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Headteacher: Mrs N J Waters, B.A. M.Ed

#### Newsletter

## 19<sup>th</sup> July 20201

In the last newsletter we reported on the recent creative writing competition.

The photos show: Hope Rose, the overall winner, receiving her trophy and a certificate from Mrs Karen Moore.

In the other picture we have the four finalists: From L to R: Matthew Oliver, Mrs Helen Karakashian of the Droitwich Arts Network, Hope Rose, Mrs Karen Moore, Charlie Hunter and Annabel Brannan.



#### News from our Partner School in Kenya

Yesterday our partner school in Ngobit, Kenya let us know that they had had a visit from Rahab, one of the girls whose education was sponsored by fundraising at DSHS. She visited to tell them she had just passed her first year at university where she is training as a teacher. This is a transformation of her life and it is very gratifying to know that she has made such good use of her opportunities.

#### Year 8 Geography Field trip to the Malvern Hills

Last week 181 Year 8 students carried out Geography fieldwork over 3 days in the Malvern Hills and the Boundless Outdoor Centre. Despite their initial reservations, they thoroughly enjoyed the outdoor experience, other than the extreme downpour on the Wednesday morning. The day



consisted of an orienteering session to practise their map skills and then a steep walk up to North Hill, admiring the panorama and discussing its geographical context. It was a special opportunity to combine learning with some fun in an outdoor environment.

The Geography Department now looks forward to the Y9 trip to Weston Super Mare in September, the Year 13 residential trip to Swanage and a Year 11 three day residential to Weymouth in October. We have also rescheduled Iceland (for the third time!) to Easter 2023.







#### Visit to Hamlet

Last week students in Year 11 and 12 went to Winsor to see a most memorable production of Hamlet with Sir Ian McKellen in the title role. Their seats were on stage, which place d them right in the action, so close to actors.

Some students even managed to get an autograph from the great man himself, a lovely gesture as it was for a student who had had to isolate and was therefore unable to attend.









### DofE with a difference

Congratulations to our Duke of Edinburgh's Gold Award participants who recently completed their qualifying expedition. They took on a gruelling four day trek, walking from Hereford back to DSHS and, whilst it was not our usual wild and remote expedition, there is no doubt that this was a Gold Award level achievement. The students successfully tackled tricky technical problems of navigation, overcame physical challenges and supported one another through the times when it was a struggle to keep going. Each student exemplified resilience and determination and all should be proud of their achievement.

The students are: Marc Chorley, Keira Derwent, James Williams, Adi Panicker, Eleanor Bradley, George Forrester, Joe Garbett, Toby Barker, Jack Baker, Sam Hinde, Sophie Wardley, Amy Deane, Ellie Baskerville, Jess Halle, Joe Cairns and Liam Andrews

Upon completing the other sections of the Award, these students will then be invited to St James' Palace, London to receive their DofE Gold Award by a member of the royal family. Participants have until the age of 25 to complete their DofE Award and can get in touch by email to get support in doing so (DofE@droitwichspahigh.worcs.sch.uk).









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## Successful Completion of Pre GCE Certificate

We are delighted to announce that **Harvey Newman, Callum Boyce and Will Parkes**, our Year 12 Pre GCEs, have passed their Pre-Graduate certificate of education and have been duly accredited by the university of Worcester. Their portfolios had been checked, moderated and accepted and the university has issued individual certificates.

#### Year 12

Annabell Gurney Terry, Lorna Beecroft and Tom Griffiths have completed some impressive homework in their Politics studies. They have recently been studying the topic of Conservatism and the writings of Thomas Hobbes. The students had been set the challenge of producing a guide to Hobbes' Conservative philosophy of the state of nature and man's imperfection within it, leading to the social contract. These students' response was excellent; they put together an outstanding film and narrative that really displayed their skills and creativity.

#### Year 10

Mrs Thompson commends the following students for the progress they have demonstrated in their end of year Physics exams:

10L1: Kaden Patterson, Owen Handy, Lucy Earl, Alex Haller, Morgan King, Beth Evans, Leon Hancock, Josh Bowen, Sam Woolley, Ruva Nyamande, Troy Pemberton, Bella Allen 10S1: Willow Brookes, Alex Harrison, Cotton Hennessey, Max Neale, Amy Pullen, James Stanford

Well done to Katie Hodnett and Brandon Connaire for their mock scripted performance in Drama.



Congratulation to Cormac Wathes who completed the National 3 peaks challenge. This involved 26 miles (42km) walking and climbing 3000 metres (9843 ft) of vertical ascent.

He completed Ben Nevis in 5 hrs 48, Scafell Pike in 3 hrs 37 and Snowdon in 3 hrs 38.

He climbed with his Dad his auntie and uncle in memory of his auntie who died in September.

Cormac's team raised over £6000 for the charity Mind. This is a very impressive all round achievement.



#### Year 9

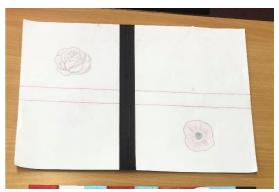
9LR 'Invent a new flag that represents YOUR England'

Students in 9LR English were set the task of discussing ideas for a new flag representing what they wish England to be. After some mature, insightful and sensitive conversations, they embarked on their designs. They then had to deliver a group speech, explaining the decisions and justifications behind their flags.

There were some wonderful proposals and, particularly given recent events, some empowering and thought-provoking ideas about how inclusive our nation is, and should aspire to be.

From L-R: Toby Hetherington, Jacob Bastock, Jack Ellis, Lucas Colley and William Parker. They spoke emotively about racism, remembrance and England.





From R-L Sophie Gomersall, Izzy Simpson, Madeline Holyfield: a beautifully designed flag that represented excellent values of inclusivity and compassion.







Maisie Leah, James Lettis and Joe Foley used humour and relevant issues in their flag design. The 27 beers represent the countries!



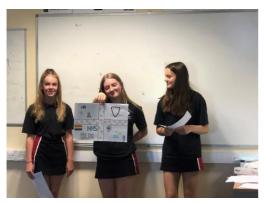


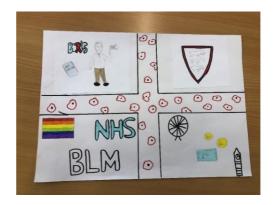
Another lovely design that represents inclusivity, diversity and remembrance from James Blake, Louise Hall and Chloe Alden.





A wonderful speech by Ruby Boulton, Hannah Eccleston and Jasmine Crawford that represented their ideas for a fair and equal Britain, and one that celebrates our heritage and the NHS.











Above is a colourful design to represent unity in the country by Jack Mason, Billy Deacon, Ethan Read, Daniel Morris and Jayden Perry.

This group wished to demonstrate the need of equal money and rights for all. Mali Hill, Grace Gittus, Beth Davis and Eleanor Troman.





Leon Butler has been working extremely hard on his communication skills and has shown impressive progress over the last few weeks.

These members of 9LH attended an early morning breakfast revision class prior to their exam: Kiren M, Jamie-Lea T, Owen S, Mischa S, Mia L, Leona C, Liam G, Ryan M, Sonny P, Kiera N and Sidra W. Their commitment was impressive.



9C Drama have demonstrated great enthusiasm in their lesson on Of Mice and Men. All students were engaged and almost everyone was able to perform on stage. Particular mention to: Mischa Sorrell, Mia Lloyd, Harriet Bird, Alice McElroy, Emily Brookes, Megan Harris-Chance, Josie Pheasant, Demi Butterworth and Sophie Marley. An even bigger well done to Harvey Winter and Tinomudaishe Shumba who performed an extended, and accurate portrayal of the final scene in the novel.



Jamie-Lea Tasker is congratulated on his pleasing progress in English.

Kiera Nicklen is commended for her outstanding and consistent attitude to learning in English.

#### Year 8

#### Year 8 Food

A really big well done for all in Year 8. We have had up to three cooking sessions per class. The students have really embraced the change in lessons, learnt quickly, worked well as a team and have taken some excellent products home. The staff are looking forward to many more practicals with them in September.



















#### Year 8 Industrial Cadets Bronze Award

Congratulations to our first ever Industrial Cadets Bronze Award students., 11 members of Year 8 who attended a virtual graduation day on Friday after twelve weeks of an after-school club in the D&T department. Team 1 won the award for Best Teamwork. They chose to design a fully functioning, self-contained island school. Team 2 were nominated for the Most Innovative award, designing a house for areas prone to flooding. We are really proud of them all for their commitment, enthusiasm and resilience in these challenging times. As well as working with Mr Theobald and Mr Millicheap, the students have also benefited from having industry mentors from top engineering firms, Worcester Bosch and BAE Systems.

Will Broughton, Owen Exon, Finley Jones, Chloe Lostitch, Matthew Oliver and Vethesh Thivakaran made up a highly effective unit in Team 1. Their final model incorporated a variety of practical and digital skills including 3D printed wind turbine models. They were mentored by Hattie Bishop from BAE Systems and Debra Okojie from Gardner Denver.

In Team 2 were Hollie Baker, Freya Kelly, Will Miles, Nicola Pawlak and Max Rigby. They demonstrated excellent creative and practical skills in their project. Steven Keeley from Worcester Bosch helped to mentor Team 2 and provided really insightful feedback during the project.

The Industrial Cadets scheme is run by the Engineering Development Trust and provides active learning experiences in STE(A)M related careers. Whilst this is our first time working with the EDT, former students have attained the Silver Award as part of their work experience at Mazak in Year 10. We now hope to run the Bronze Award with Year 8 annually and we will be looking to introduce the Gold Award with Year 12 students next year. To find out more about Industrial Cadets visit https://www.etrust.org.uk/industrial-cadets







Outstanding observation drawing for the Year 8 assessment came from Ana Makejeva, Holly Dufty, Jack Daniels, Darwin Brookes.

Owen Weston, Sam Perry, Josh Hewlett, Amelia Leigh-Holdnall, Kian Adams, Darwin Brookes, Jacob Dyke, Robbie Elliott, Rhys Maidment, Josh Wood, Erin Sanders and Max Rigby have shown a consistently exemplary approach to English:

8LR English have been exemplary throughout the year. They are hard-working, enthusiastic and always well behaved. They've worked particularly well over the last few weeks in preparing for their end of year assessments.

8RA quickly mastered the correct techniques for observing cells under a microscope. Andrew Eversham's work was particularly good and he was able to support his peers in their work too.

Eloise Harris, Nicola Pawlak, Keira Yates, Owen Exon, Jacob Daniels, Daisy Evans are all commended for excellent performances in the end of year assessment for Geography

Yours sincerely,

N. J. Wares

Natalie Waters



## News from the town of Droitwich Spa

## Droitwich Spa Underpass Project



Droitwich Underpass Art Project is led and part funded by Wychavon District Council along with Droitwich Spa Town Council and money from the Government's Welcome Back Fund, provided by the European Regeneration Development Fund. Worcestershire County Council is also supporting the project through its highways maintenance budget.

The project is being delivered in partnership with the community and many local groups and organisations are involved. These include: Droitwich Arts Network, Westlands Residents Group, Droitwich Action For Future Youth, Droitwich Spa Youth Council, Droitwich Spa High School, Platform Housing Group, Droitwich Standard and West Mercia Police.

#### Activities in Droitwich over the Summer

Tuesday 27th and Wednesday 28th July – Free Mini Golf and Garden Games in either Gurneys Lane or Salt Barrow Market

Monday 9th and Tuesday 10th August - Climbing wall in Victoria Square Thursday 12th August - Magic Show and Punch and Judy, along with Face Painting in Gurneys Lane



# Some other Ideas for the Summer Holidays

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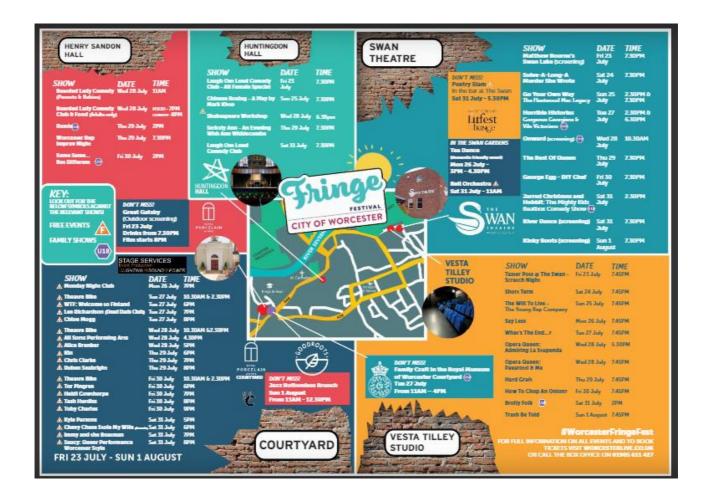
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