

Neatherd Annual 2018-19

A year in the life of our school...



Welcome to our 8th Neatherd Annual

which celebrates the huge achievements of our talented students and staff during 2018-19 and shows you some of the fun we've had along the way!



Headteacher

Chris Smith

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Dear Readers

I hope you enjoy reading our annual and looking back on yet another great year at Neatherd High School. The time moves so fast and it's amazing to be reminded of the wealth of opportunities that our pupils have enjoyed in 2018-19.

I am incredibly proud of the staff in our school who worked so hard to ensure there is such a range of activities to take part in that enrich the lives and learning of our pupils.

The way that our pupils involve themselves in school life also fills me with great pride and is clearly demonstrated over these pages.

Above all, our annual shows that we are what we say we are: a traditional, inclusive and supportive school in every respect.

Chris Smith
Headteacher



Hard work earns just rewards



It's been another really busy and enjoyable year in the world of Business Studies at Neatherd – it was a real pleasure to teach the 2019 leavers and I would like to wish them all the best for the future. It's pleasing to see a number of them looking to study business in post 16 education.

Congratulations

I would like to congratulate the 2018 cohort on a brilliant set of results. They worked hard for two years and thoroughly earned the rewards that they got.

Year 10 Business Studies students

Year 10 pupils 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. I would particularly like to congratulate the pupils who received awards this year. That said, I can honestly say it was a hard decision due to having so many choices available to myself.

Twitter

The Business Studies department has a Twitter feed so you can follow [@neatherdbized](https://twitter.com/neatherdbized). We are getting close to hitting the 100 followers mark!



“
During activities week it was rewarding to see a range of students enjoy the art workshops
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Creativity and enthusiasm on show

With Miss Brown away for much of this year on maternity leave, the art department has seen a few changes in teaching staff. We are very grateful to Mrs Yates and Miss Witton for teaching the GCSE art and photography groups respectively.

During activities week it was rewarding to see a range of students enjoy the art workshops and also have the opportunity to see great artworks ‘in the flesh’ on the visit to the National Gallery. Nothing compares to seeing the actual artworks, so thanks to Miss Jay, Miss Witton and Mr Owen for accompanying the students on a really worthwhile day.

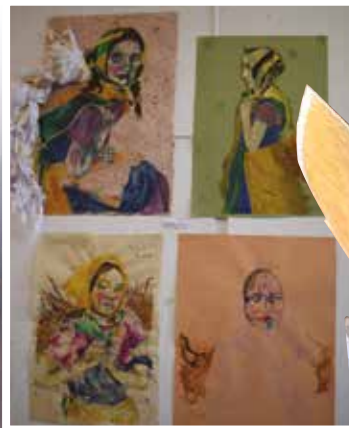
June is always a busy month for the Art Department. Displays around school are updated with new work from different year groups and there is the annual process of selecting, arranging and presenting artworks in the end of year GCSE Summer Exhibition. The standard of work has been extremely high and all our students should feel proud at what they have achieved. The opening night of the GCSE Show was very



well attended and offered a fitting celebration to round off the year.

Congratulations were also due to year 10 Art students - Scarlett Farrar, Florence Hall, Milly Ogden, Lilly Passam, Beth Payton and Zayna Tarabay for their inclusion in the Norfolk Schools Art and Design Exhibition. The show took place at the Undercroft Gallery in Norwich and included a range of work from students across the county.

On a parting note, we are very sorry to say goodbye to Miss Jay, who is leaving to take up the role of Art Teacher at Springwood High School in Kings Lynn in September. She has been an inspirational figure in the Art Department over the last few years; initially as our technician and this last year as an ‘outstanding’ trainee teacher. Miss Jay – you have done so much for our students and have been a fantastic colleague to work with. We will all miss you hugely but wish you the best in your new job!



New Dance Academy helps to build **variety** and **diversity**

What an amazing year we've had in dance and the performing arts! This year, dance has developed at Neatherd to include various different styles such as, tap, contemporary and classical ballet. Miss Carter De Bois has created the Neatherd Dance Academy, which offers these classes to all students to help build diversity in the subject and give more variety of styles in the annual dance show at the Memorial Hall. We are also building dance back into the Year

7 curriculum to help pupils understand the basic principles of the art in preparation for GCSE.

In September, the school staged a workshop version of 'Chicago', Neatherd's first musical for over ten years with 19 very enthusiastic students from Years 9, 10 and 11. With Maisie Jessop and Luke Maxwell performing the roles of 'Roxie' and 'Billy' the show exploded on stage with everyone singing, dancing and acting as if they had been doing it for years. A brilliant effort from all staff, students and families involved!

The Dance Show in March saw a variety of dance styles with classes from the

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Neatherd Dance Academy showing us some lovely tap, classical and contemporary pieces. The Year 11 GCSE students performed their very moving exam choreographies, giving a wonderful example of technique and creativity for future students to emulate. They also performed for us a musical theatre number from 'Chicago', 'Hot Honey Rag' which four students had choreographed as part of their coursework.

The GCSE dance exam was held in June and was a terrific success. The students performed with professionalism and energy, spending a whole day filming their work to send off to the examiners. I know they will do very well in their practical marks with such a wonderful effort from all of them.

The final big project to get started for next year were the auditions for 'We Will Rock You', which will open next year at the Memorial Hall on the 26-28 February. We had many students audition for the roles and it was Maddi Mower and Dem Iwo who scored the lead parts. There are fifty-four students in the show and we hope to get a few new Year 7s to take part in September. Tickets will be on sale in January, so don't miss out. It is going to be amazing

Musical theatre adds razzle dazzle to drama

This year marked a return to musical theatre for Neatherd. Miss Dark staged an abridged workshop version of one of the darker stage and screen musicals: Chicago the '20s-set show showcased the singing, acting and dancing talent of students from all year groups and started the drama year off with much "razzle dazzle" and "ALL That Jazz"!

As one show ended, Neatherd's actors were already in rehearsal for the 2019 school production: The Golden Masque of Agamemnon. The play is an adaptation of an ancient Greek classic tale, the Orestia and is filled with blood sacrifice, revenge, madness and monsters. Trying to explain the plot twists and turns to the 90 students who turned up for auditions was a non-starter really but they embraced the show and put their trust in directors Mrs Sanderson and Ms Costenbarder – and probably Dionysus (the Greek god of drama) – and all was well.

Adam Littleproud played the egotistical Agamemnon who, in return for the wind to send his warships to Troy, sacrificed his daughter Iphiginia. Lily Tarsey played his grief-stricken psychotic wife who avenged her daughter's death by killing her husband in league with Agamemnon's cousin, whose father had been butchered by Agamemnon's dad many years earlier - or something like that! Bradley Dack, as Orestes, was presented with the problem of avenging his father, Agamemnon's death by killing the murderer. But as this was his own mother – well that's a whole other crime. This is where the monsters come in – the Eumenides who embraced the challenge of terrifying the audience with 100% commitment. The show was brilliant and the cast was stupendous in the energy and dedication they put into the show.

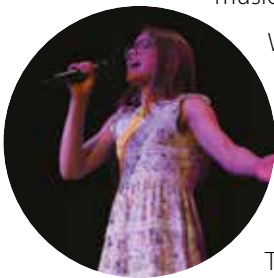
Rehearsals for next year's production have already begun for "We Will Rock You", a complete contrast to the previous 2 rather dark shows we've staged. It's a musical, building on the success of Chicago so opportunities abound for singers, dancers and actors. WWRY is a fairly tongue in cheek dystopian look at what the future of music may hold and written by Brian May, has Queen's greatest hits at its heart.





Audiences treated to a wide range of **musical talents**

It's been another busy year for the Neatherd music department.



We started the year with our talented performers entertaining visitors during open evening, both in the canteen and music block. Guests were treated to a wide range of different musical styles throughout the evening.

This was followed by Neatherd's Got Talent, with the talented and energetic six-piece band, 'The Cheapskates' taking the audience vote. Soloists Luke Maxwell and Layla Tarabay took the 1st and 2nd place judges award respectively.



Next up was the Christmas concert. Students who participated had to perform a piece with a Christmas theme, which led to some interesting arrangements. Performers at the concert included Neatherd vocal group (led by Miss Witton), The Cheapskates and of course our hugely talented and enthusiastic solo singers and instrumentalists.

The summer concert this year was again held at the Memorial Hall in Dereham, as it offers the pupils a great opportunity to perform in a professional environment. It was a fantastic evening, showcasing a wide variety of performers, musical styles, soloists and groups, many of whom were taking to the stage for the first time.

We took great pleasure in welcoming back Toftwood Junior School ukulele group and also welcoming Scarning Primary School choir and ukulele group.



Drones and karts prove popular with STEM project pupils

It has been a superb year for pupils completing STEM projects. We have embarked upon all the usual STEM activities that have become a regular activity on the STEM calendar, and also completed some new projects.

Lego League

Neatherd STEM once again secured a place at the National Final of the LEGO League. The regional competition was held at the Forum in Norwich, this was organised by Mr. Chapman with representatives from the IET (Institute of Engineering and Technology).

It was a fantastic day and the Forum as a venue added a special touch to the event.

Drones

A number of STEM pupils have been working on a 'Drone' project. Drones are becoming increasingly popular and racing them is very competitive. The Airengineers project run by Rapid means pupils design and 3D print a drone chassis to place the motors and control system in before racing it.

It has been decided that Mr. Chapman is to assist in the building only and not the racing since he took out the air conditioning unit with one of the drones!



Design School

The Design School secured funding last year and embarked on a number of out of hours design projects. We designed and "rapid prototyped" our own bike lights working with Norfolk County Council and Westcotec.

We also designed and manufactured exciting book stands for Dereham Town Library

Mr Wright's Hobbit House project has had a huge response, with pupils desperate to design and craft the house as night lights.

Gastronomy with Mr. Taylor has also been exciting with the opportunity to use different industrial processes to try out new ways of preparing food.

Kart club

An exciting new club we have at Neatherd for 2019 is the F24 Kart club.

We have purchased a kart using funds kindly awarded by Dudgeon. The kart comes as a kit of parts, which the team has been assembling after school. The kart team members are girls and boys in years 7-10. Our kart is almost assembled and is awaiting bodywork design and manufacture. We hope to begin testing later in 2019 with the view to entering some endurance races in the summer of 2020. The kart has a 24 volt electric motor and should reach speeds approaching 30 mph!

The team will have space for some new members in September 2019. See Mr Appleby for details.





Pupils show their skills in the **game changer challenge**

Food preparation and nutrition is proving to be an exciting GCSE. Pupils have been enjoying the food science investigations, understanding the functional chemical properties of ingredients. This year's cohort is the largest so far. Children also had the opportunity to be involved in a molecular gastronomy club where they explore sous vide, spherification, reverse spherification and aeration using nitrous oxide. The game changer challenge allowed students to put their skills to the test in preparing pheasants from scratch. The pupils demonstrated skills they honed at key stage three. Results were excellent in the mock non-examination assessments. 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 have fantastic news that some of the GCSE food students have decided to carry on their catering studies post-16.



Pupils rise to the challenge and show off their **design talents**

Years 7, 8 and 9 have been super busy being creative in materials technology this year. Year 7s have been learning to mark, measure and then construct picture frames. They have designed some great personalisation pieces for them based on the needs and wants of their client.

Year 8 have been learning about how to create accurate finger joints to be used on their phone holders. They have also learnt how to use CAD/CAM (2D Design and the laser cutter) to create the acrylic and MDF storage parts.

Year 9 have had a new project to contend with in 2018-2019 – “Storage Tree”. They are given a central pillar, they decide what they are going to store on it and use a combination of cardboard prototyping, traditional woodworking techniques and CAD/CAM to develop their unique design.

GCSE

This was another exciting year for Key Stage 4 materials technology as the Year 11 pupils completed their coursework projects. This was the first year to see through the new GCSE specification and many pupils really excelled themselves whilst designing a variety of products to help someone with a disability. We had a number of very impressive projects from the pupils who really showed off all their broad range of skills. A few projects that really stood out were

“**The coursework really challenged the pupils with all rising to it**”

Josh Day’s drawing table for coloured overlays, Bethany Hilton’s dodecahedron fidget toy and Sam Swales’ homophone jigsaw. The coursework really challenged the pupils with all rising to it and demonstrating some fantastic designing and problem solving skills.





High quality work produced in tackling real world problems

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

Year 7 – Vacuum Forming

Year 7 pupils used the industrial process of vacuum forming to produce the casing of their steady hand game. This production methods always get a 'OHHHHH' as the plastic is stretched over the mould.

Year 8 – Mechanisms

Year 8 have been learning about the four types of motion and applying their knowledge of movement to mechanical toys. The parts for this are all laser cut by the technician and pupils then select the components they wish to assemble their project.

Year 9 – See The Beat

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 do it for them. The circuit is simple but effective and detecting the bass line of music and making LEDs flash.

Year 10 – PICAXE

Pupils in year 10 systems have been working on a number of micro controller projects. PICAXE has proved the most favoured, with pupils developing control systems to raise flags, open garage doors and IR sender/receivers all with a circuit no bigger than a match box!

Year 11 – NEA

The NEW GCSE Design & Technology Controlled Assessment was launched. This year, pupils have been given a wide range of possibilities in tackling real world problems.

Inspirational teacher's award

The school was very proud that Mr Chapman, our Head of Design & Technology was awarded "Inspirational teaching of Design and Technology" for his outstanding contribution at the 19th Design and Technology Association Excellence Awards.



Creative ideas flow in textiles



Key Stage 3 pupils designed and made a range of art textiles items this year.

Year 7 pupils made 3-dimensional fruit by developing accuracy and neatness in cutting and hand stitching.

Year 8s created either stand-alone items or contributed to an art installation in DT4. In addition to hand stitching, they designed their own fabrics using ink dyeing.



Some pupils created their own fabric panels using weaving. All pupils have learned embellishment techniques that have included embroidery, beading, appliqué and couching.

Year 9 pupils developed skills picked up in Year 8 and have used the sewing machines to create decorative boxes to give as gifts or to keep for themselves. Pupils used similar techniques to those deployed by Year 8s but and also used oil pastels to design original fabric panels which



have been embellished using a range of decorative hand and machine sewing techniques.

Hopefully, pupils have picked up practical as well as art-based techniques that will broaden their artistic skills-base as well as serve them well when they have to sew on buttons and reinforce split seams.





Vegetable garden helps promote **local produce** in canteen

Sustainable Nutrition Action Group club (SNAG)

There are now four fantastic raised beds in the garden, which are all full of crops being grown to feed our excellent new canteen menu this year. The raised beds make weeding much easier and reduce water loss.

We planted a variety of different fruit trees to provide delicious fruits for years to come. All extra food produced has been made available for free at the student reception, keep an eye out to grab a tasty treat!

We had more Bake Off competitions than ever this year. The themes included Asparagus and pastry, summer spice, valentines and meat free dishes. This year the events were embedded into the house competition, meaning that all participants earned lots of house points for their houses.

Mr Taylor in Food Technology hosted a fantastic "Game changer" event in December. Pupils successfully portioned pheasants and roasted the legs in apple, cider and rosemary and then created a cream sauce to accompany it, while the breasts were used to top garlic and herb bruschetta with a horseradish mayonnaise and crisp apple julienne.

All the pupils were extremely excited to work with game and this was the first time for most. We were really proud of the final dishes that were produced in a short time.





Another literary amazing year!

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, a form quiz and staff displaying their favourite character badges.

Book Buzz

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

We have also visited **Dereham Community Library** with all our Year 7s 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 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 the muggles and wizards alike were able to meet and greet, and rather excitingly

the evening was filmed for Bloomsbury to use as part of their promotional video for next year.

World Book Week (WBW)

World Book Week started with a flurry of excitement as we once again welcomed teams from primary schools to our **'Big Book Quiz'**. Our literacy mentors were brilliant hosts and question masters. On Wednesday, we were amazed by an array of tempting book bakes for our popular **Literary Cake Bake** completion followed by a **Mad Hatter Tea Party**. WBD saw many staff and pupils dressed to impress in their book themed costumes and a visit from our Patron of Reading, author **Alex Scarrow**, gave an engaging presentation to all **Year 7s** followed by creative writing workshops. We finished the week with a visit by author **Kerry Drewery** who delivered an interactive 'debate' on justice for **Year 9s** tying in with her book series **Cell7**. Some students were also treated to a creative writing workshop.

Enrich Trust Reading Award

As part of the **Enrich Trust**, our libraries joined together to launch our own book award. Each librarian chose three books each for our reading groups to read. We also attended a selective informal reading group Q&A with author **Nicky Singer - The Survival Game**. The combined reading groups were a great success that will continue each term in the future.

Carnegie Critics

A mixture of enthusiastic reading pupils 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 for our group was **The House of Chicken Legs** by **Sophie Anderson**. This year we also hosted the **Education Library Service** celebration morning, welcoming three other shadowing schools to share our thoughts on the books. The **Carnegie Winner 2019** was announced as **Poet X** by **Elizabeth Acevedo**. You can read our reviews on the books at www.carnegiegreenaway.org.uk





The Reading Cloud

Pupils 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 intervention with **Year 9** and **Year 10** pupils to work as Literacy Mentors, actively supporting reading with identified **Year 7** and **Year 8** pupils during form time. They 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 once again hosted the Regional Heat of the **International Kids' Lit Quiz 2019**. The sports hall was buzzing with excited and enthusiastic **Year 7** and **Year 8** students making up the 28 teams from the twenty-three Norfolk schools participating in the event, along with authors **Alex Scarrow**, **Alexander Gordon Smith**, **Helen Moss** and **Hayley Long** 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 run the event 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** pupils enrolled on the system. Teachers are able to monitor individual reading progress whilst ensuring they are choosing books within their reading ability and challenging them to read wider genres. Pupils are also now able to take their quizzes at home as soon as they have finished their book.

Authors

As well as the authors during WBW we were delighted to welcome American author **Neal Shusterman** for **Year 10**, murder mystery author **Robin Stevens**, **Christopher William Hill** for **Year 7** and visiting **Year 6s** and **William Hussey** for **Year 8** as well as regular visits from **Alex Scarrow**.

Book Fairs

This year we again held three successful **Half Price Book Fairs** in the library. For every fair held the library receives a percentage of total to spend on books for the library so thank you for supporting these fabulous events.

Murder in the Library

During **Science Week** the library became a crime scene as the 'body' of the library assistant was discovered. Who was the murderer? Budding detectives were encouraged to decipher the clues, piecing together the evidence and fingerprints to solve the case.

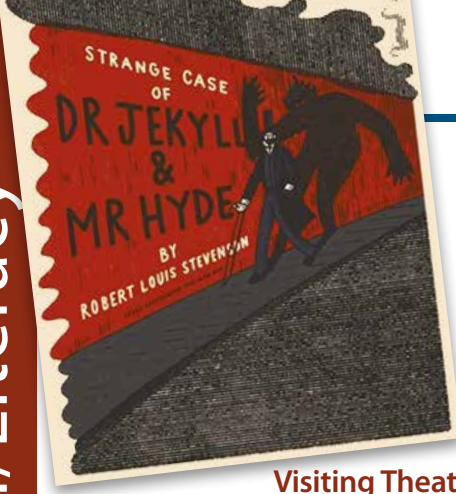
FLY Festival

Year 9 enthusiastic writers enjoyed a day at **UEA** as part of the **Undercover Readers Celebration**. **Year 7** and **Year 8** members of the **Creative Writing Group** also enjoyed a day at **FLY** with authors **Emma Carroll**, **Piers Torday**, **SF Saidplus** and **Alexander Gordon Smith** plus a range of creative writing workshops.

Norfolk Children's Book Festival

A small group of our top **Accelerated Readers** from **Year 7** were invited to the inspiring book festival held in **Norwich Cathedral** in July. We were thrilled to hear authors **Jane Elson**, **Bali Rai**, **Dave Rudden** and **'Poet with a Punch' Matt Windle**.





Successful students to have their 'mini sagas' published

Visiting Theatre

In March, **Year 10** pupils were treated to a live performance of Robert Louis Stevenson's *The Strange Case of Doctor Jekyll and Mr Hyde*. Travelling Theatre Company 'Ginificent' arrived at Neatherd armed with staging, props and costumes in order to effectively transport us to Victorian London for the afternoon. This was to support **Year 10** in their GCSE Literature course for which they are studying the novella. The actors managed to present Stevenson's complex story in an entertaining, visceral and (at times) very humorous way!

Reading Coaches

For the second year now, **Year 7** pupils benefited from the support of a group of volunteer reading coaches from the community. After training, provided by the Norfolk Reading Pathway, the coaches worked closely with the librarian and new English teacher Miss Fradley to help students strengthen and develop their ability as readers. Reading coaching happens for half an hour every week and has helped students to make some fantastic progress! The coaches 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 pupils progress with their reading, please contact the school librarian Mrs Gill for more information about becoming a reading coach.

Neatherd Loves Creative Writers

There have been several writing competitions this year, which appealed to a wide variety of pupils. 'Mission Contamination' was a recent competition from the Young Writers organisation which inspired our pupils to write a mini saga and create a dystopian world in just 100 words. An amazing 23 Neatherd students will have their stories published! Some of our young people who use The Link have made impressive contributions to recent writing challenges, specifically Toby and Phoebe Towns, Sean Laban and Conner Andrew, who all agreed that they enjoyed the freedom of writing a story outside the English classroom.



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They 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.





Pupils made aware of wealth of media **career choices**

Flexible Learning Day

During the first Flexible Learning Day the GCSE **Year 10** and **Year 11** classes worked together to learn about film-making from Gavin Spoor. Gavin is a script-writer and film-maker based at Norwich's University of Arts.

Gavin has run his own production company and has years of film production experience which he imparted to the GCSE students.

The pupils enjoyed considering the various careers that can come from studying media studies! They also explored narrative theory, camera work and scripting to create their own short film, which was designed to create specific effects in the audience.

Students had a great morning working across the year groups and learning from one another's experiences. This event helped them with their GCSE classwork and controlled assessment projects as they created magazine front covers which required them to take their own photos and consider their choices carefully.

Activities Week

27 **Year 7-9** pupils chose to participate in the Film Workshop event during Activities Week. This consisted of two and half days of media-focused fun! Pupils had to plan and film an original short film of their choice. This meant that they had to learn camera shots, editing, storyboarding and scripting all in one day!

Monday was spent completing these tasks in groups so that they were ready to film on Tuesday. To help the children prepare for their day's filming

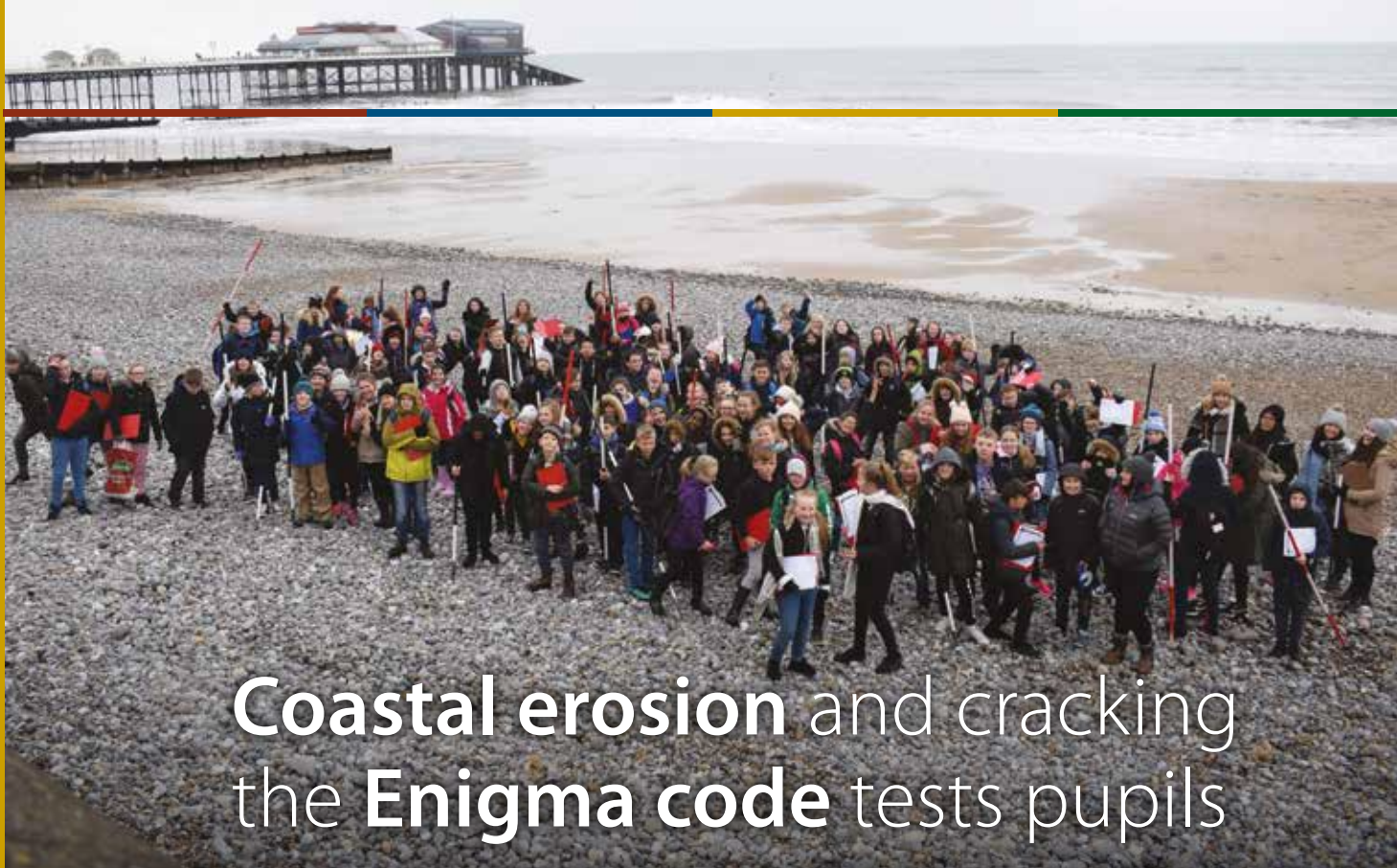
author Alex Scarrow, of 'Time Riders' fame and Dereham Neatherd High School's very own Patron of Reading, came along to assist pupils in scripting their films. Once scripted, Alex worked with each group to rehearse key scenes of their film; one pupil remarked, 'This has been great fun. I really liked acting out my script and working with Alex!'

On Tuesday pupils arrived in an array of costumes whilst gripping a selection of props - some of which had been hastily made overnight! The morning was spent filming around the school before editing their film to showcase to the class. Mrs Hunt said that, 'The pupils worked really well together and produced films that they should be proud of. I was really impressed with them all; the pupils were a pleasure to teach.'

On Wednesday morning we braved the weather to walk to Dereham cinema where we enjoyed a private screen of 'Spiderman Homecoming 2'. We had lots of fun and pupils were impeccably well behaved.



“
The pupils worked really well together and produced films that they should be proud of
 ”



Coastal erosion and cracking the Enigma code tests pupils

For FLD1 **Year 7** visited the North Norfolk coastline to assess the impact of coastal erosion and examine the strategies used to protect the coast, with one half of the day spent visiting Cromer and the other half spent visiting East Runton. For FLD2 **Year 7** pupils again had a trip, this time visiting Norwich Cathedral, the castle and other historic sites of importance.



For FLD1 **Year 8** FLD went swimmingly! For half the day, pupils were in Maths, taking up the challenge to crack the Enigma Code. In addition, for the other half of the day pupils enjoyed a fantastic time in English with visiting author William Hussey.



For FLD2 **Year 8** visited The Norfolk Broads and assess the impact of tourism.

For FLD 1 **Year 9s** had an excellent day, learning some vital lifesaving skills with a member of St John's Ambulance giving them CPR training. We also had a number of visitors talking to pupils about relationships and sex education. On FLD2, pupils developed their practical investigation and data handling skills, essential for the GCSE science course by completing fieldwork on Neatherd Moor.

For both FLDs **Years 10 & 11** spent valuable time on their non-Ebacc options, such as Art, Design Technology, Photography, Media, Business and Food! Lots of incredibly positive feedback from pupils who had enjoyed valuable time working on their option subjects.



A week of **enriching life experiences** enjoyed by all

In July, **Years 7-9** pupils took part in the school's first Activities Week and it went down a storm. Students were able to choose from a variety of activities they wanted to engage with – from residential trips abroad, day trips to local activities centres to workshop in and around school. This week offered our pupils the opportunity to try new activities, enrich life experiences and/or visit new places; all while enjoying the activities with friends from across the school.

The trips abroad to Italy, Normandy and the Battlefields proved a huge success with students particularly enjoying awe and wonder of walking

up Mt Vesuvius and visiting Pompeii, the time spent in Mont-Saint Michel and the thought-provoking nature of the cemeteries in Belgium.

As ever, students loved the camping trip to Bramley Lakes with the challenging outdoor activities. Students appreciated having the freedom to enjoy the thrill rides at Pleasurewood Hills and the time in Norwich enjoying the trampoline park, with their friends. Students learnt a lot in the Film Workshop and those doing the Creative Arts activity (that included a trip to London to watch a West End show) will gain the Creative Arts Bronze Award! The weather was good for walking the North Norfolk Coastal Path from Holkham to Wells, and back! The Fishing days had many huge catches and a competitive match to end with.

More Outdoor Activities at Whitlingham and in Thetford gave students new and challenging experiences.

There was also much fun had in school with students creating wonderful garments in the Textiles group, a Go-Kart was designed and built, as well as programming of the Lego robots. Many Sports were played, as well as Wellbeing session; baking bread and First Aid were all covered! Finally, a group of students thoroughly enjoyed the strategy behind many different board and figure games.





Call for more Friends to help **raise funds** for school

The Friends of Neatherd High School have had another very busy year, despite the uncertainty surrounding the future of Friends at the early part of this year. Fortunately, we have been able to continue due to some willing parents joining the committee – thank you.

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, Friday Treat stall, supporting at Sports Festival, our very popular “quiz and chips” and the competition “Neatherd’s got Talent” which we run in partnership with the Creative Arts department. We also attend school events – such as intake and parents’ evenings with a refreshments stall selling hot and cold drinks, snacks, biscuits and sweets.

Doing these events helps us to raise the much-needed funds the school needs to fund or contribute towards additional or replacement resources that the school budget would otherwise struggle with.

At the end of the term we supported the very successful annual Sports Festival providing a fun range of refreshments and treats from drinks, savoury snacks, popcorn, fresh fruit pots, sweets and a selection of iced lollies which all our students got to enjoy in glorious sunshine. There were numerous sporting activities occurring all day for the students to get involved in and much fun was had by all.

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, which last approximately one hour, the rest of our communication is via a group chat and then helping at an event or running a refreshments stall. Just a few more volunteers joining our committee would help ensure the future of Friends.

If you can’t afford the time, maybe consider joining the schools WinWin Club, from just £1 per month you could be in with 40 chances per year of winning a share of the monthly prize fund, £4 per 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, 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.

“ Just a few more volunteers joining our committee would help ensure the future of Friends. ”





Reaching the UK's top universities with a **helping hand**

The **Brilliant Club's Scholars Programme** does support pupils from state schools to get to highly selective universities, such as Oxford and Cambridge.

In January 2019 the programme began with a launch trip to the fabulous **Gonville & Caius College in Cambridge**. On the launch trip, pupils 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 about extreme weather conditions and climate change.

Pupils then took part in four tutorials in school from their own UEA PhD Tutor, **Sarah**, in preparation for the 2,000-word assignment. All our pupils have successfully passed, a couple with a 1st and everyone else with a 2:1, which is a superb set of results!

At the graduation ceremony in May, pupils and parents enjoyed an interesting day at the UEA. Students had a tour and an IAG (Information, Advice and Guidance) session. The formal graduation ceremony was long, but a fitting end to the superb achievement of our Neatherd pupils, who were definitely the smartest dressed!





Some words from Neatherd's Head Boy and Head Girl

I am very honoured to be writing this as Head Boy of Neatherd High School and I would like to thank my school for how supportive they have been. It has been an adventure getting to this position and I would like to tell you how I got here. The process began with pupils applying for a position of responsibility, presenting a speech in their House assembly, putting across ideas as to why they should be voted for.

The four students with the most votes – student and staff votes combined - then had to write a letter of application to the Head Teacher about why they think they should be Head Girl/Boy or House Captain and Deputy House captains. The letters also gave the Head Teacher and the other teachers an idea about what we would like to achieve for this school and to give a better understanding on who we are.

The final stage was having the actual interviews with the Head Teacher and other senior staff, and this, for me, was probably the most daunting and intimidating stage of the process.



Positions of responsibility awarded:

Year 9

Cavell House Captain	Grace Rafferty
Deputy House Captain	Tamar Lindner

Carter House Captain	Charlotte Wells
Deputy House Captain	Ashten Hopcroft

Kett House Captain	Emma Leigh Beamis
Deputy House Captain	Louis Salter

Fry House Captain	Lauren Matwij
Deputy House Captain	Brandon White

Year 10

Head Boy	Hector Frith
Head Girl	Katherine Thomas

Cavell House Captain	Katie Lockhart
Deputy House Captain	Florence Hall

Carter House Captain	Mikyla Oswick
Deputy House Captain	Ben Silverstone

Kett House Captain	Maisy Jessop
Deputy House Captain	Honey Chapman

Fry House Captain	Amberly Wright
Deputy House Captain	Mali Crowley
	Hector Frith, Head Boy

School Council

Pupil voice is an integral part of the Neatherd community and that is why the school council is at the forefront of our school.

The council consists of members of SNAG, representatives from each of the four houses, House Captains and the Head Boy and Head Girl.

This year, the students have worked alongside the subject leaders of maths, English and science on the "teaching and learning committee."

They proposed ideas to improve the curriculum and lessons which had been discussed in forms. The school council was also involved with the canteen

redesign - where they were able to try the food on the new menu and offer their opinions.

Other areas deliberated in the meetings included:

- Behaviour policies
- Homework
- Pupil voice developments
- Assembly themes

Through their contributions in meetings, the members of school council help our school become a better learning environment and a place in which students know their perspectives are valued.

Katherine Thomas, Head Girl



Pupils agree **support sessions** help raise their confidence

Primarily set up 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 six years ago, with the provision of wraparound homework and revision support. Home of the official homework club and open from 8am in the morning, the Gateway is available to all pupils before school, at break time, lunch and after school, finally closing its doors at 4.30pm. Pupils have access to laptops, a printer and support from 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 1 session per week with programmes tailored to meet the pupils' needs. Year 11 pupils, 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. The Gateway receives many positive comments from students such as: "Being in a small group means it is easier to ask questions and have

group discussions." "It has helped boost my confidence." and "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 pupils' 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, which are all designed to make students 'think outside the box', work together and feel part of decision processes. As part of the programme, the children also take part in visits to RAF Honington where RAF colleagues put on a range of activities for them.





Activities Week a great support for our exceptional students

The SRB is the school's Specialist Resource Base for Autism, catering for 22 students from all over the county. Our 10 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.

Students based in the SRB all took part in Activities Week this year. They took part in activities such as canoeing, raft building, wall climbing, dry-slope skiing, high ropes, roller coasters and many more.

Two of our Year 10 students did brilliantly in their work experience placements – one with a Web Design Company and the other with a carpentry company.

Six of our students left to go onto their college placements, and we are pleased to welcome in six new year 7 students in September.



Great use of free time makes The Link a **valuable asset**

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

Within The Link we provide support for students, both 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 from 8am, 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. 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 lunches in The Link whilst socialising with friends, play card and board games, make Lego models, join other students playing on Wii Sports, playing a table football match together 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 8 said: "I like The Link because it's awesome and in Year 8, we have the Link Courtyard to go in as well. We have the Wii, get to make models and chat with our friends at lunchtime."

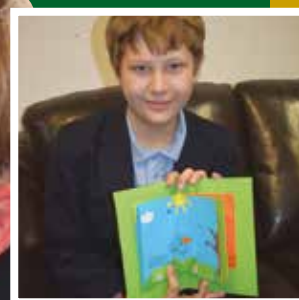
Alfie Year 8 "I have help with reading and spelling in The Link which makes learning in class easier."

Nathan, Year 9: "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. Now I'm a school prefect, I support staff on duty in the Link courtyard with another Link student."

Rufus, Year 11: "I think that The Link has helped me a lot in the five years I've been here. It has helped me get through tests and supported me overall in many ways."

Mika & Reece, 'We love the Link as we can store our things in the drawers and use our own toys in free time and help with the visiting Year 6s. We had a great time at the UEA Sports Festival too. We got medals and certificates each and tried lots of different sports which we liked especially the Messi Football!'

Kieran, Year 7: 'I like completing craft activities in the Link in free time and having access to the Resource Base when I need it.'





Pupils enjoy **educational trips**

It was another thoroughly successful and rewarding year in the geography department! Dominating the calendar again this year were a wide range of field trips for all year groups:

Year 7 – Cromer

In November, 280 Year 7s braved the cold weather to embark on their first school trip at Neatherd! The year group were split into two, with half visiting Cromer in the morning while the others went to West Runton. After lunch the groups swapped round. At each location, pupils collected data on the impact of coastal erosion and the success of the sea defences in Cromer.

Year 8 – Wroxham and the Norfolk Broads

All of Year 8 visited Wroxham and the Broads during Flexible Learning Day 2 to look at the impact of tourism on the region and learn about how this is managed by the Broads Authority. In Wroxham, pupils worked in small groups asking questionnaires and completing environmental quality surveys about the area. Pupils also took a cruise down the River Bure run by Broads Tours and managed to see some amazing wildlife in the spring sunshine!

Years 7-9 – Italy

As part of Activities Week, 47 pupils from years 7, 8 and 9 visited Italy for the week. We left very late on the Sunday evening for an early morning flight from Gatwick to Naples. During the trip, we visited Naples, climbed Mount Vesuvius, explored Pompeii, took a tour along the Amalfi coastline and visited a waterpark. The pupils had the most incredible time, learning lots of geography and eating lots of ice cream!

Year 10 – Holkham

In March, geography pupils from Year 10 spent two days 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 10 – London Olympic Park

In July, Year 10 pupils also visited London and the Olympic Park in Stratford to examine the impact of regeneration in the area. In a similar way to the Year 8 Wroxham field trip, pupils interviewed members of the public and completed environmental quality surveys. In the afternoon, we visited the London Docklands museum before having a walk around Canary Wharf.



Medieval Norwich and First World War battlefields bring history alive



Year 7 Medieval Norwich

The department ran its first Year 7 trip to Norwich in March, which linked in with the unit pupils had completed, looking at the medieval history of the city. The pupils took part in three different activities including a tour of the cathedral, a walk taking in the medieval sites including in and around Cathedral Close along with a medieval weapons demonstration at Norwich Castle. The 280 pupils were a credit to the school in what was a busy but enjoyable day.

Year 9 Battlefields

Our annual trip to the battlefields of the First World War took place in July and was again an overwhelming success. Over the 4 days, pupils visited a range of sites that focussed on areas that saw heavy fighting and studied battles that took place during this conflict. Pupils focussed on the battles that raged around Ypres, explored the Battle of the Somme and looked at everyday experiences of the soldiers. During the trip, pupils laid wreaths on behalf of the school at Langemarck Cemetery, Tyne Cot and during the Last Post ceremony. It was particularly poignant to see several of our pupils lay a small poppy cross at the memorials and graves of a relative. The hostel, coach driver, tourists and members of the public commented that the pupils were a credit to the school.

Year 10 and 11 Norwich Castle

The visit to Norwich Castle took place in July and proved to be hugely popular with all of the GCSE pupils. This trip helped support their 'History Around Us' unit and focussed on the changing use of the castle in its time as a royal palace, county gaol, prison and museum. Four tours were led by museum guides and enabled pupils to reinforce their existing understanding and learn new information. Hopefully the pupils will take advantage of the free entrance voucher received at the end of the trip for a further visit!

History Club

This year the history club has carried out a varied range of tasks. They explored how the poppies at the Tower of London were made and had a go at making their own. Some worked better than others. We have watched a range of documentaries on a variety of topics helping students learn about topics that we don't have time to cover in the classroom. Recently, we have worked with the Strive for Pride Club looking at the history of the Stonewall Riots.



“
Our now annual trip
Eurogamer Expo was a very
popular day out for pupils
”

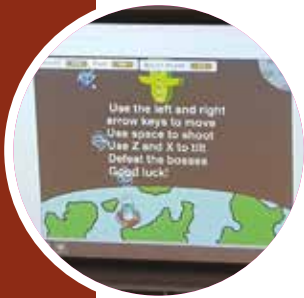
Gaming talents receive praise

2018-19 has been another great year for the department. Minecraft, Code Club, PICO games programming and CyberDiscovery have been thriving! CyberDiscovery are hoping to launch trips for pupils to attend and have more hands on programming experience as “white hat hackers”, this promises to be a great opportunity and we hope to be part of this next year. There are almost 100 active Minecraft seats filled every week and pupils can sign up for two lunchtime sessions per week.

Our now annual trip to EGX (Eurogamer Expo) was a very popular day out for pupils and as well as having hands on experience on the latest and greatest games and related hardware, there was plenty of time to talk to indie developers and hear first-hand how the industry works.

We took on the internationally renowned BEBRAS computational thinking competition and we had a huge number of pupils get through to the second round. One of them, Louis Molenaar, narrowly missed the cut to attend the finals at Oxford University.

In June, we entered four teams into the “Norfolk Scratch Off” and whilst all teams did very well, particular mention goes to the one that got to the final round! George LeBon and Louis Molenaar were praised for their excellent games.





Students becoming top code-breakers

This year we once again ran our problem-solving club for pupils to join at lunchtime. We took part in the **National Cipher Challenge** online, which, as usual, threw up some very challenging codes that needed breaking which even our maths teachers struggled to decode!

Our small group of dedicated pupils still persevered throughout and although we were not always able to solve the challenges, they would still look back at the solution to see what they could have done to solve it.

Flexible Learning Day saw the return of the **Enigma Challenge** but with a twist! This time **Year 8** pupils spent the day cracking clues and decoding messages just like they would have done at Bletchley Park during WW2, they were even spread out in their own 'huts'.

We had an air raid siren to signal the release of a new clue, which they then had to decipher using Morse code in order to complete the next challenge. The idea for this day stems from the popular film based on true events 'The Imitation Game'.

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. We went along hoping to achieve the same position if not higher than last year. The pupils did an amazing job; they were praised by other

staff members for their teamwork and overall politeness. Unfortunately, we were not quite able to break into the top 3 but we did once again come an impressive 4th place!

In June we took a total of 30 **Year 7** students with us to **Toftwood Junior** to run workshops with both year 5 and 6 students based around problem solving involving time. This meant that our pupils had an insight into the life of a teacher by practising the content beforehand and then having to explain these skills in a clear and precise manner with the students in front of them. All children we took were a credit to the school and really gave it their best! Staff from Toftwood Junior were commenting on how well the pupils interacted together and how well they conducted themselves throughout the day.



Penpals encourage students to improve their written languages

Penpals

Classes in **Years 7** and **10** have been exchanging letters with our partner school in France, le Collège de la Dombes, and **Years 8** and **9** have been sending and receiving penpal letters from students in our partner school in Spain, IES Poeta Caudio Rodriguez. The letters from the Spanish and French students have been very colourful and our students have been inspired to match their creativity. Our students have very much looked forward to receiving these letters and it has been excellent practice for their written French and Spanish.

Mandarin lessons

We have been very fortunate to be able to offer weekly Mandarin lessons after school on Thursdays throughout the year. We have a small but dedicated group of pupils who have enthusiastically practised both their spoken and written Mandarin, as well as learning a great deal about Chinese culture. The pupils say that learning challenging new vocabulary has been a really enjoyable experience and lots of fun.

Year 7 Normandy Trip - July 2019

This year, 49 **Year 7, 8** and **9** pupils went on the annual Normandy trip to Château Le Kinnor in the picturesque village of Fervaques.

We were hosted as always by Monsieur and Madame L'Hotel and stayed for five days during the Activities week in July.

For some students, this was their first residential trip abroad and also their first time visiting France, and for other very keen pupils it was their second visit to the Château.

As usual, we visited the market in Deauville (and used our French to buy items for lunch), strolled around Monet's famous garden in Giverny, saw the Bayeux Tapestry, visited the D-Day landing beach and Mulberry harbour at Arromanches and braved the hustle and bustle of the busy, but breathtakingly stunning, Mont St Michel and lots of photos were taken to show families at home. In the evenings at the château, students were enthralled by a magic and balloon show on Thursday. The weather was good too so, as usual, a good time was had by all.





Kett triumphs this year

With over **1000 pupils involved** in over 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, darts, goalball, golf, handball, netball, silly races, softball, taekwondo, ultimate Frisbee, Tag Archery, Yoga 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 to a very high level where a few long standing records were broken.

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.

Special mentions must go to the following:

Top Activity Performers:

Henry Barnes-West – Year 8, Kett

Hayden Cook – Year 10, Cavell

Vanessa Heron – Year 7, Cavell

Top Field Performers:

Eleanor Ampleford – Year 10, Kett – Finished 1st in Shot Put and Javelin (Broke Record in Javelin)

Jasmine Hudson – Year 10, Carter – Finished 1st in Discus, 2nd in Javelin (Broke Record but was then beaten by Eleanor by 2.14m)

Charlotte Moore – Year 8, Kett – Finished 1st in Long Jump (Broke Record – 4.05m)

Records Broken during Field Events:

Charlotte Moore – Year 8, Kett – Long Jump 4.05m (previous 4.0m 1995)

Eleanor Ampleford – Year 10, Kett – Javelin 27.57m (previous 22.49m 2015)

Top Race Performers:

Beth Barrett – Year 10, Carter – Finished 1st in both 100m and Hurdles

Memphis Symonds – Year 9, Cavell – Finished 1st in 200m and 800m

Amberly Wright – Year 10, Fry – Finished 1st in 400m and 2nd in 800m

Points totals for Activities, Field and Races:

Cavell – 749

Carter – 708

Fry – 643

Kett – 758

Congratulations to all performers in **Kett house** on their first sports festival trophy!!





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

Our hockey has gone from strength to strength, with many of our pupils enjoying their ‘grass roots’ level so much they have gone on to attend local hockey clubs. A particular success has been our U16 squad. After entering and coming a close second to Gresham’s in an England School’s 7 a side tournament, we were invited to represent Norfolk at the Regional Finals. Year 10 Ellie Ampleford had stepped up and donned the goalie outfit for us. Another Year 10 rose to the challenge, Holly Lloyd, whom last year was one of our most improved players.

Our rugby players continue to go from strength to strength. We have lots of children participating in lots of training, rewarded with lots of games. Congratulations to the Year 7 team, who did particularly well in their matches and were superb during their tournament. Dylan Watson, Kai Taylor and Harrison Olsen-Cattini deserve particular praise.

Once again netball has been very well attended. The Year 7s are a great group of enthusiastic girls, who played in two tournaments at Wayland and Thetford Academy. Our Year 9 team is strong with some experienced players. Due to strong shooting they managed to win most of their games. The Year 10 team has gone from strength to strength. They have worked extremely hard

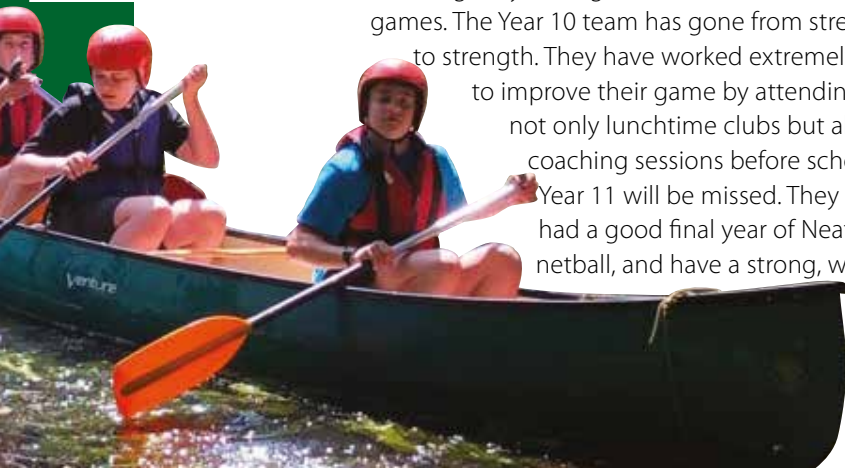
to improve their game by attending not only lunchtime clubs but also coaching sessions before school. Year 11 will be missed. They have had a good final year of Neatherd netball, and have a strong, well-



established team who have played some good quality netball, beating many of their opponents.

The 2018/19 footballing year kicked off with a bang for the new Year 7 football team who had a cracking season at their new school! Picking from nearly 100 pupils who attended training at the start of the year; Mr Barron managed a great selection of young and gifted players, who finished second in their league after an unfortunate 3-2 loss to eventual winners Wymondham College, they lost a narrow county cup semi-final against Thorpe St Andrew and were champions of South Norfolk after a brilliant tournament at the annual 5-a-sides competition held at the FDC Bowthorpe. Other highlights came in the forms of some really close games for the Year 9s who won 3-2 against local rivals Northgate but were unlucky not to pick up any other wins throughout the season and the outgoing Year 11s who managed to pick up their last victory in Neatherd colours when they beat Wayland 2-0.

Basketball is a sport on the rise here at Neatherd. With lots of boys and girls giving up their lunch times, before and after school time to play. Neatherd played 10 fixtures this year against





other schools and won over three quarters of them. Both the U14 and U16 boys teams have come a long way, beating their win totals from the previous year.

This year has been a very successful year for the Neatherd cricket teams. In the year 7 and 8 cricket softball league, both teams came joint first in their respected leagues. The Year 9s came third in their full cricket league, with the Year 10s coming fourth.

Rounders continues to cause the most excitement when it comes to matches! It never fails to surprise and impress how much the girls develop and improve as the season goes on. Week in, week out they turn up in their droves to train, compete and have fun! 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. Years 9 and 10 continue to dominate at the various tournaments they have attended. Our Year 7 team just lost out on a place in the finals, losing to Wymondham College in a close fought game in the semi-finals.

Our athletes have once again done themselves proud. Highlights include: Gaby Barrell – 100m, Keiana Fowler – 400m, and 800m, Megan Summer - High Jump, Poppy Malcomson - 1500m, Sienna Jones – 800m, Imogen Davey – Long Jump, Rhianna Hudson – Discus, Shot Putt and Javelin. Cameron Dennis – 100m, 200m, Tobias Cheeseborough - 800m, Harrison Olsen-Cattini – Shot Putt, Kyle Thorne – Javelin, Mehmet Kaykusuz - Discus, Kai Wiseman – Long Jump, 100m, 200m.

The older pupils continue to impress: Marshall Bunting, Charlie Summer, Bella Green, Keziah Holman, Jasmim De Gouveia, Krystelle Batista, Bethany Jackson, Harvey Garrett, Kieran Holesworth, Tamica Larbie, Georgina Whitehead, Lucie Younie, Memphis Symonds, along with Beth Barrett, (who is an outstanding hurdler in addition to a fantastic sprinter), Ellie Ampleford, Jasmine Hudson, Amberly Wright, Abi Smith, Bailey Barrett,

and Lewis Pears, who in addition to some of the above Year 7s have all gone on to the next level from the qualifying rounds. Massive team efforts involving approximately 60 pupils in each, meant we came first overall in the Mid-Norfolk Athletics Championships and our pupils contributed to the Partnership coming third in the Partnership County Athletics Finals.

As always Neatherd threw itself into the Norfolk School games, and as well as the usual athletics events, we had a go at something different this year. Starting with an Alternative Sports Festival held at the Sportspark, UEA! 16 pupils were selected to participate in the event where they enjoyed the following activities: Ninja Assault Course, My-Ride Studio, Climbing wall, Fencing and Box-Fit. The majority of our pupils voted for the Ninja Assault Course as their favourite activity.

Then it was off to the UEA again for the turn of our Handball finalists to compete against seven teams who had also won their qualifying rounds within their Sports Partnership. We were up against some stiff competition, but after a nervous start we settled into each game, worked hard in each area of the court and improved as the event went on. Our lack of scoring (not for the want of trying, literally missing by centimetres if we missed) was frustrating as everything else was in place, but as we know goals win games. A great experience for us, finishing 5th out of 8.

The final event for us during this sporty week was a 5K Colour Run, over at Colney Park. Our pupils were literally spray painted a different colour as they ran through each 'gate' determining how far they had ran. All of our pupils achieved the full 5k with Callum and Tom coming in very swiftly.

We had another great day at UEA when we attended the Girls Young Coaching Academy a couple of weeks later. A Youth Sports Trust initiative, ran by our Partnership staff, selected pupils who have shown an interest in Leadership in some way in school took part in this informative event.





Outstanding achievements!

Neatherd's fourth annual Sports Awards Presentation Evening took place during the last week of term, and what an occasion it was. Over 150 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 were selected pupils who were 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. It is a special evening for us, celebrating the achievements of our young people within our Neatherd community.

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 to and had 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 rest of the PE team took to the stage one by one to talk about and unveil who were to receive the following awards:

Key Stage 3 Performer of the Year:

Female – Kathryn Way. Male – Charlie Summer

Key Stage 4 Performer of the Year:

Female – Jasmine Hudson. Male – Hector Frith

GCSE PE Student of the Year: Brad Bowie

Sportswoman of the Year: Evie Pearson

Sportsman of the Year: Jake Melton

Sports Leader of the Year: Maddi Mower

Outstanding Commitment to

Neatherd School Sport: Milly Ogden and Amberly Wright

Team of the Year: U16 Regionals Championships qualifying team. Lily Arnold, Ellie Ampleford, Alex Crichton, Bethany Holland, Arden Scott, Hannah Spalding, Gabby Sharp, Holly Lloyd, Tasha Ward, Amber Wilson.

Outstanding contribution towards PE Award:

Lily Arnold

Overall outstanding achievement in PE Award:

Joshua Welling.

A huge thanks must go to **Jake Watson**, an ex-Neatherd pupil who works for TALKSPORT who gave an inspiring speech, summarising our whole event and how there are many doors that a passion for sport can open for you.

It is a fantastic evening, and one that the PE Department are incredibly proud of. We look forward to more of the same with our 'next generation' winners!



Rewards for successful students

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 are working at the highest academic level
- with 100% attendance.
- With leadership positions

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.

In the middle of the ceremony the Head People, House Captains and Deputy House Captains addressed the audience, leading onto the final very special awards.

- The Community Awards went to those students who have contributed the most within our school community.
- The Student Development Team award is nominated by the Head of House.
- The Head Teacher's award is for those students working at the very highest academic achievement. Below are the names of the special award winners.

Student Development Team Award

Cavell	William Rolph
Carter	Frazer Roberts
Kett	Ben Grunberg
Fry	Fliss Donovan

Community Award

Cavell	Lottie Treleaven
Carter	Benjamin Lewis
Kett	Dali Brady
Fry	Sean Laban

Head Teacher Award

Cavell	Katherine Thomas
Carter	Naomi Vogel
Kett	Maisy Jessop
Fry	Isabel Last



A special mention must go to Lewis Atkins who was awarded the "Enrich Learning Trust Award" which goes to one pupil at each of the Trust schools. He was awarded for his strength of character and dealing with adversity.

Lewis was diagnosed with cancer for the fourth time earlier this year and had to undergo chemotherapy. He came back to school as soon as possible after his treatment and even managed to complete his work experience.





Marvel world inspires our intrepid science students

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

Year 6

To ensure our Year 6 pupils are ready and willing to make the step up to high school science, the transition days were full of colour and light. Pupils were given the opportunity to create rainbows in a petri dish and discover whether a mystery substance was harmless or corrosive. The children were also able to investigate relationships between variables and understand the importance of a valid and reliable test.

Year 7

Mrs Sheldrake and Sci-Fi Club has been continuing to explore the science in Marvel movies. Starting the year with Guardians of the Galaxy, they looked into how cloning worked in Baby Groot (plants); whether the vibranium in Captain America's shield could exist in real life. They also found out how nuclear fusion is related to Iron Man and what artificial intelligence (like Jarvis and Ultron) has been programmed to do in 2018/2019. Thor: Ragnarok and Black Panther will be starting the club off again in September.

Year 8

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.

Year 9

This year Mr Covington took over the organisation for Year 9 and FLD 2 and the children completed a variety of tasks over the course of the day. They had the opportunity to develop their practical investigation and data handling skills, essential for their GCSE science course. Year 9s also completed some sampling fieldwork on Neatherd Moor. The activity went well. Only one pupil had their work stolen by a dog, and the weather was particularly agreeable. Part of the day's activities involved the School Nutrition Action Group, where students discussed the science behind ideal growing conditions, before planting seeds to grow as much food as possible. The seeds are currently being cared for by members of the SNAG club and will hopefully produce a bountiful harvest for eventual use in the canteen. All in all, a successful and productive day.

Key Stage 4

As always these pupils worked very hard on preparing for their exams and taking part in catch up, intervention and revision sessions, which have been ongoing throughout the year.

Other highlights throughout the year have included our science clinic where pupils could get help with their science fair projects and take part in small experiments such as mini fire tornadoes, and see demos like the whoosh bottle and screaming jelly babies. Of course Science Fair, which was a huge success, and we were lucky enough to have three outside judges: two research scientists from the John Innes Centre and a Doctoral student from the UEA come in and judge the quality of the projects on show. They were delighted by the exceptional effort and detailed understanding of scientific ideas and principles on show by the students.



Interesting and creative ideas as to the **meaning of life**

As ever, it has been a busy and productive year in Society & Ethics. We have covered some great topics with all of our year groups, including some brand new units, which have been enjoyable for the children and teachers.

Year 7s studied a range of topics such as Islam, crime and punishment, money, Christianity, animal rights and mental health. Year 8s have learned about terrorism, war, families, belief in God and - the pupil's favourite- conspiracy theories. Year 9s have covered some new units on finances, British values, addiction and making ethical decisions. **Year 10/11** focused on careers, addiction, sex and relationships in core S&E while GCSE Religious Studies options groups have been exploring Christianity and Islam in great depth. Overall, it has been a great examination of a whole host of social and personal issues and we've shared many interesting ideas with the pupils.

Debating

In addition, our weekly debate club has been thriving and has grown throughout the year. Every Friday, pupils come to S&E2 to discuss big and topical issues, such as:

- Should we bring back the death penalty?
- Does God exist?
- Should assisted dying be legal?
- Is mental health more important than physical health?

We also entered the "English Speaking Union School's Mace" national debating competition. Year 10 pupils Katherine Thomas and Kayleigh Munt battled against Langley School, Norwich School for Girls and Norwich School, whose teams were made up of **Year 13** pupils. Our pupils brilliantly won the round, which was hosted at Neatherd, but were unfortunate not to get through to the regional final after coming out in the next round. However, it was still an outstanding achievement and it was the first time Neatherd have entered such a competition. We will try again next year

The Meaning of Life

The Society & Ethics department has also been working with Toftwood Infant and Junior schools through the local cluster meetings and have inspired some of the primary school pupils to take part in a "Meaning of Life" project. Pupils submitted some amazingly creative pieces of work, which we are combining with Neatherd pupils' work, in a display about what we think the meaning of life is all about. See some of the examples in the photos.





Neatherd's **Career Mark** revalidated

2018/19 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. This is excellent news and reflects the work of the whole school in enabling our students to make informed choices.

We also received the excellent news that after a lot of hard work, we were revalidated with Career Mark. This is an excellent achievement and we became the first school in Norfolk to achieve the validation. The report commented that "Dereham Neatherd High School provides outstanding careers education, information, advice and guidance (CEIAG) for its students. Careers provision is well managed, coordinated and delivered across the school".

This year we again held our annual 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 over 30 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.

We continue to support the Work Experience programme and all of 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.

We have also developed our relationship with the Network for East Anglian Collaborative Outreach (NEACO), which has provided the school with additional funding. The partnership has seen the funding of a motivational workshop delivered to Year 10 students and work with our literacy team. This is a partnership that is going from strength to strength.

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. If you go to the Neatherd Careers website (<https://neatherd.org/Careers/>) it provides all the information about our work and ways in which you can contact us.





Circus skills and carnival - Year 7s enjoyed colourful Summer School

Neatherd enjoyed a late summer carnival this summer when around 150 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 five different groups based on current famous festivals – Notting Hill, Rio, Santa Cruz, Cologne, 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 and played a range of sports. 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 to the samba sound of the Spice Girls

“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.

“

“I had a great time at Summer School,” says Owen from Rio, “I feel like I know my way around school now.”

”

“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.”

“Summer School was so much fun, I have made so many new friends and can’t wait for next week” says Ellie from Notting Hill.





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

After an anxious wait of some two months since sitting their final exams, our Year 11 leavers returned to school on a warm, sunny day in late August to collect their results. The nerves were showing on their faces as they collected the dreaded brown envelope before dashing outside to find a private space somewhere to open it... but it wasn't long before they re-emerged with beaming smiles!

The Class of 2019 achieved a fantastic set of results. Highlights included:

- 73% grade 4 or above in both English and maths (a new school record!)
- Four out of five pupils achieved a grade 4 (old grade C) or higher in English
- A similar proportion achieved a grade 4 or above in maths
- 79% of pupils left with 2 science GCSEs at grade 4 or above (another school record!)
- One in five of all exam results was at grade 7 (old grade A) or above
- 23 pupils achieved a highly prestigious grade 9 in at least one of their subjects

These results were testament to the hard work pupils put into their studies over the course of their five years at Neatherd, as well as to the expertise and commitment of their teachers and support from friends and family. Furthermore, a

great many students made exceptional progress against their challenging target grades, often overcoming significant barriers in their personal lives to do so. Proof, if ever any was needed, that hard work does indeed pay off.

Finally, a word for our Year 11 leavers: Exam results are of course very important, and we are proud of what you've achieved, but they are only a small part of what education and school is all about. It has been a pleasure seeing you grow up, thrive and succeed. As you move on to the next stage of your lives – whether doing A Levels, technical qualifications or apprenticeships – we wish you all the very best of luck and look forward to hearing of your future successes. Do keep in touch!





Here's to the class of 2019!

On 27th June, staff and Year 11 students came together to celebrate the class of 2019.

The students met at Wensum Valley Hotel, after Mrs Wickers and Mrs Tayler went earlier that day and did a fantastic job decorating the room.

The students arrived in style! Vehicles varied from luxury cars, to a lorry and even a golf buggy! Everyone stopped to watch the arrivals, as the paparazzi (Jon London photography and Mr Dent) took photos.

Everyone looked stunning – it was so great to see students dressed so formally. There were lots of beautiful dresses and dapper suits, they had all dressed to impress.

There was a “mocktail” on arrival and a sit-down meal. The tables looked great with balloons and lights in the centre and diamonds scattered around. After a short speech from Miss Cross and some flowers to thank all the hard work Mrs Wickers put in to the organisation, the dancing began!

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



Congratulations, class of 2019.





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