

NEATHERDHI



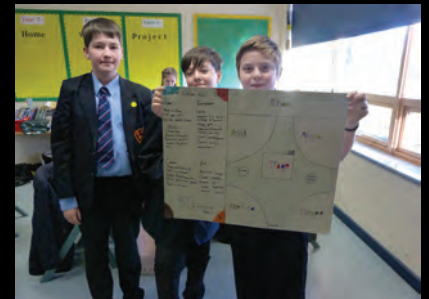
MERRY CHRISTMAS



ICELAND TRIP



NEATHERD'S
GOT TALENT



FLEXIBLE
LEARNING DAY

WELCOME

Dear Readers

2015 has been a vintage year in many respects, with our Year 11s doing us proud in the summer examinations followed by a visit from our friends at OFSTED, endorsing the school's position as being very good.

This time of year is one for reflection for many of us and there is much to make me very proud. What strikes me, with this edition of Neatherd Hi!, is the sheer variety of activities our students have experienced. This vibrancy is something very special at Neatherd. We also continue to have a wonderfully calm and purposeful environment which allows our excellent teachers to focus on the challenging job of supporting children in their learning.

As I look forward to 2016 I am reminded that I have such a fantastic team of consummate professionals in the support staff, the teaching body, the Leadership Team and governors, all of whom work together to make Neatherd great for our students.

On a different note, the relaunch of "Attitude to Learning grades" is giving many of our more, shall we say, 'relaxed' students pause for thought and a salutary reminder that the best things in life don't come easily but require hard work and perseverance. This remains our challenge and the one where we know our parents have a significant influence in working with us to ensure students do their very best.

Thank you to our parents for your continued support, and also to our students for their part in making Neatherd a leading school in Norfolk. I wish you and your families a very happy and peaceful Christmas and New Year. We look forward to seeing students rested and ready to learn on Tuesday 5th January 2016.

Peter Devonish, Headteacher

CAVELL EXHIBITION

Monday 12th October marked the centenary of Edith Cavell's death and all over Norfolk there have been celebratory events. Neatherd High School was very lucky to be able to host an exhibition, donated by the Cavell Nurses trust. The exhibition took its audience through her life, the context of WW1, her resistance, execution and legacy. 14 students who have volunteered to be ambassadors for the exhibition showed students and staff around and taught them some background information about the life of this famous Norfolk woman. The reason why Neatherd was getting involved with the centenary is that one of the school's houses is named after Edith Cavell. The students involved were Josh Welling, Imogen Garrod, Elizabeth

Vogel, Holly Grant, Lucy Hart, Rebekah Hartley, Evie Williamson, Lucy Kirk, Courtney Gleinster, Daniel Allinson, Bethan Bates, Georgia Reeve, Bethany Greeves and Nicole Fielding. All of these students handed in outstanding applications and did a fantastic job at curating the exhibition.

During lunchtimes the exhibition was

flooded with students who came for tours to find out about Edith Cavell, World War One and her legacy.



FLEXIBLE LEARNING DAY

Collapsed timetable days are put together to give pupils the opportunity to learn something new and exciting, which isn't always part of the curriculum.

Year 7 – Geography Field Trip to the North Norfolk Coast



Year 7 split into two groups during Flexible Learning Day 1, with one group visiting Wells and the other Overstrand in the morning. In the afternoon the two groups rotated round. The trip gave students a fantastic opportunity to see the impact that coastal erosion is having on North Norfolk and examine the different approaches taken to managing the two stretches of coastline. Those few pupils not on the trip researched and presented information about the different continents.

Year 8 – Identity Day

During Flexible Learning Day students considered the question 'Who do you think you are?' Pupils investigated the challenges faced when discovering their identity. The day was made up of sessions with Neatherd teachers as well as time with visiting speakers and ended with groups presenting their findings to the rest of the year group.

Year 9 – Natural History Museum Trip

The pupils disembarked at the museum full of enthusiasm for the wonders that lie inside; earthquake machines, precious



stones, giant reptiles - long dead and gone from the Earth. With booklets completed and the gift shop visited the weary travellers returned to Neatherd with tales of science for friends and relatives to enjoy.

Year 9 – Creativity

Pupils were creative with Capoeira dance for half of the day, learning and then performing this brilliant dance style! For the other half pupils were either making a "Speedy Spicy Biryani and Swiss Roll", "Textile Birds & Material Flowers" or "Name Plate Logo" in Graphics using the vinyl cutter.

Year 10 – Careers Pathway

Year 10 pupils were looking at learning pathways for their time after Neatherd. In the morning the Careers department launched the Work Experience Project, giving students the chance to research potential placements.

They also welcomed an Outreach Officer from the UEA for a talk, who was hopefully



able to further raise the aspirations of our pupils. In the afternoon pupils visited Dereham 6th Form College and had a tour, a taster lesson and also had time to visit the Apprenticeship Fair which had numerous stands from the different suppliers in Norfolk.

Year 11 – English Controlled Assessment

Year 11s had a concentrated and extended period of time working on one of the Controlled Assessments required for the English GCSE qualification. Pupils were able to prepare with structured teacher led support in the morning, before writing the final piece for the Controlled Assessment in the afternoon.

HARRY POTTER TRIP

On the 26th of November a number of students were taken to the Harry Potter Studios near London. Throughout the day we enjoyed an array of activities such as tasting butterbeer, riding broomsticks, and learning to wave a wand the wizard way. As we were taken through to the entrance of the studios you could hear gasps and squeals throughout, as the majestic



hallway lay before us. As we started the tour we saw props that were used from the actual film and costumes worn

by the characters. Sets were laid out and we all got to experience what it felt like to be involved in the making of the film. All the subject areas that attended (Media,

Textiles, Graphics, Business and Drama) had the chance to take part in a workshop that enhanced their knowledge about their subject and also about the making of Harry Potter. After travelling around studio one and having the chance to ride broomsticks we followed



the paths and corridors which lead us to platform 9³/₄, everybody had the chance

to take pictures with the train and pushing a cart through the wall onto the platform.

Outside we got to visit the real Privet Drive, become a passenger on the Knight Bus, and travel along



the covered bridge. We also had the opportunity to drive the flying car that was featured in the second movie (Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets) Next we went to the second studio where we got to see the characters and some of the special effects and how they work... Walking through Diagon Alley, we learnt how footsteps are created in the snow and we got to walk up the cobbled streets where mysterious and magical

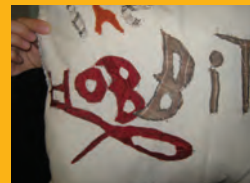
shops were set up as if the crew were about to arrive. The best part was seeing the full size model of Hogwarts - the castle and the grounds. To end the trip we all spent some time in the gift shop admiring the Harry Potter gifts and souvenirs. Overall the day was a great

success, we all learnt a lot and enjoyed the magical, wizarding experience.

TEXTILES

Year 9 pupils are embarking on a new project this year: They are making literacy inspired pillows. The students are looking at their favourite books and then creating their own inspired book pillows. They are using personalised inspiration

to create a pillow cover that reflects their favourite book and using colours from the book cover to create a patch work back helps with development of colour and pattern making. The pupils in the first rotation have produced amazing results, they are on loan to the library, so



feel free to pop in and look at them.

ICELAND TRIP

On a wet and cold mid-week morning in October, 69 pupils and teachers from both Neatherd and Northgate had a very early start. Just after 5:30am, we loaded our bags onto the coach and rushed on to find seats near our friends. Having arrived at Gatwick

at around 10am, we boarded the plane at 12pm, and started our 3-hour journey. After our arrival we left the airport and straight away headed for the Blue Lagoon. We



had an hour in the water, relaxing and putting volcanic mud on our faces. Once changed, we had the opportunity to buy some food and drink from the café before departing for our hostel. On arrival we feasted on chicken and chips, with fruit salad for pudding and after unpacking our bags we headed straight for bed after a day's worth of adventures.

Thursday - We headed for the Agur Greenhouse for a tour and tasting session. On arrival we were shown around the greenhouses then had the chance to taste cucumber, peppers and tomatoes accompanied by their homemade chilli dip. After seeing a rather large crater, we headed for a geyser, which erupted every seven minutes. Thingvellir National Park was next on the itinerary and with its flowing waterfalls and long winding paths it was a very pretty place to be. Afterwards we visited the Gullfoss waterfall, which was truly spectacular. Lastly, we went to an outdoor swimming pool with slides and hot tubs!

Friday – We visited Vik, a small town, for a chance to restock our snack supplies. After a quick stop at the glacier we travelled to the Eyjafjallajökull Visitor Centre where we learnt about the eruption that took place in 2010 and threw most of Europe's airspace into havoc. We discovered how the families nearby, including their family-run farms, were affected and how they had to cope. We travelled to a small mountain and after a spontaneous decision by the teachers, climbed

it! Exhausted, we returned to the pool we had been to the previous night, and had a longer swim this time before returning to the hostel. After dinner we were just getting ready to go to sleep when the teachers knocked on our door and said "the Northern Lights!" So

we put on our coats, slipped on our walking boots and ran outside. The light display was so beautiful. After a cold yet magical hour, it was time to call it a day. We had seen the Northern Lights, several shooting stars and a comet. It was a truly

magical experience that we will never forget.

Saturday – We departed for the ferry port and boarded our ferry to Heimaey Island. After half-an-hour on the ferry, we arrived and set off climbing a volcano. We walked over eight miles during the course of the day and finished it off with a swim in the Island's swimming pool, probably the best pool of them all! It had hot tubs, slides with trampolines and a huge



indoor pool with springboards!

Sunday – We headed for Reykjavík for a bit of shopping and exploration of Iceland's capital city. We

spent around two hours wandering around the city and going into shops. It was very cold though! After our free time, it was back onto the coach for the last time in Iceland. We arrived at Keflavik Airport and were told by the teachers that there was a delay with our flight. Then, the man from the hostel had to drive up to the airport to give us our passports, as the Northgate teachers had forgotten their students' passports! After the little mishap, we passed through security and boarded the plane. We arrived back at school at around 2am and everybody went home, utterly exhausted after the best school trip ever.

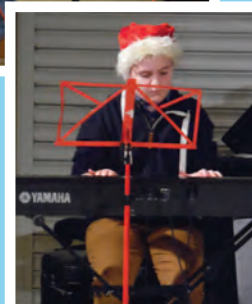
EMILY JESSOP

CHRISTMAS CONCERT



Sadly, the Christmas concert gave the school the opportunity to say goodbye to Mr Moore who has been at Neatherd for 2 ½ years; but true to form, goodbye was said noisily and in great style. Mr Moore has been responsible for setting up the blues band and for launching the BTEC Music course at Dereham Sixth Form. He will be greatly missed by staff and students alike!

A diverse range of musical talents was on display on 10th December and festive fun was had by all. Musicians included the amazing blues band, talented singers and assorted instrumentalists. The audience was treated to an eclectic mix of music: blues, classical, rock, TV themes and Christmas songs.



NEATHERD'S GOT TALENT

12th November saw a bumper crop of talented youngsters performing at Neatherd High School's annual show "Neatherd's Got Talent"! The audience was treated to a truly wide range of talents that included dancers, singers, a magician and martial artists!

The evening opened with a moving entry from Harry Cottenden (Year 11). This was "Essex Harry's" first talent show and Harry, although nervous stepped up to the mark. Harry wrote and performed a heart-warming ballad dedicated to the brother he never met as he died before Harry was born. Harry's soulful performance



was accompanied by Reece King, also Year 11, on the keyboard.

An incredibly strong showing was made by a host of strong female singers that included Emily Gibson, Lara Dixie Richards, Lucy Kirk, Jess Irving Hannah Bavage and Cerys Blake (all Year 10). The girls, as all of the judges agreed, could easily compete with the professionals. Coming up through the ranks of Neatherd's singers, and representing Years 8 and 9 respectively

were William Rodwell and Rebekah Hartley. Of course, the singers were ably accompanied by competent and talented musicians on guitar and keyboards; Elizabeth Vogel, Liam Hubbard and Nathan Codling.



More unusual acts included the amazing comedy magician George Crisp with his cups, cards, balls and skewers. George's act both baffled and delighted in equal measure. The audience was also treated to the delights of tap dancing/drumming twins Aaron and Lili-Mae Nicholson and our scarily aggressive martial artists Bogdan Nedkov and James Roberts who were



supported as a last minute replacement to their original partner Sam Tyler, by Alex Jarrett. Any talent show must have winners; and although all of this year's entries were winners in their own right, there were entrants who stood out from the rest. For the judges, Mr Devonish,



Mrs Williamson and Head Girl Ellie Poole and Head Boy Tom Farry it was Tom Futter in Year 7 who played his ukulele and sang a traditional English folk song – The Taylor and the Mouse. The audience prize was awarded

to Sparks, a 22 piece dance act who performed an energetic and polished routine that they choreographed themselves.

Thanks to all of the acts and thanks especially to The Friends of Neatherd High School, Mr Moore and Mrs Sanderson who ensured that the evening ran smoothly from start to finish and not forgetting Mr Mayhew and Mr Everett, Neatherd's take on Ant & Dec, who presented the evening expertly and with a lot of humour.



Since re-branding our group with a new logo, the School Nutrition Action Group has been busy! We continue to hold our Food for Life Gold award which we are currently re-applying for. There have been a number of events which have kept everyone occupied this term. From a Saturday Dig Up to our very popular Roast Dinner Day, the whole school has continued to get involved and put food at the top of its agenda.

The Dig Up with parents



At the start of the school year, the Gardening Club had a big dig at the weekend. We didn't have much room down the allotment to grow things, and we didn't have much time during

lunch times either. Our solution was to host a big dig on a Saturday morning. We had a good turnout, with a mixture of club members, teachers and parents. By



the end of the morning we had a decent sized patch with onions and leeks planted in, and two other smaller patches. What used to be an area full of nettles is now a square patch perfect for growing! Overall the morning was a great success, and we are very grateful to those who came. We are looking to hold another event like this in February, ready for spring planting!

Jack Thomas, Year 9

Roast Dinner Day

We really enjoyed inviting Eckling Grange Care Home as well as Toftwood and Dereham CE Infant schools to our celebrations of Roast Dinner Day. It was a fantastic community event where we all enjoyed sitting down and sharing a lovely meal



Cook Club

This term, Cook Club has also been really busy. We have been cooking a variety of dishes from Pecan Pies to Tarte aux Pommes! It is a great way to get confident with cooking and it really allows students to express themselves through food. We hope to encourage new members from cook club to take part in our SNAG group so that we can have more keen "Petite chefs" leading the Cook Offs which are already so popular.



Gardening Club

Although it's not the right time of year to grow most plants, we have some peas sprouting along with some leeks and onions ready for next year. The main difficulty this term was the water, or the lack of water in our water butts, but hopefully soon they will start to fill up. Our spring term project is to renovate the allotment with colourfully upbeat flowers, new crops and dig over some of our unused patches. There may even be room for some strawberries and raspberries!

Johnny Keeler, Year 9

COOK OFF COMPETITIONS

Halloween Cook Off

On the 13th and 14th of October Miss Powell-Bowns organised and ran a Halloween-Themed Cook Off! Teams consisted of 1 teacher and 2 students from each house, they were required to make one savoury main dish and one sweet dessert dish. There were many exciting combinations and lots of original dishes made. There were judges who had the enjoyable task of sampling each dish and rating out of five, some of the criteria included inclusion of local and organic ingredients, presentation and of course taste!



On each night the top three teams were chosen and rewarded with house points,

Christmas Cook-Off

Our final Cook Off of this year was a 'Free From' Christmas theme. The aim was for teams to prepare a savoury and sweet dish which was free from gluten, meat or dairy products. They could even challenge themselves with some full-on vegan dishes! Each house had three teams representing them and we had a wonderful variety of dishes chosen. Teams came fully prepared with tinsel, Christmas napkins and their gluten free flour! It was a tough competition with some teams serving up canape style dishes and others going for full on roast dinners. Our guest judge, Mr Mayhew, particularly enjoyed a Cavell inspired Vegetable Parcel filled with spinach and stilton. Whilst our student judges highlighted just how delicious Carter's gluten



the winners of each evening won not just house points but also some exciting "Food For Life" aprons. Our winners were Mrs Phillip



and her team on Tuesday and Mrs Norwood and her group on Wednesday! But all our teams made amazing dishes and the results were close with our judges making some tough decisions.

This event was not only good fun, but also very informative as it taught us about knowing where our ingredients came from and how presentation influences people when serving food.

BETHAN BATES

free snowmen cupcakes were! Tuesday night winners were Kett's very own Miss Mulineux, Maisie Jessop and Eleanor Ampleford with their Turkey Curry and gluten free mince pies. Wednesday evening started with a bang as we had three Fry teams all competing at once. In the end the winners were representatives of Fry - Miss Brown, Tatiana Pereira and Mia Fletcher with a fantastic vegetarian risotto and to finish, Christmas pudding inspired gluten-free brownies! However, it was a difficult decision to make with a delicious chestnut soup and some indulgent chocolate pots being presented by various other teams. We were very grateful to our guest judges, Mrs Norwood, Miss Riley and Mr Fisher.

Bringing news from the school library!

Buzzing with Free Books!

As part of Neatherd's commitment to reading and literacy this term all Year 7s were given a free book supplied by 'BookBuzz'. Students picked a book from a range of 17 available titles, funded by the school library. The students were excited to receive their book, feeling it 'encourages them to read'.



Accelerated Reader Programme

In September all Year 7 and Year 8 students were enrolled on the Accelerated Reader Programme (AR). Students complete a short comprehension test on the computer which adapts to their reading level as they answer the questions. At the end of the test students are given their Zone of Proximal Development (ZPD), guiding them to books within their reading level range. Once a book has been read the student then takes a computer quiz on the title and earns points towards their individual target for each term. The programme allows teachers to track students' progress, intervening where necessary and give guidance, support and structure to complement their reading ability. At the end of this term over 40 students were awarded prizes for reaching their targets- congratulations!

Book Review:

The Originals- Cat Patrick-4.7

The Originals is about three sisters, who are not triplets but identical clones of each other. They go about their shared day, until a secret could threaten their lives. Could they start their own lives, as individuals? The Originals is a romance, sci-fi mystery novel, with its unique concept and it will draw none sci-fi fans into this genre. This is an unforgettable book; it is a must-read for any mystery genre readers.

Author Visits:

Tim Bowler- On the 2nd October selected students from Year 7 were taken to the Open Venue in Norwich for a creative workshop with the award winning author, Tim Bowler. Students who attended called it 'enjoyable' and 'fun' while learning to write creatively, giving them confidence to write their own stories.



Michael Bryne- In September, the author of 'Lottery Boy', Michael Bryne, visited a selection of Year 7 and Year 8 students. They had an opportunity to hear an 'inspiring' talk about writing and creating ideas for stories. Many students were able to purchase a signed copy of the 'excellent action-packed' debut novel. Students thought this to be very 'exciting' and that Michael was a 'really good author' and 'informative'.

Kids' Lit Quiz

On November 12th two teams from Neatherd battled their literary knowledge against 25 other teams from Norfolk schools in the annual literature competition, The Kids' Lit Quiz. The event was held at Thetford Academy hosted by the School Library Service and saw fierce competition in this 'sport of reading'. Authors Alex Scarrow and Alexander Gordon Smith joined forces with librarians to form a team and for book signing Congratulations to Neatherd team members: Annet Sagi, Alethea Barkham, Melody Nash, Imogen Garrod, Robyn Vincent, Maisy Jessop, Xanyna Tarabay. Amy Thexton - all competed with outstanding confidence.



The Roald Dahl quiz winners were: KETT. During September, the 'Author of the Month' feature began. An inter-house Roald Dahl quiz was held and won by Kett, staff also took time out to read their favourite Roald Dahl snippet every lunchtime to an eagerly awaiting audience.



Spotlight on the Teacher:

Mr Appleby - "I enjoy reading adventure, thriller/action books. I enjoy reading, and I would most recommend the Dark Materials Trilogy, by Philip Pullman. The first book, Northern Lights has been made into a film called The Golden Compass. I think you should give it a try!"



AUTHOR OF THE MONTH

Every month a different author will be highlighted- every student who reads a book by the selected author during that month will be awarded 5 house points!

The authors so far have been:

September- Roald Dahl

October- Malorie Blackman

November- Michael Morpurgo

December - Charles Dickens

"Google can bring you back 100,000 answers. A librarian can bring you back the right one"
Neil Gaiman

READER REVIEW

Dark Flame- Alyson Noel

This book is about a young girl called Ever who is immortal and she finds herself bound to her enemy by a spell. I would give it 4 stars out of 5 because I like the reality qualities that are included but her reactions are strange. I would recommend this book to a friend.

Alethea Barkham-Year 7

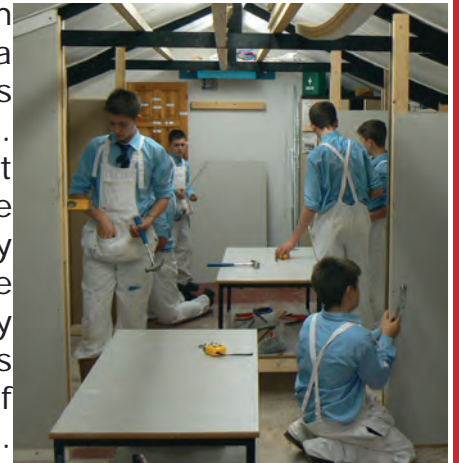
CONSTRUCTION COURSE



For the first time ever Neatherd's Design and Technology department is offering a brand new subject within its

curriculum – and it is proving very popular indeed: The “BTEC CONSTRUCTION AND THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT” course is aimed at anyone who might be interested in pursuing a career in the construction sector, aiming to develop an understanding of and skills related to the construction industry. BTEC First qualifications are the equivalent to one GCSE in terms of their size and teaching time and they open doors to progression into further study and responsibility within the workplace. “Parents have been very impressed with this course as it is so practical”, says Mr Chapman, Head of DT. 2/3 of the course is taught in practical lessons

– delivered by Mr Spalding (plumbing) and Mr Taylor (plastering and painting). Students are also taken out on Site visits to see work on a proper building site and hopefully the pupils will be able to do their work experience placements with local employers in the trade. “During the practise sessions the students can not only learn useful DIY skills”, says Mr Taylor, “these skills also set them up for future careers and make them very employable.” The 18 students who have chosen this new subject clearly enjoy it: “I hope this will help me to succeed in my dream to become a builder”, says Connor Moore. “I feel that this course will be very useful in the future, I really like it,” was the verdict of Will Reeve.



EASTON FARM VISIT

About a month ago the members of the Neatherd SNAG group embarked on a trip to Easton College. There we spent the day learning about agriculture and various animals. We spent our time finding out



about their livestock such as sheep, pigs, chickens and cows. Along the way we learnt about the farming processes they go through from knowing if your fields are the right



soil consistency to growing different vegetables in an area so the soil isn't degraded. The students who went on the trip learnt a lot about agriculture and farming and also had lots of fun in the process. We hope to have another trip later this year!**Sam Maidstone, Year 9**

My highlight of the trip was visiting the cows and seeing the machines that help to efficiently milk the herd and make it safe for us to drink. Whilst visiting the cows we were able to meet some of

the new borns and have a little stroke, they actually keep these separate from the others to make sure they don't have infections that they could spread to the rest of the healthy herd.



I really enjoyed my first trip with SNAG, I think all of the group really benefited from the visit learning about our local industries and culture as well as discovering what a career in farming entails.

Ellena Meachan, Year 9

BRILLIANT CLUB

Neatherd's "Brilliant Club" runs The Scholar Programme which is an opportunity for school pupils to experience University style learning with a series of academic tutorials delivered by visiting PhD tutors. This programme is open to high performing pupils and involved a launch event at the University of East Anglia and a Graduation Event at Jesus College, Cambridge. As well as the tutorials, pupils have a series of homework tasks to complete each week in their workbooks and a final 1,500 word assignment, which is marked against university level criteria. Nine of our pupils completed the Scholars Programme and enjoyed a Graduation Event at Jesus College, Cambridge. Emily Birt, Thomas Howarth, Ellie Poole, Reya Muller, Emily Jessop, Evie Williamson, Jack White



and Ellie Jackman travelled to Cambridge in September after completing their final assignments on 'The role of women in surrealism' in the summer holidays. Ed Penn, the Outreach Liaison Officer from Jesus College Cambridge, gave a welcome talk along with representatives from "The Brilliant Club". Ed Penn is an ex-Neatherd pupil who is evidence that pupils from Neatherd can make it to the very best universities with hard work. In the study skills session, the Brilliant Club tutor talked about failure, explaining that it can be a good thing if learning takes place! Students looked at motivational quotes and how students should take inspiration in their own studies. "Brilliant Club" has allowed the pupils to gain knowledge, skills and ambition to apply to a highly selective university. Congratulations to our Brilliant Club Scholars, particularly after doing so well with such a specialist and difficult area of study! Our second cohort of Scholars will start up in the spring term of 2016. Mr Sinclair

CHRISTMAS SHOEBOXES

Cuddly toys, crayons, warm socks and sweet treats were just some of the gifts packed into colourfully wrapped boxes by staff and students of Neatherd as they once again support the Samaritans Purse Shoebox Appeal. "This is already the fifth year that we have supported this fantastic project", says Rachel Jacobs, Head of Upper and Lower School.

Mary Jack, who co-ordinates the collection and distribution of shoeboxes in the Dereham area, collected the 85 shoeboxes and took them to the Dereham Community Hub where they will be checked before they go on their final journey. This year most of the shoeboxes will be delivered to Syrian refugee camps. We can guarantee that

every single shoebox donated this year will reach a child before Christmas", says Mary Jack. "Samaritans Purse have got the right contacts in the local areas who know which children are in most urgent need of help."



CAREERS EVENTS



For the Careers department this term has been an extremely busy one with several events taking place as especially our Yr11 students start preparing themselves now for the time after they leave Neatherd. The first opportunity to help student and parents find out about future careers was the Post 16 Options Evening which took place on 13th October. Over 30 college and apprenticeship providers were on hand in the Sports Hall to inform about different options available. In early November Yr11 students then had the chance to experience what a real job interview is like when business professionals came in to school to give

each student a "Mock Interview". Every pupil had applied for a certain job and prepared themselves for the interview by writing a CV and thinking of possible questions that could come up. It was great to see our students rise to the occasion, dress up very smartly and interact well with the interviewers. We are very grateful to all the professionals who gave up their valuable time to give our students this incredible opportunity. One of the interviewers, Steve Plunkett who works in the automotive industry, came back to Neatherd later in the month to talk to interested students about careers in this field of work and give his advice.



TAKEOVER DAY

How would you like to be the boss of a big company for a day? On Friday, 20th November 225 students from 24 different Norfolk schools had the chance to do just that. 45 organisations all over Norfolk gave the young people the chance to "look behind the scenes"



and gave them a hands-on experience. From Neatherd, 8 students from Year 9 were selected to take part in this exciting project.

Rebekah Hartley and Reid Barrell spent the day at Community Action in Dereham where they found out what difficulties different charities are facing and tried to come up with possible solutions. "It was a very good, fun day," says Reid Barrell, "it really helped me to think about my future."

Emily Barfield was one of two students from the whole of Norfolk to be able to help in Norwich's Millenium library for the day. "It was so interesting to see how such a large library functions and what happens to all the books," says Emily. Jennifer Tooley, Louise Godin and Oliver McDonnell had the chance to get involved



at Norfolk County Council, the girls were part of a large group of students who did some strategic planning in the morning and had a proper debate in the Court Room in the afternoon.

Oliver spent his day at the Archive Centre at the Council where he first had to look for old documents and parchments in the stronghold before he got involved in making some masks for an upcoming children's event. Unfortunately Molly Cottenden's and Shannon Greenacre's day at Queen Elizabeth hospital got cancelled at last minute, but they are hoping that they will be able to go there at a different time.

"The Takeover Day is getting more popular every year," says Chris Williams, Senior Consultation and Involvement Officer at County Council, who organised the event. "We've had more than double the number of applications from last year, so we've been working non-stop to find placements for every student." "We really enjoyed being part of this day," so the verdict of the Neatherd students, "we can only recommend for even more companies and students to take part in the project next year."

YR8 SPORTSHALL ATHLETICS

On Wednesday 2nd December 16 of our pupils competed in the Year 8 Sportshall Athletics held at Taverham High School.



It's a very popular Partnership indoor athletics competition, which we enter annually. The opposition were Taverham High, Hellesdon High and Reepham. All competitors are required to take part in the following activities: speed bounce, standing long jump, standing triple jump, and indoor shot putt. There are then 5 races that pupils are selected for depending on their strengths. These include: individual

races of 2 laps, 4 laps, and then 6 laps. Then 2 pupils compete as a duo in the 8 lap "Paarlauf". Then finally it's the 4 x 2 lap relay, where 4 pupils have to run 2 laps each, relay style. It gets really noisy at this point! It was tough: the opposition all seemed to be bigger than us. We did superbly, although we didn't win it! Sam Swales came second in the 6 lap event, so we knew we were up against it! However, our pupils are fabulous! They simply went out and did their very best, and that is all we ask of them! The girls achieved 3rd overall, with only 2 points between them and second place! Some outstanding individual performances include: Sam Swales, Jake Melton, Jacob Thompson, Joshua Smith, James Wallis,

Kane Clark, Gui Cavaco, Charlie Price, Arden Scott, Latasha Ward, Maddie Street, Charlotte Calvert, Sophie Green, Sophie Eagle, Evelina Kukinskaite and Amber Macey.



SEA CADETS

Hannah Norwood from Year 11 took part in the Sea Cadet National Championships at the Royal London docks on Saturday 6th September and came 4th in the country competing against 15 to 18 year old. Hannah and her partner Beth had only been a team for six months and they were the youngest in their group. It was a large Sea Cadet event with over 500 of them all competing in different water sports. As her and her partner at 14 only just met the age category they have another 3 years of competing in that category. It looks promising for them to rise through the ranks in

subsequent competitions as 4th place in their first competition is an excellent platform to spring from in the future.



SWIMMING GALA

On Monday 7th December 15 of our pupils competed in the Schools' Sports Partnership Swimming gala at Dereham Leisure Centre. 5 other schools were competing: Northgate, Ormiston Victoria Academy, Hellesdon, Taverham and Reepham. All pupils tried their very best and up against some tough competition, we came 2nd overall to Northgate, with only 3 points between 1st and 2nd place. Individual performance results:

Year 7: Freestyle - Milly Ogden 2nd, Alex Murray 1st
Backstroke – Milly Ogden 2nd, Alex Murray 2nd
Breaststroke – Hallie Taylor 1st, Oliver Howarth 4th
Butterfly – Hallie Taylor 1st, Oliver Howarth 3rd

Year 8: Freestyle – Abi Smith 2nd, Chris Zhao 2nd
Backstroke – Mia Johnson 3rd, Elijah Holman 4th

Breaststroke – Mille Poole 3rd, Jake Melton 4th

Butterfly – Mia Johnson 4th, Jacob Thompson 4th

Year 9: Freestyle: Ellie Foster 2nd, Charlie Dickerson 3rd

Backstroke: Rhiannon Liu Sully 1st, James Partridge 3rd

Breaststroke: Rhiannon Liu Sully 2nd, Charlie Dickerson 4th

Butterfly: Ellie Foster 2nd, James Partridge 4th



KARTING

Ryan Lingwood in Year 8 is continuing to be successful in his karting. He finished 4th in the Ellough Park Corporate Junior League. There were a total of 46 juniors who competed in the league and this was Ryan's first season so there is reason to be very proud and it gives him a good foundation for next year. Also those entering the league could automatically enter the Sodi World Championship which Ryan did and his final ranking was 13th for the UK out of 125 and his international ranking was 93 out of 779.

The photo shows Ryan in his mini max go kart, this was also another new class that Ryan joined this year after outgrowing the cadet class. The kart is in his team colours as Ryan was asked a few months to join an up and coming

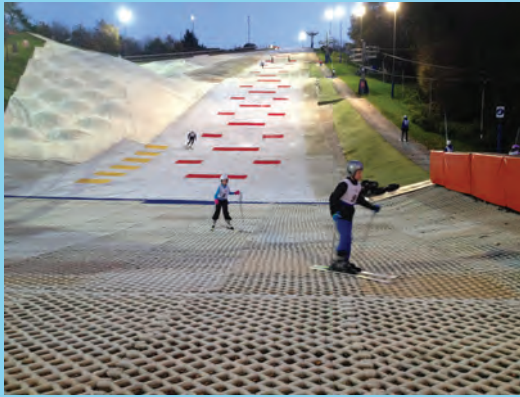
team this year, "Team Marmalade". It was quite challenging for Ryan dealing with



these karts as they are much quicker than his cadet kart was. His mini max is on average 6 seconds a lap quicker than his cadet cart was - it can do 50mph.

SKI TRIALS

On Friday 13th November eight of our pupils took to the slopes again at the Norfolk Ski Club to trial for the Winter Norfolk School Games in March 2015. Florence Hall Year 7, Louise Tooley Year 7, Katie Lockhart Year 7, Sam Swales Year 8, Arden Scott Year 8, Sam Lockhart Year 9, Harlie Scott Year 10 and Megan Lait Year 11, all grasped this fantastic opportunity and joined pupils from Taverham High and Taverham Hall schools. As they took to the slopes on a chilly evening for their practice runs all were filled with excited anticipation. Our skiers looked rather good and in some cases really rather good as they sped through their practice



runs! Particularly impressive were two of our Year 7 girls who had not experienced skiing on the dry slopes and did themselves and us immensely proud with their efforts and confidence! The timed trials followed where our skiers had to do their slalom runs as fast as they could with the best of their 3 times being put forward.

The fastest 3, in Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 would then go through to the Finals competition. Huge congratulations to the following who have qualified to represent the West Norwich and Dereham Schools Sports Partnership: Key stage 3 - Sam Swales. Key Stage 4 - Harlie Scott and Megan Lait.

SPORTS LEADERS

Our Year 10 Sports Leaders continue to impress, this time at the Cluster Primary Schools' Sportshall Athletic Competition, held at Taverham High School on Thursday 3rd December. What a great bunch of pupils we have at this school! Sam Woods, Hayden Rowe, Jamie Nunn, Craig Fenn, Jake Chapman, Anna Tugman, Tayler Sheridan, Emileigh Pears, Alice Older, Mollie O'Callaghan, Gintare Kukinskaite, Megan Holmes, Lauren Ellis, Shannon Elley, and Emily Davage did themselves proud. They were required to organise the pupils, demonstrate their activities, accurately record the results of each child, and help in the various relay races. The event organiser was once again impressed with the confidence and enthusiasm of our



pupils when working with the youngsters. The quieter members of the group also really engaged with the children, proving this really is a worthwhile option for our pupils. The opportunity to interact with the schools' staff also enhances another life skill. Huge thanks to Mrs Thompson who works with the pupils and helps them to consistently reach this high standard.



RUGBY LEADERS

On Tuesday 24th November 15 of our Year 9 and 10 Rugby players helped to run the Schools Sports Partnership Primary Schools' Tag Rugby Festival at Crusaders Rugby Club, Little Melton. Joshua Richardson, Ewan Lait, Jordan Bowie, Alex Skinner, Reece Johnson, James Partridge, Nathan Perkins, Tom Read, George Rolland-Barry, Dario Stott, Sam Lockhart, Charlie Dickerson, Sam



Westgate, Ashley Thomas and Joe Kealey, were responsible for refereeing the games, checking and recording scores and time-keeping. They worked brilliantly with the children, giving them lots of encouragement and showing real enthusiasm and confidence. Many of the attending schools' staff were very complimentary, particularly in the way the boys helped the children. Thank-you and well -done boys! A big thank-you to Mrs Fitt who was supervising the group.

NEATHERD FOOTBALL

It has been a turbulent start to the year for Neatherd's football teams with boys and girls being involved in various matches and competitions at different stages of the term. An interesting place to start is with the Year 7 boys' football team, who after a series of matches have started to really gel well together and become a competitive and cohesive team. The Year 7 boys still await their first victory of this season but they are starting to show clear signs that they are a team to look out for in future years to come. Equally as impressive has been the Year 9 boys' football team who made it past last year's county cup finalists in the first round of the National cup, only to crash out to a strong Taverham side in the second round. This aside they have been committed and strong in all other performances and have won 3 of their 4 league matches played thus far. The Year 8, 10 and 11 football teams have also put in some solid performances so far this term with a particular highlight being the year 10s 12-0 "demolition" of Broadland in the second round of the county cup. The Neatherd girls' football teams have also had some promising fixtures in recent weeks, with the Year 8 girls making it into the

finals day of the FA Premier League clubs schools competition at Carrow Park in the first week of December. The girls made it to this stage by beating a number of different schools around the county in a 5-a-side competition, which was held at the pitch just outside Carrow Road, a few weeks before the finals day. Another last but noticeable subject was the Year 9 girls' county cup match against Taverham, a team that made it through to the last 32 of a national tournament last year. The girls at no point stopped fighting and we found a real good base in which to build upon in future matches and a talented new midfielder named Isobel Green who has only just recently joined the school.



Calendar dates

Tuesday 5th January to Friday 27th May 2016

Year Groups Affected					
7	8	9	10	11	
January 2016					
●	●	●	●	●	Tuesday 5th: School re-opens
				●	Friday 22nd: Year 11 Short reports issued
				●	Tuesday, 26th: Year 11 Parents Evening
February 2016					
		●			Friday 5th: Year 9 Full Report posted
●	●	●	●	●	Friday 5th: Non Uniform Day
●	●	●	●	●	Friday 5th & Saturday 6th: School production of "Mary" in Memorial Hall
		●			Tuesday 9th: Year 9 Options Evening
●	●	●	●	●	Friday 12th: School closes for half-term
		●	●	●	Friday 12th – Saturday 20th: Ski and Snowboarding Trip
		●	●		Thursday 18th to Sunday 21st: Disney Dance Trip to Paris
●	●	●	●	●	Monday 22nd: School re-opens
		●			Thursday 25th: Year 9 Parents Evening
●	●	●	●	●	Monday 29th: World Book Week
March 2016					
		●			Tuesday 1st: Year 9 Options Deadline
●	●	●	●	●	Wednesday 2nd: Flexible Learning Day 2
		●	●	●	Wednesday 2nd: Yr9-11 Apprenticeship Evening
●	●	●	●	●	Thursday, 3rd: Non-uniform day on Book Day
		●			Friday 4th: Year 8 Short Reports issued
●	●	●	●	●	Thursday 10th: Spring Music Concert
●	●	●	●	●	Thursday 17th: Dance Show
●	●	●	●	●	Friday 18th: Non Uniform Day (Sport Relief)
		●			Friday 18th: Year 10 Full Reports posted
		●			Wednesday 23rd: Year 10 Parents Evening
●					Thursday 24th: Year 7 Short Reports issued
●	●	●	●	●	Thursday 24th: School closes for half-term
April 2016					
●	●	●	●	●	Monday 11th: School re-opens
●					Wednesday 20th: Year 7 Parents' Evening
●	●	●	●	●	Wednesday 27th: Fashion Show
May 2016					
●	●	●	●	●	Monday 2nd: Bank Holiday (school closed)
		●			Tuesday 3rd - Friday 6th: Yr9 Internal Exams
		●			Friday 6th: Year 8 Full Reports posted
●	●	●	●	●	Friday 6th: Non-uniform day
		●			Monday 9th: Start of main GCSE exams
		●			Friday 20th: Year 11 Short Reports issued



Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from everyone at Neatherd!