their electric circuits for the LED lights that will be added.

Year 8 are making steel bottle openers. They are currently measuring, marking and drilling the steel bars to make the hook of the opener.



Year 9 are developing a digital portfolio of research and design, leading them to make jewellery in either pewter, acrylic or plywood.

Year 10 have finished of their mechanical toys with helicopters and bears adorning them.

SPORTS and GAMES



Basketball

The Year 8 Boys team proudly represented Smithdon at their first basketball tournament. The tournament consisted of 9 West Norfolk schools to play a round-robin style.

Smithdon started their first game nervously but soon grew into the game with a shot scored by Alfie with 45 seconds left to win their opening game. The next few games were tough, they played strong teams, such as Marshland, KES and Springwood. They all showed great teamwork and even though they lost a few games, they came off the court smiling and laughing at the shots they missed with true spirit.

The last game saw their best performance so far, passing the ball around, dribbling confidently and even trying some lay-up shots. Alfie, Lewis and Jaden got onto the score sheet with their fantastic shots and finished their last game with a win!

Overall, the Smithdon boys team won 2 games, drew 1 game and lost 4 games. They came 8th overall but certainly ended it on a high.

The Year 9 Girls team participated in a basketball tournament held at KLA, They played 5 games against Springwood, KES, and KLA. They played with a fantastic team spirit with some good skills that they have transferred from their basketball lessons in PE.

County Cross Championships

A long trip to Langley School saw 9 lucky students who had advanced into the next round of the County Cross Country in December 2021. The competition was very competitive with 70-80 runners in each year's groups, across schools in Norfolk competing for the top 12 places to advance to represent Norfolk nationally. It was a tough race for all Smithdon runners but they all did fantastically to place highly compared to previous years.

Year 7 - Harry (31st), Jacob (32nd), Anya (38th), Martha (42nd), Ellie (56th) Noah (57th), Jamie (68th)

Year 8 - Seb (72nd)

Year 10 - Ollie (31st)



Badminton

The KS3 Boys badminton team, made up of Year 8 students, performed exceptionally well during the tournament held at KES. They won the majority of their games, with Chester and Taylor playing singles and Freddie and Reece playing doubles. The overall results saw the team come 2nd !

This was the first badminton tournament for the Year 9 Girls, which was played against: KLA, KES, Springwood and Terrington St Clements.

Throughout the tournament, the team had a run of fantastic results with Ella and Summer winning 2 out of 4 games and Brooke and Lola winning 3 out of 4 games.

Both teams' results were combined giving Smithdon a 3rd place finish overall in the tournament.

A big "Well Done" to all the students who competed with great team spirit and a fantastic attitude.



The Trussell Trust Easter Food Bank Appeal

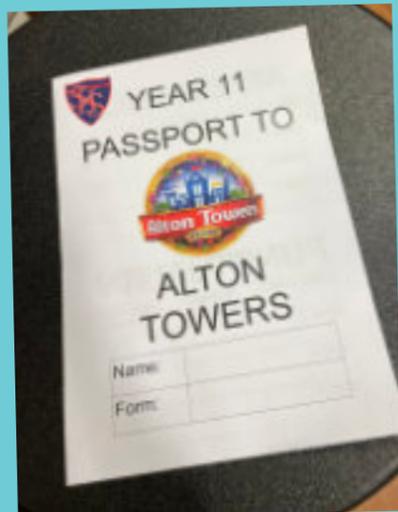
To keep the message of giving, kindness and charity alive in 2022, we will be organising another collection for Easter.

We would like to ask for donations of chocolate eggs and Easter treats that some families may not be able to provide for their children to mark and celebrate the occasion.

The school library will again be the focus of the collection but feel free to hand them to your form tutors who will pass them on.

Thank you for your support and generosity. It is so important to us that we are able to offer what support we can to our community.

Year 11



We have been celebrating the hard work and dedication of our Year 11 students each week during their assembly. Staff have been asked to nominate Year 11 students who have been working hard in lessons, showing good progress and showing great engagement by attending intervention or revision sessions.

Every nomination by a teacher or staff member gets placed in the rewards box. The more times you are nominated, the more time your name appears in the box and the bigger your chance of winning.

Each week there are a series of prizes ranging from chocolate and food vouchers to Beats headphones, and there will be more surprises to come as we head towards the start of GCSE examinations.

Every Year 11 student has the chance to win!

So make sure you have good attendance and punctuality. That you attend interventions and booster sessions. And that you are receiving plenty of achievement points.

Please check Smithdon's website for links to Maths revision to support Year 11 over the half term.

Booster sessions and interventions will continue after the half term.

Leavers: 2021

By Mr Chapman

Due to Covid restrictions, Smithdon High School was unable to hold its annual Awards evening for our 2021 Year 11 leavers.

However, students will be sent their awards and shields.

Awards were given for each subject area. In addition, awards were given for overall attainment and progress.



A number of special awards were also presented including:

The Clare Shield for English Language.

The Connie Martin Award for English Literature.

The Hall Exhibition Foundation Endowed Prize for Mathematics.

The Hunstanton Round Table Award for Physical Education.

The NHS Shield for Health and Social Care.

The Claire Shield for Art.

Awards recognising further achievements including:

The George Raines Memorial Award for Sport.

The Richard Shaw Award 2021 for School Values.

The Hunstanton Lions Prize for Service to the School and its Community.

The Pastoral Leader Award 2021

The Rotary Young Citizen Award.

Congratulations to Award winners:

Hugo, Connor, Eleanor, Jack, Thomas, Joel, Alex, Tibby, Joel, Alana, Morgan, Ella, Eleanor, Chloe, Blake, Chloe and Harry.



BUSINESS OUTREACH PROGRAMME

We are very grateful to the businesses that continue to support our weekly Attendance Raffle prize draw.

The £10 Amazon gift voucher is presented to a student from each year group who have achieved 100% attendance and punctuality in school the previous week.

This sponsorship is not only important as an incentive for the students to be here every day and on time but it is a way to create community links and forge external relationships with businesses in our local area.



**32 High Street
Hunstanton
mrbunthebaker.com**



**13 The Green
Hunstanton
01485 532252
princesshunstanton.co.uk**



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**PROCTOR ROOFING
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Unit 12 Cheney Crescent
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ATTENDANCE Matters

All of our pupils had to adapt last year to online learning. This has led to an increase in parents asking for work to be sent home when their child is unwell. Unfortunately, we can only provide work in exceptional circumstances (e.g. When a student is isolating or has had a major injury). Online learning is no substitute for being in the classroom and engaging with the teachers and fellow students.

Thank you to all the parents and students who have taken on board our previous newsletter item regarding coming into school later if able to rather than missing an entire day. It's been positive to see students doing this and being able to attend some lessons rather than miss a whole day. This is a valuable amount of learning, particularly for those in exam years.

Raffle Winners this term:

Year 7: Rowan, Larissa.

Year 8: Ella, Jack, Jenni, Archie.

Year 9: Charlie, Maisie, Teddi, Thomas.

Year 10: Charlie, Louie, George, Shelby.

Year 11: Oliver, Tiah, Hayden, Theo.

Well done to the forms with the best attendance this half term:

Year 7 - Mrs Soper

Year 8 - Mrs Dibble

Year 9 - Miss Ruskin

Year 10 - Miss Fairweather

Year 11 - Mr Ward

To report a student's absence, please use one of the following methods:

Phone: 01485 536123

Text: 07935 059774

Email: attendance@smithdonhigh.org.uk

Get in touch...

Phone: 01485 534541

Email: office@smithdonhigh.org.uk

Website: www.smithdonhigh.org.uk

Twitter: [@smithdon_high](https://twitter.com/smithdon_high)

Enjoy your break, be safe and we will see you all on 21st February.

Thank you for taking the time to read our school magazine. If you would like to be involved by producing work or creating content, please contact Miss Taylor in the library:
m.taylor@smithdonhigh.org.uk