



The Smithdonian

Smithdon High School Magazine



The July 2022 Issue



Mr Hirst and Mrs Gibbins welcome you....

So summer is well and truly here with a bang! We write as the weather starts to cool after the hottest days of the year so far - and as things are cooling down in preparation for the summer holiday.

This term's newsletter is jam packed in celebration of the many events and activities that were able to take place this term - and although there was no time to include them, it reflects the two weeks we have enjoyed celebrating student successes with parents at the Summer Concert, the Springwood Music Festival, the Key Stage 3 Awards Evening and the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Presentation Evening, to name but a few.

Read on to see what events our Yr8, Yr9 and Yr10 sports leaders have successfully organised to display their leadership skills; to find out about the many musical and drama performances the students have been involved with, as well as the Yr11 Leavers' celebrations; Science, French and English subject trips that have been enjoyed, and many other opportunities our students and staff have been involved with.

As we introduce Mr Hirst's final Smithdonian edition, before he moves on to an active retirement, all the staff, the students and I wish him well for an enjoyable future - and I invite you to read the magazine supplement, 'This is your (Smithdon) Life', full of memories, messages and pictures of his three years at the helm of the school.

Have a wonderful summer holiday - enjoy the beautiful weather as long as it lasts.

Mr Hirst and Mrs Gibbins

SMITHDON IN THE NEWS

Smithdon's art installation makes a splash...

Budding young artists at Smithdon High School showed they are back in the 'swim' of things after the restrictions of Covid with an installation that features a shoal of sparkling fish, each bearing a positive message.

Working with artist Jessica Perry from the North West Norfolk Arts Society that funded the installation, Year 7 students designed and created the laser-cut fish, which included words relating to coming back to school and reforming their community, as well as being back out and about in the community following the relaxation of Covid rules.

The fish cascaded from the ceiling of the main hall to form the centrepiece of an art exhibition with a theme of **Revive**. The Installation's permanent home will now be in the middle of the atrium within the school's Shaw Building, where the fish will be able to catch the light as they move in the air.

Year 7 students contributed mono-prints, while Year 8 created ink drawings, lino prints, and colour pencil drawings, and Year 9 produced Biro drawings, screen prints, and fine line drawings.

"It was our first exhibition since lockdown," said Mrs Gibbins, "The theme of Revive, following a new head of department joining Smithdon, along with the installation, meant it was the perfect time for us to fully come together to celebrate our resilience, society's changes, and the wider community of Hunstanton and the surrounding areas. It is a vital element of what we do that parents and the community are able to come into the school to witness the successes of our students and see first-hand the fantastic work that has been produced."

She added that creativity has long been championed by the West Norfolk Academies Trust, of which Smithdon is part, with students encouraged to express themselves through art, design technology, photography and textiles.

The number of students going on to study art-based subjects in further education has more than tripled over the past three years.

Miss Phelps, Head of Art, added: "I am delighted with the success of the Installation in particular and for the students to be able to work closely with an artist like Jessica."



US pop siblings perform at Smithdon!



Siblings from Nashville have visited Smithdon High School in Hunstanton to perform and highlight issues surrounding mental health.

The Nashville duo are made up of Juna N Joey and have kicked off their summer with their latest single which was released in June.

Not just any old tour, the duo have been going around schools, including West Norfolk and across the country, playing a performance as well as doing a talk on mental health and bullying issues that are so prevalent in young people. *More Than A Maybe* is an upbeat hit which evokes memories of high-school romances.

At such a young age, the pair are already doing admirable and inspirational things. Feeling a sense of duty, Juna N Joey will be using their platform to speak out about these issues, helping to create an awareness in young audiences that have that sense of relatability.

They believe that mental health isn't talked about enough with children and in a time where it is only skyrocketing, more people need to take action.

In addition, Juna N Joey have also become ambassadors to One Tree Planted charity, an organisation put in place to help plant trees where they are needed most.

Originally from West Palm Beach, Florida, and now having become Nashville recording artists, the duo has amassed some 11 million views and 1.5 million likes on TikTok.

The students at Smithdon danced and clapped along with the music. There was also a chance to buy some merchandise and pose for photos and receive autographs from the inspirational duo.

This was an amazing and unique opportunity for the students to meet and converse with young people from across the pond!



By Mr Chapman

Thursday 16 June was the last full day in school for Year 11. As is tradition, students sign each other's shirts to make their own personalised souvenir of their time at Smithdon High School.

The afternoon could not have been better, the sun was shining so students enjoyed listening to music whilst chatting, taking photographs and signing shirts before going out onto the school field for a group photograph.

Our Year 11s took home a personal file with lots of awards and other achievements that they have gained over the past 5 years. We wish all of our Year 11s the best of luck in their next steps.



Smithdon High School celebrated the successes of their Year 11s on the morning of Friday 24 June. Our smartly dressed students enjoyed a light breakfast in the hall before gathering in their form groups for one final form time with their tutors.

The celebration assembly started at 10am and it was great to see so many parents joining us for the event. Mr Chapman was first to speak, delivering a message from Head of School, Mrs Gibbins, who was unable to be there, due to covid, before talking about the group's many and varied achievements since joining the school in 2017. He was delighted to present certificates to the senior student team including the Head students, Caitlin and Theo.

A £50 shopping voucher was presented to Thomas who was the only student to gain 100% attendance in his five years at Smithdon High School.

Year 11 tutors, Mr Ward, Mrs Charlton-Trewick, Mrs France and Mrs Johnson each spoke about their form groups. Form group 11KGi were introduced by Mr Chapman. Each student received their achievement folder from Pastoral Manager, Miss Green. This contained certificates and awards that students had gained in their time at the school as well as a reference written by their tutor.

Mr Hirst closed the assembly by presenting Head Girl, Caitlin with the final English Pen of the Week for 2022. He paid tribute to the students of Year 11 before inviting them to leave the school and take advantage of all the opportunities which life will bring them.



Mr Chapman saying goodbye to the Year 11 leavers.



The 2022 Year 11 Leavers' Prom took place at Knights Hill Hotel in King's Lynn on Thursday 30 June.

87 students attended the event along with many of their teachers. Colours chosen for the theme were black and gold with the tables decorated with black and gold balloons. Head Boy, Theo, and Head Girl, Caitlin, designed an appropriate laminated ticket as a souvenir of the event.

Arrival was at 6.30pm with many families watching students arrive in various vehicles including cars, motorbikes, an HGV truck and a horse. One student even arrived on a unicycle.

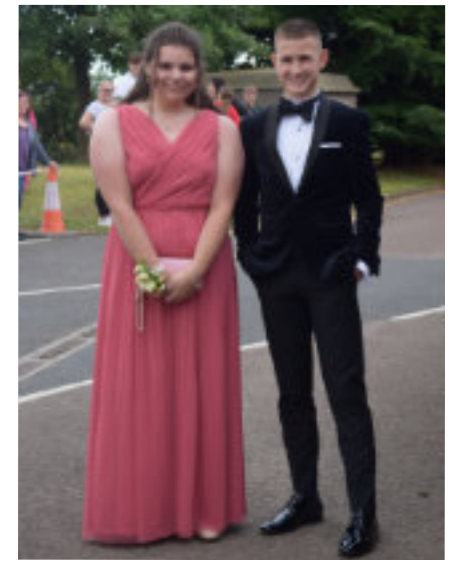
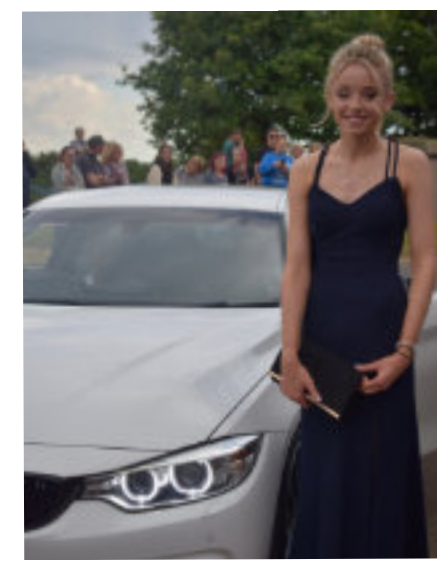
Everyone enjoyed the evening, which included a three course meal, as well as an excellent disco.

It was great to celebrate our students' end of schooling at Smithdon High School.

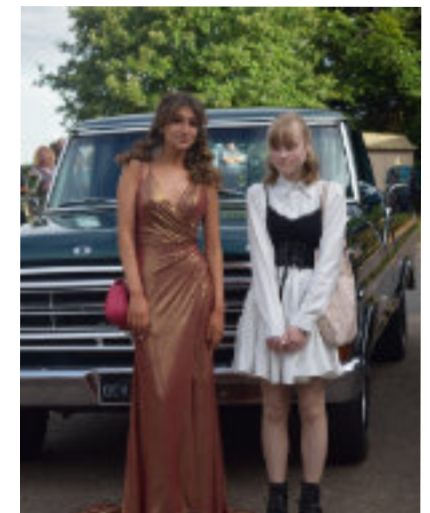


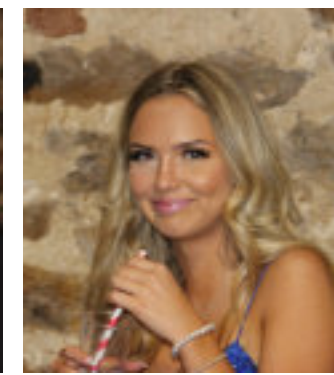
The Entrances...





The Dresses...

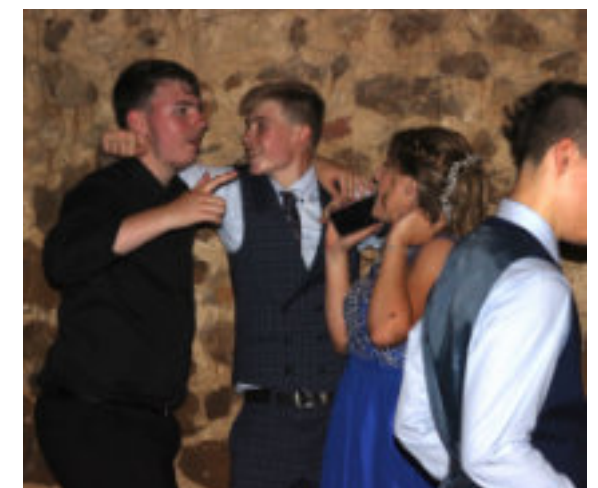
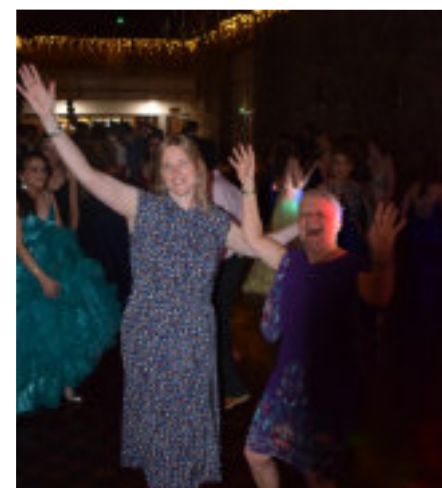




The Suits...



The Evening...





Nous sommes allés en France!

In the very early hours of July 1st, 30 students and 4 members of staff set off for France on our first school trip abroad since 2019. It had been quite a feat getting ourselves even this far, with last-minute scrambles for passports, Covid passes and Covid tests, so everyone was very excited as we left (once the bus had arrived at the right school!). First stop was Springwood, where the bus picked up their 29 students and 4 staff, then off we went to France.

We crossed the Channel by ferry from Dover to Calais and for many of us this was our first time abroad, so even the ferry trip was exciting. The open air deck was very popular on such a clear, hot day and the views were superb. Arriving in France, we headed for the beach at Berck-sur-Mer, a seaside town with gorgeous white sandy beaches, and many of us practised our French by buying ice-creams or crêpes. (Did those people at the ice cream stall really not speak English or had they been tipped off by the teachers?) Then it was on to the chateau for an evening meal, settling in to the pod village and free time to relax.

Saturday was our big day in Paris and that was fantastic (or, as we French-speakers say, c'était fantastique!). First stop was Montmartre, walking up all the steps (and there were hundreds!) to la Cathédrale de Sacre-Coeur, then being able to look over the whole of Paris. Montmartre is filled with little shops and cafés, so there were plenty of opportunities to practise our French again, buying souvenirs and, of course, more crêpes.

Then it was on to the Tour Monparnasse. The tower has 60 floors and some people were a little nervous about going up in the lifts, so a few of the boys helped out by speculating what it would be like if the lifts failed. Merci beaucoup! Apparently, one of the Springwood boys began

to scream the moment the lift doors closed...luckily, none of us were in that lift! The view from the top of the tower is breathtaking: there is a glass-sided viewing platform and you can see across the whole of Paris, including the Eiffel Tower. After that it was picnic time by the Eiffel Tower, followed by a boat trip on a bateau-mouche.

On Sunday morning, we went to Accrobranche - the French version of 'Go Ape'. There were different levels of difficulty for this and the staff had a go too. The final part of the hardest level was a zip wire over the lake, though some people had already chickened out when they had to climb up the rope ladder into the trees! After lunch back at the chateau, we went for a walk around the local town, Montdidier, some of us ending up with a spending spree in the supermarché (and more French speaking). On the way back, we stopped at one of the many WW1 cemeteries, where we saw the graves of both French and German soldiers. It was a very moving experience, being able to see in reality what we'd learnt about in History back in school.

Our final visit on the trip was to a chocolate factory, as we drove to Calais on Monday. The master chocolatier gave us a demonstration of how the chocolate is made and there were samples to try afterwards too - the factory had a shop too which was very popular, of course!

We arrived back at Smithdon late on Monday evening. It was a fabulous trip and we were all really pleased to have had the opportunity to travel to France. Thanks to everyone for making it so memorable!

By Mrs France



After a long journey, the students were glad to have a break from the coach. We stopped off at Plage du Braek which had beautiful white, soft sand. Some of the students went to buy crème glacée using their French language skills.



The Eco-pods were a perfect size for 3-4 people, and were really cosy! - Mia



It was really nice being able to explore a whole new country with our friends. - Kira



On Saturday, we spent the day in Paris...

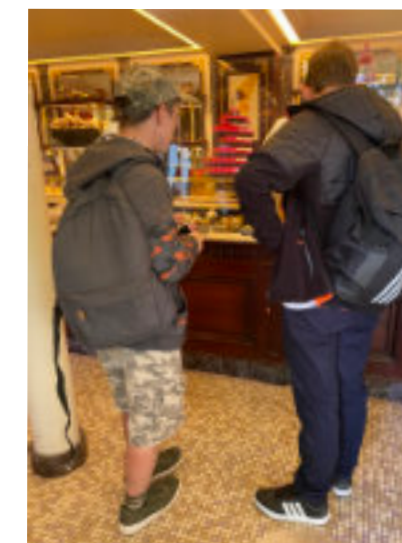
Our first stop was the Sacre-Coeur. It was a hot day and climbing the steps definitely counted as a workout! The students then had free-time to peruse the gift shops, buy a crepe or just soak up the vibe of the Parisian, cobbled streets behind the Sacre-Coeur.



C'était fantastique - Mia



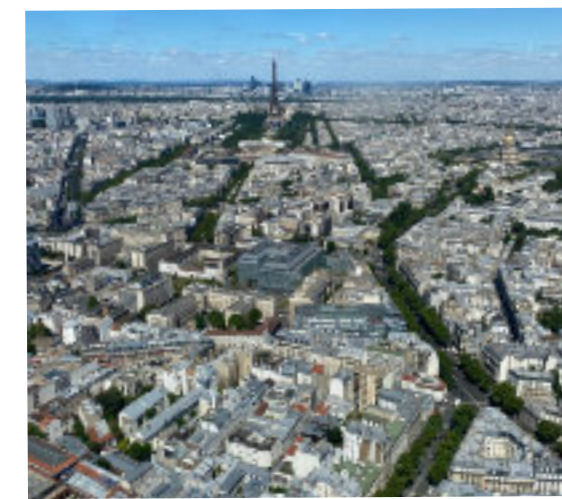
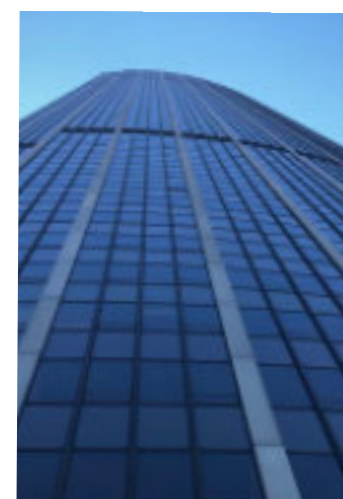
Izzy and Grace throwing a Euro into the fountain.



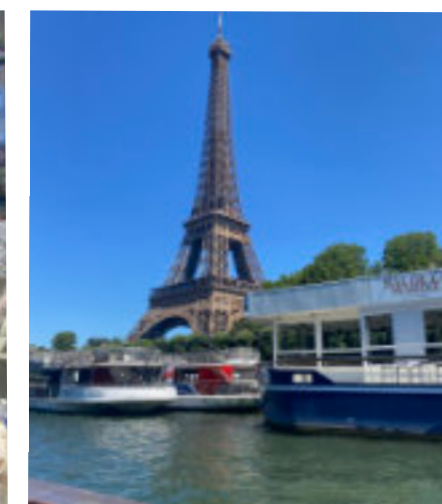
Aidan and Joe perusing the delicious cakes in the Patisserie.



Ms Wright with Kira, Emily, Lily and Ellakha at the Sacre-Coeur.



Joe, Ryan, Stephen, Hamish and Colby at the top of the Montparnasse - with the incredible view of Paris.



I enjoyed the boat trip down the Seine River in Paris the most! - Ella



My favourite part was 'go ape' because I had never done it before and it was pretty fun! - Jacob

Sunday was 'Activity Day' and the students enjoyed zip-wires and climbing trees! After a practice, they were all experts and there was a lot of laughter echoing down from the trees above.

After lunch at the Chateau, we visited the town of Montdidier. In groups we were given tours of the historic town. And to Isobel's delight, there was a chance to shop in the local mini-market!





Montdidier...



The 'Mr Potato-head' statue!



Marcia celebrated her birthday whilst in France and the chef was kind enough to create a doughnut cake!



The local French town was beautiful and very interesting - Isobel



Charades and marshmallows around the bonfire.



Ryan and Isobel paired up for charades.



Marcia could hear the spirit of the Japanese warrior telling her to 'get a McDonald's!'



Isobel took any opportunity to go shopping!



The staff at the Chateau were really friendly and welcoming and their activities were fun - Isaac



I think the French trip was such an exciting experience with all my friends. The Eiffel Tower really is incredible, the weather was amazing too! Paris is so beautiful - Izzy



Au revoir France, tu as été formidable...



French and German soldiers from WW1 lay side by side in this cemetery. Some have names, some are unknown. Jewish as well as Muslim soldiers fought in the war and are also buried here.



By Miss Soper

We have enjoyed a fantastic year in the allotment garden!

With the help of Matt and Poppy from the Papillon project we have turned what was a disused space into a fabulous and productive garden.

This term our students had the opportunity to give members of the Hunstanton Rotary Club a guided tour, discussing the plants they have been growing, what they have enjoyed most and their plans for the future of the garden.

Thank you to Matt and Poppy and the Papillon project for all their help and support making this project a success!

Thanks also to Mr Crofts and the Hunstanton Rotarians for their interest in our project and their kind offer of volunteer support to help us maintain and expand our allotment garden in the future.

I would also like to thank all the students involved this year, for all your shovelling, digging, planting, weeding and watering. You have all helped to make a fantastic garden.



Hope, Crystal and Amelia being interviewed by BBC Radio Norfolk's Anna Perrot for The Garden Party Show.



The Hunstanton Rotarians came to see the progress we have made.

The Papillon project is the charity that helped us start our own allotment garden at Smithdon High School.

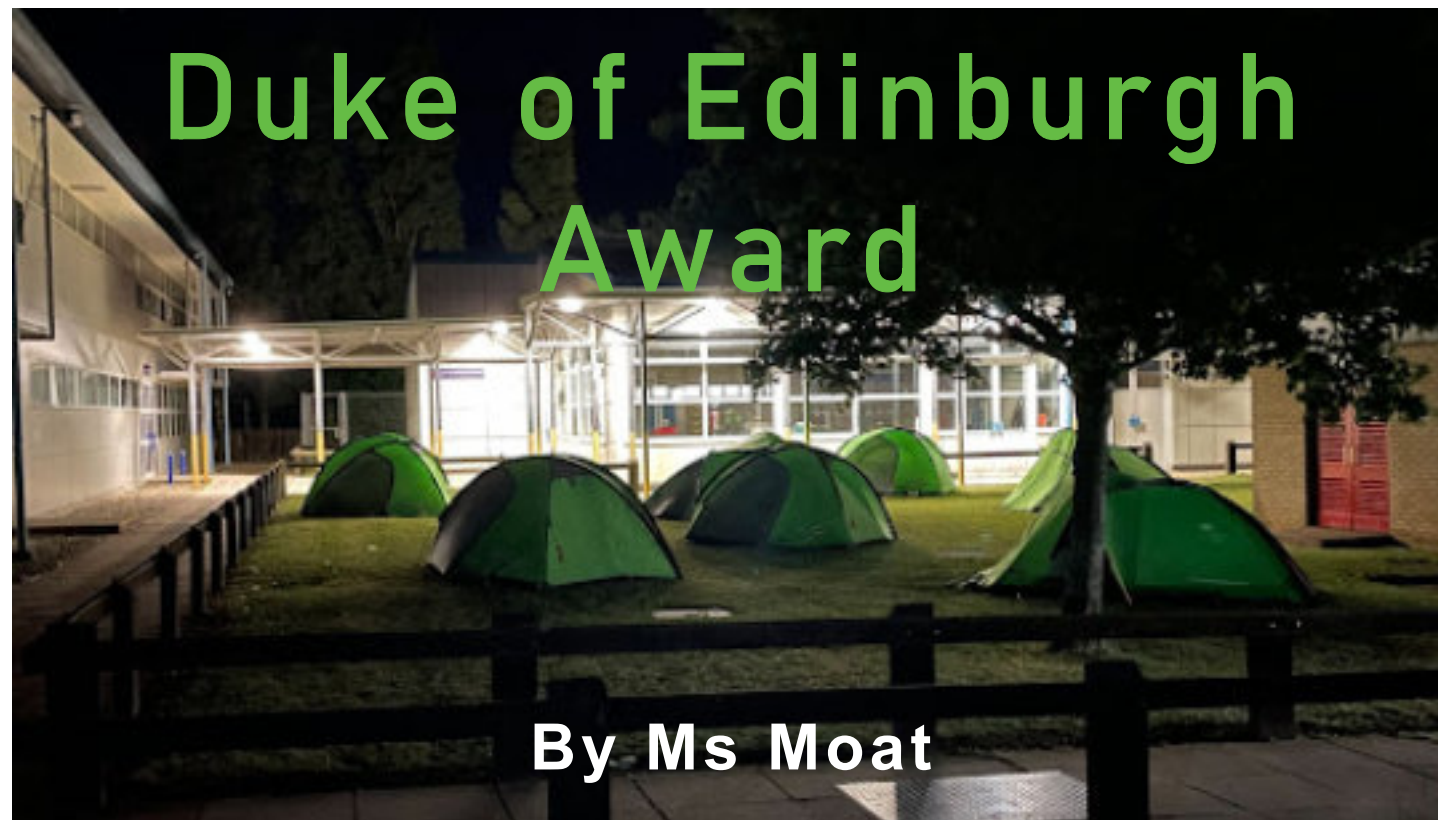
In June, we had an opportunity to visit the Royal Norfolk show and present our project to the public. We loved it there, it was amazing. At first, we went to learn about potatoes but then it was time for Amelia, Crystal, Alex and me to go to the Papillon project stand. We had our first shift and at first we were shy but still went up to people to talk to them and some said no but that was fine. I kept trying and trying so we gave out loads of leaflets to people, with radish seeds for them to plant at home. We had so much fun. I hope you will come to visit the garden and join our gardening club.

By Hope - Year 7

There were many animals at the Royal Norfolk show including: pigs, sheep, cows and horses. We went to see little children taking care of animals. It was so adorable when they were showing the animals in the ring. It did stink a bit but that's how compost is made and we need it for our garden to help the plants grow.

By Amelia - Year 7





The Duke of Edinburgh Award has been a huge success this year! We have been one of the first schools in the area to get back to camping after Covid. There have been 30 participants taking part this time. They completed their sections - Skill, Volunteer and Physical allowing them to attain the Achievement Award. As a cohort they have volunteered for a total of 416 hours over the year. This is the equivalent special value of £1921.92.

The participants moved on to complete their practice expedition and assessment expedition, where they did several days of walks carrying all of their equipment.

Participants then worked on their presentations which were recorded for their English Speaking and Listening element of their GCSE. They have been an outstanding group and I hope to see many take on the Silver Award!

Also a big thank you to all of our volunteers; without them it would not be as successful as it is!

Well done to everyone.



My best experience from DofE was the walk. It didn't feel rushed, meaning we were relaxed and able to take a lot of photos, some of nature and some of us. We didn't have a lot of breaks but when we did it was enough so we could recharge and chill out for a bit.

I really liked it when we had our last break as we were all very happy and excited because we were so close to finishing and it made us feel very proud of ourselves.

Our leader Charlie left us after the first hour which gave us more independence. We would then meet up with her and then she'd meet us somewhere farther ahead later and it repeated like that for the rest of it.

I learnt how to read maps more confidently, and to do things more independently during DofE and at home

By Jaz - Year 9



On Thursday 7 July Mrs Pike took 12 students from Year 8 and 9 to the UEA Bringing Scientists to you event at Marshland High School. There the students were able to have a go at a variety of activities from Fantastic Fluids, secret messages, Animal movement with climate change and finishing off with Robotic programming. The staff from the UEA were fantastic and answered loads of questions from the students.

Student comments from the trip were:

I really enjoyed the fun science experiments like Lego robots and funky fluids and would love to go again.

My favourites were the funky fluids and Lego robots and 100% would go again.

It was fun and I learnt a lot about science.

Going on the trip really opened my mind up for further education and higher learning opportunities. It was really fun and was really helpful as we got to experience the experiments that we would be doing at university. This has even made me think of wanting to be in the field of science when I'm older so was very useful.



Holkham Hall



The Farm to Fork Trip

On arrival at Holkham Hall, we were greeted by the staff who were ready to take us to our first activity. As it was such a big group we split into two groups. Mrs Nash and Mrs Coe went with the Year 10's and myself and Mr



Ashwell took the Year 9 to the wonderful walled-garden where Head Chef Michael Chamberlain, who works in The Victoria Inn, was there to take us on a tour of the fruit and vegetable gardens.

We wandered around with Michael telling us about what they grow and how they use the produce in The Victoria Inn. He then asked us questions, to which some of the students answered and impressed me with their great knowledge on seasonal produce. We then headed to the Education Shed to watch Head Chef Michael butcher a Muntjac deer that had been caught on the estate. He explained the importance of seasonal foods and how to avoid wasting anything that had been caught, reared or grown on the estate. The students listened so intently you could have heard a pin drop in the shed. Whilst talking to us Head Chef Michael expertly portioned the Muntjac and gave examples of how each cut will be used in future dishes. He then cooked the loin for all the students to try. I was pleasantly surprised to see so many of the students try it and indeed like it!

After the question and answer session we stopped for lunch and got to enjoy the cafe and courtyard area.

Our second activity was all about the produce that is grown and reared on the estate and how and where this takes place. We had a look around the farm to fork museum and watched a video on what is produced on the farm. Following these we were lucky enough to go on the guided tractor-trailer tour around the estate.

All aspects of the farm were pointed out to us as we got to see parts of the estate not usually seen on your everyday visit. From a teaching point of view it was a really great experience for the students to see in real life what farm to fork really means. Not only did the students and I learn so much but it was also a wonderful day and an experience that we will be offering to our future groups.

The students thoroughly enjoyed themselves and were extremely well behaved - they made Smithdon High School proud. A big THANK YOU to all the students and staff for making the day a wonderful experience.

From one proud teacher,

Mrs Dibble.



Geography Field Trip

All Year 10 Geographers took part in our annual Norwich field day on Wednesday 29 June. Students were accompanied by Mr Chapman, Ms Bazeley-Smith, Mrs Johnson, Mr Duncan and Mrs Nash-Pay.

On arrival in Norwich, we carried out a range of urban fieldwork techniques including traffic counts, pedestrian counts, questionnaires, land use surveys and environmental quality surveys.

Students also enjoyed the open top bus tour of Norwich operated by City Sightseeing. The 45 minute tour took us all over Norwich with views of the castle, cathedral, the river Wensum, the railway

station and Norwich City Football Club. The highlight of the trip was a journey up Mousehold Heath to experience an amazing view across the city.

An attraction for Norwich this summer is the GoGoDiscover Trail in association with Break. Some students took the opportunity to have their photograph taken with one of the 55 large T.Rex dinosaurs which can be found in Norwich until 10 September 2022

And, of course, there was also time for lunch and a bit of shopping!





The Cambridge Writing Prize

The Cambridge Writing Prize is open to students at selected schools in Norfolk.

Year 9 students were invited to submit a critical analysis of one or more of the BBC shortlisted Short Stories.

Students who submitted an essay to the competition travelled to Cambridge on Tuesday 5 July where they attended a lecture, met current undergraduates at Gonville and Caius College, and enjoyed lunch in a traditional college dining hall.

On Tuesday 5 July, a few talented students earned the opportunity to attend an English literature event at Cambridge University for the day!

Recently, Year 9 students had the task of writing a critical analysis on the short story, Scrimshaw, by Elley Williams. The most intellectual and fascinating pieces were forwarded to 4 judges, who approved the final pieces for eventual selection.

Once we arrived at Cambridge, we were immediately escorted to the hall to be introduced to Cambridge University and what it's like to study there. We were introduced to the courses available at Cambridge, such as the arts and humanities, sciences and, most importantly, English.

Throughout the day, we attended Q&As with current students of Cambridge and we gained lots of useful information with regards to everyday life, finances and timetables. We also were given a tour of one of the

colleges, which was awesome to see. My favourite part of the tour was the massive library, holding books ranging from fiction to fact.

After lunch, we came to our final two events of the day; a lecture on *Macbeth* and, the most exciting bit, the winner of the Cambridge shortlist prize!

Once I heard that the lecture was based on *Macbeth*, I was so, so excited. I'm an absolute nerd for *Macbeth* and could read it over and over again. So, as you could guess, when the lecture began I was very excited. However, I didn't find it interesting at all! I thought that it would be more of a discussion group, than reading quotes from the book.

Nevertheless, the lecturers' ideas were interesting and intriguing to hear.

Finally came the best bit of the day; the competition awards!

The overall winner was a student from Marshland High School.

From Smithdon, we had a runner-up, Stephen-Congratulations!

Thank you to the English department (especially Ms Wright and Miss Taylor) for an amazing day!

By Kira - Year 9



On Saturday 2 July we took 6 students to perform at The Hunstanton Drama Festival, at The Princess Theatre. Our students performed "Bang out of Order", written by Danny Sturrock and Johnny Carrington. The play is gritty, raw and highlighted the issues that society faced in and around 2007 but still very current today. It is about 4 friends, 1 secret, 1 chance and 1 life. The play tackles anti-social behaviour head on. The play is a roller coaster ride and our students were able to educate, amuse and challenge their audience!

At Smithdon, we deeply value the importance and pleasure of all co-curricular activities - and especially those in the performing arts. The students have met once a week after school (and lunches nearer to the event) to ensure they were performance ready!

For the previous few weeks, the students have spent time learning line, creating physical theatre, blocking and rehearsing the play.

Our students – Maddison, Gracie, Louie, Viktorija, Maisie and Jake were amazing! They chose to use naturalistic and non- naturalistic styles to really show the audience the issues that were presented in the script. Our students were able to present their work to a panel of judges! It is so important to take part in these incredible opportunities so the students can see how the theatre works and the community are able to see how talented students are at Smithdon.

We met outside the theatre for the technical run and all

students seemed excited but also very nervous! Maisie was on technical so had a huge role to play in this rehearsal! Once we got inside they were able to run sections of the play on the raked staging- some of which had never seen or used it before. Technical runs do take a long time to complete and our students only had an hour to run through as much as they could and Maisie was fantastic- a real natural. They were impeccably behaved despite the nerves kicking in!

Once the technical run was over the students only had a short break before it was show time in front of a live audience and judges! They sat patiently in their dressing rooms and waited for the "Smithdon High School 5-minute call". Deep breaths were taken and they made their way up to the wings. The music started... "a total lack of respect..." and our wonderful students turned instantly into angry antisocial teenagers... and they nailed it!

We were so proud watching from the wings; so proud of those who have performed many times and so proud of those who had never performed on a theatre stage before! As a collective they supported and helped each other throughout rehearsals and on stage; they were a true ensemble. Although we are yet to receive our feedback from the judges; it is with great delight that we can announce, Gracie was awarded Best Youth Actress!

A huge congratulations to all of our 6 superstars!!

Miss Brown & Mrs Proctor



performing ARTS

By Miss Miller

What another busy term it has been! We ended our last half term by hosting our *Oliver Jnr* auditions and casting the show and as soon as we returned to school we got started!

We began by learning two songs from the show; both singing and dancing. We have had so many performances this term and we wanted them to look amazing.

The school hosted a wonderful Art Exhibition. We provided a musician to create some lovely ambience!

We also started our new Junior Trust Orchestra this term, where we have had students from some of the primary schools coming here once a week to play

and learn music together. It has been such a fun opportunity to work with a few of our feeder schools and to make music together!

The first performance we completed was at the Hunstanton Carnival on Sunday 26 July. The students came out looking sharp in their school uniform, singing and dancing songs from both *Matilda Jr.* and *Oliver Jr.* The students were absolutely amazing, and despite having a few technical issues with the sound the kids were absolute professionals and never even missed a beat when the music cut out!

We have some real West End Stars in the making!

From there we were so fortunate to be able to give two of our students the opportunity to play piano at the Royal Norfolk Show with their Peripatetic music teacher, Mr Howell. This took so much courage and bravery and we could not be prouder of their performance on the big stage!

On Wednesday 6 July we took 20 students to Springwood High School to take part in the Community Music Week. Our students performed two songs on their own and then came together with about 200 students from across the Trust to sing together in commemoration of the Queen's Jubilee.

Our students have been working so hard on these performances, during lunch and after school. They have even worked with a guest singing teacher to get them ready for the cross-trust performance!

And still that is not all! The next day, on Thursday 7 July, we had over 60 students take part in our Annual Summer concert! This included our Junior Trust Orchestra, the Smithdon KS3 Choir, the cast of *Oliver*, the Ukulele Club, the Dance Club, a Year 10 girl group, and many other duets and soloists. We were even lucky enough to have our piano teacher and a colleague come and play at the concert. It was a wonderful success and it was so nice to have so many parents back in the school listening to music created by our students.

And while that all may seem busy enough we ended the term with a lovely group of Year 5s coming to Smithdon on the 15 July to learn a song with us for them to sing for their parents at an awards ceremony in the afternoon.

It certainly has been a busy term but we hope this is just the beginning of many more busy terms and we



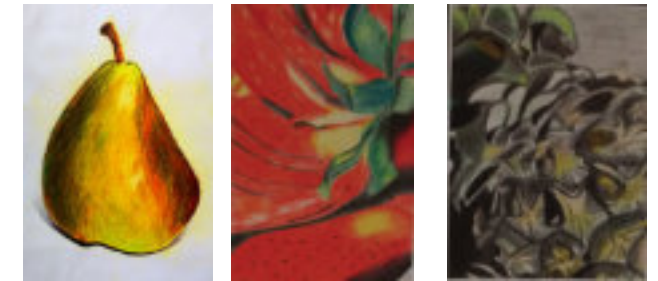
Layla playing the piano at the REVIVE art exhibition.



REVIVE.

Restore to life or consciousness.

Regain life, consciousness or strength.



Sports Day

This term saw the completion of our traditional and inclusive sports day, where students across KS3 and KS4 represent their houses to score as many points they can.

During the national sports weeks students were competing against one another in a series of sports which included rounders, capture the flag, Danish long ball, tennis and lap of the track where pupils work together to gain as many points they can for their houses.

Alongside the inclusive sports, sports day was held for more of the traditional athletics sports, as individuals were competing against each other but also themselves to put their name as a new record holder for the school.

The morning of sports day we saw 5 school records (which have been held for over 20 years) broken in Javelin, High Jump and Long Jump. 4 of the records being broken by Y7s:

Anya - Javelin and High Jump.

Jamie - High Jump

Geo - Long Jump

Connie in Y10 broke the 31- year High Jump record which was an impressive 1.42m high!

In the afternoon, all the school community came out to support, cheer and dance along to the music, whilst the sprint races took place.

A further 6 school records were broken in the 100m and 300m races: Anya with her third record

100m her 4th win of the day, followed by Jack in Year 7 for (100m), and and the rest of the records in 300m by Reece in Year 8, Kira in Year 9, Connie in Year 10 and Kian in Year 10.

The afternoon had a great atmosphere with music playing. The students, joined by Mr Hirst, danced to the Macarena.

Students and staff were able to enjoy the afternoon with ice creams to keep them cool and refreshed whilst watching the races happening.

Well done to all who performed during the day, Y10's Sports House Captains, staff and students who contributed points to their house points.

A massive congratulations to house Moore who won the overall on the day with 1022pts.





Sports and Games

By Chloe - Year 10

Tennis

With Wimbledon fever in the air, our Year 7 students had the fantastic opportunity of spending the afternoon participating in a tennis festival down the road at the amazing facilities of Hunstanton Tennis Club. With the courts hosting one of the biggest junior tournaments in the UK every year, it was fantastic for the students in Year 7 to play on the impeccable grass courts.

Our students all participated in a form

competition - playing doubles and triples against other members in their form. The session finished with them playing in teams with and against their friends. It was great to see so many students participating, playing on the courts and having fun at the same time.

Many thanks to Alive Oasis for allowing us access to the courts.





We were lucky enough to continue the tennis leadership course 'Beyond the Baseline' with our Year 8 students. As part of the Youth Sport Trust initiative, our selected Year 8 students had the opportunity to work with ex tennis professional and athlete mentor Jade Windley. The students had 3 sessions in which they developed their leadership, organisation and communication skills.

In the first session the groups worked together and experienced a variety of tennis drills and activities that they would put to good practice in latter sessions. The second session saw the students work together closely in groups to plan a tennis session that they would deliver to Year 7 students the following week. The groups had the opportunity to practice delivering their sessions to each other in preparation for the final session.

The final day saw the groups deliver their sessions to a Year 7 PE group. Each group organised all equipment required and delivered fantastic sessions, which Jade was very impressed with.

Well done to all involved and we look forward to running the programme again next year.

'It was a good experience, Jade was really lovely and helped us to prepare the sessions. It was good to develop our leadership skills and we really enjoyed learning the different tennis activities and having the opportunity to deliver it to the Year 7s'.

Bonnie and Lillie - Year 8



This summer saw Smithdon compete in many rounders matches against teams including: Downham, Hammonds, Springwood and KES. Despite many defeats Smithdon students remained resilient and also became victorious within a few games.

Preparation for these games were in PE lessons and on Thursdays after school which helped students to develop as well as show off their skills.

Throughout all of the games, students made impressive catches as well as demonstrating a high level of skill when batting.

With another year to prepare, hopefully in 2023 Smithdon will be winning some more of their games!

Players of the match include:

Elizabeth (10)

Gracie (10)

Ruby (9)

Josh (7)

Miles (7)





Kin Ball Festival

Last month saw some of our Smithdon key stage 3 students take part in the West Norfolk Schools KS3 Kin Ball Festival, held at KES. The tournament was held for beginners and acted as an introduction to the sport that only started to be played in the UK in 2014. The six students who took part played games against other schools across the local area and, although coming bottom of the table, they thoroughly enjoyed their time playing at the tournament. They worked well as a team, developed communication and did themselves (as well as the school) proud.

One student that was involved said: "Kin Ball is a fun interactive game in which everyone can participate and no one is left out. Overall the experience was new for all of us and a great way to introduce the game to schools".

Another student said: "Kin Ball is a good sport and the first tournament we played was fun. I learnt a lot from it and it was nice to try something new. I think we should try and do it more often in PE lessons and other sporting events we do at school".

PE Lessons

With Kin Ball being popular at the festival and at lunch time clubs, the PE department decided to

implement Kin Ball into some lessons this term. A selection of Year 7, Year 8 and Year 9 classes were able to experience it.

Students from Year 8 said "Kin Ball was the best sport we have played this year" and that they "would like to continue to learn next year".

The Year 9 students said "Kin Ball was very fun and we enjoyed having a different experience in PE".

Along with "we enjoyed Kin Ball as it was fun competing with multiple groups in one game and it helped us work as a team and develop important skills".

Year 10 GCSE

Another group that managed to experience Kin Ball this term is the GCSE PE group. Their final practical lesson before they went to work experience saw them get into small teams and have a go at playing against one another.

Again the group got "enjoyment and fun" from the session and thought the game was "inclusive and something that all abilities could access".



Smithdon High School once again hosted the Primary School Festival, which saw 8 local schools (Snettisham, Hunstanton, Heacham, Docking, Brancaster, Dersingham, Sandringham & West Newton and Flitcham) come to Smithdon for the day.

For this to successfully happen Mr Ward and his team had to put their trust into us Year 10 students (as well as a couple of Year 9 and past Year 11 students) to plan and organise 19 events. Some, but not all, events consisted of: football, netball, bench ball, assault courses, archery, hockey and Lacrosse. This gave the Year 3 and 4 pupils an insight into what PE is like here at Smithdon.

However, we couldn't host the festival without any preparation, so back in March we were set the task of planning and teaching a lesson for our year group - this was more difficult than the actual day! But this gave us a chance to reflect on and change anything that didn't quite work out; which prepared us in case something went wrong on the day.

On 1 July, we finally hosted the Primary School Festival for 299 students and, despite the rain and thunderstorms, the day was filled with a positive, energetic atmosphere all round and in turn was extremely successful.

Hopefully the same again next year!



Maths

Numeracy Day



All of Year 8 took part in the National Numeracy Day in May!

The aim was to raise awareness of the importance of numbers in everyone's lives and encourage action to increase numeracy levels across the UK.

'With the cost-of-living crisis and continuing effects of Covid, this year, more than ever before, getting on with numbers is a crucial skill. From bagging a bargain at the shops, to using numbers at work or for supporting children, National Numeracy Day is all about the importance of numbers in everyday life for adults and children'.

Year 8 participated in the attempt to break the world record for the most number of students taking part online. They danced and sang the maths song and have received a certificate.


Thank you to the English Department for allowing them to take part in their lessons and well done to all of Year 8 and the English department for being part of the World Record!

MAY ... A LITTLE BIT OF MATHS EVERY DAY					JustMaths	
1 What is $238 + 77$ 314	2 Calculate $50 \times (36 + 6)$ 300	3 What is the missing value? $7 = 942 - 395$ 547	4 What is $6 + 0.3$? 20	5 Calculate $5 - 14$ -9	6 Jade cuts 4 metres of ribbon into three pieces. The length of the first piece is 124 cm. The length of the second piece is 1.65 metres. Work out the length of the third piece. 1.11m	
7 A toy shop orders 11 boxes of marbles. Each box contains 6 bags of marbles. Each bag contains 45 marbles. How many marbles does the shop order in total? 2970	8 Calculate $\frac{57}{100} - \frac{43}{100}$ $\frac{14}{100}$	9 What is? $1\frac{3}{4} - \frac{2}{5}$ $1\frac{13}{20}$	10 What is $6 + 0.25$? 2.4	11 How many vertices does a cuboid have? 8	12 Work out 150×12 1800	
13 What is $12.007 - 7.8$? 4.207	14 Calculate $-7 - 12$ -19	15 Lara chooses a number greater than 20. She divides it by 2 and then adds 6. She then divides this result by 4. Her answer is 4.5. What was the number she started with? 24	16 Calculate 18×46 828	17 Calculate $3.9 + 12.042$ 19.942	18 Work out $4 + 1$ 4	
19 What is 5 million minus 150,000? 4 850 000	20 Which two numbers multiply together to equal 1 million? 200 4 000	21 What is $894 - 89$? 805	22 Round 8 486 to the nearest thousand. 8000	23 Calculate 0.2×10 2	24 Put these numbers in size order (smallest first): 0.78 0.807 5.6 0.078 4.003	
25 What is 25% of 1800? 450	26 What is $1089 - 100$? 989	27 Calculate 15% of £120 £18	REMEMBER: The best way to revise maths is to "do Maths"!			

How many answers did you get right?

MAY ... A LITTLE BIT OF MATHS EVERY DAY

JustMaths

1 Simplify $2a^2b + 3a^2b$ $5a^2b$	2 Write 2.89×10^{-2} as an ordinary number 0.00289	3 Solve $3x - 5 = 16$ $3x = 21$ $x = 7$	4 Simplify $\frac{5m^4 \times 3m^2}{m^2}$ $15m^4$	5 Solve $(x + 2)(x - 3) = 0$ $x = -2, x = 3$	6 There are 742 litres of oil in bags at back. He uses 18.7 litres of oil each day. Estimate the number of days it will take him to use all the oil in the back. $\approx 800 \div 20 = 40 \text{ days}$
7 Work out 130% of £120 156	8 Work out 0.4×12 4.8	9 What is the highest common factor of 22 and 14? 2	10 Three numbers have a mean of 12 and a mode of 10. What are the numbers? $16, 10, 10$	11 Write 24.7×10^{-4} in standard form 2.47×10^{-3}	12 Paul bought a new car. The value of the car was £15 000. In the first year, the value of the car depreciated by 20%. After the first year, the value of the car depreciated by 10% each year. Work out if Paul's car had more than half of its value by the end of three years. $\text{No.} \rightarrow \text{actual } \pounds 9766.22$
13 Factorise $3y + 6$ $3(y+2)$	14 A "thing" is reduced in a sale by 20%. The sale price is £80. What was the original price? $\pounds 100$	15 Write 825 as a product of its prime factors. $3 \times 5^2 \times 11$	16 Simplify $a^2 + a^2$ $2a^2$	17 Expand $a(a - 3)$ $a^2 - 3ac$	18 What is the surface area of the prism? $250cm^2$ 
19 What is the area of a circle with a diameter of 10 cm? $r = 5cm$ $A = \pi r^2 = 25\pi = 78.5cm^2$	20 Work out $\frac{3}{5} + \frac{2}{3}$ $1\frac{13}{15}$	21 Work out (without a calculator) 123×12 1476	22 Simplify $4x^2 + 2x + 3x + 8$ $4x^2 + 5x + 8$	23 Work out 35% of 800 280	24 Simplify $3(m + 4) - 2(4m + 1)$ $3m + 12 - 8m - 2$ $-5m + 10$
25 What is $\frac{3}{5}$ of 80? 48	26 Given the perimeter is 45cm, calculate the value of x $9.25cm$	27 $x + 6$ $4x + 8 = 6x - 2$ $x = 4$	REMEMBER: The best way to revise maths is to "do Maths"!		

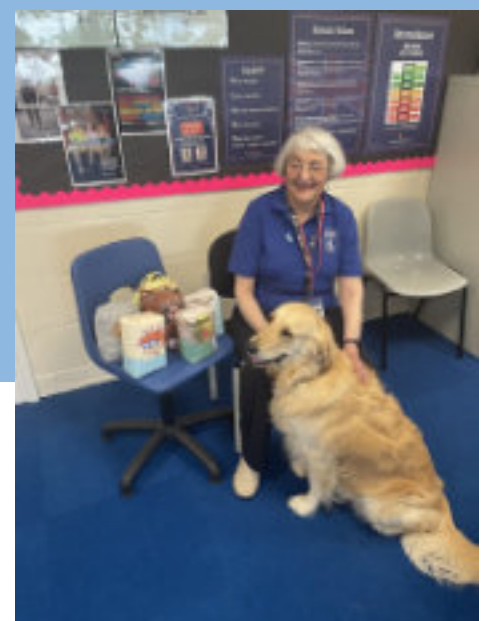
REMEMBER: The best way to revise maths is to "do Maths"!



With all of the visitors, the students asked relevant questions that allowed them to apply real-life situations and experience to their course.

Each year we like to end Year 11 Health and Social Care with a positive celebration by organising a fish and chips quiz night - it was great to get back into the swing after not being able to recently due to Covid.

The students had a chance to relax, eat some great fish and chips from Fisher's and revise at the same time before their exam the following day. It was good fun and I wish Year 11 all the best on the next step of their journey in life.



Health and Social

By Ms Moat

This half term, we have been doing an Enrichment Programme with Year 10 Health & Social students. This involved taking part in various projects and inviting key speakers into the school to talk to the students.

Throughout June Year 10 had the responsibility of looking after their own 'Flour baby'. They were given the task to keep a journal, create a birth certificate, dress their baby and take it on a day out.

All students took the project very seriously and all staff were involved awarding points to those they felt deserved it. The Flour babies went to maths club, biology class and even took a trip to the park!

The project was a great success with the winner being.....
Jessie!

Jessie used Twitter to record her baby's progress and sent emails regularly to tell staff about her baby's progress

Year 10 Health and Social Care class have also had several visitors.

Cynthia and Gem, her Guide Dog, came to talk to the class

about what it is like to live with a visual impairment and how important Gem is to her. She explained the importance of communicating and how it is hard to understand people's body language when you struggle to see it. She also explained how Gem was trained and how it can cost over £50,000 to train a Guide Dog.

Sarah from Tapping House, a local hospice, and the charity, Flat Friends, spoke to the students about her career progression from working as an LSA and then progressing through various careers to end up qualifying as a social worker. She explained how her life-changing experience of being diagnosed with Breast Cancer encouraged her to support a Charity called Flat Friends which supports those who do not wish to have the reconstructive surgery. Sarah linked this to how consultation is important and communication.

Emma Harrison, the Patient Experience and Public Involvement Lead from the NHS, presented the importance of communication to Year 10 in a health care setting such as the Queen Elizabeth Hospital. She explained how they try to make patient experience the best it can be and how they ask patients how they can improve it, such as using particular signage and language with patience.

The ITV Beach Clean



On Thursday 30 June we were delighted to be invited by ITV Anglia News to participate in a news feature on waste and the impact of litter on the environment. We took a group of students from key stage 3 to Hunstanton Green to take part in a litter pick alongside school students from Snettisham and Heacham Primary. A few students returned later that afternoon to be featured in the live broadcast at 6pm with Becky Jago and David Whiteley. All students were an absolute credit to the school!



A report by Kalem and Zav - Year 9:

We helped to clean up Hunstanton by picking up litter on the upper Green. Heacham and Snettisham Primary schools also helped by collecting litter on the beach. We found lots of cigarette butts by the Golden Lion and sauce packets by the chip shops. However, I am not certain as to what was found on the beach.

I believe waste affects the look of places and makes it look less appealing. Waste and litter also has a bad effect on the environment, seagulls may eat the waste thinking it was food and then die. The wind could also blow waste onto the beach and into the sea, the litter would then most likely be eaten by a sea animal and if it is a fish that is then caught and eaten, we would be the ones eating our own waste.

I was asked by the presenters how I feel when I see litter on the ground and when I see someone littering and I responded with full honesty.

"In my opinion waste and litter in the environment is horrible. It makes me feel slightly disappointed in humanity because humans are only catering towards themselves without considering other creatures and animals. Needless to say, it isn't every human's fault as there are many people and organisations dedicating themselves to helping the environment."

In order to assist the environment at school we could: have designated bins for recycling and food waste etc in the main hall, so we are recycling as much as possible and the plastic isn't being buried as landfill. We could also use more Eco-friendly packaging in the canteen." - Kalem



OUR STUDENTS....

PAST AND PRESENT!

We were delighted to hear of the successes of our 2020 leavers who are now leaving Springwood High School Sixth Form.

Students are going to study a range of subjects at university including Veterinary Nursing, Bio-medicine, Business and Marketing, Mathematics, Engineering, French, History, Law, Criminology, Sports Management, Photography, Graphic Communication and Fashion. Geographically students will be studying in Nottingham, Lincoln, Norwich, York, Bristol, Warwick, Sheffield and Southampton.

We wish these students every success with their future studies.



Dan left Smithdon High School in 2014. We were delighted to hear that he has qualified to represent Team England in the Para Table Tennis team at the 2022 summer Commonwealth Games in Birmingham.

Smithdon High School would like to wish Dan every success.



Jessica in Year 9 represented our school proudly with the Norfolk Constabulary Police Cadets. They took part in the parade at the Queen's Jubilee Celebrations in King's Lynn.

Well done, Jess, you look very smart and dignified.



LGBTQ+

GROUP

A friendly group starting in September!

The group will provide social support, fun activities and much more!

The aim is to create a place for LGBTQ+ students and their allies to feel safe and free to be themselves.

Please see Miss Taylor, Mrs Cummings or Miss Bucke for more information...



BUSINESS OUTREACH PROGRAMME

We would like to thank those local businesses that supported Smithdon's attendance incentive prize raffle during the 21/22 academic year: Mr Bun the Baker, The Princess Theatre, SJP Solicitors, Proctor Roofing and Allen Thomas & Co Financial Management were all sponsors.



32 High Street
Hunstanton
mrbunthebaker.com



13 The Green
Hunstanton
01485 532252
princesshunstanton.co.uk



6 St Nicholas Court
Church Lane
Dersingham
01485 541998
www.allentomasfinancial.co.uk



Waverley House
37 Greengate
Hunstanton
01485 532662
sjpsolicitors.co.uk



Unit 12 Cheney Crescent
Heacham
01485 570469
proctorroofing.co.uk

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

I've been so pleased to see the efforts of students keen to improve their attendance. Well done to each of you. In September I will meet with those students whose attendance was lower than expected this year and help them plan how to improve this. If you have any concerns about your child's attendance please get in touch.

Mrs Cummings - Attendance Officer

Raffle Winners this term:

Year 7: Noah, Tilly, Oscar, Hayden, Lola-May, Kathryn, Rhianna

Year 8: Ruby, Angel, Bonnie, Corey

Year 9: Chloe, Layah, Jessica, Jake, Amethyst, Maisie

Year 10: Molly, Thomas, Jake

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

Year 7 - Mrs Brown

Year 8 - Ms Moat

Year 9 - Miss Ruskin

Year 10 - Miss Fairweather

Well done to the forms with the best attendance this academic year:

Year 7 - Mr Tilley

Year 8 - Ms Moat

Year 9 - Miss Ruskin

Year 10 - Miss Fairweather

Year 11 - Mrs Charlton-Trewick

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)

We hope that you all have a fun, safe and relaxing summer break.

We will see you back in school:

Monday 5 September - Year 7

Tuesday 6 September - Year 7 and 11

Wednesday 7 September - All year groups

