

**Welcome to our latest newsletter.** So many students have really excelled themselves over the past half-term in so many different ways. Each week we announce the winner of the Headteacher's Values Award and it is an absolute joy to spend time each Friday chatting to the winner about his/her studies - definitely the highlight of my week! Students have been nominated for all kinds of fantastic things - excellence in Art and Modern Foreign Languages, resilience in English and Maths, supporting other students without question, learning new skills such as sign language and demonstrating real independence by completing significant amounts of high-quality revision.

On the sporting front, we have also enjoyed seeing some of our elite sportsmen and women excelling. Josh Coburn, in Year 11, has just signed up for a two-year scholarship with Middlesbrough Football Club, Alana Hodgson, in Year 12, and Grace Stones, in Year 11, have qualified for the Irish Dancing World Championships and elite-level rallycross driver Luke Constantine, in Year 10, was recently crowned the British Trials and Rally Drivers Clubmans Rallycross Champion, the youngest ever to receive this award.

I am delighted to share with parents that we have received two significant accolades as a school. Firstly, we have been selected to be a partner school with the Goethe Institut, due to our commitment to and success in German, and we have also become an NCS (National Citizen Service) gold champion school, following outstanding work by Assistant Headteacher Sandra Johnson.

I wish you all a really enjoyable half-term holiday.

Best wishes

Jenna Potter  
Headteacher

## A BEACON FOR GERMAN CULTURE

In recognition of our commitment to German language and culture, Richmond School and Sixth Form College join only seven other schools nationwide to be awarded partner school status with the prestigious Goethe Institut. Please turn to page 12 for the full report.



## A TRIO OF OFFERS

There is plenty to shout about in the Dance Department this month, with two shows in March and three students celebrating offers at Dance School. Find out more on page 2.



## JOSH'S GREAT STRIKE

A year 11 student has struck a scholarship with Middlebrough Football Club. The full story is on page 7.



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# PERFORMING ARTS

## 19TH & 25TH MARCH: SAVE THE DATES FOR A DOUBLE DANCE EXTRAVANGZA!

The Dance department have two exciting and unmissable events in a few weeks' time. On 19<sup>th</sup> March, our extra-curricular youth dance company, Evolution, are presenting an evening at the Oscars, which will include a variety of performances inspired by Oscar-winning movies. On 25<sup>th</sup> March, The Sixth Form Dance department's annual Evening of Dance will be hosted at the Georgian Theatre and will include a repertoire of works from our A-level and GCSE Dance students, in the build-up to their final practical examinations.

The Evolution show, on 19<sup>th</sup> March, will be a fabulous showcase of dance. From the drama and intensity of 'The Pirates of the Caribbean', to the energy and vivacity of 'Bugsy Malone', there is a performance to suit everyone and the evening promises to be entertaining and full of energy from our 60+ company of dancers. Details for the show and ticket information will be made available closer to the time of the event.

For our Year 13 dancers, the Evening of Dance at the Georgian Theatre on 25<sup>th</sup> March, will be their 'swansong' before leaving Richmond Sixth Form to undertake further studies at University or Conservatoires - the majority of the students are continuing with Dance training. The evening showcases the creativity, professionalism and passion of our graduating dancers and promises to be a performance to remember. Tickets are available to purchase directly from the Georgian Theatre Box Office at [www.georgiantheatreroyal.co.uk](http://www.georgiantheatreroyal.co.uk) and will be £7 each.



### A TRIO OF OFFERS FOR TALENTED YEAR 13 DANCE STUDENTS

Three talented Year 13 Dance students have recently received unconditional offers to attend their top choice University in September 2019 after auditioning for the undergraduate programme in recent months. Alicia Booth, Brandon Sutherland-Parker and Joe Grisdale are all passionate about dance and keen to pursue their training at higher education/conservatoires later this year. And the success doesn't stop there.

All three students have received offers from other universities alongside their top choice and Brandon has been successful in being offered a place at two of the UK's leading conservatoires; The Northern School of Contemporary Dance School and Renaissance Arts, which is a huge achievement in itself.

With three other Year 13 students still to audition later this month, this group of graduating dancers are set to be going places in the world of dance.





# PERFORMING ARTS

## DRAMA DELIGHT—THE ROSES OF EYAM ON THURSDAY 4TH JULY

Richmond School's extra-curricular drama club has had a rebrand. It is now known as '**Richmond School Theatre Company**' and the group is back with the same reputation for high-quality, gripping performances. After a successful year, in 2018, with work including: 'Joseph and his Technicolor Dreamcoat' and collaborating with English Heritage and The Military WAGS Choir, the company are looking forward to an unforgettable end-of-year performance.

This year they are bringing the plague to the Georgian Theatre Royal with a modern take on Don Taylor's 'The Roses of Eyam'. The show has just been cast with a strong team of more than 40 students from Years 7 to 10. This production promises to be every bit as exciting as the last. So please book the date in your diary, **Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> July at 7pm**. Tickets are £7 and are available from the Georgian Theatre Royal.

## DANCERS WITH THE WORLD AT THEIR FEET

Alana Hodgson and Grace Stones, Year 12 and 11 students, have danced their way to the top to qualify for the Irish Dancing World Championships in North Carolina. They have both danced since they were five years old, and from this early age committed to training three times per week, quickly moving up the ranks in the Irish Dancing competitive world.

Irish Dancing is a very physical sport and demands great stamina, balance, poise and grace. It is characterised by a controlled upper body, straight arms and precise movements of the feet.

Danni Fox, Lead Teacher of Dance, comments: "Alana and Grace are great assets to our Dance department and consistently show commitment, discipline and complete professionalism in their dance training."



## EXCITING MUSIC EVENTS IN MARCH AND MORE TO BE REVEALED AT EASTER!

The Music Department have some exciting events coming up in March. The choir are rehearsing for their performance with Collabro, widely regarded as the world's number 1 musical theatre boy band and winners of 2014 Britain's Got Talent. The students will join Collabro on stage at The Sage, Gateshead, on Monday 4th March. Meanwhile, the Concert Band, Jazz Band and Orchestra are getting ready to compete in the Music for Youth Festival on Saturday 30th March. This is an annual event, hosted at St. Aidan's School, Harrogate. We wish all our students the very best of luck.

Our Jazz Band received a wonderful reception when they entertained the audience and guests when the School was awarded 'Partner School Status' by the Goethe Institut (please turn to page 12 for more on this prestigious award). They played a selection of music, including the traditional Schnee Waltz, which involved some great audience participation!



## 19TH MAY - SAVE THE DATE FOR IZZY'S COMMUNITY FUN RUN



A combined love of running and her community has inspired Izzy Walton, Year 12, to organise a 5k fun run to support the work of the The Old Grammar School/ Lower School project in Richmond. Izzy came up

with her idea following an assembly about the plans for re-developing and breathing new life into the building, presented by Sally Byrom, Lead Learning Manager.

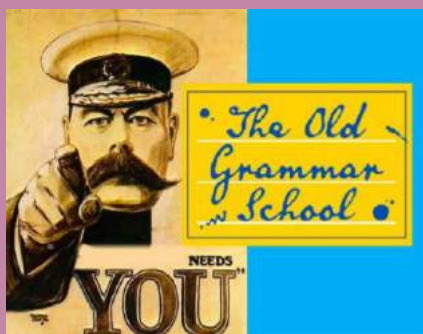
Izzy took it upon herself to pursue her plans and, following meetings with representatives from the Richmondshire Building Preservation Trust (RBPT - the organisation behind the project), she is now forging ahead with the organisation of the event.

Izzy comments: "I really enjoy exercise and love running and having heard how much the project needs to raise to be viable, I wanted to do something to help. I think 5k is just the right distance to attract any age group and I hope it will encourage whole families to take part."

Izzy has already recruited her friends to be involved, with Sixth Form CTEC students kindly volunteering to act as mentors and volunteers on the day.

Sally Byrom adds: "I have been so impressed by Izzy's maturity and determination to get this event off the ground. She has pushed herself outside her comfort zone, liaising with the RBPT by email and in person, with only minimal support from me in the background."

More details will follow in the coming weeks, but for now, please save the date and help to make this a great success for Izzy. This is an event that will not only raise vital funds for The Old Grammar School project but will also encourage the community to get fit and enjoy a wonderful time running in some of the most beautiful countryside in North Yorkshire.



## YOUNG CYCLING CHAMPIONS HONOURED

Richmond Cycling Club has awarded its prestigious Chairman's award to three Richmond School cyclists, who set themselves demanding challenges and, in doing so, raised over £4,800 for the Butterwick Hospice.

Each year, Richmond Cycling Club hosts an awards' ceremony. The Chairman's Award is awarded at the discretion of the Chairman to a club member, or members, who have done something very special over the last year. Gordon Love, Chairman, had no hesitation in awarding the accolade to brothers Andrew and James Lunn and their friend Marcus Weston, who demonstrated bravery, compassion and sheer determination to do something incredibly special for their community.



Andrew and James cycled 300 miles, from Richmond Surrey to Richmond North Yorkshire in just five days. Meanwhile, Marcus, who suffers with Cardio Facio Cutaneous Syndrome, cycled 30 miles, one each day, on his adapted tricycle.

Comments Gordon Love, Chairman of Richmond Cycling Club: "Andrew and James are regular attendees of our time trials, so we know them quite well. They cycled from Richmond to Richmond, which is a very impressive achievement for two youngsters. We also learnt of their friend Marcus' fantastic achievement to cycle 30 miles on his adapted tricycle. Together, they raised a considerable amount of money for the Butterwick Hospice. Myself and the other club members were inspired by their collective achievement and so, for the first time, the award has gone to junior members of the club."

For further information about the boys' achievement visit <https://tinyurl.com/yae9gt2b> or to find out more about Richmond Cycling Club follow <https://www.britishcycling.org.uk/club/profile/2058/richmond-cycling-club>



# IN THE COMMUNITY

## KATE IS PREPARED FOR SCOUT JAMBOREE

Since being selected for the 24th World Scout Jamboree in November 2017, I was left with the daunting task of fundraising £3,995 to take me to the adventure of a lifetime in West Virginia, USA. With help from my family, my unit, my teachers and the organisations that gave generous donations, I reached this grand total 8th February 2019.

This long task included a 164ft sponsored abseil off Middlesbrough's Transporter Bridge, organising raffles, selling refreshments at the school's dance showcase, multiple supermarket bag packs and donations from local businesses, not forgetting an abundance of coffee mornings at Richmond Town Hall.

I hadn't realised that members of the Richmond Meet committee attended. I had many conversations with them expressing my excitement for the Jamboree and how lucky I had felt being selected to represent the United Kingdom. After one of my coffee mornings, one of the master at arms approached me and told me to apply to the Meet committee. They kindly donated



£200 towards my adventure, which has now completed my fundraising. I'd like to thank everyone who has supported me throughout the journey and hope to tell everyone about my adventure in July.

Kate Biggins, Year 11 student

(Harriet Rye and Sasha Cole, Year 11 students, have also achieved places at the 2019 World Scout Jamboree. We reported on their fundraising activities in the October newsletter. We are sure these three adventurous scouts will have a fantastic time.)

## WALUIGI FANCY DRESS RAISES £200 FOR NHS CHARITIES

Jack Galpin, Year 10 student, rallied his friends to dress up as Waluigi for the day and, in doing so, their bucket collections raised over £200 for NHS charities. Well done to everyone involved.



## NON-UNIFORM DAY RAISES OVER £900 FOR WORTHY CAUSES

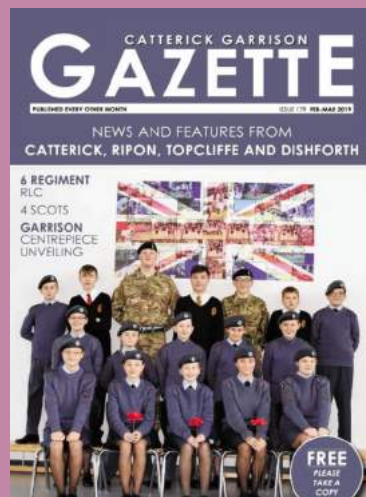
We are delighted to report that over £900 was raised at the non-uniform day. Organised by the School Council, the donations will be split equally between four charities. These include: Macmillan Cancer Support, North Air Ambulance, Garget House (Day Support Centre in Richmond for people diagnosed with various forms of dementia) and Wetheriggs.

Wetheriggs is an animal rescue centre, based at Greta Bridge near Barnard Castle, who are great supporters of the school's work experience programme, welcoming 15 of our students on placements in 2018. Sadly, Wetheriggs were victims of vandalism last year and so we are pleased to help contribute to their fundraising campaign for CCTV cameras.



## RICHMOND REMEMBERED

We are delighted to see our students on the front cover of the Feb/Mar Garrison Gazette. Find out more at <http://www.catterick-garrison.com>



## GREAT RESULTS FOR RICHMOND SCHOOL HARRIERS

Richmond School Harriers recently competed at the North Yorkshire Cross Country Championships at Caedmon College, Whitby, with some great results. Matty Cole (Y9), Charlie Stephenson (Y10), Rachael Smith (Y13) and Jake Stephenson (Y13) were selected to represent North Yorkshire, initially at the North East Inter Counties event in South Shields and also at the English Schools' Cross Country Championships in Leeds. Holly McCowie (Y8), Joe Reeve (Y9), Emily Francis (Y10), Dan Francis (Y10), Dylan Soley (Y12) and Matthew Lambert (Y12) were also selected to represent the county in South Shields. Congratulations to them all.



## SUCCESS FOR YEAR 7 AND 8 NETBALL TEAMS

There's success all round for the Year 7 and 8 netball teams. The Year 7 girls recently competed against SFX School and Barnard Castle School. We have a large number of girls training every week, to a very high standard, and therefore fielded two teams for each fixture. Both teams won against SFX, displaying great teamwork despite having to contend with near-freezing conditions. The second fixture, against Barnard Castle, saw us win one game and lose one game. Yet again, the girls demonstrated a great attitude throughout their games and have made great progress as a team.

The Year 8 Netball team also played SFX School and convincingly won 9-1. This served as a great warm up match for their Area tournament. On this day they played all of the schools in the area and achieved 3<sup>rd</sup> place. The girls work well as a team, have fun and encourage each other at all times.



## YEAR 7 GIRLS ARE AREA FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS



Our Year 7 team joined five other schools for the annual indoor five-a-side area football tournament at Northallerton Leisure Centre. The girls worked extremely hard demonstrating their skills and determination throughout the tournament. They played their first three games on the bounce with no breaks and secured one win and two draws. The last two games saw Richmond face Bedale and Northallerton. Richmond won the game against Bedale comfortably with some commendable goals from Lily Millar and Evie Gill, resulting in a 7-1 Victory. The deciding game was against previous winners Northallerton. The girls were 2-0 up at half time

and tensions were high. The final score was 2-1 making Richmond School the Area Champions. The girls were an absolute credit to Richmond School and with no substitutes they worked themselves to the maximum and had lots of fun.





## AREA GYMASTICS COMPETITION

We entered a squad of 10 gymnasts, and this year it was the boys who brought home the silverware. Charlie Rutter won 1<sup>st</sup> in the U13 Novice class and Murray Duncan was 2<sup>nd</sup> in the U13 class. Eleni Oliver was our top girl in the U13 Novice class, placing 11<sup>th</sup> out of 24. Charlotte Morris placed 8<sup>th</sup> out of 15 in the U13 class. Well done everybody, it was a great day.



## U18 FOOTBALL SQUAD QUALIFY COUNTY CUP SEMI-FINAL

The U18 Football squad qualified for the North Yorkshire County cup semi-final with an excellent 4-0 victory against Lady Lumley's School. At half time, Richmond were leading 1-0 through a penalty kick and, although dominating the game, they couldn't score the elusive second goal to give the side breathing space until half way through the second half.

The game was sealed when Ryan Hart tucked away a good finish before Jonny Carr added the fourth, with a brilliantly-struck penalty kick. After a difficult start to the season they now have another cup quarter final in the North Yorkshire League Conference against St Aidan's School before playing Queen Ethelberga's College in the county cup semi-final.



## JOSH STRIKES A SCHOLARSHIP WITH MIDDLESBROUGH

Josh Coburn, Year 11 student, has secured a two-year scholarship with championship team Middlesbrough.

The scholarship kicks off after Josh's GCSEs. Its focus is football and Josh will have the opportunity to do a BTEC course, allowing him to secure enough points to give him the option to further his education at university.



Josh says on his signing with Middlesbrough: "I am very, very happy about being selected by Middlesbrough. I've been following 'The Boro' for some time so it's a dream come true to be part of the under-18 squad. My aim is to be selected as a professional player for the Middlesbrough 1<sup>st</sup> team in 2020."

The scholarship programme will be demanding, daily from 9am until 4pm, with matches each Saturday. Josh presently trains two hours, three nights per week at Rockliffe, with matches every Saturday.

Craig Liddle, Academy Manager Middlesbrough Football Club, concluded: "Since Josh arrived at the Academy he has shown tremendous drive and enthusiasm, matched only by his hard work on and desire to achieve a scholarship. That hard work has now paid off and Josh has been given a tremendous opportunity to develop a potential career as a professional footballer. Josh will continue to play for Richmond School until he leaves, following his GCSEs in the Summer.

Tom Westgate, Josh's PE teacher, who has coached Josh since he was 11 years old, comments: "Josh has been a huge asset to Richmond School and has been excellent in leading the football team over the last five years. He has grown massively as a player, both physically and mentally, over his time here. His confidence and attitude are exemplary and he thoroughly deserves the chance to play at such a high level."





## TEEN RALLYCROSS CHAMPION RACES TO HISTORIC SUCCESS

A teenage rallycross driver is off to a flying start after clocking up four national awards in his first year of driving. A year ago, Luke Constantine, a Year 11 student, had never driven a car. Fast forward twelve months, and he is the youngest British Trials and Rally Drivers' Association (BTRDA) champion in history, astounding the racing fraternity with his exceptional talent and incredible haul of four national championships and a further 23 competition trophies.

Luke, 15, was crowned Clubmans' Rallycross Champion, Star of the Future Winner, Newcomer of the Year and Gold Star Winner at the recent BTRDA awards. As if this wasn't enough, Luke also won all nine Clubman events in 2018.

Luke is following in his family's footsteps, who themselves are no strangers to the world of rallying. Father Mark, uncle Andrew, brother Tom and cousin James are all keen rallycross competitors, so the love of cars is very much in Luke's blood. Luke says: "Twelve months ago, when I first sat behind the wheel, I was planning it to be a learning year, to get used to the tracks and the car. I could never have imagined that I would have achieved so much. However, whilst it has been an awesome year, my plan is to look ahead to the 2019 season. I obviously want to win, but I don't want to get over confident and push the boundaries too far. I will carry on focusing on being the best I can be and hopefully the string of results can continue."

Mark, Luke's Dad, comments: "It has been incredible to watch Luke advance his driving expertise in such a short space of time. Our family are so proud of not only his success, but of his sheer commitment and hard work, and how he puts in every ounce of energy, drive and focus to reach the top in his class. We are so grateful to Luke's sponsors: Victoria Garage Richmond, Teesside Karting, CCF Builders Merchants, Wray Joinery, Constantine Building Services, AVL and Royal Purple who make it possible for Luke to commit to the fortnightly race competitions. We are also really appreciative of our friends, family and Richmond School who have been wonderful in their support of Luke."

Luke was recently the BTRDA's guest of honour at the prestigious Autosports International Show at the NEC, Birmingham. He was invited to show his winning Suzuki Swift 1300 car on the Association's impressive stand and spoke to visitors of his plans for self-development in his second year of driving. He rubbed shoulders with racing legends such as McLaren's Lando Norris and Carlos Sainz, but his feet remained firmly on the ground.

Tony Potter, Head of Community Sport, concluded: "It is fantastic that Luke is competing at elite level at such an early age and achieving best-in-class after only one year behind the wheel. He undoubtedly has bags of talent which is supported with his determined and positive attitude, something that always impresses us at school. We wish him well for the 2019 season."





## READING FOR EVERYONE - BE PART OF IT!

Recently formed, the 'literacy leaders' group meet weekly to explore ways of raising the profile of reading with fellow students. They are made up of students from Years 7 to 12 who are passionate about reading and improving student skills in this field. Philippa Kind, in Year 7, felt their aim was to "talk and share their passion with other like-minded students as well as widen the opportunity for others to explore reading". They are currently supporting 'blind date with a book', encouraging readers to try something new and read outside their usual boundaries. This has seen over 70 titles lent out. The group are also collecting staff-reading recommendations to share with students. This work is coupled with the School focus on Language for Learning. The intention is to widen student exposure to vocabulary that will directly support their progress. To enhance the social aspect of the literacy leaders group the members take it in turn to bring in delicious home-baked cakes.



Reading plays an important role in this. Students in Years 7 to 10 spend time each week sharing a novel in tutor time and Year 7 and 8 students are being set clear reading homework across the curriculum. Both have been well received by students. Please encourage and share reading at home to support this; it doesn't have to be focused on novels and can include magazines as well as general discussion on what the students are currently reading.

## Happy reading

### SENECA - MAKING STUDYING FUN

All students and teachers now have free access to Seneca - a revision and homework platform making studying more fun. Seneca is an interactive way to learn official course content.

Their web app covers 150+ exam board specific courses condensing what students need to know for their exams. The software is able to identify gaps in learning. For instance, when you get a question wrong, the platform will repeat the topic in different formats and their smart algorithm has proved to make students remember topics 2x faster. Seneca is totally free for students, teacher and parents. You can sign up via [senecalearning.com](https://www.senecalearning.com)



## A DAY AT SAGE UK FOR IT STUDENTS



Year 12 IT students visited Sage UK, a global software company based in Newcastle-upon-Tyne. Students had the opportunity to meet with a range of staff and ask questions about careers within the organisation, as well as participating in activities that had specifically been created for our students linking directly to our Cambridge Technical IT course.

This was a fantastic trip and many of the students were keen to find out more about the careers and job prospects with Sage, including Ethical Hacking and Product Management. Feedback from the students was really positive, with Rhys Davenport saying: "I liked it when the employees talked about their jobs and the different roles because of it gave us an idea of the sort of jobs available."

## THE BRILLIANT CLUB

On Wednesday 16th January eight Year 12 students travelled to Leeds University for the launch of the Brilliant Club Scholars Programme. They will be working with a PhD student from Lancaster University on a STEM project "Nuclear energy: solution to future energy needs?"

They will receive university-style tutorials in College and submit a final assignment in May. It is a great opportunity to experience studying at this level and will support their applications for Russell Group universities next year.



## TASTING THE BUSINESS OF CHOCOLATE

Year 9 Business Studies students experienced a brilliant taste of business when they visited 'The York Chocolate Story', a new and interactive museum which showcases a detailed account of the history of chocolate in York. Forty-nine students learned about the Quakers and the importance they placed on chocolate for staff wellbeing and well-known, iconic brands, such as Smarties, KitKat and Terry's Chocolate Orange.

Students attended a workshop, where they made and decorated their own chocolates. They went on to identify a target market and develop marketing ideas, supporting the GCSE Business curriculum and promote learning outside the classroom.



## THE MYSTERY AND MASTERY OF PHYSICS

Year 12 and 13 students attended the Durham University Physics Christmas Lecture. This year, Professor Charles S. Adams gave a lecture entitled 'The mystery and mastery of photons' where he demonstrated some of the mysterious properties of photons and considered what might be possible if we can control them.

Professor Adams, who won the Thompson Medal and Prize from the Institute of Physics in 2014, is a pioneer in the field of Rydberg Quantum Optics. He was engaging and enthusiastic in his presentation which was enjoyed by all the students in attendance.





## ADHD TRAINING MARKS CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK

To mark Children's Mental Health week, Michelle Beckett, CEO and founder of the registered charity ADHD Action, was the guest speaker for teachers and support staff across the North East. The training event was organised and hosted by Yes@Richmond School, innovative providers of educational support and training in the region. The training session was packed to capacity with 30 delegates, representing 22 schools and including 4 parents.

Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) affects many children and their families and the aim of ADHD Action is to ensure those affected are understood and fully supported. ADHD Action was founded by Michelle, after she was finally diagnosed with ADHD aged 44, a condition she has struggled with since childhood. The diagnosis and subsequent treatment with medication changed her life. After experiencing first-hand, the impact of the stigma, the lack of awareness and patchy or non-existent provision available, Michelle has campaigned tirelessly, offering awareness training, consultancy and advocacy on behalf of ADHD adults and children in the UK.

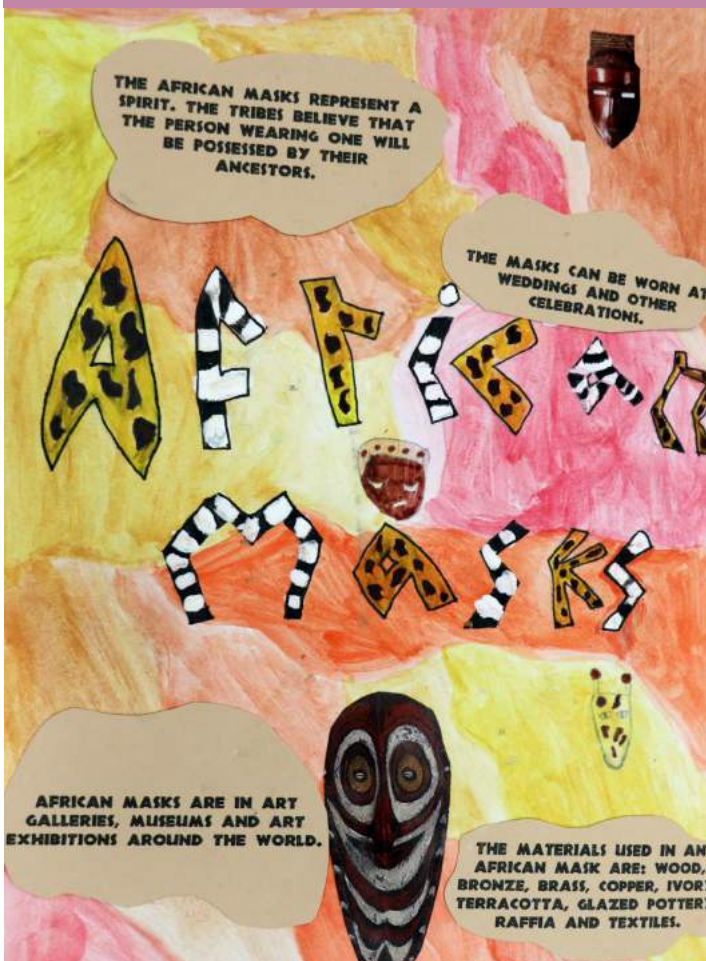
Comments Kath Lawson, Specialist Teacher at Yes@Richmond School: "Michelle delivered an exceptional training course and, without exception, the feedback from delegates was unanimously positive. ADHD is an often misunderstood condition and it's important that it continues to be given greater awareness across the media and in education. Children's Mental Health Week was a fitting opportunity to raise the profile of ADHD Action and the fantastic work this charity does supporting families affected by ADHD."

Yes@Richmond School offer a wide range of training opportunities throughout the year. They have developed a reputation as the go-to provider for courses in the area specialising in understanding learning differences to provide support for pupils, parents and schools. For further information on the timetable of courses scheduled for 2019 please visit [www.yesatrichmondschool.net](http://www.yesatrichmondschool.net).



## HEADTEACHER'S VALUES AWARD FOR OLIVIA'S STUNNING ARTWORK

We couldn't resist sharing Olivia Richardson's stunning artwork with you. Incredible talent from a Year 7 student.

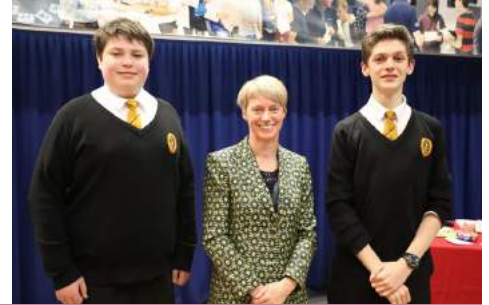


## **RICHMOND SCHOOL BECOMES A BEACON IN THE NORTH FOR GERMAN CULTURE**

In recognition of its commitment to German language and culture, Richmond School and Sixth Form College joins only seven other schools nationwide to be awarded partner school status with the prestigious Goethe Institut. The 'Schools: Partners for the Future' (PASCH) is an initiative of the German Federal Foreign Office, in co-operation with the Goethe Institut. It forms a worldwide network of schools that have a special focus on German and German culture, which lies on widening horizons through multilingualism and a common approach to future problems as an international learning community. We are incredibly proud of this highly-regarded status, becoming a beacon in the North for promotion of German, being the only PASCH school between Liverpool and Scotland.

As part of the official launch, we welcomed esteemed guests from the German Embassy and Goethe Institut to celebrate with language teachers students, governors and trustees. The event was an exciting whistle-stop tour through German culture that captivated the audience who thoroughly enjoyed the wide variety of speeches, films, dances and music. It was not only extremely informative and interesting but was also very entertaining, uplifting and great fun. Students were at the heart of the event, with fabulous entertainment from the concert band, dancers, musical soloists as well as student speeches and sketches. It was a truly-fitting celebration of the official Schools of the Future partnership of the Goethe Institut and Richmond School.

Fiona Dutton, Assistant Lead Teacher for Modern Languages, was instrumental in arranging the event and will be key to the partnership going forward. Fiona says: "The event was a real celebration of German at Richmond School. I was extremely proud of all our students who showcased a wealth of talent. As one of only eight schools in the country, we are extremely privileged to have been invited to join the PASCH network which will give our students access to a global learning platform, as well as providing them with opportunities to further their German through national and international projects and scholarships."



## **INSPIRING TEACHER CHAMPIONS GOLD AWARD FOR RICHMOND SCHOOL**

The work of an inspiring teacher has led Richmond School to be singled out in the area and honoured as a Gold Champion School for its exceptional engagement and commitment to working alongside the National Citizen Service (NCS). Sandra Johnson, Assistant Headteacher and Leader of Transition, spearheads the NCS programme, wholly embracing its ethos and promoting the scheme to Year 11 students. Gold championship status is rarely awarded and we are the only school in Richmondshire and Hambleton to be honoured with the accolade and one of only a few across the whole of North Yorkshire. NCS is firmly embedded into the school's curriculum and enables students to participate in adventure, skills and social action enterprise and community work, equipping them with important skills for their future careers.

Eleanor Bradley, Year 12 student took part in 2018 and says: "It was a very interesting and valuable experience. I made lots of new friends who I stay in touch with. I learned so many new and useful skills and my confidence has grown as a result of taking part."

Sophie Ritchie, NCS Recruitment Co-ordinator, says: "Richmond School really embraces the benefits of the NCS scheme and are so enthusiastic and proactive. It is the support of Sandra Johnson and the Senior Leadership Team at Richmond that really sets the school apart, they have a fantastic ethos and commitment to developing well-rounded students which works hand in hand with their focus on student achievement in studies and exams. They fully appreciate the package of benefits NCS offers, whilst motivating students to work hard towards their exams, knowing they have such a great and valuable experience to look forward to in the summer."





## BRITISH LIBRARY'S CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER SPEAKS VOLUMES ABOUT CAREER CHOICES

Phil Spence, Chief Operating Officer with the British Library, proved to be an extremely popular guest speaker for the Year 12 students. With a fascinating career history, including directorships in the public and private sectors, Phil talked to the students about the paths he chose since his A-levels at a comprehensive school in Scarborough, sharing insights and words of advice on planning further education and career routes.



Alistair Lunn, Year 12 student led the event. This was a great leadership opportunity for Alistair and he did a brilliant job, posing questions on behalf of his fellow students, ensuring a lively and engaging Q&A session throughout the afternoon.

Comments Phil: "I can remember the underlying anxiety about what I might do when I was this age and I didn't have any career experts or anyone to talk to. I also didn't know what I wanted to do and it's a legitimate position to be in. It's not something the students should be frightened of as opportunities do come along."

Liz Mannion, Careers Leader, organised the event through the charity 'Speakers for Schools', which helps state schools access influential leaders of today, for free, giving students the opportunity to share guidance and expertise on how to progress their career choices. Liz said: "Speakers for Schools" helps our students to aim high with their career aspirations and meet influential leaders, such as Phil Spence. Phil is committed to supporting North Yorkshire students and has offered work experience at The British Library."

Phil talked about his education and the pressure on him to go into a medical career but he decided to study Psychology and pursue a career in Operations and Human Resource Management which led to senior management positions. He explained about his most challenging and enjoyable role which was managing the Scottish Ambulance Service. Phil also shared some really interesting facts and figures about the British Library. For more interesting information about the British Library visit: <https://www.bl.uk/aboutus/quickinfo/facts/>

### FACTS ABOUT THE BRITISH LIBRARY - Did you know:

- They receive a copy of every publication produced in the UK and Ireland
- 3 million new items are added every year
- They house 8 million stamps and other philatelic items
- All this requires over 625 km of shelves, and grows by 12 km every year
- If you see 5 items each day, it would take you over 80,000 years to see the whole of the collection
- Over 16,000 people use the collections each day (on site and online)
- Incredible collections include: The Magna Carta, The Beatles Manuscripts, Leonard da Vinci's Notebook.

## PROFESSOR SARAH HAINSWORTH OBE GOES BACK TO SCHOOL

We are delighted that Professor Sarah Hainsworth OBE FREng will be our guest speaker for Year 9,10, 12 and 13 students on 27<sup>th</sup> September. Professor Hainsworth has recently been appointed an Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) in the New Year 2019 Honours List for her services to engineering and forensic science.

Professor Hainsworth has followed a fascinating career path since leaving Richmond School, after her A-levels in 1986. Little did she know then that her work and expertise would see her being key to establishing the manner of King Richard III's death, at the Battle of Bosworth, through analysing wound marks found on his skeleton.

Professor Hainsworth is currently Pro-Vice-Chancellor and Executive Dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Science and a Professor of Materials and Forensic Engineering at Aston University.

A renowned researcher, with an international profile, Professor Hainsworth is a leading forensic science expert on stabbing, tool marks in dismemberment and knife sharpness, providing reports to police forces across the UK. Her research gives an understanding of the factors involved in creating knife wounds and provides a framework for assessing the level of force used in knife crime. Professor Hainsworth has built a reputation for encouraging women into, and advancing their careers in, science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

Professor Hainsworth said of her forthcoming visit to Richmond School: "I enjoyed my time at Richmond School. In particular I remember a group of us winning a BBC Computer for the History and French Departments in a 'Build a Better Future' contest. We built a silver swan out of used drink cups. At the time, the computer was cutting edge but now the phones in our pockets have greater performance than the one that we won!"

"I am really looking forward to seeing how the school has changed and hope that I can inspire current pupils to see how seizing opportunities can lead you to an exciting career and if I can encourage just one pupil to consider a career in Engineering and Applied Science, then my trip will be very worthwhile!"



(Photographs above show the skull of Richard III and his internment)



# DIARY DATES

## March

Monday 4th	School opens
Tuesday 19th	Choir support Collabro at The Sage, Gateshead
Thursday 21st	Evolution Dance Company Show, Richmond School
Monday 25th	Sixth Form Open Evening
Wednesday 27th	Sixth Form Dance Department, Evening of Dance, Georgian Theatre
Saturday 30th	Year 13 A-level Drama graduating show, Georgian Theatre
	Concert Band, Jazz Band and Orchestra in Music for Youth Festival

## April

Thursday 4th	Year 9 Parents' Evening
Friday 12th	School closes
Tuesday 30th	School opens

## May

Monday 6th	May Day, school closed
Thursday 9th	Year 10 Parents' Evening
Sunday 19th	Izzy Walton's 5k fun run in aid of The Old Grammar School/Lower School Project
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
Friday 19th	School closes, last day of term

# HALF-TERM HIGHLIGHTS

As we approach the end of the first half-term of 2019,  
it's lovely to remember some of the highlights

Jenna Potter, Headteacher.

