

Junior

2018



AUTUMN 2018

Bradford
Grammar
School

JUNIORS

WELCOME
EVENTS
VISITS
LIFE

A Bountiful
Harvest!





Welcome

Welcome to the autumn edition of Hoc Age Junior ... Led by Miss Marsden, our enthusiastic team of junior journalists, including many new members, have been working hard since September to share the highlights of the Clock House calendar, and to celebrate exceptional experiences and achievements this term.

'We have enjoyed a number of successful events including celebrating European Languages Week and our annual fundraiser, Harvest Appeal. We commend both parents and pupils for their fantastic efforts in raising over £1,200 for worthwhile causes.

This term, pupils have been treated to visits from a multitude of guest speakers, including prestigious authors and historical experts. As ever, pupils have prospered as a result of trips and extra-curricular clubs. We sincerely hope that our junior journalists offer a colourful and varied insight into just a sample of the very special and dynamic opportunities available to all of our pupils.

*Kerry Howes
L. Marsden*

Miss Howes and Miss Marsden

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Ilkley Literature Festival

The Ilkley Literature Festival is a popular festival that runs throughout the whole of October.



During this event, there are many shows, competitions and activities based on reading, writing, authors and illustrators. One of these was a poetry competition for primary school students. Over 250 children applied in each year group category, and Clock House were extremely proud to have had five winners. These were Eleanor C, Lizzie P, Archie S, Noor J and Rayyan A, who were all invited, with their families, to attend an awards ceremony at the end of the festival.

beginning of the awards ceremony, everybody was lucky enough to hear him read one of his poems, which was about all the funny things his cat had done when it was younger. He also read another poem that he had written specially for the event, which included each of the competition winners' names so that everyone could get to know each other better.

Each of the winners was invited up to the front of the hall to read out their poem and receive their prize. Andy Craven then explained to the audience what he particularly liked about each prize-winning poem, and why it had been selected as a winning entry. English teachers were stunned and delighted by the superb accolade of having so many wonderful winners.

E CROOKES, YEAR 6

“...”

We had such a fabulous day!

The judge of the competition was the incredibly talented poet, Andy Craven. He has written many fun poems for all ages, and at the

Open Day

Open Day is an annual event, when current pupils and teachers showcase the fantastic facilities and learning opportunities available at Clock House.

This year, the event took place on Saturday 6 October. A multitude of activities were held including science demonstrations and tours of the Clock House garden. Leading visitors through activities and facilities within the Junior School were expert tour guides in the form of current Clock House pupils. The Computing and DT departments worked together to produce a co-curricular activity and this year, visitors were fortunate enough to create their very own personalised Bradford Grammar School clock, which they were invited to take home as a memento.

Specialist Art teacher, Mrs Morley, alongside Mrs Tatham, transformed one of the Junior School classrooms into a relaxation sanctuary with interactive art projects, such as wind mill decorating, in unison with tranquil, artistic music.

As well as being able to participate in various activities, visitors could also listen to music performed by Clock House pupils, whilst enjoying complimentary refreshments. Many budding musicians played a wide range of instruments throughout the day including the trumpet, piano, clarinet, violin and cello. Overall, staff and volunteers were thrilled with the outcome of the day and relished the opportunity to showcase our fantastic school to many prospective parents.

A HARVEY, YEAR 6

CAPTIONS

1 E. Crookes with Andy Craven at the Ilkley Literature Festival

JAN

15 January
Open Morning
16 January (AM)
General Knowledge Quiz Club Area Heat at BGS

16-17 January
Year 6 Taster Days

25 January
HMC Swimming Tournament

FEB

1 February
NSPCC Number Day

1 February
Year 6 Cyber Talks

MAR

6 March
Hilary Robinson: Year 4 Story Telling Workshop

7 March
HMC Netball & Football at Hymers

8 March
Year 4 Cyber Talks

11 March
Science Week

14 March
Year 2 Trip to Lotherton Hall

18 March
Shakespeare Week

20-21 March
House Music Competition

22 March
HMC Gymnastics at RGS Newcastle

APR

3 April
Spring Concert

“...”

We scoffed the culinary delights!

Harvest Appeal

On the 1st and 2nd of November, Clock House staff and pupils held the annual Harvest Appeal fundraising event, where pupils had the opportunity to buy and sell deliciously tantalising treats to raise money for specific charities.

A perfect mix of baking skills and entrepreneurial spirit culminated in an astonishingly successful outcome! After two days of dedication, this year's total was a record breaking £1,200. Senior School pupils, in addition to scoffing the culinary delights, were invited to participate in various games including 'guess the name of the teddy', where pupils predicted the name of the cuddly toy.

A stand out game, brought in by creative pupil Tommy, followed the theme of the famous literary classic, Harry Potter. The aim of this game was to throw a beanbag into a Quidditch hoop. If successful, pupils were awarded with a giant bag of sweets.

A huge thank you to all who supported this fantastic event.

A KHAN, YEAR 5 AND C NATTRESS, YEAR 6



1

European Languages Week

Bonjour! During the week beginning 24 September, Clock House participated in the annual European Languages event that celebrates all of the wonderful languages that pupils learn about and speak from a wide range of different countries.

In a whole school assembly, pupils were fortunate enough to have two Senior School linguists (who are current Languages A level students) share their learning experiences in Modern Languages. The main focus of the assembly was French, German and Spanish music. Once the students had finished their speech, Clock House pupils had a chance to listen to the music and vote on which song they favoured the most. After teachers had counted the polls, pupils discovered that the school preferred the southern European Spanish music to the pop music of France and Germany.

In addition, during house meetings, teachers delivered a ten question quiz on the topic of the continent of Europe and associated facts.

Taste buds were satisfied when Year 6 experienced a French café where pupils consumed a wide range of continental foods and attempted to pronounce the names of the foods in French correctly i.e. popcorn *sucré*, les chips, l'eau et le chocolat – *délicieux!*

D MUSTAFA AND A MCMILLAN, YEAR 6

Year 5 Egyptian speaker

On Wednesday 26 September, an Egyptian expert visited the Year 5 pupils to share his historical knowledge.

After an experience like no other, the pupils were armed with lots of new and exciting information. The visitor, who was dressed as an Egyptian, explained how to mummify a dead body by using natron salt and lots of bandages. The first step was to remove the different organs from the body and then put them into Canopic jars. The only organ they saved was the heart because the Egyptians believed that the mummified body would need its heart in the afterlife. They then took the brain out and threw it away because the Egyptians thought the brain just made snot!

During his talk, the Egyptian expert invited volunteers to participate and the whole class got a chance to do something exciting such as carrying an Egyptian coffin, stuffing a body and singing a funeral song. When the workshop had drawn to a conclusion, he told a fantastic story about the Egyptian gods which helped pupils to understand the Egyptian death ceremony. Finally, pupils were asked to wear a range of different masks which represented the various characters in the story.

M DICKINSON, YEAR 5



2



Younger pupils sample author's literary collection

On Thursday 27 September in the Price Hall, famous cyclist and author Chris Hoy, shared his fantastic books with pupils in Years 2 and 3.

Chris is well known for his series of book titled 'Flying Fergus'. The books are about his childhood and are classed as adventure books. The protagonist in his books is a little boy who rode a magical bicycle.

Pupils very much liked that the illustrator drew pictures from the book whilst simultaneously talking about the plot and content of the book. Miss Smith, Year 2 teacher, stated: 'He was very polite and captivated many of our pupils' imaginations.'

R HARE, YEAR 5



3



4



Chris Bradford author visit

On Friday 28 September, Clock House pupils were visited by the award-winning author and black belt martial artist, Chris Bradford.

Pupils were honoured to meet Chris, a former musician who performed for her majesty the Queen many years ago. Best known for his children's fictional writing, Chris Bradford has written three series of books including, 'The Young Samurai', 'Body Guard' and 'Ninja'.

The multi-skilled performer stunned pupils (and terrified the teachers) with his incredible samurai sword swinging tricks. His astonishing martial skills were a reflection of his superb black belt credentials.

Pupils asked Chris whether he particularly enjoyed being an author and he commented: 'Yes and no since there are some good parts and some bad. I like planning, plotting and coming up with ideas. My favourite parts are the start and the end three chapters. I don't really like the middle since it is quite hard to come up with ideas.'

At the end of his performance, pupils were thrilled to have the unique opportunity to buy signed books and meet Chris.

BY A KHAN AND M MERCER, YEAR 5

“...”
I like planning, plotting and coming up with ideas.

CHRIS BRADFORD



Little Leaders

On a Thursday morning, before the official school day commences, Miss Miller (teacher of games and PE), runs a club called 'Little Leaders' in the Clock House Hall. This new and exciting club provides a unique opportunity for younger pupils to learn leadership skills and develop their self-confidence.

Little Leaders offers pupils a chance to work towards a recognised qualification in leadership, all before stepping foot into secondary school. Although Miss Miller admits that it is a challenge to recruit pupils when competing against established sports and music clubs, Little Leaders shows the potential to grow and develop as more and more pupils begin to reap the benefits of the invaluable life skill: learning how to lead others! Miss Miller talked about the aims and outcomes of this exciting new club.

What is the club about?

The idea is to instil leadership skills in young pupils to allow them to be able to lead events. I'd like to offer opportunities for pupils to gain a formal qualification in leadership. There are so many good leaders in school, why not give them a qualification?

What type of activities?

An example of one of the sessions was discussing ways to organise pupils into separate groups to avoid people being left out. Pupils are encouraged to learn all about communication, organisation and how to cater for different abilities.

How many pupils attend?

Ideally – the aim is for everyone in Year 6 to be a 'Little Leader' by July 2019.

Do you enjoy doing the club?

Yes – I love spending time with the pupils and seeing them grow into leaders. The difficulty at first is promoting something that you are passionate about to pupils that don't know anything about it but hopefully word is beginning to spread ...

Do pupils enjoy the club?

They tell me so! They vote with their feet so I'll know more over the coming weeks.

Is it fun for you?

Yes – hugely. I get to be one of the pupils. It is a good opportunity for young people to learn what it is like and how it feels to be a teacher. It allows pupils to have an experience of leading and to see how it can be done successfully.

Do pupils learn to work as a team?

Yes they do! For each activity, they work in different groups. Nobody will work with the same person every week. The club encourages pupils to build new relationships and extend existing ones.

Would you consider leading it at a lunchtime instead so more pupils can come?

It would be great to be able to do so. This is an additional club. If time is available, I would love to accommodate it but I know lots of pupils already have musical and sporting commitments at lunchtimes, which are (understandably) difficult to compete with.

M MERCER, YEAR 5
AND A HARVEY, YEAR 6



Harmonious Homework Club

Homework Club is a session which takes place after school on Mondays and Wednesdays between 3:30pm and 4pm.

“...”
I really enjoy this club because normally I get home and I have homework to do. Now I have very little so I can relax.

During this club, pupils have an opportunity to start or finish their homework; they may also research information using iPads. Many of the pupils who attend this weekly club think that it is an excellent idea due to the fact that they can work with fellow peers or a teacher who really understands what the pupils are trying to achieve for their homework.

Mrs Buckley, the leader of homework club, encourages any pupils who might be interested in joining homework club to consider coming along after the holidays.

C NATTRESS, YEAR 6

The future of PE and Games at Clock House

Mrs Jones is the newly appointed Head of Junior School PE and Games, having previously taught PE at BGS for nine years. E Crookes spoke to Mrs Jones to find out more about her vision for the future of sport at Clock House ...

What were you doing before you chose to join BGS as a PE teacher?

Before I joined BGS, I was teaching PE at Thornton Grammar School.

How are you organising games this year?

Year 2 and 3 will do a generic sports' programme to get them ready for fixtures and competitive sports, whilst Years 4, 5 and 6 will be training for matches and fixtures.

How are things changing?

There is a new timetable for all games' lessons throughout the whole school for the year. I am hoping that the sports clubs' programme will become more regular.

What are your hopes and goals for the pupils for the end of the year?

- For everyone to have enjoyed games and PE
- For everyone to take part in at least one sports' club
- To be proud of representing BGS
- That every pupil makes progress
- That pupils are competitive when they play in fixtures

New sports' facilities are being built, but how is this going to improve/affect games and PE for Clock House pupils?

The new sports' facilities are top class and provide more flexibility in what

we can offer in games and PE lessons. The increased amount of space will mean that we can teach in lots of different ways and play more sports such as badminton.

Tell me about some of the achievements and victories that the Clock House sports' teams have achieved so far.

In netball, the under 10s are so far unbeaten with a draw against Bronte House and a victory against Wakefield. In rugby, the under 11 boys scored more tries than Bronte House. In swimming, we had a really close gala against Ashville and lots of children have performed really well in cross country fixtures.

Tell me about the other fixtures that we have been on ...

The under 11 netball team played against Richmond House and the pupils were competitive. The under 9 and under 10 teams have attended rugby festivals and learnt lots.

What do you think about Clock House pupils participating in fixtures?

Pupils learn a lot attending fixtures. It is good experience for them to learn how to cooperate as a team. The fixtures need to be appropriate in terms of challenge and as local as possible to minimise travel times.

I know that girls' cricket has worked itself into the curriculum. Why have you chosen this change?

Cricket is a growing game so if we don't make this change we may get left behind.

E CROOKES



A stoney journey through the ages

In October, Year 3 travelled back in time to enjoy an exciting Stone Age Trip.

Visiting Murton Park, York, they immersed themselves in prehistoric information and enriched their knowledge of history through practical experiences.

During the trip, pupils learnt how to grind grain and studied many farming techniques. They visited prehistoric houses and learnt how they differ from present day houses and buildings. Pupils were also informed about how prehistoric men hunted for wild boar, mammoths and bears with stone spears instead of metal. Year 3 designed beaker pots out of clay – just one of the materials that the Stone Age men and women used.

Pupils listened to the story of Ötzi the iceman. Ötzi was found on the East Ridge of the Fineilspitze in the Ötztal Alps on the Austrian–Italian border on 19 September 1991. The tourists who found the body thought it was the body of a recently deceased mountaineer. Archaeologists later found out that it was the body of a prehistoric man.

To summarise, Year 3 enjoyed an enriching educational experience about the wonderful prehistoric world. This amazing trip showed them how different and difficult the world used to be before modern technology and materials were introduced.

D MUSTAFA AND A MCMILLAN, YEAR 6



CAPTIONS

- 1 Mrs Jones – The new facilities will give more flexibility in what we can offer in games and PE lessons ...
- 2 Stone Age trip

