Heroes in our midst

TRAGEDY AVOIDED: quick-thinking staff steer out-of-control bus to safety - see pages 8 & 9
Arty trip to London

By Megan Hornsby

Friday the 18th of December held an exciting opportunity for those who had taken GCSE Art in Year 10 and 11. It was time for the annual visit to London again, a first time for the Year 10s and for a second time for most of those in Year 11. Led by Mrs Childs, Mrs Brameld and Miss Hardiment, the weekend commenced with a long yet comfortable journey down to King’s Cross station on the train.

Those who came were in for a long yet exciting day, as the rest of the Friday morning was filled with an intriguing tour (led by Mrs Childs herself!) of the incredible street art around London and Shoreditch. After some free time for the rest of the day, we visited Nandos for a delicious dinner and then went to the National Portrait Gallery. During our time here, we split into groups to have a look around the large gallery and sat in for a drawing session, in which we got to study and draw a chosen piece of art with the challenge of only using your non-dominant hand.

Afterwards, we went to visit the fourth plinth in Trafalgar Square, lit up in the darkness. After a long day, we all retired to the hostel for an early night.

Day two was started with an incredible visit to The Natural History Museum. There was something for everyone with fossils and dinosaurs to crystals to information on all types of natural disasters. Afterwards, we had time in Covent Garden and then went to Sarastro, an incredibly unique dining experience for everyone. After a little more free time in Covent Garden we returned to the Hostel for an early night.

The final day was filled with a short but interesting visit to the British Museum followed by time in Portabella Market. It was around three by the time we had to catch the train and say goodbye to London and come to the end of an interesting trip for all involved. We returned to school again by around six o’clock, all exhausted from such a full weekend and the masses of walking! Nevertheless, it was a brilliant time.

So overall, everyone found it a great time and was given amazing opportunities to see art in many ways and places.

Governor profile
Karen Wallwork

1. Tell us a bit about you
I am married with 5 children ranging from 24 to 13. I run my own contract cleaning business. I started the business on my own in 2012 and now employ 10 members of staff. I previously lived in Bolton and moved to this area 10 years ago. I am the Secretary and Treasurer for the Goole Business Group which is a network of local businesses who meet on a fortnightly basis. I am a Community Governor and started in May 2016.

2. What made you want to be a Governor?
I have always been on the Parent Teacher Associations of schools my children have attended but when I started my own business and gained a more in-depth understanding of how businesses operate, I then wanted to have a deeper understanding from a school and educational perspective for my youngest child currently in year 8. The Governor role enables this deeper level of understanding.

3. What is the most challenging aspect of being a Governor?
Getting to grips with all the new information and terminology involved in education has been challenging. A key part of the Governor role is to hold the school to account and ask challenging questions. This can be difficult when the staff are experts in their field and we are not. However, the relationships established are supportive and I am made to feel welcome in school. We try to avoid the use of jargon in meetings and I know I don’t need to remember everything so long as we know where to find the information.

Although all Governors need to know their school and how it is performing, one good aspect is that we get to focus on specific priorities for the school. My focus is on Safeguarding.

4. What is the most enjoyable aspect of being a Governor?
I feel I am making a difference. I feel I now have an appreciation of what goes into running a successful school. I like to come into school and observe things in practice, for example, school assemblies, lessons, training events, etc. There is plenty of opportunity to expand my knowledge and skills and I have enjoyed the training I have done, e.g. Governor Induction, Prevent, Safeguarding, Audit, Data Dashboard, Use of Media in School.

5. What are your aspirations for the school?
It is important to me that all children who attend The Axholme Academy feel safe in and around school and if they do experience any problems or issues that they know who to go to and receive the right support for them. This means all our students can do their very best in school and achieve their goals. I have seen good evidence of this and a strong commitment to keep improving the safeguarding of all the children at the Academy.

Meet the Ax News team who produce the February 2017 edition you are reading now.

1. Charlie Curtis
2. Harry Griffiths
3. Issy Auchterlonie
4. Molly Drury
5. Benji Dannatt
6. Sam Walker
7. Liv Carey
8. Maddie Drew
9. Hugo Nikhata
10. Zach Graham
11. Taiha Russell
12. Ryan Mander-Casson
13. Ella Turner
14. Harry Davie
15. Oscar Hill

College roadshow

By Harry Davie

The North Lindsey College Roadshow event took place on 8th November during Periods 5 & 6. The college set out stalls in the school hall with advertising and information for the many different courses available.

Mrs Wright the Careers Co-ordinator organises this event every year. I asked Mrs Wright some questions and here is what she said.

How long has the event been going on for?
It has been happening for five years.

What courses are available at the college?
The college set out stalls for the many different courses forming Periods 5 & 6. The college set out stalls because on sport they tested hand co-ordination and on the computer you could receive the right support for them.

How do you think it helps the students?
“They have chance to look at what the courses have to offer before they make the decision of their options in Year 9.”

What courses are available at the college?
“Careers, Sport, Animal Care, Hair and Beauty and many more.”

Tobias Crow quoted: “It is very influential because it helps me decide what to pick for my course. My favourites were the computer and sport stall because on sport they tested hand co-ordination and on the computer you could use virtual reality. Overall I will definitely go to North Lindsey College.”

Player profile
Name: Sam Goodhand
Age: 12
Main Sport: Football
Position: Left Midfield
Teams Played For: Crowle Colts, Grimsby Town (currently)
Supports: Manchester United
Favourite Subject: PE
Pre Sport Meal: Toast, Weetabix
Best sporting achievement: Player of the Year for Crowle Colts at Under 10’s
Sporting aspirations for the future: Become a professional footballer
IN NOVEMBER, Miss Patrick selected four KS3/KS4 students to travel to Scunthorpe and represent the school in the Great Debate.

I interviewed Harry Griffiths about this subject, since he was a key part of the whole trip.

What was the Great Debate about?

“It was based around more serious subjects like racism, immigration and hate crime.”

What was the atmosphere like?

“It was actually quite welcoming! Though people had different views, they could link ideas.”

Did you feel that you and the others did a good job representing the school?

“We think that we did because we had very strong views and held our ground.’

Mr Brooks went along with the students to this event and was very proud to have such gifted people in our school.

Mr Brooks said, “Students from around the area attended a truly superb event, the topics were relevant to all of the students which in turn led to some pretty thought provoking and passionate debates.

I was bit concerned that our guys might be a bit microphone shy but how wrong was I! They were truly fantastic, the only problem was getting them to shut up, sit down and hand back the mic.

If anyone is concerned about our young folk being disengaged with local and international politics you needn’t worry because I can tell you without doubt it’s alive and thriving at The Axholme Academy.

If that was a taste of things to come then I, for one, can’t wait till next year, well done you were all fantastic”.

EARLIER this year, on the 12th October 2016, The Axholme Academy hosted ‘Stars in their Eyes’, a singing contest to raise money for an ex-student who died of cancer.

Many students auditioned, including staff! Surprisingly, most of the winners were Year 7 and had most Parents/Carers in tears!

I interviewed Mrs Hardiment, the music teacher, about her point of view of the competition and this is what she said:

Were you pleased with amount of people that auditioned?

“Yes! It was great to see so many talented students in the school!”

In the auditions, who stood out the most?

‘Mainly the Year 7’s. I saw a lot of promising singers.’

If you could, would you do it again?

‘I would love to stage it again!’

Why was the event organised?

‘To support a charity ‘Pride of the Isle’, linked to an ex-student who sadly died. Finally, do you think the outcome was fair?

“Yes, I think it was fair. It was a tough decision for the judges!”

Is there anything else that you would like to add?

“It was nice to see staff as well as students. I want to thank all staff and students who took part. It was a great night! I couldn’t believe we raised over £2000!”

Miss Dodge, Mr Sellars, Mrs Childs, Mrs Wright, Mrs Wayte and Mr Creasy all lend a helping hand on the night with Mrs Wayte and Mrs Childs hosting the show and Mr Sellars, Miss Dodge, Miss Wright and Mr Creasy acting as judges. The winners are as follows:

- 1st – Ella Turner (Year 7)
- 2nd – Harry Griffiths (Year 8)
- 3rd – Chloe Saunders (Year 10)
- 4th – Taiha Russell and Libby Hall (Year 7)

SOMETIMETIME overnight between the 13th and 14th December, a group of people thought it was okay to severely damage one of our minibuses.

We managed to interview Mrs Harkin, our Business Manager, about this incident.

Who do you think did it?

‘I think that it was some people who thought it was okay to destroy school property.’

What was stolen/broken?

“The front passenger seat window, all six wheels. The back door was smashed so they could get the spare wheel. They also took all of the lights out inside the bus.”

What’s happening to the bus?

“It was taken to a repair shop in Knottingley, West Yorkshire. The insurance company contacted us over Christmas to say that they were going to write the bus off.

So I contacted them after the holidays, and they offered us some money to buy a new bus. I looked at buying a second-hand bus and the money insurance offered wasn’t enough. So I then contacted the insurance company to notify them of this and they then changed their mind and decided to repair the bus. Mr Kaye was so happy because he was getting his minibus back.

He has looked after it since he started at the academy. It’s the one that we own. The garage is special to me I retired and became a part time bus driver for the school. I was one of the very first drivers I kind of took owner ship of the bus. I was absolutely gutted. Why someone would do that to a school mini bus I will never know.”

Did you think that you weren’t getting your bus back?

‘Yes I was very pleased that bus was the first bus for the school I was one of the very first drivers I kind of took owner ship of the bus. I was absolutely gutted.

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We asked: Were you pleased to find out that you were getting your bus back?

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more than £500

The Axholme Academy PTFA has had a successful year. We raised over £500 over the Christmas period and had a lot of fun.

We have a new Chair – Helen Wayte, who hopes to continue to raise much needed funds for our students and our school.

We would love to get more parents on board. It’s a common misconception that being part of a PTFA takes up a lot of your free time. In fact we do the majority of our communications online and there are actually only a couple of meetings a year. Perhaps your job or home life means you can’t attend a meeting at all but you’d still love to be part of our group? Well, we’d love to have you.

There are 10 good reasons to join the Axholme Academy PTFA:

1. Budgets at every school are tight. Money raised in school fundraisers is often used to pay for those little extras that can make a school a bit special, be it an interactive whiteboard or a school trip to the theatre.

2. Knowing that what can (within reason) predict a certain level of fundraised extra in-

3. Helping at PTFA fundraising events helps you get to know your child’s teachers better and understand the way the school works.

4. Being part of the PTFA helps you to know other parents and their children. This is important for school matters but also great if you want to meet new people.

5. By joining the PTFA you have the chance to promote and enhance your school’s standing within our local community.

6. Most parents do actually like to know that you are there for them, taking an interest and sharing their experience.

7. Talking to other parents helps you and them. Sharing experiences and keeping in touch helps us all.

8. The commitment is not too much. The occasional evening meeting and the odd summer fete or other school fundraiser will allow our school to plan an effective and realistic budget.

9. Everyone has different talents and skills they can bring to the school and parents are a great interface between the school and the ‘outside world’. Very handy for raffle prizes, sponsorship or professional help.

10. It’s actually quite fun to run a stall at the Christmas Fayre or watch the kids enjoy themselves at the school disco.

We’d love to have you as we all have different skills and ideas and we all have one aim: to raise funds to make a difference to the education and experience the students of The Axholme Academy have.

If you’d like to join us or have any ideas, please contact Helen Wayte through the school office on 01724 710368 or join our facebook page.

Our next event is a Shopping Evening on Wednesday 5th April. Doors open at 6.30 pm.

Festive fun raises more than £500

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Fayre return, we raised the most money

The Christmas Fayre was a fund raiser to raise money for the school by holding stalls that you can play games at which are Christmas related.

The school raised £781.97. There were many stalls in the Christmas fayre such as the lucky dip held by the form group 7EW; the pin the nose on Rudolph held by 7EL, there was guess the weight held by 7JE, snowball the teacher flipping stand was very popular. There was the bottle flipping stall and the balloon popping stall. We had booked the entire bowling alley.

What did you enjoy most about the trip that I could have fun with my friends bowling, and having an extremely fun time?

The bowling trip seems to have been a great success with everyone leaving having a fun time even the teachers at the MFA.

The students seemed to have enjoyed the visit to the MFA. A student said ‘I enjoyed the trip it was an outstanding experience.’

Above and right: Students have fun on their bowling trip

Having a bowl!

By Samuel Walker

The bowling trip was a fun end of year trip run by Mr Wayne on the 13th December 2016. The trip was held at the MFA Bowling Club in Scunthorpe. The cost of the trip was £8.80 and this included a game of bowling, chip butty and drink.

45 students attended this outstanding trip departing on the coach at 3.30pm and returning around 5.40pm.

This trip was only held for the students who have not been on green amber or red report; there was an extremely low amount of students on report as the school had booked the entire bowling alley.

What did you enjoy most about the trip that I could have fun with my friends bowling, and having an extremely fun time?

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Above: Stallholders prepare for the Christmas Fayre.

Amazing art at Tate gallery

By Samuel Walker

The Tate Liverpool trip was held on 15th September 2016 with Year 10 art students going along. The Tate Liverpool is a modern and contemporary art gallery, with some very unique and interesting pieces of art on show for everyone to enjoy.

The trip was led by Mrs. Childs who is the head of the art department at the Axholme Academy.

There were many exhibitions the Year 10 students saw at the gallery.

These exhibitions are based around the inspirations of famous modern artists, such as Francis Bacon and Pop Art. The trip was led by Mrs. Childs who is the head of the art department at the Axholme Academy.

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Harry Griffiths does us proud

ONE of our academy students Harry Griffiths recently won the Young Art Heritage Achiever of the Year Award.

He won this award because he volunteers for all sorts of things. Here are some of the things that he takes part in when he's not at school: drama, poetry and festivals. He does these activities for entertainment and self-experience, as when he's older he wants to be an actor.

The reward event took place at The Baths Hall, Scunthorpe. Harry was nominated by his mum who had realised the great things Harry does for our community. Our school is very proud of Harry and he has done very well.

What do others think?

Mrs Nunns who was also at the event to receive an award quoted: "I was very surprised when he went up for the award. I had seen him in the corridor before the event but I was very surprised when I saw him win it!" Mr Sellars said, "It was fantastic to see him win it. I was at the event because of my connections to Harry’s mum. I knew that there was something special about him, so I am very proud of him." Mrs Nunns who was also at the event to receive an award quoted: "I was very surprised when he went up for the award. I had seen him in the corridor before the event but I was very surprised when I saw him win it!"

The event was outstanding and I was extremely proud of Harry. This was an amazing achievement for me and the biggest yet. I can’t thank my Mum enough for nominating me and giving me an excellent night. I was told by my Mum that I had such excitement on my face as we received an invitation to The Baths Hall, meaning that I had been selected in the top three people.”

Overall we are very proud of Harry.

Leaders of the pack

SINCE September your Form Leaders have continued to meet regularly to discuss issues that matter to you in your academy.

Some of the key issues that have come up since we started back in September include: continuing to encourage everyone in school to be energy efficient, make-up, the consequence system, what an enjoyable lesson looks like, and getting bins for the quad area outside.

Don’t forget that if you want to improve or change anything in our academy, there are two ways you can do this. Firstly, you can tell your Form Leader who can bring your ideas to the SCCIP meetings. Secondly, you can put your ideas and/or thoughts in the comment box in reception.

Form Leaders set out to make the school better and are organised by Miss Patrick. Although the form leaders come up with the ideas for things in school they would like to improve, it has to go by Mr Sellars, Mr Creasy and Mrs Thirsk for approval.

For instance, in the past these meetings have led to the toilets and the food in the canteen being improved. Discussions in these meetings have also led to our school aiming to be more energy efficient as we have promoted energy efficiency as a result of these meetings.

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What do the leaders think?

Benji Dannatt Y8 (Form Leader) said, “I think that the form leader organisation is a good thing because we are fixing the problems at school and making it a safe, suitable and a fun place for everyone.”

Harry Griffiths Y8 (Deputy Leader) said, “I believe that the form leader group works extremely well as a team because we are from every year and every form so we can try to solve all issues that are created by every form.” Mr Creasy (Vice Principal) said, “I think it’s very important to hear student’s views and opinions because overall it’s the students that make the school and they have to be happy in the environment they are working in. I think the meetings are a great way for student voice to be heard in the academy.”

Miss Patrick (organiser) answered some questions:

“What do you think about the meetings?”

“Having a Form Leader attend from every form means students from all forms can have their voices heard. The only problem is that we often have so much to discuss that we can’t always fit it in to one meeting!”

“How does it help the school?”

In these meetings students get the opportunity to discuss areas of the academy that they would like to improve. These discussions then often lead to positive changes being made in the school for students and teachers.

For instance, in the past these meetings have led to the toilets and the food in the canteen being improved. Discussions in these meetings have also led to our school aiming to be more energy efficient as we have promoted energy efficiency as a result of these meetings.

“What was it first organised?”

We used to have a member from each form come to meetings when I started at this school. Then we tried a slightly different approach for a while but I think having a Form Leader representing every form definitely works best so I am happy we do it this way now. We have a great group of students again this year who really contribute well in meetings.

The Axholme Academy has recently been ranked 7th out of schools within a 25 radius of the academy, that figure being 94 schools, so having the 7th best GCSE results out of 94 schools is amazing. The most recent evening was 17th November 2016.

The event happens in this order parents and students gather in the hall. Mr Sellars welcomes and thanks people for coming then shows them a video of when they were in year 7-11. Most year 11’s get very embarrassed because of the pictures. Then after the videos there are lots of certificates given out by the form teachers for completing their GCSE. In the dinner there is a buffet so eat where they chat and catch up with teachers.

I interviewed Mr Creasy. He said, “I was surprised that we compared so positively to other schools. Everyone is a part of this progress it’s not just one person its teachers teaching well, parents encouraging their children, students working hard and most importantly everyone working together. I am very pleased with how things are going.”
**Upcoming Munich and Nuremberg trip will be a real eye-opener**

**By Ryan Mander-Casson**

On the 3rd October Mr Thorpe (Head of Humanities) sent out a letter referring to a trip in December 2017 to Munich and Nuremberg to learn about the Nazis rise to power and other events around that time. They will fly from Manchester airport and land in Munich airport and vice-versa for the flight home. This trip will be run through Anglia Tours. 

Day one itinerary
After an early morning get up, they will fly from Manchester to Munich, Germany. They will then tour on the same route that Hitler followed in his first bid for power and the 1923 Beer Hall Putsch. Then they will have some free time in Munich.

Day two itinerary
They will look at how the Nazi regime showed itself to the world and the reality behind it. Then they will go to the Dachau concentration camp which is the first concentration camp that was opened just as Hitler took power in 1933. Followed by some more free time, in Munich again. Then there is a visit to the documentation centre to learn about the city's major role Nazi terror and the trouble of confronting the past. In the evening they will visit the Christmas market.

Day three itinerary
They will then travel to Nuremberg to understand the huge ego behind Hitler’s Germany. They will then visit the Zeppelin wallpapers and Kongresshalle, where the Nazis staged rallies involving 1,000,000 people. There is also a museum dedicated to the rallies in the Kongresshalle. They will also have time to visit the medieval city centre. They will then fly from Munich back to Manchester.

I had a talk with Mr Thorpe, (trip leader) I asked him if he was looking forward to it. He said: “Yes”. I also asked if he thought it would be educational, he said: “Yes, but in various different ways. Paradoxically because it brings history alive and paradoxically because you can see a modern European city.” I also talked to a BA student who will be on the trip. I asked her what she was most looking forward to on the trip. She said: “I am mainly looking forward to the market, ever though it is not on the educational side of the trip.”
Kids Take Over school for the day

By Molly Drury

Students from The Axholme Academy took over the adult’s job for the day on Friday 25th November. Takeover Day is an annual event in school where children help out for the day, some even taught classes. Children put their name on a piece of paper; it then gets drawn out and then have a day with an adult in school.

Zak Ford, Elliot Wilkinson, Lucy Hockway, Hannah Butterfield, Sam Johnson and Josh Fowles helped in the Technology Department they did lots of laminating, tidying and helping out in class. I interviewed Mr Thompson he said ‘I enjoyed the day it is always a great day; the students were brilliant and keen to do all the jobs.’

Emily Goode and Emmy Hockway helped Mrs Childs they did things like organised and tidied materials, helped get things ready for classes. I interviewed Mrs Childs she said ‘I enjoy Takeover Day every year it’s fun and interesting to see what the students do; it shows them how much we prepare lessons and resources.’

Louisa Cross spent the day with Mr Sellars and Mr Creasy. She dropped in lessons (this is where Mr Sellars or Mr Creasy will drop in to see what we are doing during lessons) she went to Art, Maths and to the nurture group. Furthermore Louisa did lots of jobs for Mr Creasy like laminating, cutting photos for displays and much more. I interviewed Louisa Cross she said ‘I really enjoyed Takeover Day it was a good experience.’

Lydia Bartauskus and Tianna Frith helped Miss Leigh, they taught lessons and did jobs around the classroom. I interviewed Lydia she said ‘I taught two English lessons, two Maths lessons and one Art lesson. I really enjoyed the day it was really fun.’ Sophie Booker helped out in the front office doing photocopying, answering the phone, doing the registers and looking at student’s attendance.

Emily Cross was a huge help she helped to organise the trip and she sat in the front office doing the accounts. She interviewed Mr Thrask “The school is hoping the weather will be just as good!”

Music night raises £2,000

By Molly Drury

On Friday 4th November The Axholme Academy had a night filled with music.

This was a Charity event to raise money for Vashti Clasby; she had attended the academy but sadly died of cancer recently.

The money that was raised was given to the charity ‘Pride of the Isle’ who looked after Vashti.

There were lots of prizes that had been given to the academy for the raffle, such as: helicopter rides, Charlotte Tilbury make-up, hampers, restaurant vouchers, cakes and much more.

There was a range of music for everyone. There were classic hits, relaxing songs and modern songs.

I interviewed Mrs Wayte (one of the main organisers of the night) she said “I really enjoyed the night, I was quite nervous at first because me and Mrs Childs had to do quite a bit of talking, but it ended up being an amazing night and event.”

Altogether there was £2,000 raised for Vashti. Thank you to everyone who contributed to the night.

The night was very well received!

It’s snow joke

By Benji Dannatt

On December 13th, ‘The Snowman’ came to the Scunthorpe Baths Hall and the students of The Axholme Academy took a trip to see the thriving show that would inspire them with musical culture to extend their learning.

The trip was led by Mrs Hardiment, our music teacher, who took a group of enthusiastic kids to a live music festival which allowed students to experience professionals show off their years of training and transform it into a piece of art.

The performance provides the perfect opportunity to fulfil two of the main aims of the music National Curriculum: “to appreciate and understand a wide range of high-quality live music from great composers and musicians” and “to use their voices expressively and creatively by singing songs and speaking chants and rhymes.”

A performance to rival Live Aid.

‘The Snowman’ has a live orchestra which uses a range of instruments from violins to drums. It is an hour of art which moves the listeners to experience the emotions of music.

A statement from Mrs Hardiment said that “It was great to see a live orchestra performance with the students so they could experience music by professionals up-close. It allowed the students to see the instruments being played, a great opportunity to learn about the home of adventure.”

Music night raises £2,000

The school is hoping the weather will be just as good!

Adventure time

By Oscar Hill

On May 26th to May 29th 2017, Year 7 will take an adventure to the well-established PGL camp at Caythorpe Court, near Grantham. The children will take part in a series of activities that include: excitement, adventure and entertainment. All activities will be supervised by trained PGL personnel in a centre in the grassy Lincolnshire countryside. These activities include: trapeze, zip-wire, climbing, abseiling, archery, raft building, kayaking and fencing.

Miss Harrison said, “The purpose of the trip is to give students the opportunity to work together in a different environment, be challenged to succeed, develop new skills and undertake activities they may never otherwise be able to attempt. The benefits to the students of this type of adventure are, in our view, extremely worthwhile and have been enjoyed by many students on past visits.”

The children will be accommodated in tents on the premises, full board meals, evening entertainment and transport back to school on the 29th May to be collected by parents and carers. This trip has been kindly organised by Miss Harrison in the PE department and we all say a big thanks for everything she’s done. We hope all the students have a great time at PGL. We’ll keep you updated about PGL in the summer version of the Ax News with pictures and news items to keep you engaged.
Awards come rolling in for school heroes

By Harry Griffiths

At our academy we have an annual trip to Alton Towers. We sent three coaches out but unfortunately one had a rather large issue. The driver fell ill at the wheel and soon became unconscious!

The bus began swerving and was going to hit the central reservation in a way that would turn the bus on its side. Everyone was extremely scared but the teachers were worried beforehand and were ready for the situation. This is where the teachers all decided they had a job to do.

Mrs Nunns was a hero who kept the children calm through the entire thing because if students were screaming and running about it would have been a lot more difficult to navigate the bus off the motorway.

Mrs Parkinson helped get the unconscious man out of the seat as Mr Thompson grabbed the steering wheel and maneuvered the bus on to a slip road. At this point the teachers thought that he had got the driver out of the seat and they were slowing down.

However, the bus began speeding up as the driver still had his foot on the accelerator. Mr Thompson managed to kick the driver’s feet away from the accelerator.

A Student said that they were so happy beforehand before the atmosphere began to change. The teachers were scared at this point as they drove through a red light. Thankfully there was only one car going around the roundabout and the bus would’ve hit it if there weren’t three heroes on-board.

Mr Thompson went to slam down on the brakes which thankfully worked as the bus slowed to a stop.

All the teachers thought that it was over and it was! Mr Thompson stopped the bus as they got the students off and the three heroes made sure they were okay.

They waited for a few hours for another bus to arrive to take them back to the academy, obviously the students were scared to get on the bus and thankfully there were no more issues.

There was a little bit of disappointment in the air though as they didn’t get to go to Alton Towers. Luckily all students were invited back to Scarefest at Alton Towers for free as compensation.

They all enjoyed this trip and had a great day!
Awards come rolling in for school heroes

By Harry Griffiths

The Axholme Academy AX News

THOUGH

The three heroic teachers receive their rewards at Normanby Hall from the Mayor of North Lincolnshire.

Rare honour for our top teachers

A Student said that it was a great experience and that he was very proud of the teachers and he couldn’t think about what could’ve happened if they were not there.

They could’ve been in hospital or worse. The rewards Mr Thompson, Mrs Nunns and Mrs Parkinson received were extremely rare which was a major achievement as well as a Kelly’s Hero award and a Community Champions award.

The teachers experience was very nice as their rewards had only been given out three times before.

In for school heroes

The Axholme Academy AX News

Rare honour for our top teachers

THOUGH they got an award for their act of bravery they were also invited to Normanby Hall as well as the other students on the coach.

This was a big surprise and they really enjoyed the reception at Normanby Hall. The Principal, Mr Sellars said: “It was a lovely gesture to invite the three members of staff and the other students. It was a very kind act to give the teachers awards as well as the lovely day out.”

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Fun with languages

ON MONDAY 26th September the European Day of Languages was added to the list of successful primary school events at the Axholme Academy.

With over 120 pupils from five of the academy’s primary feeder schools shows it was a very busy and enjoyable event. Also, 9A and 9B (with a bit of support from Mrs Spencer-Hall and Miss Patrick) led all of the pupils in a variety of fun activities like: t-shirt designing, LOTTO (French bingo), a short Spanish taste tester (led by Miss Patrick) and a languages quiz.

However not all of the event went to plan; the boules tournament that was planned was ruined by the rain but the pupils were just as engaged indoors! The schools that arrived at this event were: Crowle Primary Academy, St Norbert’s, Eastoft, and Althorpe and Keasby.

In addition, Eastoft won school of the day for their amazingly active performance. Mrs Spencer-Hall exclaimed: “Once again this event was a success and is still one of my favourite events of the year in MFL.”

The pupils from our feeder primaries demonstrated just how fantastic our feeder primary language provision is and also some excellent skill when performing and participating!

I can’t wait to start planning for next year.”

This event was really well planned and we hope our feeder primary schools have just as much fun next year as they did this year.

Our Dahlicious Day

On Tuesday 13th September all year 7s took part in the third Dahlicious Day to be held at The Axholme Academy.

This helps them to settle into the school as well as learning more about Roald Dahl. However, this year was more special than the last two years because we were celebrating 100 years since Roald Dahl’s birth! We started off with going into our forms as normal and we were given our lesson plans for the day.

We started off the day in mixed ability form groups for the first couple of periods and we had a lot of fun. We did activities such as writing poems and designing chocolate bar wrappers. Then we split up into separate groups so we weren’t with the same students all day. We did the same activity for both lessons, I did sticky hat making but some people did things such as singing and playing the keyboard in music and making chocolate bars. Then, after the next period all Year 7 joined together to watch ‘Puffin Live’ which allowed students to do things like how to draw an Oompa Loompa with Quentin Blake, watch a performance from the Matilda West End Production and learn lots of interesting facts about Roald Dahl.

“Dahlicious day was very fun and we hope it can keep doing it in the future years.”

“Dahlicious day was very fun and we hope it can keep doing it in the future years.”

Ghosts Galore ...

IN LATE November 7A and 7B decided to go on a spooky ghost walk during their English lesson, telling terrifying tales about the school.

We visited places such as: the diner, the bike shed, the front yard and the back yard. Additionally, we used props and our acting skills to create a ghost story to perform and tell in the ghost walk. For homework we had to draw a plan to help us remember the tale as we re-told it in our English lesson. Here are some quotes from the people who took part in the horrifying ghost walk:

“Who’s ghost story did you enjoy and why?”

Ella Turner (7B) exclaimed: “I liked Tanya Lane’s and Megan Stanton’s ghost story because it was very descriptive and scary. I really enjoyed it.”

Talia Russell (7A) replied: “I enjoyed Harvey Newton’s and Hugo Nikhata’s ghost story because it was really funny and very creative.”

What was your story about?

Ella Turner (7B) quoted: “My story was about a boy called Henry that carved a smile into his face and died; now he haunts Mrs Bramble’s English room.”

Liv Carey (7A) said: “My story was about a ghost haunting the music practice room.”

Did you enjoy the ghost walk and why?

Ella Turner (7B) exclaimed: “Yes I did because it was really good to see some of the paranormal things inside the Axholme academy.”

Talia Russell (7A) replied: “Yes because it was very interesting there were a lot of things going on and it was different to our normal English lesson.”

Next I interviewed Mr Thompson about how the ghost walk went and he quoted:

“I think it went very well because I think a lot of students put a lot of effort into the story and we visited a variety of places around the school and it was a very enjoyable lesson.”

The ghost walk made an amazing change to our normal English day and it was really fun to see all of the stories that everybody managed to come up with. Hopefully this will become an event every year to help Year 7 experience what we did.

Pupil Parliament power

The UK Youth Parliament provides opportunities for 11-18 year olds to use their voice to bring about social change through meaningful representation and campaigning.

The Axholme Academy’s very own William McCullion (Year 11) spent the day at Parliament in London. He has been a member of Youth Parliament for two years. We interviewed William about his experiences.

What were you a member of?

“Youth Parliament for North Lincolnshire.”

What did you do when you were debating?

“When I went to Parliament it was for our annual House Of Commons debate I personally stood up and spoke upon the issue of cuts to the NHS.”

What subjects did you discuss?

“There were 5 topics of discussion for that day, national make your mark ballots and the top 5 subjects that came out of that were:

“Cuts to the NHS
*Tackling racism and religious discrimination
*Votes for 16 year olds
*A curriculum to prepare us for life
*Living wage.”

There is a re-election in February so he is on his way out unless he gets re-elected. We are keeping our fingers crossed that William goes on to do great things in the future.
Helping the Needy

The successful Children in Need day was a big money raiser on 18th November.

The students arrived in non-school uniform and donated £1. Miss Patrick ran a cake stall with a few helpers at break. They raised £405.70, which was great.

Miss Patrick (French Teacher) said, “It went really well, lots of students did the Children in Need quiz, lots of students bought cakes and nearly everybody came in non-school uniform to support Children In Need.”

Mr Sellars (Principal) said, “I am delighted and really pleased with the amount of money raised due to everyone’s effort and we know it’s a great cause.”

Gracie Hirst (Y7) said, “I think it was quite good that we raised a lot of money.”

Lucy Hookway (Y7) said, “I was happy because it is a very big achievement.”

Children in Need currently support around 2,500 projects in the UK. They all work with children who are in tough situations and need help. The money raised or donated will go towards helping disadvantaged children and young people right here in the UK.

Keeping ahead is what it’s about

Sophie Walker and William McCullion are Axholme Academy’s Head Boy and Head Girl.

There is an application process for people who wish to be a Prefect which also supplies skill in later life when filling out an application form. In this application you can decide if you want to run for Head Boy or Head Girl.

The Head Boy and Head Girl’s jobs are to monitor the prefects and act as a role model to the school. They both like their job as it acts as evidence to how the teachers can respect and trust them, they also take part in many meetings in order to improve the school and let children have a voice in the matter of improving the school.

Though the job is stressful it is manageable and enjoyable.

Their biggest responsibility is to look after the computer room known as a studying room called the Learning Zone and represent the youth of The Axholme Academy and be someone to look up to.

They are in charge of where students can go and when they can go there. They monitor the students and try to assist them in any way they can by bringing up any suggestions in meetings. The Head Boy and Head Girl said they were both proud to get their job as it is a rare honour to be labelled as Head Boy and Head Girl when it is such a key role in The Axholme Academy. They were both surprised to get the job as they thought there were many other good candidates.

The Principal said he chose these people because they are figureheads for the school and because the teachers believe that they are organized and responsible enough to monitor the prefects and make sure they are on their stations at the right times. The people who are elected have to follow the school rules and who are smart. They volunteer to help out at events such as Parents evening and help people out there.

The decision making to get a Head Boy and Head Girl takes about two weeks. If they want to be a prefect they will apply and be interviewed. In that interview they will be asked if they would like to be a Head Boy or Head Girl and after that meeting the senior staff make their final choices.

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William McCullion, an important job.

Lots of dosh for cancer charity

The annual ‘Wear it Pink Day’ was a huge success on 21st October.

To show support students also donated £1 to wear one pink item of clothing. Mrs Gwyther ran a pink raffle for staff. Oh, and we managed to raise £167!

I asked Mrs Gwyther How successful do you think ‘Wear it Pink Day’ was? She said “I think it was quite successful, all the staff got involved but not as many students as I had hoped but some of them may not have understood what it was about but next year the students should know.”

How surprised were you at the money raised on the day? “We made quite a lot of money from the raffle but not many students took part so the money raised was not as much as I would’ve expected”.

If you could add anything to ‘Wear it Pink Day’ what would it be? “I would make sure the students knew beforehand what it was about so more people took part and maybe to have a pink bake sale.”

Why do you run ‘Wear it Pink Day’? “Because we’ve had two members of staff who have had breast cancer and one of them died from it a few years ago so we do it in her memory”.

Wow, it was a really pink affair at our school and all for charity!
Young Carer of the Year Award

On Friday 14th October 2016, Romeo won an award in his age category for Yorkshire Children of Courage Award.

Romeo reports he was not aware that he had been nominated for the award as his Mum had kept it a secret from him. Romeo reports when his Mum finally told him, he did not think really much about it and it was his Nana and Aunt who told him that it was a big thing and that he did not understand the importance of being shortlisted for the award. Romeo states he still is not really sure how big a deal it was to be shortlisted.

Romeo reports it took a long time to get to the event and it did not help when they got lost. When Mrs Millward asked Romeo how he felt about getting lost, Romeo said he was more bothered about how long it was taking rather than being late. Romeo said his Aunt got all hyped up and glammed up for the event. Romeo reports he kept calm but did get hyped about his suit which he really liked. Romeo described the suit as light blue and he felt really fancy wearing it with a navy blue dicky bow. Romeo told Mrs Millward he did feel special when everyone was looking at them as they walked in.

Romeo told Mrs Millward he was really excited about meeting the celebrities and had pictures taken with the Chuckle Brothers. A film clip of Romeo talking about his caring role, previously recorded at school was shown on the evening; Romeo said his Aunt was really excited when he won the award. Romeo told Mrs Millward he did get a little upset that his Mum was unable to attend, but said he felt happier when she face timed him at the weekend and told him she had a present for him.

Mrs Millward asked Romeo what it is like to be a young carer. Romeo told Mrs Millward that he does not generally see himself as a young carer; stating it just comes naturally to him to care for his Mum when she has had a seizure. Romeo reports he has been looking after his Mum since 2013 when she started having seizures and states certain things such as stress and his Mum forgetting her medication can trigger a seizure.

Romeo said, “I didn’t think I was going to win after hearing all of the nominees’ backstories. The Yorkshire Children of Courage Awards was fun because I got to meet a lot of celebrities like the Chuckle Brothers. After we got to go to Leeds and a fancy restaurant and the entertainment was great. The awards were fun but I was terrified when I went on stage because I thought I was going to say something that would mess it up although I did like listening to everyone else’s backstories and seeing everyone’s reactions to them.”

Romeo told Mrs Millward that he does not like leaving his Mum unattended and is always thinking if she is going to be okay. Romeo admits that sometimes at school he struggles to concentrate and will switch off worrying about his Mum. Romeo states the qualities to be a young carer are: bravery; perseverance; intelligence; calmness and a caring attitude.

Romeo says he just gets on with every day and does the best that he can.

Walking for the Win

On 30th September 2016 The Axholme Academy took a 5 mile sponsored walk to raise money for the school fund. Altogether the school raised £974.50.

I asked Year 7’s (Mackenzie Pilkiw and Harvey Neasham) some questions about their experience of the sponsored walk and here are their responses:

Mackenzie said, “I enjoyed it because it was good exercise and I got some fresh air!” I asked her if there were any parts she disliked and she replied with ‘No because I enjoyed it.’ She said that her favourite part was walking with Libby because she made her laugh. After I asked her if it was well organised and what would she change about the sponsored walk. She said, ‘It was well organised because the route was very good and I would change nothing because I enjoyed it!’

Harvey Neasham said, ‘It was good throughout and I really enjoyed it. The best thing about it was that you got to walk with who ever you wanted to walk with and that you got to get some fresh air and walk and talk with some of your best mates. You also got to walk around the quiet areas of Crowle and you got to see the great wildlife and the great scenery. More to the point, I had a great time and I can’t wait to do it next year.’ I also asked Year 9 Lara Hinchcliffe about what she thinks of the sponsored walk. Here is what she replied with:

Do you think that the sponsored walk is well organised? ‘Yes because there were people telling us where to go, otherwise I would get lost.’

If there was one thing you could change about the sponsored walk, what would it be? ‘Make it longer because it’s short and doesn’t take long enough.’
Welcome school newbies

A NEW, exciting year started at The Axholme Academy on Tuesday 6th September 2016.
Throughout the first term the Year 7 students took part in a few fun events, the Sponsored Walk and MacMillan Coffee Morning were the most popular events. After the Sponsored Walk the MacMillan Coffee morning took place. Students were allowed to donate £1 to buy drinks and however many cakes they desired. We then sat on the back yard and ate our cake.

On the 20th October 2016 parents/carers had the opportunity to come into school and look at their child’s work, (Year 7 Settling In Evening). I have interviewed some Year 7 students and here is what they said.

Have you met loads of new friends?
Leah said ‘Yes, I found it easy because I am very sociable’.
Erin: Yes, by being in a set form with them.

Did you find your way round ok?
Leah: Yes, I had no help.
Erin: Yes, the teachers and other students helped me.

Were the teachers and students helpful?
Leah: Yes, when I asked them.
Erin: Yes, they helped me whenever I looked lost or confused.

Which event, that you have done so far, was your favourite?
Leah: My favourite event was the football tournament because I went with my friends and I also play football out of school.
Erin: The sponsored walk was my favourite because I got to walk with my friends and I got to go on my phone.

Was moving to this school hard for you?
Leah: No because I know lots of people from football and I know year 8’s.
Erin: No because I wanted to leave primary.

In conclusion, the Year 7’s have settled in really well. They were all supplied with a map and a plan. All of the teachers and students in other year groups were very helpful to make sure they were all going to where they needed to be.

Awesome anti-bullying!

By Liv Carey

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Having a ball at the pantomime

On Tuesday 6th December 2016, 8N went to the Playright Theatre to see Cinderella, we took Fluffy Monster with us as he had never been to a pantomime before.

Before we went we wrote our own fantasy fairy stories, we were very excited to go.

On the way to the pantomime we sang Christmas carols to pass the time. We all jumped at the start of the pantomime because there was a big bang and crash. It was very funny – one of our favourite parts was when Fanny Annie fell over, she has to have two men to help her up.

Crime crew

One day in October 8N were called upon to solve a crime.

We spent the whole day trying to solve a serious crime that had been committed in American in the 1920’s. We started the day by watching a video, trying to find clues. We used the internet to find out information to support the clues we found. We created a re-enactment in a bid to find new witnesses, and then we used our forensic science skills to take finger prints to eliminate suspects. Dominic said that it was a fantastic day – he cannot say what he liked the best as he liked all of it.

Monster hits New York City

Fluffy Monster is 8N’s class mascot; he is also a worry monster.

He has a mouth which zips open and we can put any worries or concerns on a piece of paper and we put them in his mouth. Fluffy Monster goes on trips and spends weekends with us at home. We took him to the pantomime but more excitingly Owen took him on holiday to New York. It was very exciting for 8N as Owen emailed pictures from New York of Fluffy Monster at the top of the Empire State Building.
Work well underway on our new sports centre at school

By Zachariah Graham

You may or may not know that The Axholme Academy and the council is building a brand new sports centre and it has begun.

They are still planning to build the following things: an artificial grass football pitch, three new tennis courts, a fitness centre, a gym, a 25 meter swimming pool, new changing facilities and for the school a refurbished sport hall.

The initial layout has changed slightly but it has been changed for the better.

It will be open to the public and the school and it will be great for the community.

All of the students and teachers what I’ve asked are really excited for the sports centre. It is about a 13 month project and the first Cutting of the sod was on the 4th November so expect it to be finished by Spring 2018.

The sports centre has been estimated to eventually cost a mind-blowing amount of £3.6 million but it will be worth every penny.

It took a long time to finally start this huge project due to funding.

The council and the school started trying to fund the sports centre 12 years ago but they couldn’t find the funding but recently in the last few years they finally got the money.

They have worked well with the contractors and now finally it has started.

This will affect the students P.E lessons massively once it is done by using the new facilities and equipment.

There will also be lots of after school clubs what will use the new facilities.

Mr Sellars said “We want everyone to know that the school believes this is a true community facility and expect it to be used a lot by the local community including young people as well as our community in school time.”

I personally think this sports centre will be great for everyone and will be very successful.

Are you considering about going when it is finished?

By Mr Sellars

The Axholme Academy is everyone’s responsibility and all staff at the academy receive regular training, including those not directly employed by us (cleaning staff and kitchen staff).

This is delivered at least annually and in addition there are regular staff updates via our weekly staff bulletin, staff briefings and during training days.

There are named school personnel who have key responsibilities for safeguarding - Designated Safeguarding lead: Mr Joe Sellars; Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead: Mrs Doreen Millward; Safeguarding and Child Protection Governor: Mrs Karen Wallwork.

These personnel receive more regular and detailed training so they can manage situations which arise, work with external agencies and provide training to staff and governors.

There are many different ways in which the safety of our students can be threatened both inside and outside school. We want to provide information and sources of support to parents and students so we have developed a new addition to our website. It can be found in safeguarding under the about us tab. It is our intention to populate and update these pages regularly. Visitors to the site will see blue tabs to the left of the introductory page are labelled with different kinds of safeguarding issues. By clicking on them you will find information and links to aid understanding, gather information and find sources of support.

Safe and Sound

Safeguarding our students is our most important responsibility at a school.

We take safeguarding and child protection extremely seriously and our approach to meeting our responsibilities in this area is detailed in our Child Protection and Safeguarding policy. This is updated annually in light of changes in legislation and emerging priorities.

We work closely with North Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) and North Lincolnshire Council when we undertake our policy review. Safeguarding children at The Axholme Academy is everyone’s responsibility and all staff at the academy.

The lost hamlet of Tetley

By Oscar Hill

Following the building work, it has come to our attention that there was once the lost hamlet of Tetley. The building of the Leisure Centre, taking place at The Axholme Academy, is thought to be near the lost village of Tetley. We are very excited to see if there are any archaeological discoveries underneath the building works carried out.

Although this will be very exciting for the school, the build would be delayed and the students and staff will have to wait longer for the sports centre.

In recent years there has been some interesting things found from the Bronze Age such as a polished stone axehead recovered 150m east of the site from the opposite side of Wharf road as well as a scatter of Bronze Age flints located at the south of Tetley Hall. Parts of pottery were found 400m north of the school in the vicinity of Park Avenue. Tetley village was first recorded in 1311 and Tetley Hall dates from the 1830’s.
A KIT START TO THE NEW YEAR!

Rugby is a sport that needs determination and by Hugo Nikhata

Recently, a rugby programme was launched this September and by February 2017 every year from 7-10 (including boys and girls) will have taken part in a 6 week block of rugby coaching from either Dan or Olly who are part of the RFU All Schools Rugby Foundation.

Tumbling is a type of gymnastics where you do a quick routine, which can involve flips, with a springy track but the track has a small diameter so you need to do the routine quickly or you'll run out of space to do the rest.

By Oscar Hill

At first, he was interested in dancing but as soon as he saw the flips and spins, he was instantly engaged. He started at the early age of 10 and he started off not so confidently but he is now extremely confident about performing in the gym, in competitions and even in public. He said that gymnastics is a great way to keep fit but to also have fun along the way.

In PE at the moment, we are doing gymnastics. Hugo thinks that this is a perfect opportunity to show the whole class what he can do as well as what he's learning at the moment. Last week, we got the spring boards and the trampette out to see what the class could do and Hugo was very excited about next year and he hopes for a very good score and a higher place in the competition. We all hope that he'll do very well in the British Championships next year.

Hugo said, “I would like to do something related to sports in the future and he also said that he would do gymnastics if he could. He wants to also coach children who are really good or even just starting off with gymnastics.”

Motorcross shows a bright future for Robert and Riley

Motorcross is a breath-taking, fast-paced sport that isn’t for the faint-hearted. However even though it might be dangerous Robert Whitehead loves the thrills and spills of his favourite sport. Robert is striving to be the best and competes at amazing competitions doing superbly well in everything he does. Robert competes everywhere from Sherwood to Armthorpe and hopes that the sport he loves will become his job as he is sure he can do exceedingly well.

We took quotes from Robert Whitehead and here’s what he said, “I race bikes on mud and you can go online to hire bikes, there are tracks to practice and compete at Armthorpe, Finningley, Preston, Milden Hall and Sherwood. I got my first bike when I was three years old. I go to practice near Messingham which is my main practice track.”

Although this article is about Robert, Riley Ritching is also an amazing biker. I took quotes from him and this is what we got “Motocross is my life, there are two practice tracks at Doncaster. I started when my dad got me into it because he races bikes.” He added “It’s a very physically demandsport. It’s a lot harder than you think it’s going to be and there are lots of really bad injuries.”

We all hope their aspirations for competing carry on into the future and you never know we may see one or even both of them on television in a few years!
Cross Country Triumph

By Issy Auchterlonie

The North Lincs schools cross country championship is an annual event which The Axholme Academy compete in every year.

The event took place on the 7th December 2016 and sixty students competed against different schools from the local area. In the competition there were four age groups which were split into boys and girls. The groups were Minors which are Year 7’s, Juniors which are Year 8’s and 9’s and Intermediates which are Year 10’s and 11’s. The Minor girls run 2.7km. The minor boys and junior girls run 3.2km. The junior boys and intermediate girls run 4.2km. The intermediate boys run 5.5km.

I interviewed Madison Drew who attended the event and she said “I very much enjoyed it because it was different from what I usually do. I was surprised I did so well. I hope to do better next year.”

Some students came in the top twenty five and will be running for North Lincs on Saturday 21st January. The competition is held at North Ferriby.

The Minor girls who qualified were Lucy Hookway and Lyla Bardauskas. The Minor boys who qualified were Sam Goodhand and Alfie Whitting. The Junior girls who qualified were Jayne Bardauskas and Issy Auchterlonie. The Junior boys who qualified were Max Poole and Liam Ravenhill.

The Intermediate girl who qualified was Amy Thornton. The Intermediate boy who qualified was Nathan Virts.

I interviewed Lucy Hookway (Minor girls) and she said “I’m looking forward to going to North Ferriby because I get to run for North Lincs, and I can represent school with what I do in my spare time. I’m glad I got through because I’ve been training very hard. The week leading up to the competition I do lots of 300m sprints and long runs at the park. I’m really excited to go and hope to do well.”

We hope Lucy and all the other students do well in the competition at North Ferriby and we will update you in the next edition of the Ax News.

Water way to have a good time!

By Grace Kaye

In the last edition of the AX News I reported how excited I was to be playing water polo in Spain in the summer for the North East England team, at the Be Water My Friend championships.

Well that excitement got bigger and bigger as we got nearer the event at the end of August. By the time it came I was ready to explode and I can honestly say the experience exceeded all my expectations. From start to finish every moment was amazing - from the flight out with the team to entering the Olympic pool, from meeting players from other countries to eating lots of different foods, from travelling in the team bus to scoring goals. Just being part of such a massive organisation was inspirational.

As soon as we stepped off the plane the team including coach and manager were met by league officials and escorted to the team hotel in Lloret de Mar. Parents weren’t allowed stay with the teams or travel on the team coach and had to walk everywhere! Each team member had to wear their official ID at all times and we were allowed in the restaurant at any time and were able to request any type of food at any time to keep us fuelled for our matches. I felt like a proper Olympic athlete and realised that this is what I want to be and I know that I need to work hard to achieve my dream.

We settled into our hotel rooms and were given a tour of the hotel pointing out the pools and gym then thought we’d start our “holiday” with a bit of shopping but our head coach had other ideas and we headed straight to the Olympic pool for a practice session followed by our first match. I scored our first goal for North East against one of the other 14 European teams taking part in the tournament.

Glory for girls football team

By Benji Dannitt

The girls of Axholme were rolling in the points at the 6 a-side football tournament held on Monday 28th November at Appleby Frodingham. The players were Leah Fillingham, Grace Rowing, Lily Stroud, Faith Clarkson, Tamara Donnelly-Booth, Anna Sylays, Olivia Clark and Lyla Bardauskas.

The girls played against Sir John Nelthorpe, Vale Academy, Huntcliff twice, Baysgarth and St Bede’s. Their toughest match was against local rivals South Axholme and with the score ending 0-0 after extra time it meant the match was decided by the dreaded penalty shoot-out.

Lily Stroud scored the winning goal for our school which landed the Axholme Academy girls in 1st place. All of them were equally good with outstanding effort throughout the whole team. It was also an under 13’s match so the girls were competing against girls one academic year above them. A quote from Lyla was “We all worked hard as a team but we could improve on shooting”. Grace also stated “We were bursting with confidence but I could improve on controlling the ball.”

Miss Pitcher said, “The girls showed great effort, determination and skill when defeating a number of opponents. They encouraged each other and represented the school excellently. Given that we did miss a few penalties that is perhaps an area for improvement. The girls have a high level of confidence and they really have combined well as a team so I have no doubt in my mind they will do very well in future games I am very proud of them all.”

On the 9th January the girls played in the finals against 8 teams at Barnsley Football Club. Leah Fillingham said, “We didn’t score any points but we tried our best, our best tactic was our striker using her skill to dribble the ball past the defence. Our toughest match was against Leeds and our star player was Lily being a striker. We did well overall but we could improve on our shooting.”

Miss Pitcher said, “The girls were very dedicated and had to face some very talented players. They performed well and although struggled during games they showed character throughout. It was a pleasure to take them and I hope they enjoyed a valuable experience.”

Let the (Humber) games begin

By Issy Auchterlonie

On the 2nd December 2016 four girls from The Axholme Academy took part in the Humber Games Table Tennis competition. There were five teams involved Hull, East Ridings, North East Lincoln, North Lincs and North Yorkshire. The competition was held at Saint Mary’s College in Hull.

The girls played 14 show stopping games and ended up third with Hull winning and North East Lincs coming third. The students who took part in this were Ellie Birкиnghaw, Jayne Bardauskas, Ellis Hamilton and Grace Kaye. I interviewed Ellie and she said “I was really excited to go and hoped to do better than last year”. I also interviewed Grace and she said “I was so happy that I and the team qualified and I hope we can do even better next year; but I was a bit annoyed because we could have done better”.

After the competition the team celebrated with a well-deserved McDonalds. This was the fifth year the Humber Games have taken place and has been a huge success. Over 2000 young people competed and 200 volunteers. It was designed to get young people to keep active and have fun while doing it.