



Neatherd

Annual 2017-2018

A year in the life of our school...



Welcome to our 7th Neatherd Annual which celebrates the huge achievements of our talented students and staff during 2017-18 and shows you some of the fun we've had along the way!



Headteacher

Mr P Devonish

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Dear Readers

Our seventh Neatherd Annual truly shows what can be achieved with the boundless energy and commitment of a very special team of professionals, nurturing the precious gifts in our students.

As you can see inside these pages, our students make our school the very special place it is.

We are very proud that there are a wealth of opportunities for our young people to try new things and to take part. As a school, all of us continue to learn and try to do better, supporting each other.

Working hard, looking out for each other and having fun are what is important when children are at school, taking these principles on into their adult lives.

I hope that this is what you see jumping out at you as you turn the pages in this annual and reflect on the 2017/18 academic year.



Peter Devonish
Headteacher



It's a **funny** old business here!



Another busy and enjoyable year in the world of Business Studies at Neatherd – it was a real pleasure to teach the 2018 leavers and I would like to wish them all the best for the future.

Congratulations

I would like to congratulate the 2017 cohort on receiving positive results and for their work over the two years. I look forward to seeing the results of the 2018 cohort in the summer and hopefully seeing rewards for two years of hard work.



Apprentice Day

The whole of **Year 9** participated in an Apprentice Day. The students were in mixed groups and took part in a number of different challenges. The challenges included making a business pitch after having researched a product, producing a promotional video, researching effective suppliers for a product



and making products. Students then took part in a team-building activity. Each challenge was assessed by the teacher, with points being awarded for the strongest performers.

Business Studies students

Year 10 students have been working hard on the new GCSE business studies specification. The new course is demanding and has two 1 hour 45 minute examinations at the end of Year 11. We have so far covered business, the real world, influences on business, business operations and human resources. This sets us up nicely to complete the two remaining units in Year 11, which are marketing and finance. This will then give us plenty of time to prepare for the final exams.

Twitter

The Business Studies department has a Twitter feed so you can follow **@neatherdbized**. We are getting close to hitting the 100 followers mark!



“

The evening event is always a wonderful way to say ‘well done’ for all their hard work and commitment!

”



Creativity and enthusiasm on show

Year 9 Art students visited the Sainsbury Centre in Norwich last September to view an abstract exhibition by Rana Begum and to take part in a practical workshop exploring light, shape and composition. They had the option to study photography for the first time as part of their Key Stage 3 curriculum.

This has involved an introduction to using Apple Macs and Photoshop to create surreal portraits.

We were delighted to have the opportunity to design and decorate a Leveret as part of the GoGoHares project. Supported by Miss Jay and Mr S Wright, the students were inspired by the local landscape and their sculpture has been described by organisers as ‘outstanding’! The GoGoHare will be on display in the GGC Gallery Space at the Dining Terrace in INTU Chapelfield until the middle of September.

With the changes to the homework policy for Key Stage 3, we have started to hold more art competitions for **Year 7** students to show off their skills in extra-curricular activities. **Jess Day** won first prize for her Dragon Easter Egg.

Amelie Passam and **Calum Jones** won joint first



prize for their pet portraits in biro!

Art Club has been busy all year learning a range of techniques from book binding to wire sculpture and clay pots. They have held their own competitions also, with high calibre outcomes seen in the sunset competition.

Finally, the **Year 11 GCSE Art & Photography** students have seen their hard work acknowledged and applauded in the annual exhibition. Every student was able to see their work displayed on the walls or digitally and the evening event is always a wonderful way to say ‘well done’ for all their hard work and commitment!



Biro pet portraits by Amelie Passum (top) and Calum Jones.



Above: Dragon Easter Egg by Jess Day. Below: Maisie Flowers





Students **shine** as they put their best feet forward

Dance has been fast and furious this year with the **Year 11 GCSE Dance students** completing the new exam specification to a very high standard. There were some stunning pieces presented and the audience was very appreciative of the level of maturity which they portrayed in their works.

The dance groups **'Ignite'** and **'Illusions'** showed professionalism and commitment in their self-choreographed pieces, illustrating the self-motivation and creativity of our dance students

Year 10 students also produced some lovely creative work this year, both in the concert and in class, so we have high hopes for the outcome of their GCSE results in 2019. The standard of work is very good and will only get better over the coming year.

Year 8 Dance had a fabulous time learning 'Greased Lighting' for their Directed Choreography unit and all classes over the year showed themselves to be very adept at picking up movement quickly and clearly.

The two classes that performed in the dance concert only had two weeks to prepare and they performed brilliantly on the night! "I am really looking forward to working with students on a musical theatre workshop to be presented at the end of November. This will really test the students' ability to be a 'triple threat' and improve their singing, dancing and acting all in one go," says dance teacher, Ms Dark. It is also great to see students working in our various lunchtime and after-school classes with Ms Carter De Bois (qualified ISTD dance teacher) on various styles of dance and on improving their technical ability. We aim to create many projects over the coming years, where students can gain performance and choreographic experience in various forms of dance and theatre.



“ I am really looking forward to working with students on a musical theatre workshop which is to be presented at the end of November this year. ”

Ghostly, gothic goings-on make for **chilling** drama

“The whole cast pulled off a complete tour-de-force with their dedication to what proved to be a challenging play”

The year began with students and staff involved in a project that linked Neatherd with three other Norfolk schools: Aylsham High, Ormiston Victory Academy and Alderman Peel High School. The four schools worked together in a performance of a new musical play, **“When Marnie was There”**, written by Ms Dark, Neatherd’s dance and drama teacher. The play is set on the north Norfolk coast and tells the story of a lonely teenaged orphan who finds friendship with a mysterious character called Marnie. As the story unfolds, it becomes clear that there’s more to Marnie than meets the mortal eye and a ghostly but heart-warming tales follows.

As one show ended, Neatherd’s actors began rehearsals for the 2018 school production. With a much shorter timescale than usual, Mrs Sanderson joined forces with the English department and the decision was made to stage an adaptation of the dark, gothic tale, **“The Strange Case of Doctor Jekyll and Mr Hyde”**, a GCSE English Literature text for all students in **Years 10 and 11**.

Adam Littleproud provided the sinister alter-ego to **Bradley Dack’s** mild-mannered Mr Hyde, with **Pearl Williams-Eley** as Jekyll’s feisty sister Katherine. Newcomers this year included **Eddie Hill** and **Ben Harvey**, both **Year 7** students who coped amazingly well with a huge amount of lines to learn in a very short space of time.

Indeed, the whole cast pulled off a complete tour-de-force with their dedication to what proved to be a challenging play with extremely complex Victorian language and concepts. Because of the short timescale between November when rehearsals began and February when the show was staged, the cast put in rehearsal time most evenings and Sundays too.

Rehearsals for next year’s production have already begun for the **“Golden Masque of Agamemnon”**, another dark tale of cruelty and revenge with opportunities for actors and dancers alike.





This year's music students prove that Neatherd's Got **Talent!**

It's been another busy year for Neatherd's music department, starting off with our talented performers being asked to entertain visitors during open evening. Guests were able to enjoy various musical styles in the canteen between tours of the school.



This was quickly followed up by **Neatherd's Got Talent**, and not exclusively just a musical competition, this year's judge's award went to **Robyn Spellacy** for her outstanding vocal and guitar performance, with plenty of other musicians taking part and receiving positive feedback for their performances.



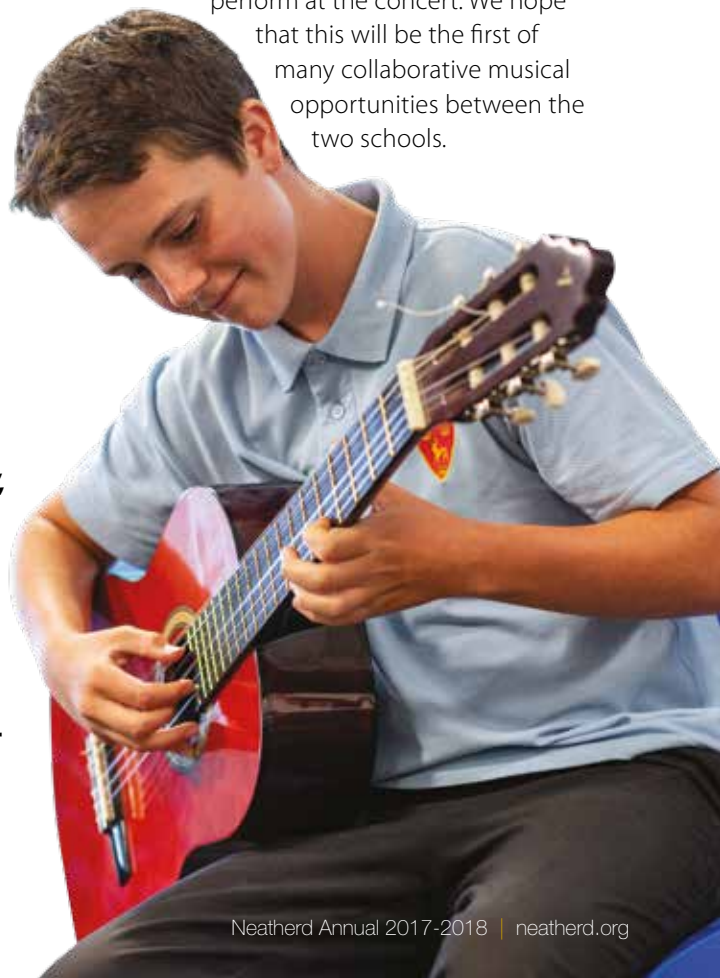
Next up was the **Christmas concert**. Students who participated all had to perform a piece with a Christmas theme, which led to some interesting arrangements. Performers at the concert included the school choir '**Kaleidoscope**', the **Neatherd Buskers**, the newly-formed **Neatherd Function Band** and of course, our hugely talented and enthusiastic solo singers and instrumentalists.



The **summer concert** this year was organised and managed by the **Year 10** BTEC music students. It was held at the Memorial Hall in Dereham and the theme for the concert was '**Live Wire**', meaning that all

performances had to be live; the use of backing tracks forbidden. It was a great opportunity for our musicians to take to the stage and perform in a professional environment.

We also took great pleasure in welcoming **Toftwood Junior School Ukulele Group** to perform at the concert. We hope that this will be the first of many collaborative musical opportunities between the two schools.



From Lego to robotic arms, there was lots to **excite** STEM students

It has been another exciting year for those students working on **STEM** projects. As well as the usual **Lego League**, pupils have been embarking on a number of exciting projects.

Lego League

Neatherd STEM once again competed in the Lego League. This year we hosted for the first time since the East of England Regional event has not been able to run elsewhere. We are really pleased that the event will now be run at the Forum and Neatherd High School is working in partnership with the Forum and Educator Solutions to make this year's event even bigger!

Robotics

A number of STEM pupils have been working on a 'Robotic Arm' project, which has led pupils to work with microprocessors and servos. It has been hard work... but it is beginning to take shape.

RAF Marham

We were invited to take part in the 100 years celebration of the RAF. Pupils were given a tour of a number of stands demonstrating the work STEM has made in developing new technology for the Air Force. **Josh Lee** completed the Towers of Hanoi challenge in 42s, and won the scaled model of F-35s.

Design School

The **Design & Technology** department has been successful in securing funding to run an out-of-hours design school. Pupils will be invited to work on real life projects and work in partnership with local industry.

Watch this space for the new projects in September 2018.



Great facilities enable pupils to create **high skill** products

Food Preparation and Nutrition

This is proving to be an exciting new GCSE and we are awaiting our first cohort results this summer. The students have demonstrated the excellent skills they have honed from

Key Stage 3 to produce some amazing assessments.

The **Year 10** students have been enthusiastic and motivated with excellent mock results which is promising for our second cohort. Students in Key Stage 3 have been cooking many quality dishes with the food provided by the school. They have been making products including vegetable chilli, bread, pasta bake and pineapple upside-down cake.

Students are very lucky to have a beautiful cooking facility with food industry standard equipment.

Having these facilities has allowed us to make some high skill products such as choux pastry, focaccia bread and many types of pasta.

We owe special thanks to the hard work and dedication of our food technician,

Mrs Patterson, who organises

all the equipment and arranges all the ingredients. We have fantastic news

that some of the GCSE food students have decided to carry on their catering studies post-16.





Students **create** pop-up pages, jewellery, and digital design

Our **Year 7** students have been studying paper mechanics as well as modern children's illustrators. They have been applying this to their own work by writing and making their own pop-up books. All students have really enjoyed this project as it gives them so much opportunity for their own input and creativity.

In **Year 8**, the students have been learning about digital design packages and how to use these to create their own 'race and chase' themed board games.

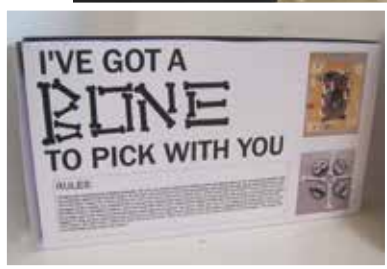
They have all got to grips with the package quickly and created some very exciting, as well as fun to play, games.

The **Year 9** students have had a fantastic time this year, designing their own contemporary jewellery. They have been looking into the work of three contemporary designers and using this as the influence for their work. They have also been investigating different types of net design to create their own product packaging.

GCSE

This has been an exciting year for Key Stage 4 Graphics as the **Year 11** students completed their coursework projects. We had a number of very impressive projects from the students who really showed off all their broad range of skills.

A few projects that really stood out were **Nathan Hughes'** "Abduction" activity pack, **Bethany Hamilton's** "Fantasy Creatures" activity pack and **Nathan Lesiuk's** 'Bone Zone' board game.



“ They have all got to grips with the package quickly and created some very exciting, as well as fun to play, games.

”

It's all about **precision** and **improvement** for these students

The learning focus in Key Stage 3 Materials Technology has been accuracy when measuring, marking out and cutting. Pupils have also been getting to grips with trying to identify areas for improvement in their projects as they work through them.

Year 7 students have had the challenge of designing, developing and making picture frames from mixed materials this year.

Some excellent examples have been produced.



Year 8 saw a new project for 2017-18. A mixed materials phone holder and desk tidy has been this year's challenge. Pupils have learnt quite advanced woodworking techniques (finger joints).

Along with this they have been using CAD (2D Design) to design components and sub-assemblies for their projects. Designs are then cut from acrylic and manufactured board using a CNC laser cutter. Again, some brilliant work was produced.



Year 9 students have continued with the ever popular 'interesting box project'. This brings together previous skills and knowledge learnt in Year 7 and 8, and builds

into a more challenging and complex project. Pupils are given more freedom to be creative with their designs. Some truly excellent work has been produced.

Key stage 4 has seen some excellent final projects again this year. **Joe Culyer** produced a shop quality storage unit with some interesting angles and splined mitre joints holding the whole thing together. Simple but superb!

Woodwork club has been producing mini gravity racers again. Some great wheeled wonders designed and made!



“

Pupils are given more freedom to be creative with their designs.

”





Lots of **creative** ideas and high quality work on show this year

It has been another exciting year for those students in Systems and Control. As well as covering the curriculum, the students have been able to apply the skills to make high quality final pieces.

Vacuum Forming

Year 7 students used the industrial process of vacuum forming to produce the casing of their steady hand game. It is soooooo satisfying to watch the plastic mould over the design!

Mechanisms

Year 8 have been learning about the four types of motion and applying their knowledge of movement to mechanical toys.

Laser Cutting

Year 9 have been constructing beat detection circuits, the casing for which pupils designed using CAD CAM software and then watched the LASER cutter machine it for them.

Controlled Assessment

The NEW GCSE Design & Technology Controlled Assessment has been launched. **Year 10** pupils have been given a wide range of possibilities in tackling real world problems. We look forward to seeing the design ideas of our future engineers!

GCSE Exam Bike Light

For Year 11, the preliminary material for the GCSE said the exam questions would focus on road safety for cyclists. We tried a number of different design ideas and attempted to second guess the examiners – it seemed too easy to focus on bike lights. But luckily it **was** bike lights, so the cohort was very well prepared!



Message to fashion students – ‘be who you want to be’

Key Stage 3 students have designed and made a range of products this year and have developed their art-based textiles skills.

Year 11 students have worked hard throughout the year so that the class was strongly represented in this year’s fashion show and exhibition in July.

The fashion show featured students’ own work from Year 9 textiles lessons and textiles club. We focused on vintage fashion and rethinking historical costume to give old stuff a new twist.

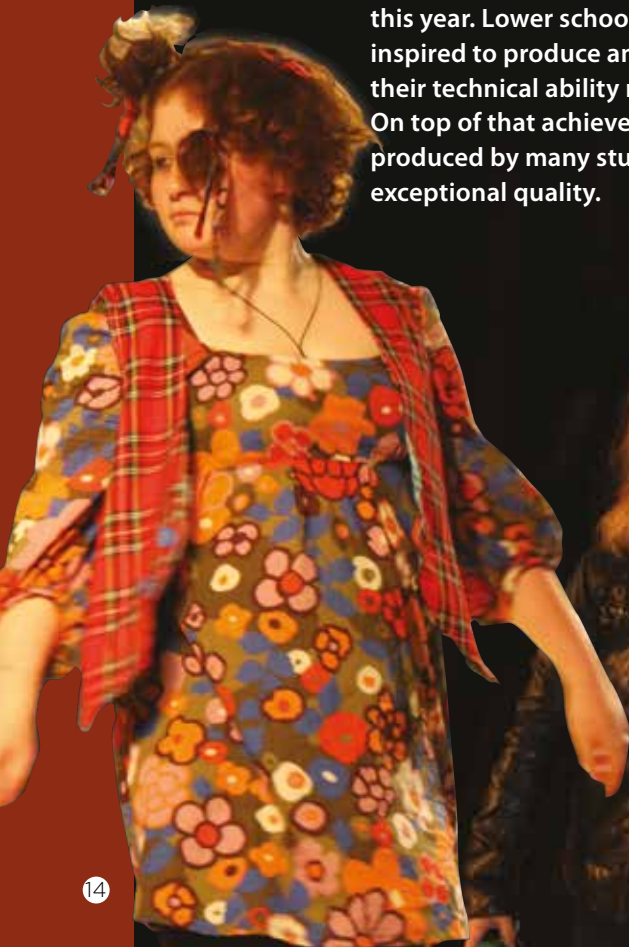
To do this, we looked at what people wore as far back as 500 years ago and reinvented shapes and styles to suit the 21st century.

The fashion show also featured a section we called “Be Who You Want to Be”. For this students designed, customised and manufactured their own garments for the cat walk.

Special thanks must go out to the staff and helpers who have supported **Textiles Club** this year. Lower school pupils have been inspired to produce amazing products and their technical ability never fails to amaze. On top of that achievement, the homework produced by many students has been of exceptional quality.



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We focused on vintage fashion and rethinking historical costume to give old stuff a new twist.
 ”





Gardening club yields **bumper crop** of fruit and veg

The **Gardening Club** has been hard at work again this year. We now have over 30 members of the **SNAG team (Sustainable Nutrition Action Group)** across every year group. We have had a very successful crop of potatoes, French beans, chillies, pumpkins and marrows and are looking forward to the summer harvest of tomatoes, peppers, strawberries and chillies!

Whilst we had a nasty set back over the Easter holidays with a vandalism attack on the polytunnel, there has been a fantastic response from the community with donations of plants, spades, water butts, pots and propagators which culminated in the restoration of the polytunnel with a brand new cover!

We have had eight **Cook Off** competitions over this year which has seen lots of pupils get involved in making valentines cakes, Spanish tapas dishes and spicy summer salads.

Looking ahead to next year we are going to be integrating the Cook Off events with the House competitions, so lots of house points will be up for grabs to the participants and winners!

This year's SNAG trips were to Crushed Foods, Honingham Thorpe Farm and Nurtured in Norfolk to pick up growing skills and ideas that we can use in the school garden as well as to educate the whole school on how to get involved with field to fork activities.

One of the highlights was the Cook Club's food celebration **Summer Pizza BBQ** event which went ahead with the help of Mr Mayhew's personal pizza oven! Luckily he didn't burn the base of his margherita this time!





This year saw a host of **literary**



Roald Dahl Week

The new school term always begins with the celebration of **Roald Dahl Month**.

We enjoyed lunchtime readings by members of staff, quotes adorning classroom doors, the **Year 7** creative bookmark competition, a lunchtime form quiz and staff displaying their favourite character badges.

Book Buzz

Every **Year 7** student was given the choice of a free book at the beginning of term – a great way to kick-start their reading habit here at Neatherd!

We also visited **Dereham Community Library** with our **Year 7** pupils in the summer term, showing them the wonderful array of resources available with the opportunity for them all to join **Norfolk Libraries** to continue their reading choices.

Harry Potter Night

Each year, our **'Harry Potter Night'** gets bigger and better as this year our muggles were transported through Platform 9 $\frac{3}{4}$ to a magical transformation of the library under a floating candle sky.

We were delighted to welcome a selection of live owls from **'Norfolk Wild Encounters'** that muggles and wizards alike were able to meet and greet, watching in wonder as they swooped through the corridor and across the library.

World Book Week (WBW)

World Book Week started in a flurry of excitement with homemade literary cakes arriving for lunchtime judging, followed by an afternoon welcoming teams from primary schools to our **'Big Book Quiz'**. Our literacy mentors were brilliant hosts and question masters. On Tuesday we welcomed back the brilliant **'Furnace'** series author, **Alexander Gordon Smith**, who captivated **Year 7** students with his presentation and engaged them during creative writing workshops. Unfortunately Wednesday brought the heavy

flurries of snow and our WBW events were postponed...

Neatherd Festival of Literature (NFL)

Our postponed WBW enabled us to celebrate literature with more fantastic author events and activities. Gothic horror author **William Hussey** spooked our **Year 7/8s** with his 17th century witch trial while **Year 10s** explored the history of gothic literature giving context to GCSE *Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde*.

Vampirates author, **Justin Somper**, sailed into school on Friday with a swashbuckling talk and workshops for **Year 7** amid all our amazing **World Book Day** costumes that staff and students wore to celebrate book characters, raising funds for our Patron of Reading **Alex Scarrow**.

Other activities during the week included our popular lunchtime **Book Swap**, **"Drop Everything And Read"** at the end of day every day, an inter-house form book quiz, book page recycling art and a **Mad Hatter's Tea Party**.

Carnegie Critics

A mixture of enthusiastic reading students from all year groups came together to shadow this year's **Cilip Carnegie Award**. Meeting each week in the library, we discussed the shortlisted books that had been read, ate cake and picked our winner which was *After the Fire* by Will Hill. The real judges did not agree with us and the Carnegie Winner 2018 was *Where the World Ends* by Geraldine McCaughrean.

You can read our reviews on the books at www.carnegiegreenaway.org.uk

The Reading Cloud

Students are now able to access the school library system at school, home and on the move via their smart phone, tablet or ipod. Once signed up, they can view and reserve books, visit linked websites, write reviews, view author videos, loan e-books, read 'what next' feature based on their previous titles borrowed and much, much more including making their personalised reading avatar!

Literacy Mentors

This year we continued our successful



gems to spark the imagination

intervention with **Year 9** and **Year 10** students to work as Literacy Mentors, actively supporting reading with identified **Year 7** and **Year 8** students during form time. They have made a positive contribution to the success of the students' improvement in literacy skills and reading levels. We also visited **Norfolk Children's Book Centre** and purchased their recommendations for the school library.

Kids Lit Quiz

In November, we hosted the regional heat of the **International Kids' Lit Quiz 2017**. The sports hall was buzzing with excited and enthusiastic **Year 7** and **Year 8** students making up the 28 teams from the 20 Norfolk schools participating in the event, along with authors **Alex Scarrow**, **Alexander Gordon Smith** and **Mitch Johnson** making up the authors team.

We entered two teams who thoroughly enjoyed the experience, plus our **Literacy Mentors** who did a fantastic job of helping the event to run so smoothly.

Accelerated Reading Programme

The **Accelerated Reading Programme (AR)** has once again proved very successful this year with all **Year 7** and **Year 8** students enrolled on the system. Teachers are able to monitor individual reading progress while ensuring they are choosing books within their reading ability and challenging them to read wider genres.

Authors

As well as the authors during WBW, we were delighted to welcome the fabulous **Holly Smale** who entertained all year groups with her award-winning Geek Girl series success. Also mystery adventure author **Helen Moss** visited **Year 7** students in October plus our **Patron of Reading** who regularly meets with the creative writing group, reading groups and gives workshops and talks throughout the year.

Book Fairs

We held three successful book fairs in the library. Following the success and obvious interest from students, further fairs will be held in the future.

Norfolk Children's Book Festival

A small group of avid readers from **Years 7 to 9** were invited to the inspiring book festival held in **Norwich Cathedral** in July. We were thrilled to hear authors **Julian Sedgwick**, **Mitch Johnson**, **Michelle Paver** and **Steve Feasey**.

“**Students can now access the school library system at school, home and on the move...**”





Reading, writing and...**Macbeth!**

Live Theatre with Year 10



In May, **Year 10** went to Cinema City in Norwich to see a screening of the **Royal Shakespeare Company's** latest production of **Macbeth**.

This was designed to enhance their understanding of a key GCSE text and to offer an opportunity to witness live theatre.

The trip was highly successful with over 100 students attending. **Lilimae Nicholson** in year 10 said: "The Macbeth production was really weird but it was good as it helped me to remember key quotes I can now recall the actors speaking them!"

Reading Coaches

Year 7 students have enjoyed the support of a group of volunteer reading coaches from the community. After training provided by the **Norfolk Reading Pathway**, the coaches have worked closely with the librarian and head of English to help students strengthen and develop their ability as readers. Reading coaching takes

place for half an hour every week and has helped students to make some fantastic progress in their reading. The coaches have really enjoyed being part of the school community and getting to know the students. If you have some time you can offer and would like to help students progress with their reading, please contact the school librarian **Mrs Gill** for more information about becoming a reading coach.

Neatherd Loves Writers

There have been several exciting writing competitions recently, where students from every year group have produced some wonderful work. **'Stranger Sagas'** was a very popular competition from the Young Writers organisation which inspired our students to write a mini saga and create a new world in just 100 words. An amazing 19 Neatherd students had their stories published! **Caitlin Austin** (year 8) was one of the successful students to be published and she was also a runner-up in the Gothic literature competition.





All aboard the Hogwarts Express...

Year 10 BBC School Report

Year 10 students studying GCSE media studies participated in BBC School report in March. They researched, interviewed, edited and created news stories to meet the 3pm deadline. "BBC School report day was really challenging, it gave us a snapshot into the world of being a journalist. We really enjoyed it despite the pressures of the day," said Amber Macey. Their stories were wide-ranging and included: men's mental health issues; the negative side effects of social media; the importance of reading for pleasure in a digital world, which included an interview with author Holly Smale; budget cuts impacting on creative arts in schools; women's lack of involvement in sport for pleasure after education. Mrs Hunt (subject leader for media studies) commented: "I was very

impressed with the story choices that students made- it really showed an awareness of the pressures on education and young people."

The reports are

available on the BBC School report website if anyone would like to view them.

Harry Potter Year 10

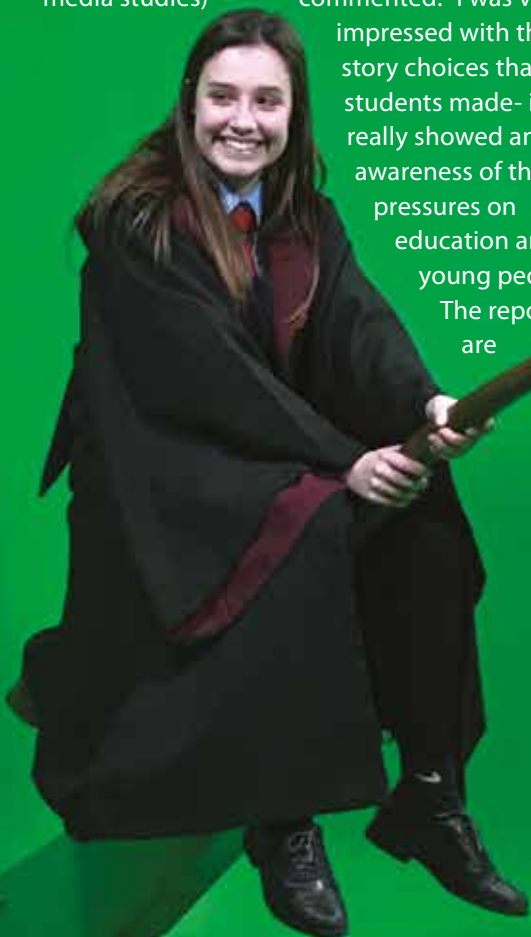
In March Year 10 GCSE media studies, CiDA and drama students visited Leavesden Studios to explore the world of Harry Potter! They explored studio one which contained props from all the films, enabled them to practise spell casting with wands, fly broomsticks and have their photos taken using green screen technology before walking through the new Forbidden Forest display filled with smoke, spiders and a weather machine! They then 'rode' the Hogwarts train and tried, in vain, to push their luggage carts through Platform 9³/₄. In studio two they enjoyed walking down Diagon Alley, exploring the animatronics and graphic design work before ending at a giant model of Hogwarts lit up alternatively as both night and day. Students also attended one of two workshops designed to support their GCSE option choice; they attended a workshop on either the script to screen process or character characterisation. In these workshops students were able to use pieces of fabric from the films' costumes to design their own Harry Potter character, and explore a range of character props. "It was the best trip ever!" said Ryan, "I learnt lots and really enjoyed it."

Own movie showcase

Students in Year 10 media studies have created a range of videos to showcase to the class, these have been the product of much hard work. These have included students interviewing visitors and authors for BBC School Report and creating assemblies. Amber Macey and Charley Bugeja created an amazing assembly which was shown to the all students. It focused on raising awareness of the impact of media images on the self-esteem and confidence of young people.



“
It was the best trip ever!
I learnt lots and really enjoyed it.
”





Crime and dance featured in this year's learning days

On the first **Flexible Learning Day** in November, our **Year 7s** enjoyed a great day in the sun at Wells and Overstrand with the geography department looking at coastal erosion and defences.



Year 8 had time to look deeper at discovering their own identity while others experienced Capoeira Dance, a form of Brazilian fighting movement.

Lots of **Year 9** students went to the Natural History Museum in London to look at the variety and diversity of life on earth.



The second FLD took place in March.

Year 7 pupils spent a challenging day designing computer programmes and websites, using CSS (Cascading Style Sheets).

Year 8 pupils took a trip out to Wroxham to investigate tourism, which included a boat trip to Salhouse Broad.

Year 9 pupils learnt a great deal about crime and consequences, and adopted different roles within the justice system.





Many **positive** responses to a week of very varied activities

There were many brilliant activities and trips that took place during **Curriculum Enhancement Week**, including the **Year 7** trip to Normandy, the **Year 8** trip to Bramley Lakes and **Year 9** Battlefield trips to France and Belgium. All of our **Year 10** students took part in one week of **Work Experience** with local and national employers.

At school, the Year 7 students joined the **Creative Arts Faculty** for a day full of "other cultures" experiences. In drama they "visited" Italy and experimented with the 15th century roots of modern slapstick comedy: **Commedia Dell'Arte**. They also learned "**The Time Warp**" (dance) – as an example of American gothic. In music they got to grips with South American samba rhythms and in art they "went" to France and created portraits using pointillism.

During the week, **Year 8** students spent some time in science working together to build and launch rockets across the school field! They then had the opportunity to explore the feasibility of living and working on Mars and build a model orbiter or lander!

Year 9 students took part in a number of different business challenges at school where they had to work as a team. **Luke Askew**, who is a motivational speaker, delivered two sessions to help students fulfil their potential! Year 9

geographers who have opted to take the subject for GCSE visited Norwich to undertake some fieldwork. The enquiry skills learnt on the day will be invaluable moving forward to GCSE.

Year 9s also had an important day learning about relationships and sex education. They experienced external visitors talking to them about contraception, sexting, gender and sexual identity, and the importance of healthy relationships. Students spoke with huge positivity about the day and our visitors spoke very positively about them!

Students from the SRB have enjoyed some time on Work Experience at Morrison's in Dereham, as well as time baking a superb apple crumble with Mr Taylor!



Friends **support** with fun events

The **Friends of Neatherd High School** have had another very busy year. We continue to offer refreshments at school events – such as intake and parents’ evenings.



We have continued to provide students, staff, parents and carers with a range of fun events to attend, whether it be the Easter or Christmas tombola, cake sales, Summer Fete, our very popular “**quiz and chips**” and the competition “**Neatherd’s got Talent**” which we run in partnership with the Creative Arts department.



Doing these events helps us to raise the much-needed funds the school needs and in the last year we have raised enough money to fully or part fund all of the applications we received from Subject Leaders in February, which makes it all worthwhile for us as committee members.

At the end of the term we held another very successful **Summer Fete** which all our students got to enjoy in glorious sunshine on the field as of course this coincided with our now annual sports festival. There were numerous sporting activities occurring all day for the students to get involved in while we provided refreshments, sweets, lollies, tombola, sport-themed cake decorating competition, crazy marbles game, treasure hunt and guess the name game.

We are a very small group of staff and parents and would very much appreciate more parents and grandparents to be involved and join **Friends of Neatherd**, attending a handful of meetings per year, helping out with refreshments or running a stall a few times per year.



If you can’t afford the time, maybe consider joining the schools **WinWin Club**, where from just £1 per month you could be in with 40 chances per year of winning a share of the monthly prize fund. £4 a month would give you 160 chances per year of winning a share of the prize fund. This is a school run monthly and quarterly drawn lottery so the more people involved, the greater the prize fund.

Or you could sign up to the **Easy Fundraising** website. Every time you shop online, log on through easy fundraising and for every purchase you make, free cash donations are made to us. Every penny raised goes to our students/your children.

● **Please contact office@neatherd.org, subject Friends for more information. Any help and/or support is greatly appreciated.**

“
Doing these events helps us to raise much-needed school funds
 ”



BRILLIANT

Lending a **helping hand** to reach the UK's top universities

The **Brilliant Club's Scholars Programme** aims to support students from state schools to get into highly selective universities. Currently, private school students are far more likely to apply for the top universities, which is not right.

In February the programme began with a launch trip and the first tutorial at **Gonville & Caius College, Cambridge University**. On the launch trip, students got a comprehensive tour of the grounds, an 'Information, Advice and Guidance' session talking through every aspect of university and a chance to talk with a current student.

Pupils also had their first tutorial which introduced them to their topic based around the question "The Road to 'Deception': Writing the Antarctic".

Pupils then took part in four tutorials in school from their own UEA PhD Tutor, **Elizabeth**, in preparation for the 2,000 word assignment. All our pupils have passed the assignment which is absolutely AMAZING!

At the graduation ceremony in May pupils enjoyed an interesting day at the UEA on the same day as 'Pimp my Barrow' which gave some interesting sights! Students had a study session, a tour and university session. Parents joined pupils for a couple of the sessions, but also had their own tour and an information session about university. The formal graduation ceremony was long, but a fitting end to the superb achievement of our Neatherd pupils!





Student council encourages pupils to **get involved**

The **school council** is a brilliant way to get students of all years actively engaged with finding ways to improve the school. It is made up of twenty core members including volunteered students, House Captains and Head boy and Head girl. The head people frequently make recommendations. From recent meetings, the prevalent topic of discussion has been centred around making the school more economical by reducing the amount of waste produced.



The **SNAG** group is a crucial part of the school council and actively took surveys of how many bins are present around the grounds and the proportion of the school that is littered. The school council meetings are also attended

by governors who listen to the suggestions for improvements to the school and, more recently, the Head people and House Captains have been invited to join the governor meetings which are held after school.

Not only have the school council discussed the various improvements regarding environmental factors, they have also brought up:

- The recently developed behaviour system.
- Ways of improving charity days to raise money for the chosen charities Neatherd support.
- The school curriculum.
- How to improve community time (break and lunch)
- Homework

The school council is an important and useful way for us to provide leadership opportunities for the pupils.



Being a member of the school council is an excellent way to increase participation, teaching young people about democracy, local and global citizenship and accountability.

Recently, the new head people have been elected following a series of tough elimination rounds. The candidates went through rounds of speeches, presentations and interviews to show off various skills. The new Head boy and Head girl for the coming new year are **Adam Littleproud** and **Amber Macey**. House captains and deputy house captains are **Josh Welling**, **Hannah Spalding**, **Charlotte Calvert**, **Arden Scott**, **Pearl Williams-Eley**, **Cameron Biro**, **Tolis Iakovou** and **Jose Tye**. The role of student leadership will be increasingly prevalent in the new academic year, getting the head people and captains more actively involved with the community. During charity week at the end of the summer term, we will be raising money for **Nelson's Journey**, the charity selected by the student body. The house fundraising activities will be run by the house captains and their deputies, aided by the head girl and boy. By having the student leadership organise events such as charity week, this will increase leadership and communication skills.

Gateway activities include **JET propelled** support sessions!

Set up primarily to provide academic support to Pupil Premium students, **the Gateway** has become widely recognised as a place of support for the whole school since it opened its doors five years ago, with the provision of wraparound homework and revision support. Home of the official homework club and open from 8.00am in the morning, the Gateway is available to all students before school, at break time, during lunch and after school, finally closing its doors at 4.30pm. Students have access to laptops, a printer and support from one of the three Gateway team members.

During core lesson time, the Gateway provides small group support to Pupil Premium students across the school in English and maths. For new **Year 7s** this could be our Secondary Ready English and maths programmes or, for **Year 9**, our GCSE Ready programmes. Interventions typically last 12 weeks based on one session per week with programmes tailored to meet the students' needs. **Year 11** students, who have an adjusted curriculum, receive tuition in English, maths and science which supports their GCSE work in those subjects.

The Gateway works closely with the maths, science and English departments, ensuring that students receive the most effective intervention required to 'plug the gaps' in their knowledge. We receive many positive comments from students. "Being in a small group means it is easier to ask questions and have group discussions." It has

helped boost my confidence." "I have thoroughly enjoyed this intervention."

The Gateway prides itself on having a bright, friendly, welcoming and engaging learning environment. The team is dedicated to raising the achievements of all students and keeps a close eye on Pupil Premium students' progress as they advance through school.

The JET group

Organised and run by the Gateway, the JET group (John Egging Trust) provides weekly sessions (over 10 weeks) for students who may need a bit of extra support with confidence, self-esteem and social relationship building.

The sessions include team building and leadership activities, all designed to make students 'think outside the box', work together and feel part of decision processes. As part of the programme, the students also take part in visits to RAF Honington where RAF colleagues put on a range of activities for students to take part in. In June, marking the 100th anniversary of the RAF, students met second-in-command of the RAF, Deputy Commander Operations, Air Marshal Stuart Atha, also Patron of the John Egging Trust.



“**Being in a small group means it is easier to ask questions and have group discussions**”





Pupils supported by community activities and help with **life skills**

The SRB is the school's **Specialist Resource Base for Autism**, catering for 22 students from all over the county. Our ten members of specialist staff support the students in accessing mainstream lessons as well as involving them in life skills and community activities: walking to local shops, buying ingredients and cooking, gardening and learning about money, bank accounts and businesses.

The SRB is purpose-built with its own kitchen, crafts area, group area, workstations and computers.



Take it from those who know: The Link is **awesome**

Welcome to **The Link**, Neatherd's dedicated SEND Resource Base which is located opposite reception at the front of the school.

Within The Link, we provide support for students in the resource base and across the school in a variety of ways to meet their wide-ranging needs.

We are open daily to students from all year groups before school, at break, lunch and after school.

Homework Club with support is available until 4.30pm daily. During these times, students are able to access a wide range of resources including games, Lego, construction items, computers for homework and subject-based software packages, as well as socialise. On Fridays, a small group of students play Dungeons & Dragons, a strategy role playing game. Our photographs provide an insight into the ways in which we learn within The Link, during timetabled lessons or at other times during the school day.

At lunchtime, students are free to eat their lunch in The Link while socialising with friends, play card and board games, make Lego models, join other students playing on Wii Sports or just to chat and relax.

Students with reading, spelling and numeracy issues are supported in The Link in small group timetabled lessons and at form time.

A multi-sensory approach is used to develop students' confidence and to develop core literacy and numeracy skills, within a structured, well-resourced environment.

Current students, who choose to attend the Link daily, were asked what they liked about being in the resource base.

Toby, Year 7 said: "I like The Link because it's awesome. We have the Wii, get to make models and chat with our friends at lunchtime."

Leigh: "The Link has helped me with loads of stuff like homework, managing my behaviour so I get fewer detentions in class and more chances to do nice things like make models, play on the Wii and chat with my friends."

Alfie: "I have help with reading and spelling in The Link which makes learning in class easier."

Sean: "If I don't feel good, I can complete my work in The Link and use colouring therapy books to calm myself with the support of Mrs Parker."

Rebecca: "The Link has taken away the stress and anxiety I feel when I'm in school. I have core subject homework and some lesson time in The Link working on managing my anxiety. I am really excited as Mrs Parker has arranged for me to start piano lessons. I already have wobble board sessions to help manage my anxiety and join in with dance and ballet clubs at lunch and after school. I have an exit card for use in class if I cannot focus and can bring my work to The Link to complete with support, once I've calmed down."

Nathan, Year 8: "The Link has helped because they support me in lessons; issued me a blue overlay to help reduce visual stress; homework – I get further explanations and time to complete it after school."

Rufus, Year 10: "I think that The Link has helped me a lot in the four years I've been here. It has helped me get through tests and supported me overall in many ways."





School trips **excite** and **educate**

It has been another enjoyable year for everyone involved in the geography department. As well as lots of exciting activities in the classroom, there have been trips in every year group to keep us all busy!

Year 7 – North Norfolk Coast

On Wednesday 22nd November, the whole of Year 7 visited the North Norfolk coastline at Wells and Overstrand. It gave students the opportunity to examine first-hand the power of the sea (which was very evident in November!) and to evaluate the different ways in which humans have attempted to manage it.

Year 8 – Wroxham and the Norfolk Broads

All of Year 8 visited Wroxham and the Broads during Flexible Learning Day 2 to assess how tourism and conservation are managed.

The students were blessed with some mild but dry weather, which made a great setting to take a cruise down the River Bure!

Students also had an opportunity to work independently in small groups around Wroxham, helping develop their field data gathering skills.

Year 9 – Norwich

Those students that chose to do geography at GCSE had the opportunity to visit Norwich during Curriculum Enhancement Week.

During the day, students undertook some fieldwork, including examining the impact of regeneration in the Riverside area of Norwich.

Year 10 – Iceland

During October half-term we again visited Iceland with our Northgate counterparts. While we were there, the students had the opportunity to climb an active volcano, walk on a glacier,

view some of Europe's largest waterfalls, shop in Reykjavik and, of course, walk down the Mid-Atlantic Ridge. Each day ended with a swim in a geothermal pool, including one in the famous Blue Lagoon!

Year 10 – Holkham

In May, geography students from Year 10 spent a day in Holkham investigating sand dune succession as part of their GCSE.

Both groups were blessed with glorious weather! They have since been busy writing up their findings back in the classroom.

Year 11 – London Olympic Park

A new trip was introduced in Year 11 for GCSE to London and the Olympic Park in Stratford.

Students completed fieldwork in the morning examining the impact of regeneration of Stratford. In the afternoon we visited the London Docklands museum before having a walk around Canary Wharf.





It's been another **fascinating** year in the history department

Year 9 Battlefields Trip

Our annual trip to the battlefields of the First World War took place in July and was again an overwhelming success. Over four days, pupils visited a range of sites that focussed on different areas that saw heavy fighting and looked at different battles from the First World War. Pupils focussed on the battles that raged around Ypres, explored the **Battle of the Somme** and looked at everyday life for the soldiers. During the trip, pupils laid wreaths on behalf of the school at **Langemark Cemetery, Tyne Cot** and during the **Last Post** ceremony. The hostel, tourists and members of the public commented that the pupils were a credit to the school.

Year 10 and 11 Norwich Castle Trip

The visits to **Norwich Castle** took place in November (Year 11) and July (Year 10) and proved to be hugely popular with all of the GCSE pupils. This trip helped support their **'History Around Us'** unit knowledge, looking at the changing use of the castle during its time as a royal palace, county gaol, prison and museum.

Four tours were led by expert museum guides and enabled pupils to reinforce their existing understanding and learn new information.

History Club

The **History Club** was established this year and has enabled pupils to get more involved with history beyond the curriculum. Led by Mr Mayhew, the pupils have begun to create their own termly magazine which looks at many of their interests and informs about several lesser known historical events. One exciting project next year (in conjunction with the art department) will be making poppies similar to those on display at the Tower of London in 2014. These will be focussed on our school's local war memorial in Dereham. Pupils will be making a poppy for each man named on the memorial. They will also produce a short overview about each man. History club is open to all pupils in all year groups.



Challenging and exciting IT tasks



2017-18 has been a great year for the department. **Minecraft, Code Club, PICO** games programming and **CyberDiscovery** have been thriving! There are almost 100 active **Minecraft** seats filled every week: students can sign up for two lunchtime sessions per week.



Code Club has a strong central group of coders who have been completing certificated units mainly using Python, which complements what they learn in lessons based on "Computational Thinking and Algorithms" (these units are in all year groups).

Mr Kavanagh has been running a game programming club in **PICO** every week where students can try their hand at designing and programming games with a retro-feel! These are showcased on the school website.

CyberDiscovery is an initiative run by HM Government to try and engage young people (open for 14 – 18 year olds) in the world of computer based security. There have been some very tough challenges which have been fascinating for over 50 of our students in Years 10 and 11. We had unprecedented numbers of coders get through to the third round which is an achievement that they are rightly very proud of. Keep an eye out for those few who may make it to the final stage.



“
We had unprecedented numbers of coders get through to the third round
”



This year saw the inaugural (and now annual) trip to EGX which was held in Birmingham. The trip is open to all students on both **Key Stage 4** courses that we offer in the department (GCSE Computer Science and iMedia GCSE). This was a hugely popular event (not just for staff, students enjoyed the day immensely too!). Students played all the latest games ahead of release on various platforms and also had the chance to learn from **INDIE** developers, visit the Games.biz careers fair and watch live **eSports** tournaments (which was a highlight!).



Perseverance essential for student code-breakers

Back in September we started up a problem solving club for pupils to join at lunch time. We took part in the **National Cipher Challenge** online which threw up some very challenging codes that needed breaking. Our small group of dedicated pupils persevered throughout and although we weren't always able to solve the challenges they would still look back at the solution to see what they could have done to solve it. Once the competition had finished we moved onto some more fun code breaking puzzles and evaluating the problems used in last year's curriculum enhancement week.

In March we took a team of two Year 8 and two **Year 9** pupils to take part in the **UKMT Maths Challenge**. The competition combines mathematical, communication and teamwork skills and offers pupils another way to express and develop their enjoyment of Mathematics. Considering it was the pupils' first competition they held their own, securing a fantastic 4th place up against some tough schools!

June arrived and it was time for another competition and a brand new team. This time we took four **Year 8** pupils to the **Inter-Schools Maths Quiz** at the University of East Anglia. We were up against 18 other schools and although we didn't quite finish in the top three, the pupils put in a super effort! They worked together on a variety of challenges and were even put on the spot in some individual rounds in which all of them performed brilliantly and did

Neatherd proud! Afterwards we enjoyed a sunny campus tour and a 'why go to university?' talk, which left the pupils discussing on the way home what subjects they would like to go on to study at university.

In July we were hosting our first annual **Primary Maths Quiz**, inviting **Years 5** and **6** pupils to challenge their mathematical thinking. They had to work as a team to solve a variety of tasks, including exploring the school site to collect questions and clues which will then need solving!

Finally, curriculum enhancement week saw the return of the **Enigma Challenge**. **Year 9** pupils spent the day cracking clues and decoding messages just like they would have at Bletchley Park. The idea for this day stems from the popular film based on true events 'The Imitation Game'.



Mandarin and much more

Languages Society

Throughout the year, keen linguists have been participating in our **Languages Society** during lunchbreaks. They have watched a variety of foreign films and taken part in competitions, in addition to learning about different celebrations and customs. For example, students painted skull window hangers to mark the Mexican "Day of the Dead" festival.



Penpals

Classes in years **7, 8 and 9** have been sending and receiving penpal letters from students in partner schools in France and Spain. The letters from the Spanish students have been very creative and students have been excited to receive them. This has been excellent practice for their written French and Spanish too.



Christmas Spanish

On the last week of school before Christmas, students of MFL celebrated the Spanish new year counting down and having 12 grapes for the minute leading up to midnight. We finished the party listening to some Spanish Christmas carols and talking about traditional activities in Spain.



Mandarin lessons

We have been very fortunate to be able to offer weekly Mandarin lessons after school during the summer term. 16 pupils from years **7 and 8** signed up to attend and have been enthusiastically practising their Mandarin with their families and friends, as well as learning a great deal about Chinese culture.

Alley Olé

In July, 24 students accompanied Ms. Collins and Ms. Batty to the Alley Olé tapas restaurant in Norwich to try some delicious tapas. The restaurant opened in the afternoon especially for our students and, as well as tasting a selection of different tapas, the students had to order in Spanish.

Year 7 Normandy Trip - July 2018

89 **Year 7** students were able to experience the wonderful annual Normandy trip to Château Le Kinnor in the picturesque village of Fervaques. We were hosted as always by Monsieur and Madame Lhotel (appropriate name!) and stayed for five days during Curriculum Enhancement Week. For many students, this was their first residential trip abroad and also their first time visiting France. A fun and informative time was had by all. We are very much looking forward to Normandie 2019!





Carter House triumphs this year

With more than 1200 pupils involved in a choice of nearly 40 activities, our Sports Festival proved once again to be a busy and brilliant opportunity for pupils to get absorbed in all things sporty. Activities on offer included archery, boules, boxing, Brazilian Jujitsu, dance-ballroom, darts, goalball, golf, handball, netball, silly races, softball, taekwondo, ultimate Frisbee, yoga, zorb football and much more

As in the last few years, pupils chose three activities that they would like to participate in. The rest of the day was spent participating in our competitive, traditional sports day where the track races took place. Pupils competed in 100m, 200m, 400, 800m, hurdles and 4 x 100 relay. As always taking centre stage, and eagerly anticipated was the staff relay! The field events were completed on an earlier date. Additional points were also gained for their House through our Performer of the Activity scoring system. After each session the Activity Leader ranked five people who they thought had performed to their best. These were then added to the race results. This year it was the turn of Carter House to raise the trophy. Congratulations to them. We would like to take this opportunity to say a massive thank you to all pupils and staff involved. It is an immense, full on day, and its success wouldn't be possible without everyone working together.

Special mentions must go to the following:

Top Activity performers

Sorrell McDermott – Year 10, Kett. Ruby Wilson – Year 10, Kett

Top Field Event Performers

Matas Daugintis – Year 10, Fry, finished 1st in

both High Jump and Long Jump. **Ruby Chantry** – Year 9, Carter, finished 1st in both High Jump and Long Jump.

Three records broken during the field events

Charlie Summer – Year 7- Carter. High Jump – 1.39m. This record had stood since 2013.

Jasmine Hudson – Year 9 – Carter. Javelin – 22.30m. This record has stood since 1988! (30 years old)

Matas Daugintis - Year 10 – Fry. Long Jump – 5.63m. This record has stood since 2017.

Top Race Performers

Beth Barrett – Year 9 – Carter. Finished 1st in both the 100m and the Hurdles.

Bradley Bowie – Year 10 – Carter. Finished 1st in both the 100m and the Hurdles.

Sophie Green – Year 10 – Fry. Finished 1st in both the 200m and the 400m.

Cameron Hodgson – Year 8 – Kett. Finished 1st in both the 100m and the Hurdles.

Ryan Lingwood – Year 10 – Carter. Finished 1st in both the 400m and the 800m.

Carter dominated the field and race events throughout the sports festival and were able to give themselves a decent lead as a result.

Cavell Lower School (boys and girls relays teams combined) got the highest score whilst in Upper School, Carter (boys and girls relay teams combined) got the highest score. Carter, with both the Lower and Upper School relay scores combined, won in terms of points (41). Kett got the highest amount of points on the activities. Total combined score was 450.



PE – there's something that will suit **everyone** in these classes

As always the commitment to sport from our pupils is second to none. Be it Cup matches, League matches, House matches, Athletics competitions, Sports tournaments, Cross country meets, Leadership experiences, Outdoor adventure residential experiences, SEN sport, Ski trips, Sports Tours Trips, Sports day and Sports Festival, there is something for everyone.

Hockey has always been a well-attended lunchtime activity. Some days we have up to 50 pupils playing on our fantastic 3G pitch. This includes children of all abilities, from County level to those who simply enjoy their lessons and want to take it a step further. Older, more experienced players give up their time to help coach and umpire games. Our **U14 girls** are incredibly committed. We can easily field two teams, if only we had a double-decker minibus! One squad were **U14 South Norfolk Area Tournament** winners this year! **Ellie Ampleford** was our top scorer in this tournament, and has been in general! **Milly Ogden** and **Elisha Smith** have been sharing the goalkeepers job this season, and what a fine job they have both done. **Holly Lloyd** stands out as one of our most improved players, along with **Lucy Gedge**. This group of girls went on to play in the County Championships.

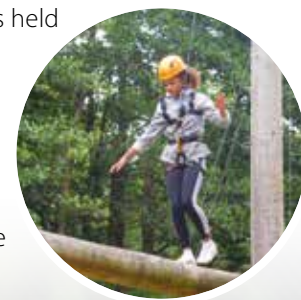
Our **rugby players** continue to go from strength to strength. Particular mention must go to the following pupils who have really improved in all areas this year: **Lewis Pears, Henry Furse, Matthew Way, Kayhan Tokbay, Archie Baker, Tazio Lloyd-Verrinder, Stephan Cannell, Toby Footer** and **Adam Oliver**. Congratulations to the **Year 7 team**, who did particularly well in their Tournament.

Rounders continues to cause the most excitement when it comes to matches! We have attended as many tournaments as we possibly could in addition to all our League matches and the atmosphere is always equally as noisy, no matter which age group.

It was an interesting year for the **football** teams this year with many outstanding performances but a mixed bag of results to show for it. Highlights this year came from the **Year 8** and **Year 11** boys' teams who often played some aesthetically pleasing football only to be able to grind out draws or narrow defeats. Highest placed finishers were the **Year 11 boys** who came third in their respective group and managed to finish the season on a high by beating local rivals Northgate 1-0 in their final school match before they left. The **Year 8s** posted an identical result by pipping Northgate 1-0 through a **Mackenzie Still** penalty in the last minutes of their game. A strong Year 9 result against Wayland (2-1) was followed up by a 2-0 loss v Northgate, however positive signs were shown by building on some of the work that the boys developed through the Barcelona football and netball tour. The Year 10 team will look to build on a rocky season in their final academic year next season, this would be enhanced by an increase in the amount of fixtures they get to play through the year. The current Year 7s had a mix of results with the highlight being a strong 6-2 win against Wayland Academy.

Dodgeball continues to be popular amongst our pupils. We had a great time at the County Tournaments, and although we didn't come away as winners we had a jolly good time trying!





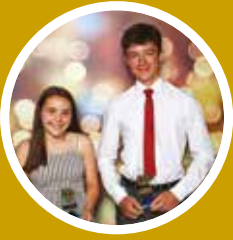
Our athletes have once again done themselves proud. Some of our **Year 7s** don't even know that they are brilliant at something until they've 'had a go!' (**Charlie Summer** - High jump, **Keziah Holman** -200m and Long jump, **Krystelle Batista** - High Jump). **Brad Bowie** continues to shine in his events, along with **Beth Barrett**, (who is an outstanding hurdler) in addition to a fantastic sprinter. Brad, Beth, Charlie, Kez, Krystelle, **Ellie Ampleford, Morgan Dorrell, Ryan Lingwood, Ruby Chantry, Amberly Wright, Abi Smith, Memphis Symonds, Tash Ward**, and **Trinity Donachie** have all gone on to the next level from the qualifying rounds. A massive team effort involving approximately 60 pupils meant we came second overall in both the **Mid-Norfolk Athletics Championships** and the **Partnership County Athletics Finals**.

Cross country is another area our pupils excel at. **Charlie Dickerson, Ellie Foster, Bethany Holland, Lily Arnold, Beth Barrett, Amberly Wright, Lily Tarsey, Charlotte Calvert, Pearl Williams Eley, Abi Smith, Milly Ogden, Grace O'Regan, Chloe Partridge, Jess Smith, Memphis Symonds, Hallie Taylor, Lucie Younie, Molly Pennells, Summer Copland, Sienna Coe, Georgia Eglan, Keziah Holman, Emma Wade, Bella Green, Olivia Brown, Jasmim De Gouveia, Tilly Taylor, Ella Handel, Amelie Passam, Hayley Crichton, Isabelle Palmer, Jessica Swan, Bethany Costello**,

Sam Swales, Ryan Lingwood, Brad Bowie, Joshua Welling, Oscar Futter, Elliot Bowes, Alfie Payze, Ben Bolton, Hector Frith, Zak Collins-Iddi, Ben Bolton, Daniel Gois Martins, Tiago Da Silva, Ali Elouassi, Callum lake, Coby Softley, Luke Gilding, Ben Grunberg, Isaac King, Lewis Salisbury, Harry Smith, Ben Rigler, Jacob Last, Jack Lake, Leo Melton, Oliver Park-Silva, Dean Chappell, Riley Bennett were all pupils either selected to run or be reserves for our Mid-Norfolk Cross Country Championships held here at Neatherd. Those highlighted went onto represent Mid-Norfolk at the County Championships held at Sloughbottom Park, Norwich.

One thing is for sure 'Be whatever you want to be' certainly rings true when it comes to our pupils and their sport.





Winners all!

Neatherd's third annual Sports Awards Presentation Evening took place during the last week of term, and what an occasion it was. More than 140 pupils from Years 9 and 10 were invited to celebrate their own and their peers' sporting achievements from this academic year. In addition to this, students were selected to receive our more prestigious awards. Pupils and their families filled our Sports Hall to capacity, the first of many proud moments from the evening for the PE Department.

First up were the Year 9s who received their Colours and certificates. Colours come in the form of yellow or green badges that demonstrate what sport a pupil has participated in. Yellow represents a sport that the pupil has committed to training in and has represented the school in. Green takes it a step further, showing outstanding commitment to and ability in a particular sport. Those that represent their county also receive green. Year 10s received certificates for their contributions to another outstanding year of PE and sport at Neatherd. Mr Barron and the PE team took the stage one by one to talk about, and unveil, the names of students who received the following awards:

Key Stage 3 Performer of the Year:

Female – Ellie Ampleford. Male – Hector Frith

Key Stage 4 Performer of the Year:

Female – Bethany Holland. Male – Nathan Perkins

GCSE PE Student of the Year: Kallum Brown

Sportswoman of the Year : Arden Scott

Sportsman of the Year: Sam Lockhart

Sports Leader of the Year: Latasha Ward

Community Sport Award: Gabby Sharp

Team of the Year: U14 Hockey County Championships qualifying team. Ellie Ampleford, Molly Ashton, Hannah Charman, Molly Emery, Lucy Gedge, Jasmine Hudson, Izzy Last, Holly Lloyd, Katie Lockhart, Kayleigh Munt, Milly Ogden, Isla Reid, Elisha Smith, Kiera Stubbs, Kathryn Way, Amberly Wright

Outstanding contribution towards PE Award: Ellie Foster

Overall outstanding achievement in PE Award: Charlie Dickerson.

Photos by Michael Lyons Photography





High achievers

At the end of the summer term we held our end of year presentation assemblies to celebrate the well-deserved achievements of our students.

We celebrated those students

- with the highest attitude to learning grades
- who have made the most progress
- who are working at the highest academic level
- with 100% attendance.

In addition to this we celebrated success in individual subjects, with Subject awards, where students were nominated for being particularly successful in an individual subject.

After a musical interlude, Head People, House Captains and Deputy House Captains addressed the audience before the final, very special awards.

The **Community Awards** went to those students who have contributed the most within our school community, and the **Student Development Team Award** was nominated by the Head of House. The **Deputy Head Teacher Award** is for those students who have made the most progress overall in their year group, and the **Head Teacher Award** is for students working at the very highest academic achievement.

Here are the names of the special award winners.

	Deputy Head Award	Headteacher Award
Year 7	Alexis Coe	Joe Knee
Year 8	Milena Stala	Zoe Chapman
Year 9	Molly Emery	Katherine Thomas
Year 10	Andrew Eastes	William Liversidge

Community Award

Carter	Elijah Holman
Cavell	Nathan Mace
Fry	Sean Standing
Kett	Clarissa Huxley

Student Development Team Award

Carter	Charlie Brownlie
Cave	Olivia Metcalf
Fry	Matthew Skimmings
Kett	Isla Reid





Our science **explorers**



It's been a really busy and successful year for the science department, thanks to all the hard work of our wonderful students and hardworking staff.

To ensure our **Year 6** students are ready and willing to become enthused by science, the transition day for science was full of colour and light. Students were given the opportunity to create rainbows in a petri dish, discover the mystery substance and work out whether it was a corrosive or harmless substance.

Mr Simmonds has been involved with some **Year 6** students from Garvestone and over three afternoons has enthused the students with the wonders of making crystals, chemical reactions, calculating speed and making water rockets out on the school field.



The Science Fiction Club continues to enthuse and inspire. Mrs Sheldrake with her cinephilllic students are working their way through the Marvel universe, with Iron Man, Captain America and Thor proving particularly popular. It is open to all years but **Year 7** continue to have a soft spot for the movies.

Year 8 pupils were given the fabulous opportunity during **Curriculum Enhancement Week** of building a rocket projectile and firing it across the sports field. Some very funky designs were created, and the most successful ones flew for over 70 metres. Year 8 were also given the opportunity to imagine life on Mars, where students watched videos and did research on the feasibility of Mars survival. They also completed a Mars lander from an assortment of materials.

As has become a tradition with **Year 9**, it was an early morning start in November with the scientific explorers off to visit the **Natural History Museum**. One of the highlights of the visit was the **Earthquake simulation**, which the students didn't want to leave. As always the students were also expected to complete a booklet, and prizes were awarded to some very lucky students who could manage to answer all the questions correctly. Additionally Mr Covington went to Toftwood Junior School with a bunch of our most able **Year 9s** to deliver some fabulous science lessons to Years 1, 2 and 3. In an one hour session they carried out investigations into chromatography, paper helicopters and straw.



Students rise to the ethical challenges of today's world

It has been an excellent year for the society and ethics department and students have enjoyed the challenge of the ever changing curriculum!

Year 7 students have had an insight into the criminal justice system and the importance of laws and democracy. They have gone on to learn a number of religious attitudes towards lots of ethical issues, including human and animal rights and genetic engineering. They have also particularly enjoyed learning about Islam, and dispelling many common misconceptions about the religion. Finally, they are currently learning about mental health and how to manage our wellbeing, a topic that is particularly poignant in the era of social media.

Year 8 students had a fantastic **Flexible Learning Day** learning about the identity and the importance of being proud of who you are, what you believe and where you are from. The entire year group had a fantastic opportunity to learn about many different cultures, traditions and belief systems to help with their understanding of the importance of always being supportive and inclusive. Within the curriculum, students have particularly enjoyed units on critical thinking and philosophy, with the latter being introduced as a new unit this year.

Year 9 has been a challenging year which students have really risen to. At the beginning of the year, all students had an opportunity to sample a unit from GCSE religious studies in anticipation of option choices. This was clearly

enjoyed by many as nearly 1 in 5 students have opted to take religious studies at GCSE. With this being the first time we have ever run the subject as a full option, we are delighted with the excitement the subject has created and we cannot wait to get started next year!

Year 10 have approached this year with a fantastic attitude! After the very difficult decision to no longer enter every student for the religious studies GCSE, 25 students have been staying after school every Tuesday to continue with the course. The dedication and effort shown has been overwhelming! The rest of the year group have continued to demonstrate a real interest in the new British values curriculum, with a focus on stereotyping, prejudice and discrimination, and community cohesion.

Year 11 were all entered into the religious studies GCSE, something which we are hugely proud of. As the final full cohort group to do the GCSE, they were outstanding. Students were so dedicated to the course, with a real desire to do well in a brand new and incredibly challenging GCSE. I am sure you will join us in wishing them well for results day. Regardless of the outcome, we are so proud of them. The process is always more important than the outcome, and the effort shown in the process was fantastic. We truly hope they get the results they deserve!





Neatherd pupils **lead the way...**

2017/18 was another very successful and busy year for our careers team at Neatherd. The last three years of activity survey data has shown that our students have been engaging in post-16 activity above the Norfolk average level. Come September we will also look to go through the **Career Mark** revalidation and we hope to become the first school in Norfolk to revalidate.

This year we consolidated upon our change in the apprenticeship event which we moved to take place during the school day. This meant every student in **Years 10** and **11** had the opportunity to attend. The event was incredibly successful with 30 plus providers in attendance.

We continued with our usual provision with another packed post-16 options event for our Year 11 students. We also had a number of people delivering assemblies to help support our students when making post-16 decisions. This has included the UEA, Norfolk Apprenticeships and different local employers.

All our **Year 10** students engaged in a varied **Careers Day** on one of the Flexible Learning Days. The youngsters took part in careers related activities, had the opportunity to begin their preparation for work experience and explored going onto higher education through the UEA. Students rotated around sessions from Easton College, Marsh, UEA and local apprenticeship providers.



We continue to support the **Work Experience** programme and all our **Year 10** students have returned from another successful week with local and national employers. The feedback from their placements was overwhelmingly positive; employers praised our students for their mature and committed attitude.

Our **Year 11** students were also involved in mock interviews again where representatives from local businesses come in to give each student a proper job interview in preparation for their future college interviews.

A significant development this year has been our partnership with **Network for East Anglian Collaborative Outreach (NEACO)** which has provided the school with additional funding. This has been used to purchase the Careers advice software Kudos and pay for additional workshops and other careers events.

We are extremely grateful for all the support that we receive from local businesses and organisations in helping us put together our events. If you feel you could support our careers work in any way we would love to hear from you.



New Year 7 students **celebrate carnival** at their new school



From Rio to Dereham

Dereham enjoyed a second carnival this summer when 140 Year 6 pupils got ready for their first term at secondary school by attending a summer school in the final week of August. The young people were excited to take part in this summer school with a carnival theme.

Students were divided into six different groups based on current famous festivals – Notting Hill, Rio, Santa Cruz, Cologne, Mardi Gras and Venice. They went to several different creative sessions to prepare for their Carnival Parade including fun workshops in Dance, Art, Creative Writing, Textiles and Music. They also had PE sessions to get them energised for their performance. On Thursday we were also joined by the local Foolhardy Circus who delivered a circus skills workshop and the youngsters had much fun trying out all the different equipment. The week culminated in a performance in front of parents on the last afternoon that brought all the colours of the carnival to the Neatherd Field.

“The move from Primary to Secondary School is an exciting time but it can throw up some challenges and young people can feel nervous”, says Nick O’Brien, Associate Assistant Headteacher at Neatherd. “The purpose of this week is for them to spend time at their new school, for us to get to know them better and for them to make new friends. The Carnival theme was great at engaging them and using their creative skills.”



“I really liked the Summer School,” says Rebecca Ludman from group Santa Cruz. “It helped us to navigate our way around the school. The best bit for me was the Basketball as I love this sport.”

“Summer School was so much fun, I have made so many new friends,” says Sienna Jones from group Rio.

“

The purpose of this week is for them to spend time at their new school, for us to get to know them better and for them to make new friends.

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This year's students prove **hard work** really does pay off

A gloriously sunny summer holiday came to a fitting end as our **Year 11** leavers returned to school to find out their GCSE results after a painful nine week wait. They were certainly keen to find out how they had done: by the time the doors to the gym opened at 9 o'clock, students were forming large queues outside and the majority of the year group came through within the first half an hour.

So how did they do? Did all that hard work over five years pay off?

Yes, of course it did! Their teachers had told them on countless occasions of the importance of hard work, and they clearly listened. Despite this being the second year of significant GCSE reform, with most subjects now being graded 9 to 1 instead of A* to G (a new grade 4 being roughly the equivalent of an old grade C), results were broadly in line with what teachers and students had been expecting. There were many smiles, hugs and the occasional gasp of relief as students opened their envelopes to reveal their grades.

The Class of 2018 certainly did themselves proud! Every student left the school with a good handful of GCSEs. 69% of the year group achieved grade 4 or above in both English and maths. Thirty-six students achieved grades A*-A / 7-9 in at least five subjects. An amazing 75% of students left the

school with at least two GCSEs in science at grade 4 or above, whilst four students achieved the highly prestigious grade 9 in all three sciences. A great many students made exceptional progress against their challenging target grades, often overcoming significant barriers in their personal lives to do so. Our students from the Specialist Resource Base for Autism were also rewarded for their hard work, with all of them achieving at least five GCSE passes.

Well done indeed to the Class of 2018 and thank you to your parents, wider families, teachers and other members of staff who have supported you throughout your time at Neatherd. You have bright futures ahead of you and we look forward to hearing of your successes in the coming years.





Here's to the class of **2018!**

On 6th July, staff and **Year 11** students came together to celebrate the class of 2018. The venue was **Wensum Valley Hotel** and Mrs Smith, Mrs Wickers and Miss Cross were already busy in the afternoon setting up the decorations. With the sweetie table laid out, the last thing to do was to rush home and get ready for prom!

How students come to prom is always a talking point and this year did not disappoint. We had a range of vehicles bringing them to Wensum, from stretch Range Rover limos, to a tractor, to sports cars to a tandem! Everyone looked stunning – it was so great to see students dressed so formally. This year we had three kilts! There were some lovely suits too: navy seemed to be the “in colour” this year. The dresses were beautiful – lots of long dresses and the navy was popular for the girls too!

There was a “mocktail” on arrival and a sit down meal. The tables looked great, with the colour scheme of gold and black. After a short speech from Miss Cross, and some flowers to thank all the hard work Mrs Smith put in to the organisation, the dancing began!

Thank you to everyone who attended and made it a great evening.

Congratulations, class of 2018.





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