

# NEWSLETTER

October 2019

**Welcome to our October Newsletter** - As many of us are enjoying the thrilling matches of the Rugby World Cup, Rugby has come to Richmond School in style and it is wonderful to see so many pupils gaining so much from their various experiences of the game. I am delighted to report that we are now part of the RFU's 'All Schools' programme. In a nutshell, this means that we benefit from coaching in school by RFU specialist coaches, we have received new equipment and kit and are supported in establishing links with local clubs.

Girls' rugby is on the up and is being offered as part of our core PE lessons. A girls' rugby team is already taking shape and the review of their first tournament makes for great reading. It is clear that this is a team that is destined for success. Elijah Delaidriti in Year 8, who plays for Catterick Crusaders, has been especially impressive. He won a recent weekly Headteacher's Values Award for his demonstration of the school values through rugby, but was also awarded the North East Rugby League U12 'Player of the Year' by Newcastle Thunder, at an awards' event at Kingston Park Stadium. Elijah is an exceptional sportsman in both senses - he excels on the field but also takes it upon himself to look after and encourage his team members so that everyone improves.

Aside of rugby, there is a genuine sense of purpose among the students. We welcomed a large number of families to our Year 6 and Year 12 Open Evenings recently and across the school students continue to engage very positively with all that is on offer. There is real excitement in the air about our musical - West Side Story - which will take place next summer.

It has been a real privilege to talk to all the Year 12 students in my recent 1:1 interviews and to hear of their plans and ambitions for the future. I look forward to doing the same with the Year 7s, when I speak to them in November.

I wish you all an enjoyable half-term break. Thank you all for your ongoing support.

Best wishes

Jenna Potter  
Headteacher



**Students are celebrated with the prestigious British Citizen Award at the Palace of Westminster - turn to page 5 for further details.**

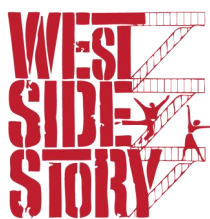


**Staff embrace European Day of Languages - find out more on page 15.**

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Get set to go West!  
Exciting news about our  
2020 production on page 4.



**Richmond School  
& Sixth Form College**

Being the best we can be



Being the best we can be

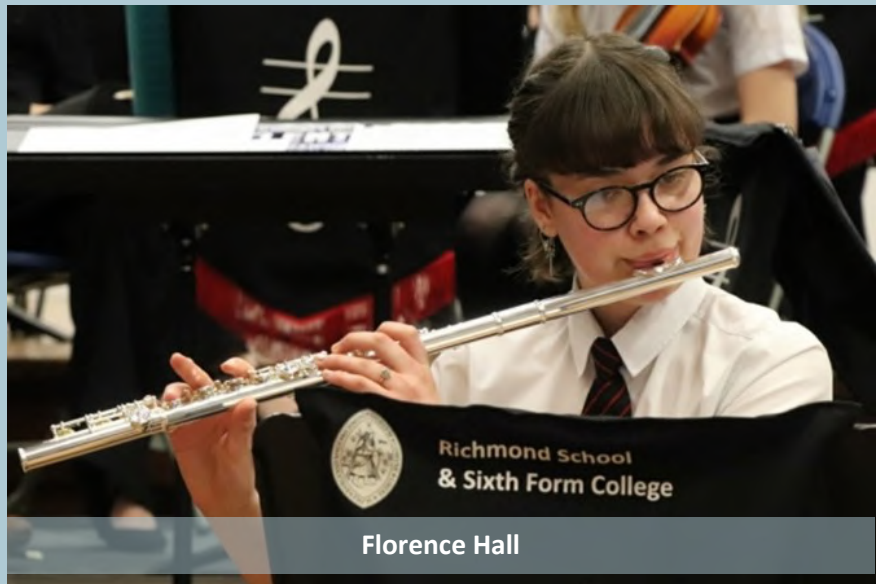
# PERFORMING ARTS

## A MUSICAL CELEBRATION

Two talented Year 11 students are celebrating after achieving coveted places in the Tees Valley Youth Orchestra (TVYO).

Florence Hall and Katie Rawson are looking forward to playing with the only full-size youth orchestra in the North of England and will be rehearsing with them every Friday for three hours and taking part in concerts at various venues and occasions, as well as touring abroad.

This fabulous news comes hot on the heels of Florence performing as a soloist at the Ripon mini-folk festival in the summer holidays, where she sang and accompanied herself on guitar. A keen and talented musician and vocalist, Florence has been learning the flute since she was ten and is working towards her grade 7. She also plays the piccolo.

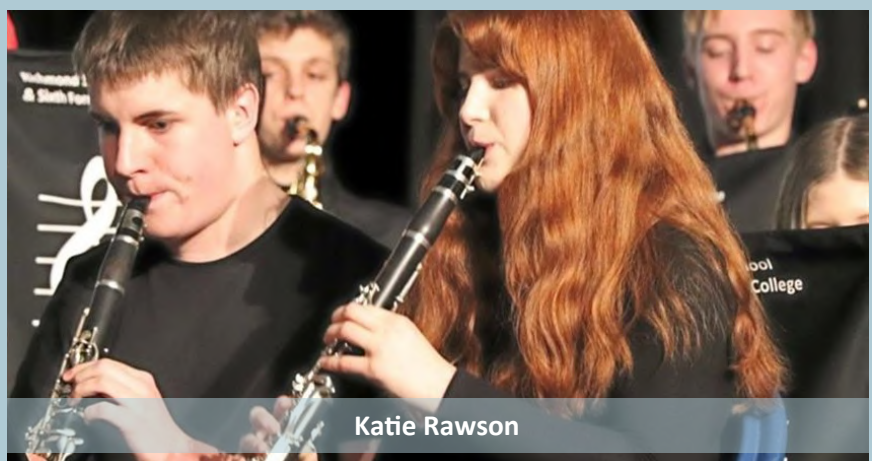


Florence is a key player in the school orchestra and concert band as well as a valued member of the choir, performing with Collabro at The Sage earlier this year.

Florence said: "As I have worked very hard to achieve a good standard of flute playing, being accepted into TVYO was incredibly rewarding. Before the audition I had doubts about whether I would be successful or not. Music is a big part of my life that I appreciate now more than ever. I look forward to being able to play new music that will really challenge me and encourage me to enhance my flute playing. Meeting new people will also allow me to find others that share my same passion."

Stephen Boyd, Lead Teacher of Music, commented: "I am absolutely delighted for Florence. She is an extremely studious musician and is a hugely valuable member of our ensembles and department. I am so pleased Florence is taking her talent into the community and beyond. Well done!"

Katie Rawson is an accomplished musician, having recently passed Grade 8 on both the clarinet and the alto saxophone, which is a fabulous achievement. An integral part of the music scene at Richmond School, Katie plays in the orchestra, jazz band, saxophone quintet and the concert band. She recently played first clarinet in a performance of Mozart's Serenade for Wind and has also played clarinet and saxophone in the school production of Joseph.



Stephen Boyd, Lead Teacher of Music, said: "Katie is an exceptional musician and has been a stalwart of music-making at Richmond School since her first week of Year 7. I am absolutely delighted with her progress and look forward to many more memorable performances."

Katie is completing a GCSE in Music and has expressed interest in continuing her musical studies at A-level. Katie commented: "I am thrilled to have been accepted into such an incredible orchestra, and I am looking forward to playing a new and challenging repertoire with a full-sized ensemble for the first time."

## MAKING MUSIC AT RICHMOND SCHOOL

Our line-up of music groups features everything from a symphony orchestra to the School of Rock! The music department offers a wealth of ensembles including: jazz band, guitar ensemble, samba and steel pans, choir, wind/sax quintet and concert band.

Ensemble	Teacher	Day	Time
Symphony Orchestra Year 7+	Mr Boyd	Monday JG13	3:30-4:45pm
School of Rock	Y13 Student led	Monday JG18	3:30-4:30pm
Jazz Band Year 7+ (by audition)	Mr Millman	Tuesday JG13	3:30-4:45pm
Guitar Ensemble Year 7+	Mr Harris	Tuesday JG18	3:30-4:45pm
Vocal ensemble Year 7-Year 8	Miss Jinks	Tuesday JG17	3:30-4:45pm
Samba/Steel Pans/Percussion Ensemble	Mr Williamson	Wednesday JG17	3:30-4:30pm
Theory Course Year 7+ (see Mr Boyd)	Mrs Devlin	Wednesday JG 18	3:30-4:45pm
Richmond School Choir Year 7+	Mr Wardale	Thursday JG13	3:30-4:45pm
Wind Band Year 7-Year 8 TBC	Student leader TBC	Tuesday JG18	3:30-4:45pm
Wind/Sax Quintet (Wk1/2)	Student led	Thursday alternating JG17	3:30-4:45pm
Concert Band Year 7+ All Brass and Wind players	Mr Boyd	Friday JG17	3:30-4:45pm

Students should get in touch with Mr Boyd ([sboyd@richmondschool.net](mailto:sboyd@richmondschool.net)) if they are interested in joining a group and would like further information.

**SAVE THE DATE: Thursday 12th December at 7pm**

**A CHRISTMAS CRACKER OF A CONCERT!**

Tickets will be going on sale soon for our annual Music Department Christmas Concert! We will be hearing from students across the school community, soloists, ensembles and, of course, audience participation as we all get in to the festive spirit!

The concert is on Thursday 12th December at 7pm.

**SAVE THE DATE: Thursday 19th December at 6pm**

**TRADITIONAL CHRISTMAS CAROL CONCERT**

Our Richmond School Christmas Service will be held at 6pm on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December in the beautiful setting of St Mary's Church, Richmond. The service will involve musical items from the orchestra, concert band and choir, as well as congregational singing and lessons.

Tickets are not required.



# PERFORMING ARTS

## INSPIRED BY ROMEO AND JULIET



Our Performing Arts students had a fantastic evening on our Sixth Form Theatre Trip to see Matthew Bourne's re-imagination of Shakespeare's 'Romeo and Juliet' at Newcastle Theatre Royal. The performance is set in the modern day in a juvenile psychiatric institute, where two young lovers are confined against their will by a society that seeks to divide.

It is a shocking reinvention of the traditional story and this has inspired our Year 12 students who are currently working on their own re-imagined performances of this classic tale. The students experienced a 'whole theatre' performance that combined electrifying dance and drama with new orchestrations of the traditional Prokofiev score played live by the New Adventures Orchestra - an experience they will not forget in a hurry!

Two Year 13 Dance students (Eva Midgley and Eve Walker) were so blown away by the intensity of the gut-wrenching ending that they couldn't control their emotions! It was a truly inspiring evening for all Performing Arts students and staff.



## GET SET TO GO TO THE WEST SIDE!

After a year's break our legendary school production is back!

The build-up of excitement, from both staff and students, about the return of our school show was overwhelming. What a launch we had when more than 250 students flocked to the Clarke Hall to hear the reveal of Richmond School's worst-kept secret!



This academic year's musical production will be Sondheim's well-known 'West Side Story'. The atmosphere and buzz around the reveal was electric and students have already started workshops towards their auditions.

Stephen Birdsall, who will co-direct the show, said: "I have never seen so many students from all art disciplines so interested in taking part in a production. It was breath-taking to see the students filling the hall. We are looking forward to seeing what talent emerges from our workshops when we cast before Christmas."

More information will be revealed at a later date, with ticket prices and dates, so please look out for that!



## RICHMOND'S DANCE ELITE START NEXT CHAPTER TOGETHER

It is always sad to say goodbye to our students but great to hear that five Richmond Sixth Form alumni are still very much together. Elite dancers, Brandon Sutherland-Parker, Callum Wilson, Alicia Booth, Matty Biggs and Joe Grisdale, have just started to study for a BA Hons Dance degree at Middlesex University.

Comments Danni Fox, Lead Dance Teacher: "It is wonderful to know that our students are showing the strength and talent of the Richmond School Dance Department at Middlesex and it really demonstrates the high standards that our students deliver during their studies with us. These students are exceptional and will embrace every opportunity to develop their talents further."

The photograph shows the students on their first day at Middlesex University, exploring their new halls of residence in Hendon.



# IN THE COMMUNITY

## RICHMOND STUDENTS CELEBRATED WITH BRITISH CITIZEN AWARDS

Three community champions have been recognised at this year's British Citizen Youth Awards (BCyA) for their extraordinary contribution to charity. Fourteen-year old James Lunn, his brother Andrew, age 12, and their friend Marcus Weston, age 14, were honoured for their efforts at a formal presentation held at the Palace of Westminster. Attended by 120 guests, including host, Rt. Hon. Lord Blunkett, patrons Dame Mary Perkins and Nicky Cox MBE, speaker Baroness Estelle Morris and presenter and patron Kimberly Wyatt, the renowned British Citizen Youth Awards, in association with Specsavers, highlights individual acts of bravery, kindness and compassion from young people under the age of 18 across the UK.



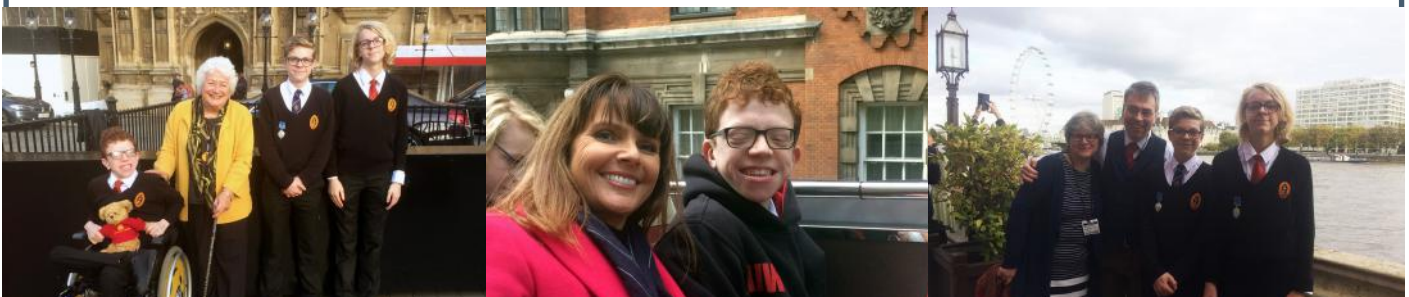
Mike Faulkner, Co-Founder of the British Citizen Youth Awards, said: "The achievements of these three boys and their commitment to put something back into society, so impressed the Assessment Panel that they were moved to recognise the first-ever trio for a BCyA. The boys collectively endured for the good of others and they are worthy recipients of their specially minted bespoke medals, which are inscribed with the words 'For the Good of the Country'." The boys are invited to use the BCyA letters after their names, as a post-nominal, in recognition of their positive impact on society.

The boys received their BCyA medal from Kimberly Wyatt, member of The Pussycat Dolls, judge of Got to Dance and Celebrity MasterChef champion, who said: "I am honoured to present the British Citizen Youth Awards. This awards programme shines a light on the efforts of our youth and is something to be revered. The world needs more young people like these leading our communities."

Following the formal medal presentations, all guests were treated to an open-top lap of honour tour of the capital on a BCyA-branded double-decker bus, courtesy of Big Bus London, which has supported the BCyA since its inception. After the Awards, the boys were honoured to spend time with Baroness Harris of Richmond who gave them a behind-the-scenes tour of the House of Lords. They were privileged to meet Lord Fowler, the Lord Speaker in the House of Lords Chamber, and were invited to go into the Chamber while the debates of the day were taking place. Baroness Harris said the boys were "great citizens of the world".

This prestigious accolade marks the third award for the boys in recognition of their 300-mile Richmond to Richmond cycling challenge which raised £4,800 for the Butterwick Hospice. Andrew and James invited Marcus to be part of this exciting project. Marcus has a host of health issues, being one of only 400 people worldwide living with Cardio-Facio Cutaneous Syndrome (CFC Syndrome), a rare genetic condition. Undeterred, Marcus set his own challenge, learning to ride a specially adapted trike to ride 30 miles, one per day, around the school playground. James Lunn said: "It was a huge honour for us to receive the award and wonderful to experience this in the setting of the House of Lords. We were so humbled to hear the incredible stories of the other medallists and it has inspired us to do more for our community."

Jenna Potter, Headteacher, added: "As the Headteacher of a large secondary school and sixth form college, I am constantly reminded that young people are such a force for good. The three boys exemplify everything that we would wish to be ourselves, as adults - thoughtful, generous, respectful and determined. It is a privilege to have them in our school and I am delighted to see them being rewarded for their efforts."



Watch highlights of the Awards at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GquJtDBT9Rs&feature=youtu.be>



# IN THE COMMUNITY

## PANATHLON EVENT IS AN INSPIRATION TO STUDENTS

We are proud to host and support the Panathlon Challenge, a mini-paralympics, for primary and secondary students with special needs. In our fifth year working with Panathlon, we were delighted to host the primary event recently. We are pleased to welcome Emily Treweek, Year 13 student, to report on the event.

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This is the fourth Panathlon I have been involved in and every time I am blown away by the enthusiasm of both the leaders and the children that attend. At the October event, four teams from Mowbray School took part and later in the afternoon another Panathlon was held at the Dales School in Morton-on-Swale. This Panathlon was held for primary school children and 10 Richmond Sixth Form leaders helped to run the day as smoothly as possible. Leading these events is a huge learning curve for the sports leaders as they have to learn to adapt activities on the spot to suit the needs of the child. The event is hugely beneficial for the children as they have to put their team-working skills in to practice and learn to interact with others.

A spark was initially ignited in me when I took part in a primary cross-country race with a 10-year-old girl who has Down's syndrome. This spark then grew bigger and bigger through helping at Panathlons, so much so that I completed my Year 12 work experience week at Mowbray School. I am hoping to complete a gap year working at a variety of different disability sports events. After this, my aim is to study a sports physical education degree, with the hope of becoming a PE teacher in a special educational needs school in the future.

For further information on the Panathlon Challenge visit [www.panathlon.com](http://www.panathlon.com)



## BAGS OF HELP FROM TESCO

Thank you to all those who supported us in our Tesco's Bags of Help appeal. We are delighted to have been awarded £1,000 which will be used to transform the rather bland landscape at the back of the Sixth Form building to a useable green space.

Mr Braham, Lead Teacher for Design & Technology, has embraced the project and we are thrilled that some of his GCSE students are helping us to realise our vision. As a keen supporter of our bid, Year 10 student Marcus Weston received the cheque on the school's behalf.

Julie Sutherland, Tesco Community Champion at Catterick Garrison store, said: "We are delighted to support this great project at Richmond School.

We are looking forward to working alongside students and helping them to transform this area into a space where students can enjoy free time and a break from their busy day. We are more than happy to support in the development of this project."



# IN THE COMMUNITY

## NCS STUDENTS ARE COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS

Spearheaded by Sandra Johnson, Assistant Headteacher, the National Citizen Service (NCS) is open to all 16 and 17 year-olds in England. Running in the spring, summer and autumn, the scheme helps students build skills for work and life, while taking on new challenges and meeting new friends. Richmond School is privileged to hold Gold Championship status for its work in embracing and promoting the NCS scheme, the only school in Richmondshire and Hambleton to hold this honour.

**Nick Chapman and Joe Hughes** (pictured seated at the piano) were two of 63 Richmond School students who took part. Here they tell us about their experiences and why they believe NCS is a great project to get involved in. Rishi Sunak MP heard about the great work of NCS and wanted to visit a group during their community project – he chose Joe and Nick’s group because their idea was so clever and different to the others. Don’t miss the video of the culmination of their project at <https://www.facebook.com/rishisunak/videos/507390126471643/> and see Rishi's full article at <https://tinyurl.com/yxhhpffc>



**Why did you choose to take part in NCS?** I chose to take part in NCS because not only would it look great on my CV, but it would be something fun to do during the summer holidays with my friends. **(Nick)**  
**What did you do in the first week?** We went to Wales and took part in many group activities such as bush craft, group paddle boarding, kayaking, expeditions and catapult building which all helped us bond as a group. **(Joe)**



**What happened in the second week?** Week two was all about learning new skills and planning for week three. We learnt: first aid, public speaking, debate skills, problem solving and environmental impact. Towards the end of the week we started concentrating on organising our social action project. We came up with a plan and assessed the sustainability and legacy of the project and then presented it in a dragon’s den pitch at the end of the week. **(Nick)**

**Tell us about your social action plan in week three?** We needed to raise the money for the project and then carry it out over a period of at least 30 hours. We started on the first day with a penny mile, which allowed us to raise over £300 in just the first day. In the following days we held bake sales and a sponsored swim to get the total up to £500. This allowed us to buy a piano for Rosedale care home in Catterick, with enough spare to buy a new home for their new rabbits. Overall, we were very pleased with the outcome of the project because it will leave a lasting legacy of the hard work and dedication of our group. **(Nick)**

**How did you come up with the idea?** After a day of throwing ideas at each other that just wouldn’t work I came up with the idea of giving a piano to a care home because of the long lasting legacy of the idea. It was a unique idea compared to a lot of other groups in the past. **(Joe)**

**Would you recommend NCS to Year 11 students?** Overall NCS was a great opportunity, through which I met new friends and made my community a better place. I am very glad that I chose to take part. **(Nick)**

**What benefits do you think it brought to the residents of the home?** We hope that both our initial playing of the piano and the rest of our group going around talking to the residents brought joy to the residents and if the piano is played by the residents or visitors that it will bring them happiness again. We also hoped that the piano may spark a lost memory for one of the residents. **(Joe)**

**Well done to Nick, Joe and all the other students who supported the community.**

**A final note from alumna Lucy Lundberg who worked as an NCS leader and said:** “The NCS programme is a great way to spend the summer holidays a little differently, with each phase holding new challenges which young people are supported through, culminating with a team community project, planned and led by themselves. Throughout the three weeks, I saw young people gain independence, learn new skills and, most rewarding of all, grow in confidence.”



# IN THE COMMUNITY

## MAGNIFICENT SEVEN COMPLETE THE GREAT NORTH RUN!

Five members of staff and two students successfully completed the Great North Run and, in doing so, achieved personal bests and donated over £2,800 to Bowel Cancer UK, Cancer Research and The Sick Children's Trust. Not forgetting the essential behind-the-scenes support staff, Clare Clish completed her third year as a volunteer.

### The runners

A year ago, Charlotte Rogerson, Sam Weston and Victoria Roberts were non-runners but after joining the Swaledale Shufflers and the Couch to 5k running programme (C25k) they decided to go a few steps further (in fact 16km further!) and take up the challenge of the Great North Run.

Sam was fundraising for The Sick Children's Trust who provide accommodation for families while their children are in hospital. Sam's family stayed at Crawford House for four months when her son, Marcus, was in hospital as a baby.

Victoria, who was running to support Bowel Cancer UK and achieved a time of 2.49, said: "Despite a variety of injuries along the way, we kept each other going and most importantly, kept on laughing and having fun together." Having lost her father and her mother-in-law and father-in-law to cancer, Charlotte Rogerson ran for Cancer Research. She has a number of friends who are battling cancer and so it's a charity that is very close to her heart.

Sarah Pike had never done the Great North Run. She had such a great time that she would love to do it again. Her time was 2:19. She was hoping to come in at around 2:30 so was really pleased with her achievement. Alex Withington-Wray also completed the race in a fabulous time of 2.01 and was running for Cancer Research UK.

Two students also did magnificently. Andie Jones, in Year 13, was inspired to do the Great North Run by her Dad, Andie said: "My Dad has always been my role model when it comes to sport so taking part in the GNR was something I've always wanted to do. It was one of the hardest things I've ever done but has also been one of the most rewarding. I chose to run for 'St. Oswald's Hospice' as they are an amazing charity and do amazing work."

Ollie Rogerson, Charlotte's son, ran his first-ever Junior GNR. The twelve-year-old was awesome, completing 4K in 16.47 and coming in 27th out of 443. Ollie has always enjoyed running and has been running with Richmond & Zetland Harriers for just over a year. He keeps going from strength to strength."

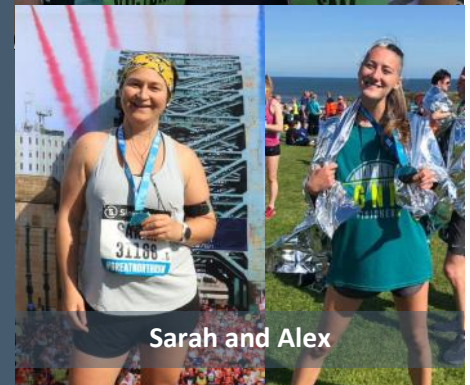
### The volunteer

Having competed in the GNR a few times, and really loving it, Clare Clish has been a volunteer at the event for the last three years. She is an essential member of the support crew, working on the medal station in the finish funnel, putting medals around the necks of the runners.

Clare helps to manage a team of 70 volunteers who give out medals and make sure the runners keep moving. They also ensure they identify any medical problems, getting help if required. Clare is pictured centre in the group of volunteers.



Victoria, Charlotte and Sam



Sarah and Alex



Andie and her Dad



Ollie



Clare (centre)



# IN THE COMMUNITY

## YEAR 9 CTEC SPORT STUDENTS START THEIR LEADERSHIP JOURNEY

Congratulations to the fifty Year 9 students studying CTEC Sport who have started their journey as sports leaders. The students have been exploring the characteristics of good sports leadership in lesson time and then put this to the test by leading at a Key Stage 1 multi-skills festival.



The leaders took charge of 315 primary pupils, aged between four and seven, from nine of our local primary schools and coached them in a range of running, jumping and throwing multi-skill activities. The leaders received a lot of positive feedback which will give them confidence as they continue in their roles as sports leaders. They have many more events this year including tag rugby and hockey competitions.

## RICHMONDSHIRE CROSS-COUNTRY SUCCESS

Richmond School hosted a Key Stage 2 cross-country competition event which saw 33 local Primary Schools in attendance, translating to approximately 950 pupils running around our challenging course.



The competition was supported by our Sports Leaders who had to independently manage groups of up to 300 pupils in the warm-up area, take charge of excited pupils at the starting point to begin the race safely, and efficiently manage the finish line to ensure all pupils' finishing positions were recorded correctly.

They were also key to celebrating the pupils' achievements as they crossed the line, as well as marshal and hare the event to ensure all pupils knew where to run. The event was a huge success which is largely down to the effectiveness of our sports leaders.

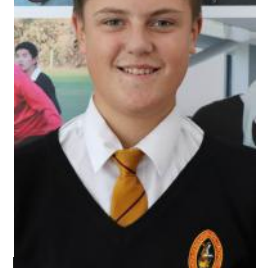
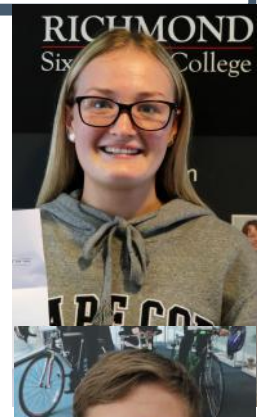
## GOING ON PATROL - A career in the Police Force is on the cards for four of our students.

Ben Dowson is planning a degree apprenticeship in professional policing through North Yorkshire Police. Whilst studying hard for his A-levels, achieving excellent grades of ABB in Maths, Biology and History, Ben devoted a significant amount of his time to work as a Police Cadet. Ben said: "I have thoroughly enjoyed life at Richmond School and my positive relationships with my teachers have helped enormously."

During the summer holidays, Ben volunteered to go on deployment with the police to support victims of the flash floods in Swaledale. Working with Ellie Lonsdale, a Year 13 student, Ben helped a resident in Reeth to move belongings out of the house and clear the garden of debris. Both Ben and Ellie showed such a positive work ethic, which also reflects Richmond School values of independence, teamwork, resilience and respect.

Ben also spent a week on work experience with North Yorkshire Police in July 2019. This was a very competitive programme with a selection process. Daniel Sharp, from Year 11, also gained a place which is a very impressive feat at such a young age. Since attending the programme, Dan has also been accepted into the Police Cadets following a formal interview process. Hannah Speakman from Year 13 also aims to join the Police; she will be starting at Edge Hill University, where she will be studying a degree in Professional Policing. Her grades of Distinction\* and Distinction in her Level 3 Cambridge Technical Diploma & Physical Activity and Merit in Health & Social Care CTEC demonstrate her strong work ethic and she is well admired by staff and students alike for her exceptional communication and teamwork skills.

Ms Mannion, Careers Leader, said, "Ben, Hannah, Dan and Ellie have really impressed me with their dedication to a career in policing. The Government has committed to creating 20,000 new roles in the Police Service and our students are developing the skills and experience to equip them for the challenges ahead."



## LUKE PROTECTS HIS POLE POSITION



Luke Constantine, in Year 11, recently competed in rounds 5 and 6 of the British Junior Rallycross Championship at Pembrey in South Wales. Luke had a great day on the Saturday and managed to win all but one race and take the win, putting him back in the championship lead going into round 6 on the Sunday. After a great start, Luke took the lead going into the first corner. On the last lap Luke came under pressure from another competitor and received contact from behind which damaged his car, pushing him wide. Luke dropped down to 2<sup>nd</sup> place and the other competitor was penalised. After a lengthy appeal the decision was overturned. This means that Luke still leads the championship but he is now on the same points as another driver going into the last two rounds at Croft, Luke's home circuit, on 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> October, when we will see if he will be crowned British Champion!!

Following a long journey to Lydden Hill near Dover, Luke went on to compete in round 7 of the BTRDA Clubmans' Rallycross Championship. Going into heat 1, he fought his way through the pack as he had a grid position on the back row and managed to get up to 2<sup>nd</sup> when the car ground to a halt on the far side of the circuit which meant a non-finish which wasn't good! The lads from Victoria Garage quickly diagnosed the problem to a loose wire on the battery, which they then fixed. Luke then had it all to do and went out in heat 2 and took the win. Again in heat 3 he started on the back row and managed to fight his way through to take 2<sup>nd</sup>, putting him on the front row for the final where he lined up 2<sup>nd</sup>. He had a great start and led into the first corner where he didn't give up his lead and took the win, meaning he has won every round this year and takes the championship lead into the last round at Knockhill in Scotland at the end of October.

Luke leads the overall BTRDA championship, which he also won last year.

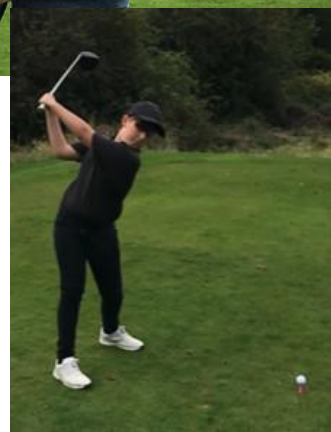


## YOUNG GOLFER SWINGS TO SUCCESS

Harvey Olney, in Year 9, is rapidly rising through the golfing ranks after winning the Garry 'Mac' Memorial Golf Day. Harvey was crowned the champion, having competed against forty two adults and one other junior player.



Now in its fourth year, the charity Garry 'Mac' Memorial Golf day is in memory of Gary 'Mac', a firefighter who died of cancer. It is a team and individual event, with eleven teams taking part. Facing stiff competition, Harvey won the highest individual score in the tournament, shooting a nett 65 which is a brilliant round of golf.



Harvey has been playing golf since he was three. A member of Richmond and Catterick Golf Clubs, he achieved his handicap last year and is already down to 28.

This is the third adult competition that Harvey has won in the last twelve months and his winning streak shows no sign of abating. Daniel Hood, PGA Golf Professional and Harvey's coach at Richmond Golf Club, commented: "Harvey joined Richmond Golf Club in April 2019 and immediately struck me as a player with massive potential. Harvey has shown not only great performances but key life skills and a willingness to encourage others in our group coaching sessions. He is a real team player in a sport that is solely individual. With his dedication and commitment I would certainly say there is a career in golf for him. Keep up the good work Harvey."

Tony Potter, Leader of Sport, Leisure and Community at Richmond School, concluded: "Harvey is showing great independence and resilience in his quest to continually improve his game. His progress is astounding. Competing and winning adult competitions at such an early age demonstrates his dedication and skill."



## FIRST FRIENDLY FOOTBALL GAME OF THE YEAR



Fifteen Year 7 and 8 girls travelled to St John Fisher Catholic High School in Harrogate for their first friendly game this year. The girls played really well considering it was the first game for several of them and certainly on an 11-a-side full astroturf. During the first half, it seemed that some of their heads were still on the bus (!) but once they started to demonstrate their skills the second half was much better. There were some excellent break throughs and strong challenges demonstrated by both teams. The students responded well to position changes without any grumbles and got stuck in!

They have a lot to look forward to in the season and plenty to work on in training. Well done girls. Player of the match was Charlotte Harrison, special mention to Maddie James – scoring our only goal!!

Team: Elsa Wright, Charlotte Harrison, Maddie James, Evie Milns, Kiera Colley, Beth Farrow, Emma Farrow, Isabel Rutterford, Beth Rutterford, Shannon Findlay, Ella McArdle, Mie Mie Chambers-Nicholson, Fearn Wheatley, Hattie Sharp and Katie Mulreany. (Not in photo order)

## SKI TEAM NEWS

On the weekend of the 5<sup>th</sup> October, some of Richmond Ski Racing Squad headed to Norwich for the English Schools' Ski Association National Finals and the qualifying races for the British Finals. In the English Finals on Saturday everyone skied very well against tough opposition with the girls' team finishing in 9<sup>th</sup> place and the boys' in 8<sup>th</sup> place.

Despite the challenging weather conditions on Sunday, the boys' team qualified for the British Finals in Stoke on 17<sup>th</sup> November. Unfortunately the girls team narrowly missed out on qualification. The boys' team was made up of Ben Webster, Harvey Slack, Archie Dolan and James Norman. The girls team members were Olivia Frankland, Hannah Goundry, Emily Riley and Isobel Brooks.

The Ski Squad continues to have fun and train hard at training sessions at Silksworth Ski Slope on Tuesday evenings. We are looking for new members to join so that we can build on this success. Anyone with some skiing experience would be welcome, contact Alison Brooks [alison@rcdalton.co.uk](mailto:alison@rcdalton.co.uk).



## TOP HONOURS FOR STAR PLAYER



Elijah Delaidriti, a Year 8 student, has been awarded the North East Rugby League U12 player of the year award in recognition of his talent and skill on the field.

Hosted by Newcastle Thunder, at Kingston Park Stadium, the nominations are taken from the players' own clubs and are backed

up by the other member clubs who are also required to nominate someone from outside of their club. Elijah plays for Catterick Crusaders and throughout the season he has been a mainstay of the Under 12s team. Playing scrum half, twelve-year-old Elijah is responsible for guiding the team around the field. Jason Grant, Club Chairman, said: "This is a job Elijah does extremely well and he has a high level of skill. When he has got the team on a roll going forward he will use a combination of strength and skill to exploit weaknesses in the defensive line to either create tries for his team mates or score them himself."

Elijah has been playing rugby since he came to England six years ago. As well as being a key team member of Catterick Crusaders over the last six years, he also plays for Mowden Park's Under 13s and the Year 8 school team.

Jack Moore, PE Teacher and Elijah's school rugby coach, said: "Elijah reads the game very well. Some of the offloads we see regularly wouldn't look out of place in a Fijian 7s team. Not only is Elijah very talented individually, but he works hard to bring his team together and regularly focuses on their teamwork and how they can all support each other to improve. He is someone who really embodies the RFU's TREDs values of rugby: Teamwork, Respect, Enjoyment, Discipline and Sportsmanship."

Elijah said: "I always tell myself a loss is a lesson and a win is an achievement. I am really over the moon to receive this award and thank my coaches at Richmond School, Catterick Crusaders and Mowden Park."



## RFU BOOST FOR RUGBY IN SCHOOL

We are thrilled to be part of the RFU's All Schools Programme. This is a great initiative that brings RFU coaches in to school to support our delivery in both lessons and also in our extra-curricular activities. Alongside this, we have been sent a huge amount of free equipment as part of the programme including balls, boots, clothing for staff and 20 new rugby shirts.

## STUDENTS CREATE SHIRT DESIGN

A group of four pupils were selected to attend an 'England Rugby & Canterbury School Shirt Design Workshop'. This workshop allowed our students to work alongside the RFU and Canterbury designers who have also been responsible for the national teams kit for the Rugby World Cup 2019.



The students worked all day at Wetherby RUFC and began by drafting initial ideas for their new school jersey. With no input from school staff, the students were encouraged to have a bit of brainstorming time and design a range of shirts based on their own thoughts and ideas. They decided their design should include the main colours of the school badge; black, red and yellow.

Once the students had a base for their jersey, they worked together with the Canterbury staff to finalise their chosen design using iPads and the Canterbury software.

The students eventually settled on their final design and Canterbury will generously provide the school with 20 of the uniquely designed jerseys which we will receive in the new year.

## SIXTH FORM RUGBY

Our Sixth Form students are keen to play rugby and a team has been formed and training has started. Twenty students attended the first training session and the players were all very enthusiastic. Some of the students are regular players, some have played previously, and some have never really played outside of PE lessons. They are all keen to get involved and are looking forward to playing some games.



## GIRLS DISPLAY AMAZING TEAMWORK IN RUGBY TOURNAMENT



The Year 7 and 8 (and one Year 9) rugby team travelled to Wensleydale rugby club to play a round-robin rugby tournament against Wensleydale, Bedale and SFX Schools. They beat both Wensleydale and Bedale and just missed out against SFX who won by just two tries.

An amazing display of teamwork, the girls worked extremely hard for each other, they were adaptable in terms of rolling on and off subs-wise and mixed from playing rugby 7s to 10s. Their support for each other on the pitch was demonstrated by the amount of offloads they made after each tackle and being there for each other. They literally put their bodies on the line for each other - some tackles were very physical especially against a much bigger SFX side. A special mention must go to Elsa Byrne-Parr who nearly wiped out Miss Harrower and the subs on the side line when she put a player into touch, as well as Katie Carruthers and Lara Jackson who demonstrated their judo skills in their very effective tackling on the pitch. A fabulous 'held-up' try saving tackle was made by Jasmine Akin, this was very skilful and demonstrated her great strength and her ability to adjust her body during the tackle.

There were outstanding, strong runs from Connie Lord, Sarah Chaney, Anna-Rosie, Hall, Beth Rutterford, Aimee Smith and Freya Flint and impact players, Vasamaca Waiwalu, Beth Rutterford and Alice Hutchinson. The girls were absolutely buzzing from the experience. Bella Wilson and Beth Rutterford must be recognised as they had only been to rugby training once before this tournament and this certainly wasn't apparent on the field. Chloe Haighton was the only Year 9 and played well and was well disciplined in the 'tag-only rule'. Try scorers: Connie Lord, Chloe Knights, Sarah Chaney, Aimee Smith, Anna-Rosie Hall, Freya Flint, Lara Jackson and Elsa Byrne-Parr.

### STAFF PROFILE: RACHAEL HARROWER'S RUGBY PROWESS

As girls' rugby gathers momentum at Richmond School, we invited Rachael Harrower, PE Teacher, to share her experiences on the field with our readers.

I started playing rugby during my first year at university and played rugby union for the York St John University team. I took to it quite naturally and loved it, leading to me doing extra training with York RI Ladies, before progressing to a team in Leeds called Leos Ladies. I also represented Yorkshire for two games. In my third year at York, I captained the University women's rugby team where my position was anywhere in the front row, loose head, tight head and hooker. My preference was loose head prop due to the skills of strength and power that were required.

The Leeds Leos girls fancied a little extra fitness over the summer so the majority of us signed up for Leeds Akies Rugby League Club and that is where my passion came for rugby league, having followed and watched Leeds Rhinos since I was a toddler. I played prop/second row and was also lucky to play at other local clubs, such as Whinmoor Warriors and York Ladies.

I then had the opportunity to try out for GB Teachers and was delighted to play two seasons for them. After moving to Darlington, when I started teaching at Richmond School, I played for Mowden Park alongside some England players in the women's premiership. After moving back to York, I have hung my boots up but have a run out for YORK RUFC every now and again. The camaraderie, friendships and sense of teamwork are the best I have ever experienced. I love watching my old friends play in the women's super league for rugby league and York is hosting the women's rugby league World Cup in 2021 which is a great opportunity for North Yorkshire and rugby!



### FANTASTIC TEAM SPIRIT

The Year 11 Netball team, a squad of 12 players, travelled to Queen Mary's School on 12th September to compete in the Hambleton and Richmondshire Area Schools Netball rally. Many of the players had trained together since the start of Year 7. This five-year commitment from the girls paid off as they had only had the chance for one training session this year before the rally! The students performed brilliantly and demonstrated fantastic teamwork and resilience throughout the afternoon.

After battling hard in windy conditions, and against tough opposition, the girls were unlucky to come away with only one win and came in 5th place overall. All games were closely contested and the whole team rose to the challenges posed by the opposition and never gave up. Their team spirit, competitiveness and determination were truly commendable.



### TOP TEAM EFFORT BY YEAR 9 NETBALLERS

Richmond School hosted the Year 9 Hambleton and Richmondshire Area Schools Netball rally. Our Year 9 team began brilliantly, beating Queen Mary's School in the first game 7-2. A tough match followed against an impressive Stokesley team. Despite the talented (and tall!) opposition, and escalating score line, the girls fought hard right to the end of the match and did well to hold the opposition to 14-3 as other teams were struggling to contain their quick play and exceptional shooters.



Two close games against Thirsk and SFX came next and the girls were really unlucky to lose by just one goal in both of these games. The girls finished the rally with a 4-3 win against Easingwold meaning they came 4<sup>th</sup> overall.

The girls worked incredibly hard all afternoon and never once gave anything less than 100%. They demonstrated fantastic teamwork and sportsmanship and this coupled with their determined nature and strong work ethic will stand them in good stead for the rest of the season. A top effort, well done ladies!

### RICHMOND SWIMMERS EXCEL AT NATIONALS

Three outstanding swimmers took part in the prestigious Welsh Nationals, ranking them among the top swimmers in the north. The dedicated trio, Aaron Wharton, Daniel Cutter and Georgia Hadley, who are all 15 and in Year 11, are now setting their sights on the English Nationals.

Balancing their studies with early wake-up calls and gruelling training, the students are dedicated to their weekly 17-hour training programme, of which three hours are dry land and fourteen hours in the pool. They are all valued members of the Richmond Dales AS Club.

Qualifying for the first time for the Welsh Nationals, Aaron swam in five events, making two finals and was reserve for another final. He came away with the bronze medal for the boys' 16-year-old 200m butterfly. A relatively late starter to the swimming competition arena, Aaron only joined Richmond Dales AS Club in



2014 but has quickly shown his prowess. This is down to his commitment to the sport, he even goes back to the pool on Sunday evening as a volunteer to assist one of the coaches.

Georgia also brought back a bronze medal from the Welsh Nationals for the 200m backstroke. She has been swimming competitively since she joined Richmond Dales seven years ago. In addition, Georgia competes once a month for a full weekend, at events all over the country.

Daniel reached the finals of two events at the Welsh Nationals. He competed in the 1500m, with a 5th place and personal best as well as the 400m freestyle, missing out on third place by just 0.3 seconds, with another personal best. Daniel has been competing with Richmond Dales since he was nine years old, initially to improve his swimming in triathlon, then just swimming.

Jenna Potter, Headteacher said: "We are immensely proud of Aaron, Georgia and Daniel who are excelling at swimming. They put in a huge amount of time before and after school and are doing so well to manage this without compromising on their studies."



# ACADEMIC

## BROTMÜLLER ARE A HIT WITH GERMAN STUDENTS

As part of a celebration for the European Day of Languages, forty Year 10,11 and 12 students attended a concert by the German band Brotmüller in Manchester, which was organised by the Goethe Institut for the UK PASCH Network. The concert was a great success and many of our students are now big Brotmüller fans and bought albums. We even persuaded the band to do an encore of our favourite song, 'Sehr gut , Peter'. Richmond School students really connected with the music and the band and were up dancing to lots of their songs. After the concert , our Year 12 students interviewed the band in German and presented them with some Yorkshire tea as a thank you gift. A fantastic time was had by all.

Hannah Hodgson, a Year 12 student, said: “ I really enjoyed the concert because during every song there were parts that I actually understood. I even began to sing along! The band themselves were super funny, especially their commentary in between each song and their reaction to a room full of fans. They were constantly making me laugh and their liveliness bounced around the room, everyone was up and dancing along to the music.

“Towards the end the band allowed us to do an interview with them, up on stage with a microphone, which was a bit nerve wracking. Asking questions in German, in front of a crowd, and being given an answer in German that I could actually understand was surprisingly exciting and reassured me that my German actually works. The whole experience was a blast and so uplifting, I really enjoyed it.”



## A COLOURFUL EUROPEAN DAY OF LANGUAGES

Richmond School celebrated European Day of Languages this year in a colourful way when staff were encouraged to wear clothes in the colour of European flags. A number of staff took on the challenge and a wide variety of countries were represented helping students gain a greater general knowledge of Europe.

Students were also set the challenge to answer the register in a different language and it was great to hear such a wide variety of world languages in every class.



## FIT IN DEUTSCH

Well done to students in Years 9 and 10 who recently sat the Fit in Deutsch A1 exam .

All students passed this internationally recognised qualification with either gut or sehr gut. This qualification, which is offered by Richmond School as part of our Pasch status , allows students to show their basic knowledge of German in relation to everyday situations and is the entry level qualification for working as an Au Pair in Germany.



These qualifications are designed to be motivational and showcase what students can do and we hope that we will have many more successful applicants next year.

## INTRODUCING OUR NEW SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM PROSPECTUSES

We are delighted to introduce our new school prospectus where you can find out more about the 'Richmond School experience' – one that is academically challenging, full of fantastically diverse learning opportunities, coupled with extensive extra-curricular and enrichment activities. The prospectus can be viewed and downloaded from our website at [www.richmondschool.net/Portals/0/Documents/Jill/Richmond%20School%20Prospectus.pdf](http://www.richmondschool.net/Portals/0/Documents/Jill/Richmond%20School%20Prospectus.pdf)



Our 2020-2021 Sixth Form prospectus is now available. Spanning 48 pages, the prospectus presents all aspects of college life in one easy-to-follow guide. The prospectus includes comprehensive information, from student leadership and enrichment to careers and work experience, as well as dedicated pages about all the subjects that you can study at Richmond Sixth Form College. [www.richmondschool.net/Portals/0/Documents/4-%206th%20Form/Prospectus/Richmond\\_Sixth\\_Form\\_prospectus%202020-2021.pdf](http://www.richmondschool.net/Portals/0/Documents/4-%206th%20Form/Prospectus/Richmond_Sixth_Form_prospectus%202020-2021.pdf)

## YEAR 11 STUDENTS LOOK TO THE FUTURE

A group of Year 11 students attended a major careers event in Newcastle. Skills North East was jam-packed with interactive, inspiring and informative activities. The event featured hands-on demonstrations with industry experts who offered free insight and impartial advice.

Employers and Training Providers who were there included: Askham Bryan College, Specsavers, The Ambulance Service, Teesside University, The Northern School of Art and the National Apprenticeship Service.

Students learned about Game Development, Cyber Security, Hair and Beauty, Dance, and First Aid. The stands were very interactive so students could really get involved. Raghad Alkasem said: "I really enjoyed the day and meeting all the different providers."

Leander Firth added: "I am interested in courses at Askham Bryan so I went over to talk to the people on the stand which helped me."

Ms Mannion, Careers Leader, concluded: "It was great to see the students so engaged, they really took the initiative and became involved in the many activities on display. Students also found out about the different types of apprenticeships that may be available across a number of industries."

Further information about apprenticeships is available at:

<https://www.apprenticeships.gov.uk/apprentice/what-is-an-apprenticeship>





## STUDENTS MAKE YEAR 6 OPEN EVENING A NIGHT TO REMEMBER

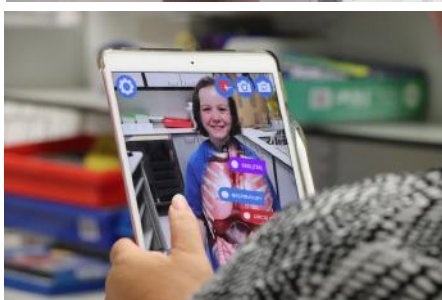
Over 700 guests were treated to an informative and interactive visit at our Year 6 open evening. It was standing room only for the warm welcome from Lily Richardson and Henry Wright, who themselves have only been at the school as new Year 7 students since the beginning of September. Behind the scenes, over the last year, Lily and Henry, together with Sixth Form students Joel Nesbit, Subin Pariyar and Ollie Lubanski, have been involved in a special project to create an engaging and lively film that presented a Year in the life of a Year 6.



The film was co-directed and co-produced by Joel, Subin and Ollie who assisted staff with the filming, editing and final creation of the film. As the main stars of the film, Lily and Henry give Year 6 students a glimpse of the multiple activities and subjects they will experience at Richmond School during their transition year from primary school. The film can be viewed at <https://youtu.be/rkMwAdoSop8>

Parent Alan Turnbull, who attended the Year 6 open evening with his wife and eleven-year old son, said: "We were immediately won over by the short video that was shown at the start of the evening. It was appealing and vivid and conveyed a picture of the school as a safe and welcoming learning environment, as well as a place that is energetic and forward-looking. Having taught aspects of film making at university level, it was clear from the start that this video was sharp and professionally handled.

"We were all very impressed at the vibrancy and positivity that we encountered in every classroom. My son is extremely excited at the prospect of starting next year. He can't wait. Thank you for a most stimulating evening."



Ninety students, including forty Year 7 helpers, supported by Year 10 and Sixth Form leaders, greeted visitors, answered questions and talked about the key features and appeal of the many subject areas available at Richmond School. Each department offered activities to engage potential pupils and ignite their interest across all subjects, some of which they may never have encountered before.

Jenna Potter commented: "We are a school that first and foremost provides excellent learning opportunities for our students. Whilst we are a large school, we are a highly-supportive school who, despite our size, are genuinely very much a close family where our students can find friendships that can last a lifetime. There is no better way for our future students to feel at home than to offer as many opportunities as possible to visit before they start in Year 7. Our packed transition programme aims to give the students confidence, develop friendships and get to know our staff so it is not such a daunting experience when they put on their new uniform for the first time.

Lily and Henry have been incredible ambassadors for the school and the film not only sums up the vast range of subjects and experiences that await our students but how these visits help to dispel any worries that they, and their families, may have. I am also immensely proud of Joel, Subin and Ollie who were instrumental in making our welcome film so professional and successful."

## OPPORTUNITY TO EXPERIENCE LIFE IN THE TRENCHES IN 2020



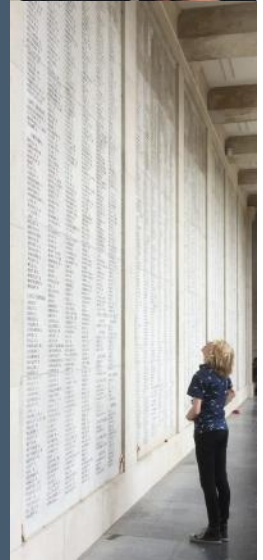
The History Department are planning their popular Year 9 visit to the Battlefields in 2020. This is always a trip that students find interesting and inspiring. In the summer, forty Year 9 students stepped back in time to the First World War to experience life as a soldier during the Battle of Passchendaele. Kitted out in replica WW1 uniforms, helmets and gas masks, all the students received the identity of an actual platoon soldier as they were taken back to 1917. This was just one of many opportunities for the students to immerse themselves in History.

Other highlights of the trip included a moving ceremony at the Menin Gate in Ypres and visits to sites connected with the 1916 Battle of the Somme, as well as the memorial of the missing at Thiepval. This was an incredibly moving experience, especially for those students who managed to find their own relatives remembered among the 72,337 names. *It's a visit not to be missed, look out for further information which will be available very soon.*

### A DAY TO REMEMBER WITH THE GREEN HOWARDS

Year 9 GCSE History students learned about the First World War in a unique way, when Carl Watts, the Education Officer at the Green Howards Museum in Richmond, brought some original artefacts into their lessons. The students began by trying on a modern uniform and comparing it to a First World War soldier's uniform, noticing especially the weight and materials used.

They handled German and English helmets from different stages of the war, as well as some of the weapons used such as a grenade, or as it was known then, a bomb! Students were particularly interested to read the beautiful postcards sent home by soldiers and the whole experience gave them a real insight into the lives and conditions for soldiers in the trenches. The students impressed staff particularly with the ideas they gave and questions they asked. It was a fantastic opportunity to learn about the experiences of trench life and the Green Howards regiment.





## YEAR 9 STUDENTS MEAN BUSINESS

Year 9 Business students attended an employability workshop which was organised and run by Edcoms. The theme was "Feeding Britain's Future". Business partners from Tesco, Aldi and the Co-operative volunteered their time to talk to students about their jobs and career pathways.

Students were involved in a lively debate about the labour market and opportunities in the Food and Grocery industry. They also learned how to link academic subjects to careers and they practised their interview skills with the business visitors.

The event brought together employability skills which are needed for careers education, with curriculum learning about recruitment and selection which is an essential part of the GCSE Business course.

Mark Hardy from Aldi commented that Oliver Hird stood out with his questions, his interest and his good listening skills. Keeley Younger, Preston Gredziak, Miles Livingstone-Owen, Joe Palliser and Chad Kennedy also had excellent questions and impressed the panel.

Ms Mannion, Careers Leader said: "I felt so proud of how the Year 9 students were engaged in the activities - they had so many questions for the business partners. It is really important that students have meaningful encounters with businesses, and the quality of today's event was outstanding."

Mrs Preston, Pastoral Manager, was so impressed by the atmosphere in the workshop and she said she observed active listening, positive body language and all students participating.



## MEDIA AND ANIMATION EXPERT INSPIRES STUDENTS

A group of Media students were inspired by Jason Theaker, a lecturer in Media, Animation and Game Design at the University of Bradford. Students were told about Jason's career path and his work on popular animation TV programmes and movies, such as Bob The Builder, Chicken Run and Mars Attacks! Students were also given an insight into a career in media and what the possible paths might be. Jason shared students' work at the University and the facilities they had. The students were very impressed and asked questions about the future of Media and the kinds of projects Jason is currently working on.

Jason did two 'stop-motion' activities with students. It was interesting for all to see the amount of effort that goes in to creating these; Jason remarked that professionals produce 12 seconds of stop-motion footage in one day. Overall, it was an inspiring and very useful experience and the students found the insight into future careers in Media very interesting. Further to this, Jason was very impressed with the attitudes of our students and is keen to visit again. If students would like to see the videos produced or would like any more information about careers in Media and The University of Bradford, please speak to either Mr Boulton-Lear or Mr Braham.



## Year 13 Geographers go out in the field.....

Year 13 Geographers undertook several investigations around the North of England ranging from Hornsea to Redcar, Arkengarthdale to Guisborough. The investigations were designed and developed to allow the students to collect their own fieldwork data which will be used in their Non Examined Assessment later this year.

Following Mrs House and Mr Hedley's demonstration of data collection techniques at the first sites, students then worked in small groups of to collect their own data. Upon returning to school, the data will be presented, analysed and evaluated independently in a 4000 word report, which will be assessed and contribute 20% towards their final A-level grade. All students were an absolute credit to both the Geography department and Richmond Sixth Form College.



# ACADEMIC

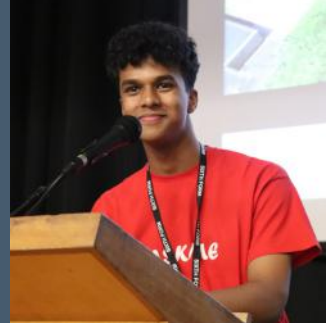
## A SUCCESSFUL SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING

Hundreds of Year 11 students and their families were welcomed to our successful Sixth Form open evening. Alana Hodgson, Headgirl, and Subin Pariyar, Deputy Headboy, set the scene by sharing their positive experiences of Sixth Form, as well as highlighting the many opportunities that are on offer. From debating club to drama, Duke of Edinburgh to dance, there is a wide-ranging and extensive line-up of enrichment and extra-curricular experiences.

They also explained that a major benefit of being part of the wider school is the potential to mentor younger students or lead groups. This can take many forms, from assisting or leading a club, such as a sport or performing arts, to helping students with their reading.

During the evening, visitors were free to look around the Sixth Form College where staff and student ambassadors were on hand to provide information and advice, answering subject-specific questions about course content and transition queries and sharing their experiences of college.

As well as a number of demonstrations and interactive activities taking place in labs and classrooms, the award-winning Careers team were available to talk about progression routes to higher education, apprenticeships and employment, as well as the fantastic work experience placements offered to Year 12 students.



During Subin's presentation he said: "When exploring the Sixth Form, I was presented with a smaller community than the one I had grown so used to. However, if you are like me and flourish in an intimate working environment, Sixth Form would be perfect for you. This means that the teachers and other Sixth Form staff know us well and are always able to support us positively, allowing a style of teaching that is amazingly attentive to the individual. The lessons are planned to challenge us at all times, but there is lots of help on offer should we need it."

Subin summed up the Sixth Form perfectly, saying: "Leaving school and starting your A-levels can be tricky. At Richmond, everyone can stand out and build on their own merits. Everyone is made to feel welcome immediately and I promise that you'll fit in straight away – because everyone will be starting something new."





## YOUNG SPORTS LEADERS LINE OUT WITH SIXTH NATIONS' CHAMPION



Young sports leaders were privileged to line out with four-times Six Nations winner and World Cup Silver Medallist, Katy Storie. Katy worked with a group of 52 Year 9 Level 2 Cambridge National Certificate in Sports Science students, who have just started the brand new course this year. Throughout Year 9, students will develop their leadership, coaching and officiating skills to gain leadership qualifications in rugby and Quicksticks hockey. The visit was part of the 'Activity for All' National Lottery Community Fund bid secured by Yes@RichmondSchool. Katy is a Youth Sport Trust athlete mentor who encourages the engagement of students in sport.

The aim of Katy's visit was for her to share her experiences and motivate the students to think about the direction of their future lives, many of which involve aspirations to be professional elite athletes, coaches and fitness instructors in a wide range of sports and physical activities. Katy engaged the students with her life story, from early childhood and struggles with self-esteem and fitting in as a young person, before her introduction to weightlifting for Great Britain and her subsequent and very successful transition to university rugby and then the England team. Katy commented: "It is always a pleasure to spend time with students who really appreciate the benefits of sport, not just the physical and health advantages but the importance of teamwork, coaching and pushing yourself to be the best you can be. The students were engaged with the messages I shared from my own experiences and I hope will use these in their own pathways."

## RICHMOND SCHOOL SCOOP NATIONAL EDUCATION AWARD

Richmond School and Sixth Form College have won a national award for their work in developing inclusive assistive technology provision for students within their locality. The award was presented at a ceremony hosted by the Edufuturists, a group of educators who provide training, keynote talks and consultancy for educators and change leaders who want to improve their organisation with cloud-based technology.



Dan Fitzpatrick, a Director of Edufuturists, said: "It was our pleasure to present the Award for Secondary School of the Year to the amazing staff at Richmond School. They are making a huge impact in the education sector with their innovative use of technology and are a beacon in the UK of how to implement meaningful technology that will help equip their students with the skills to thrive in the world in which they will live and work."

Assistive technology is at the heart of the inclusive support provided by Kath Lawson and Steffy Cappleman who champion how effective use of 'technology for all' can improve motivation, encourage independence and result in improved skills and progress. Jenna Potter, Headteacher, said: "Overall, Richmond School use assistive technology as one of the key mechanisms to help students to become independent, resilient and successful learners. The school focuses on student strengths and have a belief that a learning difference is not necessarily a barrier, rather something that students with the right approach can manage themselves."

Details of the comprehensive offer of training and support available from Yes@RichmondSchool can be found at [www.yes@richmondschool.net](http://www.yes@richmondschool.net)

## CROSS-CURRICULAR PHYSICS AND FRENCH VISIT TO GENEVA

Nineteen Physics and French students enjoyed an interesting and inspiring four-day visit to Geneva, including a host of activities from visiting an antimatter factory, crossing the border to visit a chateau to taking a guided tour of the United Nations. The Physics department has run a trip to Geneva for the last two years but invited the French department to join them to give more students the opportunity to benefit from the amazing opportunity. Mrs Harrison, Physics Teacher, said: "It was the most jam-packed trip we have ever run to Geneva. Mrs Norman has been hugely instrumental in adding to the itinerary and has made it so memorable for all of us"



The first day started at the Parc Mon Repos where the students took in the views across Lake Geneva. On the way they discovered a small sandy beach for a quick paddle. Ice-cream was obviously the next stop and the first real opportunity to use their French - thank goodness for the A-level French students being able to translate the huge variety of flavours.

Day two was a 6.30 start for the visit to CERN – a center for scientific excellence. The students spent the morning finding out about the collaborative nature of CERN and its discoveries, including the Higgs Boson. They visited the data centre and the Antimatter Factory to learn about the new G-bar experiment they will be conducting in the future.

On the third day the Physics and French students went their separate ways for the morning. Physics returned to CERN to take part in the S-cool labs where we became particle hunters and built cloud chambers. The French students travelled into France and visited Voltaire's chateau, the place where this French philosopher wrote his last essays on tolerance and freedom of speech. We then all met up again after lunch to visit the United Nations. We experienced "human rights" being defended at the United Nations and attended a world delegates' conference. The evening was a friendly game of bowling where it was discovered Mrs Norman had been hiding a secret talent!

On the final day, the French students were up early to sample the Swiss gastronomy during a guided visit of a covered market before joining back with the rest of the group to explore the old town and the beautiful views at the top of the cathedral.

Lucy Turner said: "Going to Geneva with my A-level French class has to be one of the best experiences I've had in my college and school years. A highlight of mine has to be our visit to the United Nations and witnessing all of the amazing work they do there."

The trip was a huge success, the students were fabulous, as always, and they have some fantastic memories to take away. It was a truly inspiring trip and a wonderful way to link across the curriculum. Next year's group have a lot to live up to!

Eleanor Bramley concluded: "I found the trip to Geneva extremely enjoyable while also very helpful for my French. I felt that my confidence in speaking French improved a lot as well as my listening and translation skills."





## BARONESS HARRIS REWARDS EXCELLENCE AT ANNUAL AWARDS

Excellence in all areas of school life has been recognised at our annual presentation evening. Students across all Year groups were invited on stage to receive their certificates and trophies from Baroness Angela Harris, the host for the evening. Headboy and Headgirl, Saul Tuite and Alana Hodgson, welcomed students, parents, carers, staff and local dignitaries and introduced Baroness Harris, who treated the capacity audience to a truly thought-provoking and inspiring address to motivate the students in their future studies.

Baroness Harris urged the students to make the best of every opportunity that comes their way, explaining that throughout their lives doors will open and doors will close, but when the opportunities come along, not to hesitate, they should go for it. She told the parents and carers in the audience that it is very good of them to trust their children to the care of the amazing teaching staff at Richmond School. She went on to say that the students are very special and they have learnt the qualities of the school's values, teamwork being invaluable as people matter and it is people that make the world go around. Baroness Harris concluded by saying to the students: "Keep your options open, work hard, be cheerful, be kind and do everything that your parents tell you to do!"

Subject awards were presented for every year group, including an overall cup winner for each subject, in addition to a number of special awards. The Headteacher's cup was awarded to Brandon Sutherland-Parker who impressed Mrs Potter with his outstanding drive and passion for dance.

James Longstaff and Rosie Collier-Gent were rewarded with the Examination Excellence Awards for GCSE and A-level respectively. James achieved a full suite of ten Grade 9s at GCSE, with Rosie achieving three A\*s at A-level as well as an A\* in her Extended Project Qualification. In addition, James was presented with the subject awards for English and Mathematics. James is now studying Chemistry, Maths, Further Maths and Physics A-levels at Richmond Sixth Form. Rosie was also awarded the cups for English and Media and Modern Foreign Languages and is now studying for a degree in English Literature and English Language at Oxford University.

Entertainment came from Sophie Montgomery, who performed Mozart's Non So Piu from The Marriage of Figaro. Her flawless performance was impressive and powerful, and demonstrated Sophie's incredible talent. It came as no surprise for the audience to hear that Sophie scored a near-perfect A\* score of 103/105 in the performance component of her recent A-level Music examination. Sophie was presented with the Year 13 Music Award.

Headteacher Jenna Potter said, "Every year, we look forward to our Presentation evening and are privileged to honour our students who continue to achieve excellence in their studies and enrichment activities. These students are great ambassadors for the school and their attitude to self-improvement and striving to be the best they can be is admirable. It is an immense pleasure to see the students being rewarded for their hard work."



## SUPREME DECISION BY RICHMOND SCHOOL ALUMNA

We are immensely proud of our Alumna, Baroness Hale of Richmond who, as President of the Supreme Court, has made history in the recent ruling about the unlawful suspension of parliament. Baroness Hale said the unanimous decision of the 11 justices meant Parliament had effectively not been prorogued. The Supreme Court is the highest court in the UK. The judges, known as justices, have the final say on the biggest legal issues and are the ultimate check and balance on the UK's laws and constitution.

Baroness Hale attended Richmond School and went on to study at Cambridge, before teaching law at Manchester University from 1966 to 1984. She qualified as a barrister and in 1984 was the first woman to be appointed to the Law Commission. In 1994, she became a High Court judge and, in 1999, became the second woman to be promoted to the Court of Appeal, before becoming the first woman Law Lord. We are very privileged that Baroness Hale retains her links with Richmond School and were delighted when she visited last October to speak to our students.



EQUAL TO EVERYTHING

Judge Brenda  
and the Supreme Court



Baroness Hale has published a book called 'Equal To Everything'. It celebrates the journey of a young girl from Richmond in North Yorkshire, who travels to the highest court of the UK in Westminster.

Baroness Hale at  
Richmond School in 1957



## TRAINEE JOCKEY IS RIDING HIGH

Imogen Thornton, who recently completed her studies at Richmond Sixth Form College, is riding high after being head-hunted for her dream job at Ann Duffield Racing. Hot on the heels of achieving Distinction\* and two Distinctions in her Level 3 Cambridge Technical Diploma in Sport & Physical Activity, Imogen is taking on a wide range of responsibilities. Her role has already developed and she accompanies the vets when they visit, helps out at the on-site equine rehabilitation centre, as well as looking after the horses when they travel to races.



Ann Duffield, owner, said: "There is nothing that I can't ask Imogen to do and I know she will never let me down. She is a great asset and works really well in our team, she just gets on with whatever jobs need doing. She overcomes problems herself, has great respect for our clients and is extremely resilient. It's thanks to the support of her parents and school for making her the person she is. Imogen will climb the ladder, she has great potential and will make the most of the many opportunities for progression in the world of racing."

Imogen made a very positive impression on the team at Ann Duffield in Year 10, and again Year 12, after completing her work experience at the yard. Ann quickly recognised that Imogen was not afraid of hard work and had a great aptitude to multi-task and get things done to a very high standard. Aware that Imogen would be finishing college in the summer, Ann approached Imogen with a full-time job and the offer to train in many aspects of racing.

Imogen has been riding since she was two years old and competing regularly for over twelve years. She was a leading member of the Richmond School and Sixth Form Equestrian Team and during her seven years at school took part in championships across England, bringing home a haul of trophies. Imogen has embraced the working life, getting up with the larks to start work at 6:30am until 12:30pm and then returning for a 4:30-6pm shift, as well as regular weekends. She enjoys all aspects of her job, but her favourite part of the day is riding out and going to the race events.



## WORLD-LEADING FORENSICS EXPERT GOES BACK TO SCHOOL

One of the world's leading forensics experts inspired over 600 students when she came back to Richmond School to talk about her career and achievements. Alumna Professor Sarah Hainsworth OBE FREng was appointed an Officer of the Order of the British Empire for her services to Engineering and Forensic Science in the 2019 New Year Honours List.

It was thanks to the Darlington & Stockton Times that this very special visit was made possible. In January, the paper reported that Professor Hainsworth had been awarded the OBE. This led to an ex-classmate, and member of staff at Richmond School, spotting the feature and getting in touch, 33 years after they left school, and inviting Professor Hainsworth to talk to the students.



Professor Hainsworth is a Pro-Vice-Chancellor and Executive Dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Science at Aston University and a Professor of Materials and Forensic Engineering. She spoke to students in Years 9, 10, 12 and 13 about the diversity of her work, explaining that Engineering is everywhere, leaving them in no doubt that there are opportunities in virtually every field of work. She opened her presentation with a press cutting from the Northern Echo in 1985 when she was involved in a BBC-run competition at Richmond Sixth Form college where students saved and recycled plastic cups to create a swan, winning an Acorn computer!



Professor Hainsworth is a Forensic Science expert in stabbing and dismemberment. The students were especially intrigued by her role in establishing how King Richard III died, by examining and analysing the wound marks on his skull and relating these to the weapons that were likely to have caused them. She issued 3D glasses to the students so they could get a visual interpretation of the skull and the forensic analysis carried out.

Lauren Bastow, Year 13 student, said: "I found the presentation really interesting, the amazing variety of work that Professor Hainsworth has been involved in really demonstrates the huge scope of career opportunities within Engineering that I didn't realise there could be. I'm hoping to study Psychology at university and, having seen Professor Hainsworth's work in Forensics, it has inspired me to consider Forensic Psychology as a future career."

Professor Hainsworth said: "It was lovely to be back at Richmond and see the new buildings and the vibrant learning environment. Engaging with the current Richmond students was a great experience and hopefully it may inspire them to think about Engineering as a career."

Susan Thornton, STEM Co-ordinator, concluded: "We were delighted that Professor Hainsworth was able to take time out of her busy schedule to talk to our students about her career and the possibilities open to them. This inspirational talk from an ex-student has really motivated our students in the many areas of STEM."

**Professor Hainsworth featured a great video in her presentation which we encourage students to watch at:**  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=51cwSxtK1d0>

# DESIGN RICHMOND SCHOOL'S CHRISTMAS CARD



The nights are drawing in, the mornings are crisp and frosty, Halloween and Bonfire Night are nearly here and then the countdown to Christmas begins! Last year, we ran a competition to create the artwork for the school's Christmas card and were delighted with Christy Swift's beautiful winning design (above).

With so much artistic talent across all year groups, we are inviting students to submit their designs for the 2019 Christmas card. Please can students follow the guidelines below and ensure their designs are submitted to Mrs Harrild or Mrs Edwards in student services by **5th November**.

## Guidelines for students

- \* Designs must be in colour and hand drawn in crayon or paint. Please do not use felt tips. Please do not include any digital imagery. The design must be the student's own work
- \* Please do not stick anything to the card (eg sequins) as any texture will be difficult to scan/reproduce
- \* Designs can be inspired by other artists but not copied
- \* The finished Christmas card is A5 in size so the design should be submitted as A5 (half A4)
- \* Ensure the design is drawn/painted on good-quality paper or thin card so that it scans well
- \* Please put name, age and tutor group in light pencil on the reverse of the artwork.
- \* Leave designs with Mrs Harrild or Mrs Edwards in student services
- \* The designs will be judged by Mrs James, Mrs Potter and Mrs Lundberg
- \* Art students in Years 7, 8 and 9 will be set this for their half-term homework

**DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES IS 5TH NOVEMBER**

**We look forward to receiving lots of entries!**



# HALF-TERM HIGHLIGHTS

I hope you enjoy our first newsletter of the 2019-2020 academic year, it's been a busy and rewarding half term. I look forward to reporting on all the great news and success stories in our December issue.

Jenna Potter, Headteacher



# DIARY DATES

## October

**Friday 25th**

**School Closes**

## November

**Monday 4th**

**School Opens**

**Friday 29th**

**Training Day**

## December

**Tuesday 10th**

**Sixth Form Christmas Lunch**

**Thursday 12th**

**School Christmas Lunch**

**Thursday 12th**

**Christmas Concert**

**Thursday 19th**

**Carol Service**

**Friday 20th**

**School Closes**

## January

**Monday 6th**

**School Opens**

**Thursday 16th**

**Year 11 Progress Parent Meetings**

**Thursday 23rd**

**Year 8 Programmes of Study Evening**

**Thursday 30th**

**Year 8 Progress Parent Meetings**

## February

**Thursday 13th**

**Year 13 Progress Parent Meetings**

**Friday 14th**

**School Closes**

**Monday 24th**

**School Opens**

## March

**Thursday 26th**

**Year 7 Progress Parent Meetings**