

# NEWSLETTER EASTER 2019

**Welcome to our Easter Newsletter** - Spring has sprung and there is a real air of creativity at Richmond School. Earlier in March, our school choir made us very proud when they performed at The Sage with the world-class Collabro, winners of Britain's got Talent in 2014. I must single out Year 11 student Millie Aston for her courage in singing a solo that night but also for speaking so positively about the choir and the care and support that exist between the members of the group.

More recently, we enjoyed the most-phenomenal Dance Showcase evening at school. It was a wonderful demonstration of all six of the school's values- Independence, Excellence, Resilience, Creativity, Respect and Teamwork and the 'Queen-inspired' finale was quite simply breathtaking- with over 100 students on stage, enjoying themselves and excelling in Dance. Once again, I had to comment on the very nurturing ethos that exists between the students in the school's dance group, Evolution. I am quite sure that it is the care and support that exists not only between the staff and students but also between the older and more experienced students and the beginners, that means that everyone feels confident to learn, make mistakes and ultimately excel.

Events such as those above are perfect for celebration and for mention in newsletters and press releases. However, I remain very aware that the primary focus in the school, at present, is the rapid approach of the public examinations. There is a huge amount of work going on across Years 11 and 13 to ensure the best chances of success for our students at the start of the examination season. We wish each and every one of them the very, very best of luck.

I do hope you all enjoy a very happy and relaxing Easter break.

Best wishes

Jenna Potter  
Headteacher

There's so much been happening in Sixth Form, from the open evening on page 17 to our fabulous footballers on page 13. Don't miss Mia's story on page 7 about her challenge to support MIND, the mental health charity.



Equestrian team riding high on page 11



Review and pictures from the fabulous A-level drama show on page 6



Turn to page 11 to find out about our successful and inspiring Secondary Panathlon event.



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**Richmond School  
& Sixth Form College**

"Being the best we can be"



# PERFORMING ARTS

## DANCERS DELIVER AN OSCAR-WORTHY DOUBLE-DANCE EXTRAVAGANZA

Over 100 dancers brought Richmond alive with energy, excitement and drama during their recent double-dance extravaganza.



An 'Evening at the Oscars', by the school's highly-popular Evolution Dance Company, showcased performances from Year 7 to Year 13 students. A packed programme delighted audiences with a huge variety of genres and music including: Avatar to Alice In Wonderland, Black Swan to Buggy Malone and Life of Pi to Lion King.

The contrast of performances was beautifully orchestrated, taking the audience on exciting journeys, from the high-intensity, colour and power of Pirates of the Caribbean, to the joy and fun of the Great Gatsby and the incredible grace, beauty and tenderness of Into the Woods.

The cast were surrounded by an incredibly-supportive lighting and technical team, who created striking backdrops and sound, coupled with a talented back-stage crew who helped create the stunning make-up and costumes and ensured scene changes ran like clockwork. Nicola O'Malley, dance teacher, and Stephen Birdsall, drama teacher, worked tirelessly alongside Danni Fox, Head of Dance, in the management and choreography, to guarantee the smooth running of the event.

Bohemian Rhapsody united the full company for a vibrant and exciting finale and the audience could be forgiven for thinking that they were actually stepping out in Hollywood, as the show had all the hallmarks of an Oscar-worthy production. The show raised over £700 for the dance department to purchase a new lighting system for the dance studio, to create a more specialist performance space for dance students and make lessons even more exciting and interactive.

Miss Fox commented: "I would like to congratulate all students involved in the Evolution Dance show. It really was mesmerising to see over 100 students across all year groups performing together on stage in the show-stopping 'Bohemian Rhapsody' finale.

"A huge thank you must also be sent out to our brilliant Sixth Form Evolution leaders: Brandon Sutherland-Parker, Izzy Walton and Sophie Wright, who were a credit to the department with their maturity and professionalism when leading the younger students."





# PERFORMING ARTS

Hot on the heels of the Oscars was the GCSE and A-level Evening of Dance at the Georgian Theatre, which did not disappoint either! This event was particularly significant for the Year 13 A-level Dance students who performed their final 'swansongs' with Richmond School, after being in the department for seven years.

The evening celebrated the success of this cohort of students whose performances were supported with a selection of GCSE pieces which also impressed audiences with their creativity and professionalism. The show included a wide range of pieces and demonstrated great storytelling and meticulously crafted and polished performances.

Brandon Sutherland-Parker, Year 13 A-level dance student and choreographer, concluded: "I was involved in nearly all aspects of putting together the Oscars showcase. All the dancers I choreographed were amazing and it has been a great few weeks working on such fabulous pieces. I am really going to miss working in Evolution Dance, over the last four years choreographing different groups and creating pieces has been something I've become well known for and something that I have loved to do. I am truly going to miss my Richmond School dance family!"

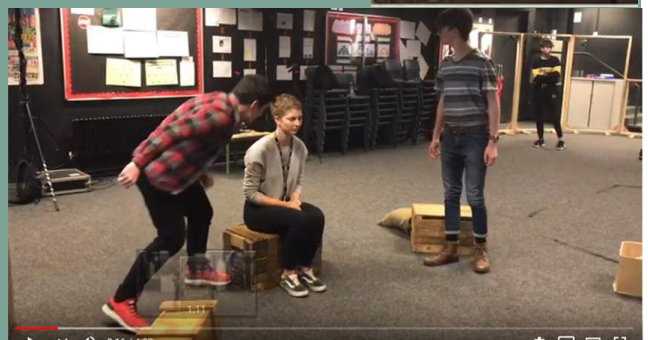


## CHECK OUT THE FILM FOR OUR NEW CTEC PERFORMING ARTS COURSE

Here it is... the promotional video for our brand new CTEC Performing Arts Course at our Sixth Form. As one of the few colleges in the area offering a course like this, we are very proud of it and would be thrilled to seek out some passionate Dance, Drama and Music specialists from local schools, who may be hoping to continue to study a Performing Arts subject in further education.

The course is a Level 3 Cambridge Technical Diploma; a vocational course which is the equivalent of two A-level subjects (in both learning hours and UCAS points). Students will take part in 'core' lessons, exploring the Performing Arts industry as a whole, alongside subject specialist lessons in the area of their choice (Dance/ Drama/ Music).

Watch the film at [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bPHyeqY\\_dUA&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bPHyeqY_dUA&feature=youtu.be)



# PERFORMING ARTS

## ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME EXPERIENCE FOR RICHMOND SCHOOL CHOIR

The choir stepped out on stage at the Sage, Gateshead, for a once-in-a-lifetime experience with Collabro, the world's most-successful musical theatre group.



The 29-strong choir of boys and girls, ranging from Years 7 to 12, were chosen for the performance after Stephen Boyd, Lead Teacher of Music, auditioned for the 'Collabro search for choirs', submitting video footage and recordings of the choir. The choir were delighted to be selected to sing with Collabro, the 2014 Britain's Got Talent competition winners, as part of their 51-date tour, which culminates at the Royal Albert Hall in April.

Under the direction of Andy Wardale, Music Teacher, the choir performed two songs with Collabro, 'Electricity', from Billy Elliott and 'Faithfully', at the start of the second half. Ahead of the concert, the choir spent the afternoon in rehearsals with Collabro, soaking up the excitement back stage ahead of singing in front of a packed auditorium of 1,500 listeners in Hall 1 of the Sage. The choir included Max Ferguson, a Year 7 student, himself no stranger to Britain's Got Talent, having reached the 2018 semi-finals with the band 'Bring It North'.

Stephen Boyd, Lead Teacher of Music, said: "It was potentially a once-in-a-lifetime concert for the students, performing on a professional stage set and supporting such high-level musicians. It was a great honour to be selected to accompany Collabro and the effort with extra rehearsals really paid off. The students are rightly very proud of their achievements and I would also like to thank Mr Wardale for his work in rehearsing the choir for this performance and his commitment to music-making at Richmond School and Sixth Form College."

A highlight of the evening was when Millie Aston, Year 11, was invited by Collabro to talk to the audience about Richmond School and then asked to sing a short A Capella solo. She chose 'Skyfall' by Adele, and she sang it terrifically well and everyone was blown away by her great poise, professionalism and singing voice. Millie commented: "It was a great and unexpected opportunity and it was so incredible to experience the lights and all the action on stage. I was very proud to be singled out."

Natasha Nixon, Year 10 choir member, added: "It was a remarkable experience. We were performing in the middle of a full-on pop concert. The lights, stage smoke, volume of the band and the presence of Collabro made it one of the most-fantastic evenings ever."

The Choir are looking forward to building on the experience of performing with a world-class group. They are delighted that the Collabro Tour Director has been in touch to say that they were very professional from start to finish and performed wonderfully well on stage





# PERFORMING ARTS

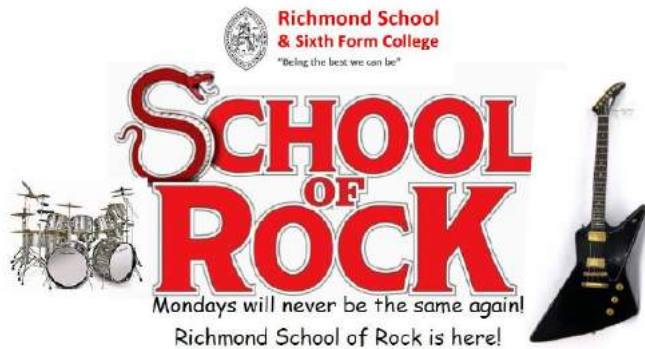
## BE PART OF THE SCHOOL OF ROCK!

The School of Rock group is up and running and has a number of students taking part.

Are you a guitarist, drummer, keys player or singer?

Come to Richmond School of Rock on Mondays  
3.30—4.30pm .

See Mr Boyd or Mr Millman for details!



## SAVE THE DATE: 11TH JULY

Further details will be shared with students in the coming weeks, but look out for school heats, semi-finals and then the Grand Final with local celebrity judges on July 11th. Any student or group of students can enter to showcase their talent.

## CONCERT SERIES COMING SOON.....

Continuing the superb progress our students are making in Music, we have decided to host a Summer Concert Series as opposed to a single Variety Concert. Dates and ensembles will be advertised after Easter. Hopefully this will give even more students the opportunity to perform!

## GROUPS EXCEL AT MUSIC FOR YOUTH

Richmond School Jazz Band, Concert Band and Orchestra excelled themselves at the Music for Youth Regional Festival in Harrogate on Saturday 30th March. Stephen Boyd applied for three ensembles to be considered for entry before Christmas and all were invited to perform.



This is the second stage of a grand UK-wide search for outstanding ensembles to perform in Birmingham and then possibly at the Royal Albert Hall. On the day, there were 20 ensembles from as far afield as Derbyshire to Northumberland. Richmond took a total of 52 students across the three groups. Our Orchestra were first up with a polished performance of the second movement of Haydn's Military Symphony, followed by an exhilarating rendition of Farandole by Bizet. The adjudicators made special note of our String section, oboe soloist Megan Crozier and percussionist Will Storrow.

Our Concert Band were next with what the adjudicators described as 'wonderful storytelling' performing selections from West Side Story, then a lively performance of Libertango. Highlighted across the pieces were Cornet soloist Taryn Hodgson and percussionist Adam Fitzhugh for their excellent contributions. The last Richmond ensemble to perform was our Jazz Band with a super reading of Power Play and Stevie Wonder's Sir Duke. The technical excellence of the Saxophone section was applauded by the adjudicators and a fabulous improvised solo by James Roberts was also credited.

The 20 choirs and ensembles selected to perform on Saturday all displayed diversity and excellence, and the standard was incredibly high. However there was one group that stood out across the day, the Cramlington Steel Pan Band, who were simply sublime in their performance of Music from Pirates of the Caribbean.

We now wait to hear if any of our ensembles have made it to the grand Birmingham finals. Stephen Boyd said: "I am incredibly proud of our students' performances. We have come a long way since our last entry to Music for Youth in 2017 and I was especially pleased with the adjudicator comments acknowledging that we are continuing to build strength in every instrumental discipline with excellence throughout our ensembles."

# PERFORMING ARTS

## ACTORS PRODUCE A TRIPLE-BILL SHOWCASE TO BE PROUD OF

Our Year 13 Theatre students presented their graduating shows at The Georgian Theatre. Hilarity, audacity and ferocity were unleashed alongside a range of styles during their recent triple bill.

The contrast of styles in the performances allowed for a beautiful balance between naturalism alongside the heightened political impact of stylised drama. Including a large dose of surrealism, the audiences were challenged and taken on a journey involving delight and humour, disturbed by sadness and moral debate.

The actors were joined by Year 13 student Ebony Johnson Dodds, who helped design and create the sets; contributing to the offer of a place at University to study design. Many of our performers are going on to further study in the performing arts sector and if the spellbinding evening they produced is anything to go by we will be enjoying their work for a long time to come.





# IN THE COMMUNITY

## SIXTH FORM STUDENT LEADERS RAISE £438 FOR COMIC RELIEF

As a new group of student leaders in Sixth Form, this was the first event we organised. Twenty-four of us all clubbed our ideas together to come up with an exciting day to raise money for Comic Relief.

This included running a raffle for a red-themed hamper and a lucky squares game (thank you to Miss Blenkiron and Harrild for manning this, we couldn't have done it without you!) and a bake sale, for which seven of us baked a selection of red-themed treats. We also had 'Just Dance' on the Wii in the bistro for people to pay to take part in, and we encouraged as many people as possible to wear red. With all these activities put together we raised £438.61 for Comic Relief, so thank you to everyone who took part and donated money.

Well done to Ruby Houlden, in Year 7, who won the raffle and Teresa Moss, Pastoral Manager, who won the squares game. Thomas-Edward Atkinson, in Year 7, was invited to come and help to draw the raffle after he expressed an interest in being involved in charity events. It was lovely to involve younger members of the school in the fundraising. I'm sure I can speak on behalf of all the student leaders and say that we are all looking forward to running the next charity event.

Emily Treweek, Year 12



## MIA SETS HER MIND ON RUNNING 10K A DAY FOR MENTAL HEALTH

Mia Oldroyd, a Year 13 student, will be sitting her A-levels in May, yet alongside dedicating hours of studying for her exams took on a demanding challenge of running 10k (approx 6 miles) each day for 12 days, in aid of the charity MIND. Mia, 17, chose MIND, as she is personally very aware of the positive impact regular exercise has on emotional wellbeing. After a very low two years in her life, due to unforeseen circumstances, Mia decided to take control of the way she felt by pushing herself with schoolwork, fitness and eating to feel her best.

Since making these changes Mia has been training 5-6 times per week, and has found it is a kind of 'therapy', a way of releasing, de-stressing from all that's going on in her life, and giving her self-control and confidence. It has also been the catalyst for changes in ambitions academically. She was targeted CCC in her A-levels but has recently achieved incredible results of AAA\* in her PPEs (pre-public examinations) and has a place at the University of Nottingham to study Cognitive Neuroscience. Mia is a fabulous role model for the younger generation and an inspiring example of how keeping physically fit and having a regular exercise routine can be a catalyst for a positive state of mind.

Caroline House, Mia's Geography Teacher, said: "Mia is a determined and inspirational young lady, who works incredibly hard to overcome obstacles placed before her. Not only does she set herself challenging academic targets but she balances her studies with an active and healthy mindset. She is kind, supportive and generous, always having time for others whether through academic mentoring or a general shoulder to cry on."

To find out about the work of Mind locally visit:

<http://www.leedsmind.org.uk/> and discover more about Mia's challenge and to help her reach her £500 target with a donation please visit

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/mia-oldroyd>



# IN THE COMMUNITY

## ANYONE FOR CRICKET?

**Richmond School worked in partnership with Yorkshire Cricket to provide three fun-filled cricket skills festivals for the primary schools in our area.**

Over 400 primary pupils took part in a range of cricket-based activities, such as testing the speed of their throw with a speed gun or testing their reactions by diving onto a crash mat whilst catching a ball being fired out of a bowling machine. Twenty sports leaders, from Years 8 and 9, also supported the event by instructing the Year 3 pupils and showing them how to compete.

The event was run in conjunction with the AllStars initiative, as local cricket clubs in Richmond, Catterick, Bedale, Middleham and Northallerton gear up to start their AllStars training in the community.

Comments Mark Jobling, AllStars Champion North Yorkshire: "It was fantastic to see so many participants, helpers and young leaders from all the schools for the Allstar Skills Festivals. The effort, demonstrations, smiles and enthusiasm shown by the Richmond School young leaders really allowed the participants, young and old, pupils and staff, to fully engage with every station and skill. It was great to see the young players look up to the leaders and follow their instruction and enthusiasm. There have been lots of really positive comments from staff from all the primary schools about the day and, in particular, how the young leaders played a pivotal part – this has to be what Allstars and school partnerships is about."



## FAST AND FURIOUS

### QUICK-STICKS HOCKEY TOURNAMENT

**Seven Year 12 CTEC Sport and Physical Activity students led a fast and furious Year 3 and 4 quick-sticks Hockey tournament.**

Eight teams took part from Barton, Brompton-On-Swale, Middleton Tyas, Michael Syddall, Richmond Methodist and Richmond Trinity Academy Primary Schools.

Twenty-eight games, in a round-robin so everyone played everyone, were played throughout the morning and it was a closely-fought competition, with Brompton-On-Swale and Richmond Methodist equal on 19 points. Richmond Methodist came out top on goal difference with 23 goals scored versus 19.



Congratulations to everyone who took part for demonstrating great team spirit and focus and for having such fun. A huge thank you to our leaders for refereeing the games and helping to organise the event.



## WE NEED BAGS OF YOUR HELP PLEASE!

**We have been shortlisted for a public vote in Tesco's Bags of Help initiative!**

Tesco teamed up with Groundwork, a UK charity, to launch its community - funding scheme which sees grants of £4,000, £2,000 and £1,000 – all raised from the 5p bag levy – awarded to local community projects.

Throughout May and June, we are asking you to please use your Bags of Help votes to support our Sixth Form and Duke of Edinburgh students who will be raising funds to create a Community Garden – where these students will work with and support children with additional physical and emotional needs to create an accessible self-sustaining sensory garden within the grounds of Richmond School.



You can cast your vote in the Tesco store at Catterick Garrison, DL9 3EN, from May, by asking for your blue counter each time you shop. Receiving the grant would be fantastic in helping to provide more opportunities for the children that we support to try something new, develop skills, and participate as valued members of their communities.



Thank you Tesco and Groundworks for approving our application.

## ROXIE'S ARTWORK TAKES PRIDE OF PLACE IN BEDALE COMMUNITY LIBRARY

**Roxie Ventham, a gifted young artist has won Bedale Community Library's inaugural art competition to create a picture of a woodland friend for a secret garden mural in the children's area of the library.**

Roxie's prize was to spend time working with Wendi New, an award-winning muralist, who judged the competition. Wendy has been commissioned to produce a mural for the children's area of the library titled 'The Secret Garden', inspired by the classic children's book of the same name by Frances Hodgson Burnett. Roxie's fox is a key focus of the mural which is painted on a door inside the library and Roxie was able to sign her name against the fox as a permanent reminder of her winning artwork.

Roxie, a Year 7 student, said: "I was overjoyed and couldn't believe I had won! Whilst working with Wendi I wasn't under any pressure to work quickly and took on board the tips she has told me such as how to make paint look fluffy. It was a very exciting opportunity."



Elizabeth Bostock, Library Trustee, commented: "This is the first art competition organised by the library. The competition is part of a series of events to encourage children and young people to come to the Library and get creative. The Library is in its third year as a community-run organisation and both trustees and the many volunteers are committed to making the library a place where all generations are welcome and, in particular, a place where there are events and activities throughout the year."

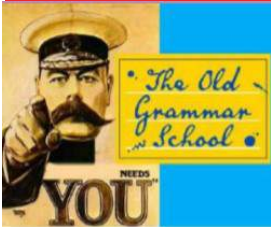
Karen Barber, Roxie's Art Teacher said: "In the short time that Roxie has been at Richmond School she has shown a great flare and enthusiasm for Art. I am so pleased to see that Roxie is taking part in competitions in the community and this has resulted in a fantastic piece of work that can be enjoyed by everyone who visits Bedale Community Library. What a wonderful achievement."

# IN THE COMMUNITY

## STUDENTS SHARE THEIR VISION FOR RICHMOND IN 2020

Four Year 12 students, Chloe McDowell, Faye McLean, George Veitch and Subin Pariyar, have been invited to take part in 'Vision 2020 Our Town' and will present a vision for Richmond in the 2020s based on their own research. They are canvassing the ideas of the young people of Richmond about how life in the town could be improved by 2020. A number of the ideas revolve around the lack of the facilities for them.

As part of their research, the students invited a member of The Old Grammar School (TOGS) project, Mr Berry (an ex-teacher of history at Richmond School) to meet with them to discuss the ways in which their vision had shared goals with those of the TOGS project. Mr Berry updated the students of the TOGS project and discussed the plans for the use of the building. He said that the project team are very concerned that the students of the town should have an input into the building's uses. Mr Berry and the students raised and shared many ideas and these have been passed on to the project leaders, to form part of the bid for National Lottery Heritage Funding. It is hoped the students will continue to contribute to discussions about what will be an important community asset, meeting the needs of a wide range of community uses. We look forward to reporting on the results of their presentation in the next newsletter.



## PANATHLON CHALLENGE FOSTERS FUN, FRIENDSHIP AND A FANTASTIC TEAM SPIRIT

A mini-paralympics, for secondary students with special needs, fostered fun, friendship and a fantastic team spirit for everyone involved. Now in their fifth year as hosts of the Panathlon Challenges staff and students were delighted to welcome three teams from Mowbray School, in Bedale, and Spring Hill School, in Ripon.

A team of 18 Year 12 and 13 young leaders were instrumental in the smooth running of the activities, supporting event organiser and leader Val French, on behalf of the North Yorkshire Inclusive Sports Partnership. Panathlon's ethos has a focus on fair play and friendship and the initiative is a valuable tool to develop interaction and confidence through sport. The young leaders demonstrated great personal skills and self-assurance, working closely with the participants to help them with the various sports, including boccia, table cricket, polybat and kurling, as well as field athletics, such as slalom and precision bean bag throwing. Being age-appropriate role models the visiting students were comfortable in their company and really engaged with the young leaders.

The competition was incredibly close, but it was Spring Hill School who came out on top and will continue to the County round in July and potentially to the National final later in the year.

Lydney Carruthers, School Games Organiser and PE teacher, said "The Sixth Form CTEC sport leaders led the second Panathlon disability sport event with maturity and skill. The leaders worked with primary-school age pupils back in November whereas this time the focus was on leading secondary-school-age pupils. This event challenges our leaders and makes them think about inclusion. How can they make sure that every child attending can access their sporting event and have fun whilst doing so? They were creative in their ideas and confident in their delivery, resulting in yet another fantastic event." [www.panathlon.com](http://www.panathlon.com)





## MORE AMAZING RESULTS FOR BEN AS HE STEPS UP TO UNDER 16s

Ben Partridge is continuing his cycling success as he steps up to the Under 16 races, where the field gets much stronger and races are longer and faster.

He recently competed in his 1<sup>st</sup> national race in South Wales, coming second in the first event, a 1.4km time trial. This was an amazing result. The second event was a 1-hour race, with 90 riders. With an average speed of over 27mph, Ben managed to sprint home in 5<sup>th</sup> place, meaning he held his 2<sup>nd</sup> place overall on general classification.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> and final event was a 1 hour 30 minute race. During the warm up someone accidentally put their foot through Ben's front wheel but he managed to get a spare on for the race. It was a very long and hard race for Ben, given the time, distance and speed, but he held onto the Peloton. In the last lap he was involved in a crash, but managed to finish. Cycling rules state that if there is a crash in the final stages, those riders involved are given the same time as the finishing group, meaning Ben only dropped one place to finish his first event in third place. Well done Ben, please keep sending the updates through.



## NETBALL PLAYERS SHOW GREAT DETERMINATION

Richmond School took two teams of Year 7 pupils to the recent Hambleton and Richmondshire Area Netball Rally in Thirsk.

The girls played with great determination and an excellent attitude. There were eight teams present and we achieved 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> place overall. However, the team achieving 4<sup>th</sup> place only narrowly missed out on 3<sup>rd</sup> as it was a very closely-fought competition.



## EQUESTRIAN TEAM QUALIFY FOR COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS AND HICKSTEAD ELITE

The Equestrian team achieved great results at the recent NSEA County Championship Qualifier hosted at Northallerton Equestrian Centre, qualifying for the County Championships and the Hickstead Elite competition later this year.

Bena Slack (Year 9), Imogen Thornton (Year 13), Laura Mathias (Year 10) and Cassie Ramsay (Year 11) qualified for the 1m team. Bena also finished first for North Yorkshire, out of 18 individuals, so qualifies as an individual for the championships, as well as being part of the team.

Kirstie Thornton, Equestrian Team Manager, comments: "We always have a fantastic team spirit and the students are great and always support each other, even when things don't go to plan. This is our second year representing North Yorkshire at the championships so I am delighted for them all as they really love this event."

The Equestrian team are busy with events throughout April and May and could not take on so many commitments without the unfaltering support of their parents. The County Championships will take place at Bury Farm, Leighton Buzzard, over the Easter weekend, followed by the Hickstead Elite event in August.



## A HAT-TRICK OF GOLDS FOR JACOB

Congratulations to Jacob Wharton, In Year 7, who has scooped a hat-trick of gold medals, plus a bronze, in a recent swimming competition. He has also qualified for the 50m breaststroke in the Yorkshire County Championships.

This is great news, made even more fabulous by the fact that Jacob has had a difficult year and at one point wanted to give up after four years of training and commitment. However he moved swimming clubs, built up his confidence and his results have been remarkable. Well done Jacob.



## GREAT RESULTS IN ENGLISH SCHOOLS CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS

Congratulations to the following students who qualified and ran in the English Schools Cross Country Championships on 16th March at Temple Newsam Park, Leeds - Matty Cole (289th out of 343 runners), Charlie Stephenson (103rd out of 331), Rachael Smith (192nd out of 316), Jake Stephenson (112th out of 309) and Matthew Lambert (250th out of 309).

Runners from all 46 counties in England took part and the competition was intense. The weather conditions were horrendous and they all did extremely well, demonstrating real resilience.



## SCHOOL SKI TRIP: GREAT SKIING, WEATHER AND APRÈS SKI!

The Richmond School Ski Trip set off in half-term with 40 students from Years 8 to 10, visiting Les Menuires, in the French Alps, which is a great resort for school groups and all-ability skiers. Over the week the weather was excellent, with temperatures of 16 degrees and bright blue skies, allowing all pupils to progress their skills to ski down blue and red slopes by the end of the week.

The après ski was a highlight, as always, with some big crashes whilst bum boarding, some very competitive swimming races and a lot of laughs taking part in the winter games. Thank you to all the pupils whose behaviour and attitude were exemplary throughout the week. We hope you enjoyed the experience. Also, a big thank you to Mr Westgate, Mrs Wardle, Mrs Offord and Miss Millman for their great company, expertise and support which were very much appreciated.





## LUKE'S LEADING THE BRITISH JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP

Following our report in the February newsletter, we are delighted to hear that Luke Constantine has started the year in pole position! Luke competed in his first race of the 2019 season at round 1 of the British Junior Rallycross Championship at Silverstone.

During free practice in the morning, Luke got off to a great start setting the fastest time and being very happy with the set-up of the car. However, in heat 1 he got caught up in an incident on the first corner. Whilst it didn't cause any damage to his car, he dropped time allowing another driver to take a commanding lead. Luke managed to close down and came a close 2nd in heat 2 and, grabbing the lead early on, he came 1<sup>st</sup> in heat 3, taking the winner's flag first meaning he also achieved pole position for the all-important final. Luke's plan was to get away first but his car bogged down off the start meaning he was lying 3rd into the first corner. After a brilliant drive, and not giving up, Luke passed his competitors and took the victory, by the closest of margins on the dash to the finish line by 0.038s.

He is now leading the championship after round 1 and he is concentrating on the next round at Lydden Hill on Easter Monday, where he is hoping to extend his lead at this famous track which is renowned for being a fast circuit.



### PERFORMANCE OF THE SEASON FOR U18s

The U18s produced the performance of the season to beat Queen Ethelburga's College 5-0 to qualify for the county cup final. Richmond went ahead early in the game as captain, Sean Thompson, headed home from Gus Glass' corner. Quickly after Uchenna Anyadiiegwu made it 2-0 converting a close-range effort.

In the second half, Richmond continued to dominate and soon after the restart Gus Glass made it 3-0 from the penalty spot after Nathan Simpson was brought down in the box. Josh Coburn then made it 4-0 scoring a well-worked goal and then Gus Glass scored again to make the final score 5-0. An all-round top performance from the squad who will play Scarborough Sixth Form in the final.



### U13 TEAM STORM THROUGH TO SEMI-FINAL OF COUNTY CUP

Richmond U13s qualified for the North Yorkshire County cup semi final with a huge 12-1 victory versus Norton College. Captain Finn Tulip opened the scoring and then completed his hat-trick in the second half. Preston Gredziak also completed his hat-trick late in the game after scoring two from corners.

Other scorers in the game were Campbell Finlay, Jacob Dunn, Ollie Wright, and Jake Percival who grabbed a brace before Frazer Proudlock scored the goal of the game, finishing in the top corner from 25 yards.



# ACADEMIC

## CAREERS' EVENT: HOW TO DO WELL IN A COMPETITIVE SELECTION PROCESS

The recent "Meet the Employer" event was held by the Areté Learning Trust, in partnership with NYBEP and a number of local businesses.



Sixth form students from both Richmond and Stokesley Schools attended, and business leaders came from Network Rail, Analox, The City Secret and Centre Barks. Liz Mannion, Careers Leader, said: "We have always offered mock interviews to students applying for apprenticeships and we have noticed the trend for applicants to be asked to take part in increasingly-complex selection processes such as online assessments, situational judgement tests and multiple mini-interviews. This event was designed to help students cope well with each part of the assessment process and equip them with the skills to do well in the future."

Thank you to all the businesses who took time out to support students at this inspiring event.

## EPQ STUDENTS GAIN VALUABLE RESEARCH SKILLS

**As part of their Extended Project Qualification (EPQ), a group of Year 12 students visited Durham University Library. The students engaged very well in a seminar style session with a member of the university's Academic Skills team.**

The talk focused on research, analysis, referencing and bibliographies, tailored specifically to the EPQ and gave guidance about how to use the university library catalogue. The students were shown how to locate resources and use the impressive library, which is spread over a number of floors. The students were confident and pro-active, not daunted by the busy library at all and sourced resources that would help with their individual EPQ titles. They scanned resources to enable them to continue working at home and made notes of the names of experts from the University that they could contact for further discussion with regards to their chosen topic. The students enjoyed this visit and gained many new skills and they can now return to use the library to continue their research at any point. The students were an absolute credit to the Sixth Form.





## STARRING ROLES IN THE GOETHE INSTITUT PASCH FILM

Film maker, Anna Bianco, recently visited the school and spent the day filming for a documentary she was making on behalf of the Goethe Institut, about the Pasch Schools in England.

As the newest Partner School, Mrs Potter and Miss Dutton, Assistant Lead Teacher Modern Foreign Languages, were interviewed about what our hopes in being part of the Pasch network are.



Four of our GCSE students, Max Collins, Caitlin Braidley, Adam Dixon and Jack Galpin, who all took part in the school visit to see the German rapper Chefket in Middlesbrough, earlier this year, performed a sketch on the topic of music. This included a rap, created by Jack, which was partly translated into German.

The students really enjoyed working with Anna and she praised them on their creativity and enthusiasm which definitely come through in the film. Please do take a look, the Richmond School footage starts around 51 minutes in to the film.



## BIG BANG EVENT IS A HIT WITH STUDENTS

On the 15<sup>th</sup> March, Miss Weir, Mrs Snape and Mrs Fawcett took 64 Year 7 to 9s to the NEC in Birmingham for the Big Bang UK Young Scientists and Engineers Fair. The event is the largest celebration of STEM for young people with schools attending from across the UK. The students had the chance to try out over 100 hands-on activities, see dozens of mind-boggling shows, hear from inspiring engineers and scientists from some of the UK's biggest companies and find out about the opportunities available in STEM. Ussap Thapa commented: "It taught us a lot of things and what careers you can go in to using science."



It was a busy, interactive day. One minute you could be using the equipment to monitor the health of an unborn baby, the next minute using augmented reality headsets to see how engineers visualise designs before they are manufactured to code breaking with GCHQ. With such a wide variety of STEM sectors represented, there was something for everyone. Jenish Gurung said: "Amazing! We used Minecraft to make a coral reef preserve".



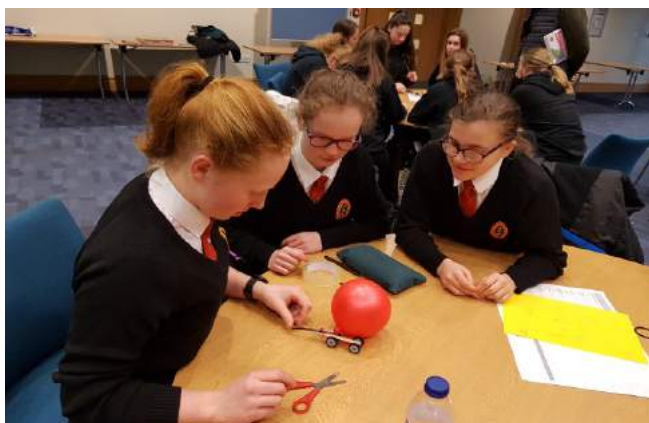


## A MINT VISIT TO NEWCASTLE UNIVERSITY CAREERS' EVENT

On 11th March, a group of 10 girls visited Newcastle University's STEM MINT (Motivating, Inspiring and Nurturing Talent) day.

Students were given the opportunity to network with women in industry including a Senior Software Developer and a Royal Navy Engineer, to see the vast possibilities in STEM careers. This was followed by two interactive STEM taster sessions on Animal Science and Civil Engineering, rounding up with a 'Design and make a Race Car' challenge.

Many of the girls are motivated to study a STEM subject at university and pursue a career in STEM. Year 9 student Malana Culter said: "It was a really good day and I enjoyed all of the learning."



## YEAR 10S INVESTIGATE HOUSING PATTERNS ACROSS YORK

In March, 104 Year 10 Geographers spent the day investigating how the city of York has developed over the last 1,000 years; analysing how its housing patterns mimic the Burgess model of land use.

Students collected a range of data, including housing types, environmental quality, traffic and pedestrian counts. The results were then analysed and it was discovered that the York's land use is not as expected - its historical significance and links to the chocolate industry have seen a somewhat sporadic pattern of urban development.

The students were an absolutely fantastic representation of the school and are all looking forward to the next trip to Arkengarthdale in June.



## GETTING READY FOR MEDICAL SCHOOL

Four Year 12 students had the opportunity to visit Hull/York Medical School on the 6th March. They received advice and guidance on preparing a competitive application for Medicine and were able to meet and speak with current medical students about what the course entails.



They were given a guided tour of the university and especially the new purpose-built Medical School.

Also included in the day was experiencing a university-style problem-based learning task and the opportunity to take each other's blood pressure! It was a very informative day.



## A GREAT DAY AT THE ROTARY TECHNOLOGY TOURNAMENT

On 5<sup>th</sup> March, Mr Wilson took four teams of four students to compete in the Rotary Technology Tournament, at 1 Close Support Battalion REME, Catterick Garrison, against a number of other schools within the region.

Students were tasked with designing and making a structure which pulsed the LED in an electrical circuit using an oscillating connection. Every team reported that they had a great day with our Year 9 teams winning 2nd and 3rd places and our Sixth Form team winning 2nd place in their respective age groups.



## ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING

It was great to see so many prospective students at our second Sixth Form Open Evening in March. It was a good opportunity for them to meet staff and current Sixth Formers. There were talks throughout the evening including: Careers in Engineering by Cummins, Applying for Competitive Universities and Courses by York University, Studying for an EPQ and Careers Support at the College.

One parent said : "The student ambassadors were amazing: polite, mature, informative and honest. They were a credit to the College."

If you have any questions about applying for our Sixth Form, please get in touch by sending an email to [sajohnson@richmondschool.net](mailto:sajohnson@richmondschool.net)



## LOTTERY AWARD SPARKS LEGACY OF INCLUSIVE SPORTS FOR YES@RICHMOND SCHOOL

YES@Richmond School is delighted to announce funding of £9,992 from the National Lottery Awards for All's 'Big Lottery Fund', to support a series of inclusive community sport opportunities for young people with Development Coordination Disorder (DCD), from across the North Yorkshire, Co Durham and Teesside.

The bid, titled 'Activities for All – A pathway for those with coordination difficulties' was put together by Kath Lawson, Specialist Teacher, and Steffy Cappleman, Marketing Coordinator, who recognised that students with coordination difficulties do not regularly access sporting activities, not because of their difficulties but due to lack of opportunity and provision.

Supported by The Youth Sport Trust, Stage1Cycles from Hawes, Richmond and The Dales Swimming Club, Richmond Leisure Trust, Pilates Teacher Anne Thorogood and Vic Sellers from Aspire Dance, the Yes@RichmondSchool team aim to highlight the importance of the availability of sports activities for all.

Visit [www.yesatrichmondschool.net/Training-Events](http://www.yesatrichmondschool.net/Training-Events) or email [yes@richmondschool.net](mailto:yes@richmondschool.net) to find out more about the courses available from Yes@Richmond School.





## A-LEVEL STUDENTS HONE THEIR MATHEMATICAL SKILLS

Thirty A-level students spent three days honing their mathematical skills whilst on an intensive revision course.



Ms Richardson, Ms Johnson, Mr Lunn, Mr Snape and Mr Millman prepared and delivered sessions at Grinton Lodge in Swaledale, covering the majority of the two-year mathematics A-level course. Students worked together completing assignments, deepening their understanding in preparation for their mathematics exams this summer.



Leslie Richardson, Assistant Headteacher, said: "Staff and students work hard at Grinton and this time, as always, we achieved a great deal. This course strengthens the strong working relationships we have with our students because as well as doing maths together, we also find time to laugh and see a little bit of the beautiful countryside. One of our most influential members of the Mathematics department, Mr Snape, is retiring this year and this was his final Grinton visit after many happy years! I hope we gave him a good send off!"

## TALENTED OLLIE IS SNAPPED UP BY THE BRITISH FILM INSTITUTE

Ollie Lubanski, a budding film animator in Year 12, had a taste of life in the movies when he spent a week working at the prestigious British Film Institute. A passionate graphic designer, Ollie studies A-levels in ICT, Media and Design & Technology and was successful in gaining a highly-sought-after place on the BFI Film Academy week-long Residential Animation and VFX (Visual Effects) Course. He was the only student from across the whole of Yorkshire to take part.

Ollie was instrumental in the making of a fabulous animated film which can be viewed at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=ETBAq9Y5X0E&list=PLqSoxvNTfPjhlmlkKaYvN\\_V\\_xftMOQ-yS&index=9](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ETBAq9Y5X0E&list=PLqSoxvNTfPjhlmlkKaYvN_V_xftMOQ-yS&index=9)





# DIARY DATES

## April

Tuesday 30th School opens

## May

Monday 6th May Day, school closed

Thursday 9th Year 10 Parents' Evening

Friday 24th School closes

## June

Monday 3rd School opens

Friday 21st Year 11 Prom

24th-25th Year 12 Taster Days

Thursday 27th Year 13 Prom

## July

Thursday 4th The Richmond School Theatre Company  
perform The Roses of Eyam, Georgian Theatre

Saturday 6th Jazz Band performing with the Military WAGS  
Choir, Georgian Theatre

8th-10th Year 6 Induction Days

Thursday 11th Richmond School's Got Talent

Friday 19th School closes, last day of term

## September

Wednesday 4th School opens

Thursday 12th Presentation Evening

# HALF-TERM HIGHLIGHTS

It's been a busy half-term, with so many exciting events and celebrations.  
Here's a snapshot for you to enjoy.

Jenna Potter, Headteacher

