

**Welcome to our February Newsletter** - Another busy half-term has literally flown by. I have always believed that student voice is one of the best ways of working out how to improve schools. Students always tell us with honesty and good intention what works and what could be better.

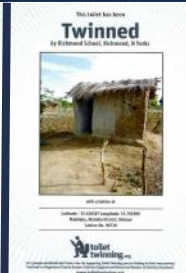
This half-term we have spoken to many students about their Programmes of Study, about assessment in school, about how we can become more environmentally friendly and about what helps them to retain knowledge. Their answers have given us some good ideas to use in our forward planning. One of the notable threads to come out of the discussions was how useful students are finding 'retrieval practice'. In its simplest form, this involves teachers regularly bringing back material that has previously been taught - often at the beginning or the end of a lesson - so that students process any knowledge several times. Research tells us that this is the only way to ensure the knowledge is retained in a student's long term memory and so it really is an area of our practice that we are keen to develop further. Please do ask your son or daughter about how this approach is working for them - the more students are able to talk about their learning, the better they will understand themselves as learners and the better learners they will become.

Behind the scenes, there has been a lot of work put into the creation of our new website, which will be launched on 25th February, and we are very much looking forward to sharing it with you. This has really been a great team effort involving a large number of staff to whom I am most appreciative for their contribution. I would like to mention Mr Flanagan and Mrs Lundberg for their commitment to this very significant project. They have both embodied all of our school values during the development process and have worked tirelessly to ensure an excellent product is realised. I do hope you find the new site informative and helpful.

I was delighted to be able to write to a large number of parents of Year 11 students last week, to pass on compliments from the staff at the Royal Armouries about the exemplary behaviour and attitude of our Year 11 students during a recent visit. Our students rarely fail to impress and receiving such positive feedback, which occurs quite frequently from many different sources, makes me feel extremely proud to be the Headteacher of Richmond School. Thank you for being a constant source of support to us and in doing so ensuring our students develop into respectful young adults who are able to manage themselves well in any situation they find themselves in.

Best wishes to you all - do enjoy a relaxing break.

Jenna Potter, Headteacher



**Students support charities at home and abroad - find out more on page 10**



**Making the headlines on page 18**



**Amazing donations boost the Music department - hear all about it on page 5**

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# PERFORMING ARTS

## GETTING IN ON THE ACT!

This year, Richmond School Theatre Company is entering the One Act Play Festival which will be hosted at the Georgian Theatre Royal in April. The students compete in the northern preliminary round of the All-England Theatre Festival - the only countrywide elimination contest for one-act plays for performance throughout England. The festival provides a brilliant opportunity to showcase work and compete against like-minded groups, as well as benefit from expert adjudication. The adjudicator will give a public adjudication of each entry and at the end of the Festival they will select and announce the company to go forward to the next round. As well as hoping for a place in the next round there are many individual awards and trophies up for the taking.

We are entering two groups and performing two of Mark Wheeler's plays, *Missing Dan Nolan* and *One Million to Stop the Traffik*. We recently showcased our entries to parents and families to allow them to see our work in progress before the main event.

*Missing Dan Nolan* is based on the true story of Dan Nolan, a fourteen-year-old boy who went fishing in Hamble (between Southampton and Portsmouth) on the night of the 1st January 2002. Unbeknown to his parents, he and his three friends had taken a litre bottle of vodka. Late that evening the boys became separated and, although the other three arrived home safely, Dan never returned. Twenty-one months later, human remains were discovered on a remote pool area in Swanage, 33 miles in a straight line 60 miles by road. These remains were positively identified as Dan's.

*One Million to Stop the Traffik* tells true stories of people who are trafficked. Sunni and Whinney, just six and eight years old, were sold by their parents and their story inspired the formation of STOP THE TRAFFIK. "People should not be bought and sold" became their mantra. *One Million to... STOP THE TRAFFIK* goes on to tell the incredible true story of their determined quest to get 1,000,000 signatures to enable them to go to the United Nations and call on governments to fight human trafficking.

The competition takes place on Saturday 18th April and Sunday 19th April 2020. Once the exact timings have been confirmed, tickets will be available from The Georgian Theatre Royals box office on 01748 825252 or online at [www.georgiantheatrroyal.co.uk](http://www.georgiantheatrroyal.co.uk).

We hope you are able to come and support the students and we look forward to updating you on this exciting theatre project.





# PERFORMING ARTS

## DANCERS LEARN FROM TOP PROFESSIONALS

Our Year 10 and 11 GCSE Dance students took part in a three-hour workshop with two professional dancers from Phoenix Dance Theatre and James Cousins Company.



The workshop was offered to develop the students' knowledge of the professional work 'Within Her Eyes' which is one of the dance works that students investigate and analyse as part of their GCSE dance course. Working with the professional dancers gave students an insight into key movement material used within the performance and explore it practically for themselves. This allowed them to see the choreography first-hand and gain a deeper understanding of the piece as well as providing them with the unique opportunity to work alongside professional dancers.

The students were engaged and inspired by the two professionals throughout the workshop and showed complete professionalism and commitment to the practical tasks set. It was really beneficial for them to gain an understanding of current dance works being choreographed in the UK today. They were truly inspired by the dance professionals who also talked to them about careers within the performance industry.



### **\*\*BREAKING NEWS\*\***

Congratulations to Eva Midgley, in Year 13, who has secured a place at the Northern Ballet School in Manchester. Further details to follow after the half-term holiday.

### **\*\*BREAKING NEWS\*\***



# PERFORMING ARTS

## REVEALING THE CAST FOR WEST SIDE STORY!

Rehearsals for West Side Story, our eagerly-awaited musical production, are well underway. Our talented and strong cast is made up of 70 performers, 20 backstage crew and 33 musicians. The show will be presented on Wednesday 1st July 2020 - Friday 3rd July 2020 and it will be one not to be missed. After a term of workshop-style auditions, we have now cast the show with principal roles being taken by students across all Year groups, from 7 to 13.



We have begun by choreographing the prologue. The prologue shows the struggle for control of the neighbourhood on the West Side of New York City and, with 70 performers dancing all around the hall, it will be a spectacular opening with dance, music and stage combat. The opening scene has been choreographed and taught to all by Mrs Fox, along with Ellie Lonsdale, Usha Rai and Grace Stones, all Sixth Form CTEC Performing Arts Students.

The production is being directed by Mr Birdsall and Mr Henderson, with choreography by Mrs Fox and musical direction by Mr Boyd. Further information on tickets for the production will be released after the Easter break so ensure you check back and get your tickets fast so not to be disappointed.

## \* \* \* \* \* *THE CAST* \* \* \* \* \*

### *The Jets*

Maisie Forbes	Riff
Saul Tuite	Tony
Archie Forbes	Action
Adam Graham	A-Rab
Henry Wright	Baby John
Rose Jury	Snowboy
Izzy Walton	Big Deal
Evie Dobson	Diesel
Usha Rai	Gee-Tar / Dance Leader
Charlotte Harrison	Mouth Piece
Millie Aston	Tiger
Eve Walker	Graziella
Millie Dixon	Velma
Jenna Rushforth	Anybodys
Anna-Rosie Hall	Minnie
Cora Aked	Clarice
Jasmine Akin	Pauline

### *The Jet Dance Ensemble*

Millie Cullen	Phoebe Jones
Maisie Hamilton	Abbey Sankey
Eleni Oliver	Katie Rees
Natalie Muxworthy	Daisy Pyrah
Lucy Wilson	Molly Shanley
Daisy Binks	Caitlin Mackintosh
	Erin Mankelow
	Florence Phillips

### *The Sharks*

Adam Dixon	Bernardo
Grace Morris	Maria
Georgie O'Reilly	Anita
Jaime Gilpin	Chino
Sophie Wright	Pepe
Devon Raggett	Indio
Isla Henderson	Rosalia
Grace Stones	Francisca/ Dance Leader
Sophia O'Callaghan	Consuelo
Sarah Manning	Teresita
Hannah Horton	Estella
Sarah Duncan	Margarita

### *Other Characters*

Unity Shrimpton	Doc
Alice Knox	Shrank
Sophie Cameron	Krupke I
Mason Lockey	Krupke II
Layla Hunt	Glad Hand

### *The Shark Dance Ensemble*

Elsa Wright
Olivia Richardson
Casey-Rae Meades
Izzy Stott
Tabitha Aston
Bella Stolarski
Carla Fransisco

### *The Shark Ensemble*

Toby Watson
Lily Lake
Gaby Honour
Francesca Rouse
Layla Hunt
Katie Proudlock
Amelie Harte
Shelby Carter
Eve Hughes



# PERFORMING ARTS

## AMAZING DONATIONS BOOST MUSICAL OPPORTUNITIES



Staff and students are celebrating after receiving a fabulous windfall in the shape of numerous instruments to boost the musical opportunities at school. Thanks to the Army and the School's Trustees, the Music department has been swelled with a fabulous range of instruments.

Following the closure of three British Schools for forces children in Germany, the musical and technical equipment was repatriated to Catterick. The Commanding Officer wanted the equipment to be donated to schools across North Yorkshire and Richmond School was fortunate to receive a great selection of instruments. Two French horns, two euphoniums, three trombones, a drum kit, a tam-tam, a full set of music stands for the orchestra, as well as flight cases for drums and musical keyboards have enhanced the school's musical offer.



A sousaphone and two tubas were purchased with the Trustees' generous donation of £3,500. After almost 90 years of service, the school tuba finally ceased working and local brass bands were relied on for lending our students another instrument. With two sixth form students playing the tuba, the grant came at exactly the right time and makes the school self-sufficient.

The school's jazz band has gone from strength to strength over recent years and the amount of outdoor concerts the school are asked to perform at has increased significantly. Taking electrical equipment outside can be hazardous and having a sousaphone means the bass lines are now all safely covered with a traditional instrument which not only creates a wonderful sound but is visually a spectacle and focal point in its own right. Tubas and sousaphones are generally out of the budget of most hobby musicians so students will benefit greatly from the kindness of the Trustees.

Stephen Boyd, Lead Teacher for Music, said: "These amazing donations have come at just the right time as the Music department continues to expand and renew equipment. It means we can now give students the opportunity to play brass instruments that are very expensive to buy. The music stands and flight cases are normally so expensive, and not always top of the priority list, but will ensure that when we go on trips and concert tours we will be able to safely look after our instruments. We can look forward to encouraging and developing our students musical talents with instruments that not only look the part and play superbly, but will also last for another 50 years in the Richmond School Music department."

Jenna Potter, Headteacher, concluded: "We cannot thank the Army and our Trustees enough. Their generous donations will make a huge difference to the learning opportunities for our students. It will also enable them to develop their creative skills and to enjoy the social element of playing in a musical group where life-long friendships are forged and the value of working as part of a team is so important."

## EVE'S HEAD SHAVE RAISES OVER £800 FOR DEMENTIA UK

A kind-hearted student has raised over £800 for Dementia UK by having her head shaved. Eve Walker, a Year 13 student, has been volunteering at Nightingale Hall since doing her work experience at the care home in the summer. She enjoys helping with a number of activities at the home, such as playing games as well as helping to run a choir, all of which bring enormous delight to the residents. Eve is aware of how dementia affects those living with the condition as well as their families, and so she decided to raise some money to support the Dementia UK charity.

Eve's Mum is a barber so was well-qualified to help out with her head shave which took place in the Bay Horse pub in Catterick with friends and families supporting Eve in her challenge. Donations can still be made at [www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Eve-Walker1](http://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Eve-Walker1). Seven inches of Eve's hair was cut off and has been donated to the Little Princess Trust to make wigs for children who lose their hair during cancer treatment. Eve was delighted that her boyfriend, Jack Greenslade, was also 'brave to shave' and chose to donate the money he raised to Marie Curie.

Les Richardson, Assistant Headteacher, said: "I can only admire Eve, not only for having the courage to shave her head but for her ongoing commitment to help at Nightingale Hall care home. Eve was so passionate, as she spoke to us about her experiences and determination to support those who need help, that she moved many of us to tears. She is a great role model and has been instrumental in encouraging and inspiring her fellow students to consider ways of supporting different charities and people in need. We are very proud of her efforts."

Hilda Hayo, CEO of Dementia UK and Chief Admiral Nurse, concluded: "We know that living with dementia can be a difficult and lonely experience. The support of an Admiral Nurse is a lifeline for families affected by dementia and the invaluable support of Eve Walker will mean we can provide this vital, life-changing support to even more families who need it."

To find out about ways to support Dementia UK visit [www.dementiauk.org/get-involved/](http://www.dementiauk.org/get-involved/)





# IN THE COMMUNITY

## HALF-TERM FUN AND MORE COMING TO THE STATION

Don't miss the fun-filled activities coming to the Station over half-term, on the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> February. There are four Slime workshops, suitable for ages 4+, on 19<sup>th</sup> February (£8 per session) and four craft workshops, suitable for ages 2+, on 20<sup>th</sup> February (£7 per session). Tickets are available from the Station shop, or visit [www.thestation.co.uk/whats-on/events/](http://www.thestation.co.uk/whats-on/events/) where you can also find out about a number of events that are being hosted by The Station Café over the next few months.



**\*\* STOP PRESS \*\*** There are still spaces available in The Station's **FREE Art Workshops** for persons aged 16-25. Every Thursday evening from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m., until 2nd April, local artists will demonstrate a variety of techniques.

Visit <http://www.thestation.co.uk/whats-on/groups-and-classes/spase/> for details on how to sign up.



## STRICTLY FAB-U-LOUS DANCING BY PRIMARY SCHOOL STUDENTS

Schools from across the area were welcomed to Richmond School and taken straight onto the dance floor where a group of Year 12 CTEC Dance students led them in a fun, comprehensive warm up. The school dance groups then followed a rotation of activities for the rest of the morning which included a technical rehearsal on stage, a lecture demonstration from the Year 13 CTEC dancers and optional make-up class and a private rehearsal with a Year 12 coach, all before lunch!

Once lunch was out of the way, all of the schools joined together in the hall ready for the full dress rehearsal before parents and grandparents arrived for the final show. It was a fabulous celebration of dance which saw pupils from Years 1-6 taking part and pupils from Years 7-13 supporting the event and helping out.

Congratulations to Richmond Methodist, Le Cateau, North and South Cowton and Trinity Academy Middleton Tyas for taking part and producing an outstanding performance, with specific awards going to the following schools;

- Best choreography: Michael Syddall
- Best performance/expressive qualities Hackforth and Hornby
- Best team dynamics: Bolton on Swale
- Best technical skill: Wavell



# IN THE COMMUNITY

## YEAR 10 STUDENTS EXCEL AT LEADING CHANGE4LIFE SPORTS FESTIVAL

Richmond School hosted a fun sports festival aiming to engage those pupils who currently do not take part in sports. The event was attended by 10 Primary schools from around the area and was led by 27 of our Year 10 Student Leaders. The Year 10 students independently led a variety of games including golf activities, parachute games, dodgeball and obstacle relays, to name a few.

They gained a wealth of experience and many compliments on their approach to the event and the manner in which they spoke to the younger primary pupils. The primary pupils were rewarded for demonstrating key values such as determination, passion and teamwork with a stamp on their score card and a sticker for themselves.

The winning team was then calculated by the amount of stamps that they collected on their scorecard. Congratulations to Trinity Academy Richmond and Michael Syddall Primary schools on coming first and second respectively.



## STUDENTS RECEIVE IMPRESSIVE FEEDBACK FOR THEIR GREEN PLAN IT PROJECT

Three representatives from the Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) received a warm welcome at school when they met with five budding gardeners! A team of five Year 8 students took part in the RHS' Green Plan It project to research, plan, design and build a model garden. Darragh Lyons, Hannah Slater, Ella McArdle, Niamh Hyman and Jacob Wharton attended the launch of the project, at the stunning Harlow Carr Gardens, where they learnt about plants and how they could consider using them when designing a green space at school or within their local community.

Following this event, the students worked tirelessly on their design, creating a storyboard about their research and proposal, as well as creating a fantastic model to depict the garden.

Unfortunately, the students were unable to attend the celebration event but they were delighted when the RHS assessors offered to visit them at school. They presented their garden model and findings and received glowing feedback on how impressive their report was. The green-fingered students were a credit to the school.





# IN THE COMMUNITY

## ANYONE FOR TENNIS?

  
**SADDLER TENNIS**  
 20 years experience & expertise  
**RICHMOND EASTER CAMP**  
 Richmond School  
**Tuesday 14th - Friday 17th April**  
**FULL DAYS** or **1/2 DAYS**  
 9am-4.30pm or 9am-12.00pm  
**TENNIS + MULTISPORTS**  
 all equipment provided for £free



TENNIS-KWIK CRICKET-VOLLEYBALL-ROUNDERS-BADMINTON-TABLE TENNIS

### PRICING - 4 DAYS

*applies to friends, not just siblings!!!*

1 x place  
2 x places  
3 x places

### FULL DAY

Yr3-Yr8

£95.00  
£175.00  
£247.50

### 1/2 day

Reception upwards

£50.00  
£95.00  
£130.00

### FULL DAY

please bring own packed lunch & drinks

'wind-down' movie club 3pm-4.30pm

*can't come for all 4 days...? no problem!! ask Jonathan about 1,2 or 3 FULL or 1/2 DAYS*

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jonathansaddler@me.com

Qualified DBS coaches



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## SIGN UP FOR INCLUSIVE DANCING AND CYCLING FOR ALL ACTIVITIES

Bookings are now being taken for the inclusive sports activities 'Dancing for All' and 'Cycling for All'. The sessions are open to all ages and abilities, and run for six weeks costing £27 per participant. Places can be booked at [www.YES@AreteLearningTrust.net](http://www.YES@AreteLearningTrust.net). The course is supported by the National Lottery Community Fund.

'Cycling for All', led by Stage One Cycles for All, runs for 6 weeks starting Tuesday April 28th 4.30 -5.30 pm.

'Dancing for All', led by Victoria Sellars of Aspire Dance in Education, starts on Wednesday June 3rd 5.30 - 6.30.

For further information email Steffy at [yes@aretelearningtrust.org](mailto:yes@aretelearningtrust.org)



## GET INTO SPORT AT RICHMOND SCHOOL

We are delighted to offer a range of sporting opportunities at weekends and after school through a number of community organisations. There are a host of classes and activities available each week including:

Boogie Bounce	Martial Arts and Kick-Boxing
Richmond Netball Club	Richmond Hockey Club
Latin and Ballroom Classes	Soccer Sixes Football League
Pilates	Hatha Yoga
Richmond Town Football Club	Jonathan Saddler Tennis
(men's/women's/juniors)	

For further details about the list of classes and activities on offer visit [www.richmondschool.schoolbookings.co.uk](http://www.richmondschool.schoolbookings.co.uk)



Please contact Matthew Brown on 01748 828123 / 07874 903656 / [communitysport@richmondschool.net](mailto:communitysport@richmondschool.net) for more information on hiring our fabulous facilities or to answer any queries about activities hosted at school

# IN THE COMMUNITY

## STUDENTS SUPPORT COMMUNITY PROJECTS AT HOME AND ABROAD

Seven students have been praised for their initiative, kindness and impressive organisation skills in their work to support community projects, at home and abroad. The Sixth Form students demonstrated great teamwork, creativity and respect for others whilst working on 'Sharing Our Skills', a project spearheaded by the local group of Soroptimist International.

Since 2011, members of the Richmond and Dales Soroptimist branch have invited student volunteers to contribute to their focus on supporting women and girls around the world to achieve their individual and collective potential. This year, the girls worked as a close-knit team and organised a dress-down day, raising £1,064. The girls deliberated very carefully on the best use of the money and put together a considered plan that realised multiple outcomes to enable the maximum possible number of people to benefit.

Sue Young, Co-President of the Richmond and Dales Soroptimist Group said: "The girls have done a magnificent job to raise over £1,000. What I really admire is the creative way in which they have used the money to ensure so many people received much-needed support. They carefully set and met their objectives and, in doing so, raised their own awareness and compassion for women across the world who are facing adversity and living in challenging conditions. In addition, they demonstrated their ability to communicate, control finances and unite as a team, all valuable and transferable skills for the world of work."

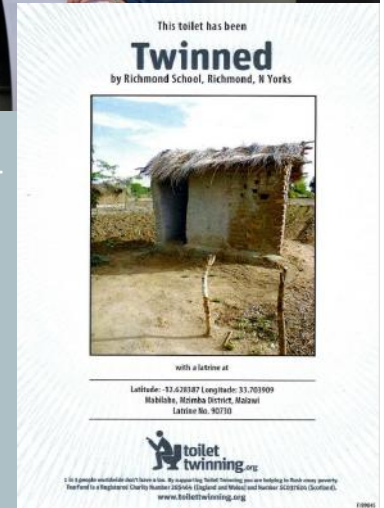
The students realised sufficient funds to support four projects, starting with the Toilet Twinning project. The facts are harsh, with one third of the world's population not having anywhere safe to go to the toilet and every two minutes, one child under the age of five dies because of poor sanitation. The girls are delighted that their donation has enabled six basic toilets to be built for families in poor communities and has given them access to clean water and the opportunity to learn about hygiene. The toilets are twinned with latrines in Nicaragua, Malawi, Myanmar, Congo, Cote d'Ivoire and the Central African Republic. There is a constant reminder of this excellent work in college, with framed certificates displayed in the girls' toilets.

The girls also devoted £100 to the 'Yorkshire to Gambia' project to purchase a sewing machine to make reusable sanitary towels. A further £200 was spent on purchasing sanitary products to be donated to the Foodbank at the Influence Church, in Richmond, and to help combat period poverty in their own community. The girls donated £300 to a project in Zimbabwe to support traditional birthing attendants to help prevent infection around newborn babies and their mothers.

The students were thrilled with the results of their work. Eleanor Bramley said: "By working with this group, it has really highlighted the importance of spreading awareness about certain topics that may never have crossed some people's minds." Becky Potts went on to say: "Working with the Soroptimists was an amazing experience and really opened my eyes to world problems and how this group is helping to make a change."

Les Richardson, Assistant Headteacher, concluded: "I am extremely grateful that every year, members of the local Soroptimists' club take the time to mentor some of our Sixth Form girls. It is an excellent experience for the students and, as you can see, we often get such praiseworthy results. This year's group of girls have worked very well together as a team, demonstrating many of our core values. We are proud of the students and our connection with the Soroptimists."

To find out more about the fabulous work of the Richmond and Dales Soroptimists visit <https://sigbi.org/richmond-and-dales/>





# SPORT

## STUDENTS LEAD THE WAY TO ATLANTA



A group of talented cheerleaders are preparing for a performance of a lifetime. The seven students are heading to Atlanta as part of a team of twenty members of the Catterick-based Lazer Cheer Academy team where they will take part in the highly-regarded international Cheer Sport competition.

The competition draws in the top cheerleading teams from around the world. The students, aged between 11 and 17, are training rigorously to perfect their stunts, pyramids, tumblers, jumps and dance and are working on a show-stopping routine with which to impress the judges.

Alongside their intense training regime, the girls are also doing a huge amount of fundraising to help pay towards the costs for flights and accommodation. Already, they have done a number of Big Breakfasts locally as well as a pamper day at RAF Leeming. In addition, they are also a nominated project in Tesco's Bags of Help appeal, at the Catterick Garrison store, until the end of March, where support would be greatly appreciated to help them receive a grant towards new uniforms and equipment for the club.

Mandy Foreman, director at Lazer Cheer, said: "This is the first time we have taken a team to America to compete and I am incredibly proud of them and the amount of extra training they are putting in to make sure we are competition ready."

Jenna Potter, Headteacher, concluded: "These girls are top-class athletes who are demonstrating such creativity, excellence and teamwork as well as an incredible amount of resilience to fit in all the training alongside their studies. I wish them the very best of luck as they head to Atlanta."

## RICHMOND HOSTS U13 HAMBLETON AND RICHMONDSHIRE NETBALL TOURNAMENT

Richmond School hosted the U13 Hambleton and Richmondshire Area Netball Tournament on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2020. It was very well attended with 10 teams participating.

The Richmond team produced a full set of performances to be proud of and demonstrated yet again excellence whilst playing and resilience to dig deep when facing high standard opponents.

Congratulations to Stokesley School who were crowned champions at the tournament by winning 8 out of 9 games and drawing in their ninth game.



# SPORT

## FOOTBALLERS DEMONSTRATE A FANTASTIC TEAM SPIRIT

A group of Year 7 girls demonstrated a fantastic team spirit and in doing so came third overall in the area indoor football tournament at Northallerton. There were seven teams taking part and Richmond didn't lose one game, and played to a very high standard.

The girls were commended for how well they switched in and out of position in all their games, working at a very high intensity and fast pace (as indoor football can be). They were strong and held their own throughout the competition and were regarded as a big threat to all the other teams. The girls worked fantastically together as a team and in and out of position. They responded to feedback and implemented it during every game or at half time, to adapt and be tactical depending on which team they were against.



There were outstanding performances on the pitch as follows:

- Beth Rutterford for stepping up and playing goal and playing superbly
- Charlotte Harrison as the nominated penalty taker and being calm and collected when doing so
- Goal scorers: Emma Farrow, Maddie James and Charlotte Harrison
- Fabulous defensive work from Katie Mulreany and Isabel Rutterford

## GREAT RESULTS AT NORTH YORKSHIRE CROSS-COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS

Thirteen students recently achieved great results in the North Yorkshire Schools Cross Country Championships at Tadcaster. Congratulations to Maggie Longstaff, Ollie Rogerson, Ashton Newall and Henry Wright (Year 7); Charlie Wallace (Year 8); Joe Reeve and Charles Bacon (Year 10); Charlie Stephenson, Dan Francis and George McCowie (Year 11); Matthew Lambert, Sam Kettlewell and Izzy Walton (Year 13), who all ran really well.

There were some notable performances:

- Maggie finished 10<sup>th</sup> out of 51 runners and qualifies for the Northern Counties Championships in Penrith
- Charlie Stephenson won the Inter Boys race outright and had already qualified for the English Schools Cross Country Championships in Liverpool
- Dan Francis finished 9<sup>th</sup> and Joe Reeve (a year younger) finished 12<sup>th</sup> in a field of 33 runners
- In the Senior Girls race, Izzy Walton finished 8<sup>th</sup> and will run again at Penrith
- Matthew Lambert finished 5<sup>th</sup> in the Senior Boys race and is also through to the English Schools Championships

Charlie Stephenson subsequently competed in the North Yorkshire South Durham Harrier League and came first in the Under 17 event.

All our students showed real resilience on a very cold day against some tough competition. Well done to them.





# SPORT

## TOM SMASHES THROUGH UK'S TOP 100

An accomplished young badminton player has achieved top-100 ranking in the United Kingdom. Tom MacRae, a Year 13 student, is only seventeen years old but has already reached an elite level in badminton that now puts him in the top 100 adults in the country.

Tom started playing badminton when he was seven years old and quickly demonstrated great potential, passion and skill for the game. He has played for Yorkshire for eight years and is a key member of the squad.

Tom trains five times each week, three sessions with the Badminton Academy in Middlesbrough who he has been with since he was nine, and a further two times with his Dad.

Tom regularly competes all over the country playing singles and men's doubles. It was after playing in the recent senior national final that his ranking was boosted into the top 100. Tom has also travelled across Europe to play in competitions in Austria, Germany and Malta, he has even competed against the Slovakian national team.

Tom said: "I am thrilled to have reached the top 100 adult players nationally and am now focusing on a good senior career and improving my ranking."

Lesley Abbey, Lead Teacher of PE, commented: "Tom's dedication and drive to refine his game is admirable. Playing singles and doubles demonstrates both his independence and teamwork skills, a true sportsman who is achieving great things in badminton. I have no doubt that we will see Tom quickly rise up the rankings."



## YEAR 8 NETBALL TEAM DETERMINED TO SUCCEED

The year 8 Netball team have worked hard this year in training and have even run training sessions independently when their coach couldn't make the session. They have played two games against Bedale and four games against SFX School this half term and have shown great determination in both games. In the game against Bedale they played all girls who had been to training regularly meaning that 14 girls participated in a game.

At this competition the girls won one game and lost one game. In the next game against SFX they played two very tough teams, one of which being entirely made up of boys. A smaller squad of nine players attended this match and out of the four matches that they played altogether they won one and lost one game against the girls' team and drew one game and lost one against the boys' team. The girls demonstrated excellent fitness, skill and attitude on the night and have been a pleasure to coach.



## SKI TEAMS EXCEL IN FRANCE AND SWITZERLAND

Six members of the Richmond School Ski Squad flew out to represent the school in the British Schoolboys' and British Schoolgirls' races. Olivia Frankland (Year 11), Emily Riley, (Year 11) and Isobel Brooks (Year 10) headed to the girls' races at Flaine in France. Archie Dolan (Year 11), Ben Webster and James Norman (both in Sixth Form) travelled to Wengen in Switzerland for the boys' races. Both teams endured some adverse weather, which led to changes in schedules. Although they rarely race on snow (with training being mainly on dry slopes and occasionally artificial snowdomes) and are only experienced at slalom racing, they gained great results in both the slalom and giant slalom events.

In the giant slalom, **the girls** performed well individually, together coming 22<sup>nd</sup> out of 47 teams. Snowy conditions for the slalom didn't put them off. Emily's speed led to her being an amazing 11<sup>th</sup> of 73 in the under 16 category. Only seconds slower, Isobel and Olivia were impressively placed at 22<sup>nd</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> respectively. Overall, the Richmond girls were ranked 15<sup>th</sup> out of 53 teams in their slalom event! They narrowly missed out on getting further in the dual slalom knockout, when they were only just beaten in the first round.

Isobel said: "The trip to Flaine was a fabulous opportunity and an enjoyable experience. The specialist training there really improved our technique for the racing and the races were challenging but a lot of fun."

**The boys** gained good times in the giant slalom, despite having no pre-race training due to the weather. Individually they were placed mid-field or higher. In windy conditions in the U16+ slalom, Archie, who has much less race experience than the others but has progressed really well in technique, came a fabulous 44<sup>th</sup> out of 103 entrants. James, 22<sup>nd</sup> and Ben, 24<sup>th</sup> did superbly, being ranked close together with great times. Ben was awarded a bronze medal for coming 3<sup>rd</sup> in the unregistered U21 category for combined slalom and giant slalom results.

**Richmond boys were winners of one of the dual slalom events and were awarded the Slalom Plate Trophy!**

James commented, "Going to Wengen has been a goal of mine for the past two years. When I got there and experienced it, it was as amazing as I imagined. The instructors were approachable, helpful, funny and knowledgeable. Races were perfectly organised and, despite the weather, I had a great time."

Taking part in these events was an amazing opportunity and the icing on the cake of successes in races in Great Britain this school year. Archie reported, "It's been fantastic to be part of one of Richmond School's most successful ski seasons this year. We have all trained hard over the last 12 months and it has really paid off. The competition in Wengen was unforgettable, but the other competitions were also great experiences."

The ski squad currently train at Silksworth dry slope on Tuesday evenings with emphasis on fun and enjoyment, improving general skiing skills and skills especially relevant to racing. New members are needed to continue with a school team. Pupils of all skiing abilities are welcome. For further information contact Alison Brooks: [alison@rcdalton.co.uk](mailto:alison@rcdalton.co.uk)





# ACADEMIC

## A GREAT START TO 2020 FOR ENTERPRISING STUDENTS

A group of Year 12 students are celebrating the success of their business initiative. The students are taking part in the national Young Enterprise competition and have created a beautiful calendar, which is selling like hot cakes. The team quickly covered their costs on the first day of trading and have moved into profit.

The calendar is the brainchild of Evey Taylor, Adam Hodgson, Archie Forbes and Holly Davies. The team decided to start their own business with social aims and objectives to highlight the endangered species in the world.

Adam carried out the design work and created the “Save Our Species” logo featured on the calendars. He said: “I enjoyed developing a typeface and image that reflects the animals we are aiming to represent”. Evey added: “It is great that we are promoting awareness of these animals.”

All team members have developed skills in planning and organising, sales and marketing, purchasing, costs and profit, and even an understanding of VAT.

Philip Stockdale, the college’s business advisor from Young Enterprise said: “Young Enterprise provides young people with the skills and mind-set to make the most of everyday opportunities and challenges. Being enterprising is something that can be applied to all walks of life - identifying and initiating opportunities as well as adapting to different situations.”

Ms Mannion, Lead Teacher for Careers, concluded: “I am so impressed by the work ethic the team has shown in getting a product to market with such a tight deadline. They have created a high- quality product and a brand that is appealing.”

The team is developing more “Save Our Species” products which will be launching soon. The team will compete in the regional heat of the National Young Enterprise competition in March.



## STUDENTS TEST THEIR FRENCH IN THEATRE PERFORMANCE

Two hundred Year 8 and 9 students attended a play which was delivered entirely in French. The Onatti Theatre Company offers schools all over Europe their unique content and performance style of theatre in Modern Languages.

For an hour, students were transported to the life of a French family and enjoyed the dynamic and entertaining play with many surprising and unpredicted developments. One student, Campbell Finlay willingly joined the cast and performed on stage. He was also joined by 10 more students later in the play. This was a great opportunity for our students to enjoy a French cultural experience and many said how pleased they were to have recognised and understood so many French words.



## GETTING DOWN TO BUSINESS AT AN EARLY AGE

A group of budding entrepreneurs attended a “Discovery Day” at The University of Leeds to gain an insight into the exciting and broad range of Business courses offered. Organised through the Excellence Hub, a partnership between the universities of Leeds, Sheffield and York, the Year 7 and 8 students were encouraged to think about how their core school subjects give them the skills and foundations for higher education.

A great mix of taster sessions were designed to be fun and interactive, enabling students to develop skills such as teamwork, communication and creative problem solving, and ultimately encourage them to consider the various pathways to success.

The first workshop focused on business finance and students had to solve a complex accounting problem in teams to calculate the net worth of an individual. The students were not only engaged throughout but came up with a solution that closely matched the model answer.

The students also completed a decision-making activity where they worked on a NASA survival challenge, using maths and statistics to analyse their individual and team results. The event culminated with a grand tour of the prestigious university campus where the students were impressed to visit The Great Hall, the oldest part of the university.

Arlo Wheatley commented: “We saw so many interesting things, for example the longest corridor in Europe and the largest university gym in the UK. We also found out that the university has a target to get rid of plastic by 2022.” Lily Parker added: “The lecturers and student ambassadors were very open and honest about the university and we gained a lot of information.”

Lily Richardson said: “The day was inspiring and it was good to see the diversity of students from different cultures including international students.”

The University of Leeds is home to one of the top Business Schools in the country and, over the years, a number of students from Richmond Sixth Form College have graduated there.

Ms Mannion, Lead Teacher for Careers, concluded: “It was a great insight into higher education for our students and an event linking curriculum subjects to careers which is a key aspect of our careers education programme. The students excelled in the tasks set and were a credit to Richmond School.”





## STUDENTS SET TO SHINE



A group of Year 12 students have been selected to take part in the Brilliant Club project this year. The project aims to widen access for outstanding students in non-selective state schools to the UK's most selective universities. The students are Ashleigh Fraser, Thomas Burgess-Mackay, Hannah Hodgson, Liam McCarthy, Roan Cappleman, Nick Chapman, Usha Rai and Cristina Vaidos (not pictured)

The launch trip, to St Chad's College, Durham University, included a tour of the college with a current undergraduate, a visit to the cathedral, a study skills session and the students' first tutorial with their PhD tutor, Hannah Martin from Northumbria University. The project is entitled 'Riot, rebellion and the racialisation of disorder: rethinking traditional historical narratives'. Hannah has since been to visit the Sixth Form to deliver further university-style tutorials.

While at St Chad's College, the students met with ex-student Ben Rainbow who is in his 3<sup>rd</sup> year there studying Computer Science. They were able to hear first-hand what it is like to study at Durham University. The meeting was made all the more special as Ben also completed a similar Brilliant Club project when he was at Richmond School and Sixth Form College.



## SIXTH FORM PHYSICS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE VISIT SPARKS LOTS OF QUESTIONS

The Sixth Form Physics and Computer Science visit just missed the Christmas newsletter, so here's a review of what the students experienced.....

Year 12 and 13 students attended the Durham Christmas Lecture at the Physics Department of Durham University. Dr Chris Saunter gave a lecture entitled "The worm who lived forever" where he talked the students through his career in Physics and how he became involved in building a "Healthspan Machine" in Durham. The talk looked at the scientific and ethical context of lifespan and healthspan extension, and how much of the research utilised hundreds of Raspberry Pi computers and cameras to track the motion of tens of thousands of worms.

It was a truly thought-provoking lecture which inspired a lot of questions from our students about the line between science and ethics, as well as if it is right to conduct research into the extension of lifespan.



## MAKING THE HEADLINES

A group of budding writers headed to London for a day of headline-making. The Year 12 students were invited to the prestigious Guardian Education Centre at Kings Cross to take part in a workshop on how to create a newspaper front page.

Taking on the roles of reporters and editors, the students made every minute of the five hours count, gaining an understanding of the process of how to compile the perfect front page. Working in pairs, this involved learning how news stories are structured, how to put together an attention-grabbing heading, how the content for news stories is gathered and, finally, how to put this all together to make the front page stand out.



The students were privileged to be taken on a tour of The Guardian building where they were immersed in the heritage of the highly-regarded newspaper. They saw a wonderful collection of artefacts from The Guardian's history, including an original printing press and the original Manchester Guardian sign.

The visit was targeted at Media students, who are studying The Guardian as part of their exam topic on News for their A-level in Media Studies. A number of English Literature and English Language students were able to join the workshop and found the creative writing both interesting and valuable.

Katie Wood, English Language student, said: "It was quite an eye-opener to learn about how much goes in to creating the front page of a daily newspaper. It was also interesting to appreciate how difficult it is to plan ahead, as the paper depends on events occurring each day so there is no way of predicting what content and news angles you are going to be dealing with, which is really exciting."

Sujan Pariyar, Media student, added: "I really enjoyed the visit to The Guardian, it was a great hands-on experience about what it is like to work in a newsroom environment where everything is fast paced. I learnt and understood the importance of teamwork in the industry to deliver high-quality content within tight deadlines, ensuring the newspapers are on the shelves the next day."

The students quickly appreciated how time is very much of the essence in a busy newsroom, becoming aware of the importance of planning whilst being able to critically analyse media and edit a news story, without comprising attention to detail. They also recognised that in the newspaper world a last-minute breaking news feed can suddenly change the content of the front page.

Adam Boulton-Lear, Lead Teacher for Media, said: "This was the college's first visit to The Guardian and it was a fantastic opportunity for our students to experience what it is like to work for a global newspaper brand."



## SIXTH FORMERS LEARN CRUCIAL LIFE-SAVING SKILLS

A group of 16 CTEC Sport and Health and Social Care sixth form students learned crucial life-saving skills during a training course, delivered by St John's Ambulance.

A joint venture with the Careers department, the aim of the three-hour course was for the students to develop first aid and life skills which are not only relevant to their studies but are beneficial for them to include in their CVs and personal statements. An increasing number of our students are interested in pursuing NHS careers such as Nursing, Midwifery and Paramedic Science, and this course helps to give an insight to this line of work.

The training covered a number of key skills including assessing a casualty situation (primary survey, communication and casualty care), chest pains in relation to heart attacks/angina and how to deal with these as a first responder. The students also found out about the recovery position, choking (adult, child and infant), CPR (adult, child and infant) and bleeding/bandaging.

All the students were awarded a St John's Ambulance Student First Aid Certificate. Mrs Grubb, Sixth Form Academic Mentor, also attended and said: "The training was very hands-on and the students were most attentive, and enthusiastic about doing the practical activities. The training was delivered to an excellent standard, packing so much into the three hours and keeping everyone engaged."

To find out more about the work of St John's Ambulance, as well as volunteering and fundraising opportunities please visit <https://www.sja.org.uk/>



## SAM BEATS OVER 79,900 STUDENTS IN NATIONAL COMPUTATIONAL THINKING CHALLENGE

Sam Denton, in Year 7, was a finalist in the UK-wide competition – The Bebras Computational Thinking Challenge. He was invited to the Department of Computer Science at the University of Oxford having qualified for the final in this prestigious event.

Reaching the final of the Juniors' category (age 10–12) is an impressive achievement for Sam, as 79,986 students entered the first round for this age group. Sam was among the top 61 highest-achieving students invited to the final round and was presented with his finalist's certificate by Peter Millican, Professor of Philosophy at Hertford College, University of Oxford.



Susan Thornton, Lead Teacher for IT and Computer Science, said: "We are very proud that Sam was invited to represent Richmond School at the Oxford Finals, it is an incredible achievement for a Year 7 student."

The UK Bebras Computational Thinking Challenge, supported by the Raspberry Pi Foundation, is designed to get students excited about computing and computational thinking. It is a problem-solving contest with questions inspired by topics in computer science. In the first round, held in schools across the country, students have to try and solve as many problems as possible in the allotted time. There are six age categories. The highest-scoring students from the four oldest age groups (Elite, Seniors, Intermediate, and Juniors) are invited to the Department of Computer Science at Oxford for the finals. Find out more about this exciting challenge at [www.bebbras.co.uk](http://www.bebbras.co.uk)

# ACADEMIC

## DR MILLER RAISES STUDENTS' AWARENESS OF HUMAN RIGHTS

A big thank you to Dr Sue Miller who visited college to talk to the Year 12 students in Learning for Life. Dr Miller spoke to the students about Amnesty International and the importance of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and its impact on the world today. It was extremely thought-provoking and covered areas such as privacy and modern slavery.

Ms Mannion, Lead Teacher for Careers, said: "Dr Miller is a very important partner to Richmond School and Sixth Form College and comes in on a regular basis to talk to students. Many of our students are interested in Law degrees and this helps them to gain an insight into how and why legislation was developed to protect individuals."



Dr Miller talked about the Richmond School Values and linked these very clearly to British Values. The overview theme of the session was respect.

Dr Miller said: "I am always very pleased to come to the college to talk about Human Rights and the work of Amnesty International. I feel it's vitally important to understand what our Human Rights are, why they need protecting, and what we as individuals can do to help those whose rights may be being violated. Education is important in both highlighting the global issues and showing how even small actions can have a real and positive impact. Students are often at the forefront of change and many of the values and initiatives at Richmond School fit very well with the aims of Amnesty and other Human Rights organisations."

Feedback from the students was extremely positive. They said that it was interesting to see the case studies and real stories uncovered by Amnesty International and that it made them more aware of the issues. They also remarked how Dr Miller included them in the presentation with the True/False questions. They found this very engaging as it helped them to learn.

Dr Miller left the students thinking about the Nelson Mandela quote "Education is the most important weapon which you can use to change the world".

## 5 Key Benefits You Will

## Gain At Richmond

## School Debating Society

### CONFIDENCE

Build belief in yourself and your abilities.

### LEADERSHIP

Manage a team of peers in a formal debate.

### COMMUNICATION

Develop strategies in both written and spoken communication.

### SOCIAL AWARENESS

Discover current topical issues and how they affect the world.

### CRITICAL THINKING

Explore the world through the lens of an inquisitive mind.



**COME TO RICHMOND SCHOOL DEBATING SOCIETY**  
**Every Monday from 3.30-4.30 pm in JG10**



## STUDENTS STEP BACK IN MEDICAL HISTORY

Fifty Year 11 students stepped back in time to learn about the history of Medicine in a new and exciting revision day in Leeds. As part of their History GCSE revision programme, the Richmond School and Sixth Form Students participated in hands-on workshops at the Royal Armouries and saw the Doctor's Show, an interactive theatre production.

At the Royal Armouries, the students focussed specifically on the role of warfare in medicine. They were able to handle weapons and armour from the medieval and Renaissance periods and the First World War. They could see the progression in technology and the impact this had on medicine and surgery and the staff made the students really think by posing challenging questions.



The students were taken through some of the galleries by museum staff and specific objects were considered in relation to their medicine course. The visit to the Armouries ended with a live firing of British and German First World War guns to show the differences and issues. Staff, students and some passers-by were astonished at the loudness of the firing and it gave students a real flavour of the noise of a battlefield. The students thoroughly enjoyed their time at the Armouries with several planning a return visit to explore the museum further.

The Doctor's Show, at the City Varieties Theatre in Leeds was a live play about some of the key individuals in the history of medicine. It was a new and very positive experience for the students, presenting the information in a visual way to aid revising. There were some memorable performances by the cast, such as the rivalry between Louis Pasteur and Robert Koch and how operations were performed without anaesthetics during the middle ages. The play was divided into sections and between each part, students were guided through exam questions and encouraged to do marking exercises. They were also given excellent revision tips and again encouraged to revise in an exciting and practical way.

Mrs Mawer, Lead Teacher for History said: "Students and staff thoroughly enjoyed the visit and found it very stimulating and enjoyable. The workshop was specially devised by the Armouries education team and it delivered tailored revision in a very interesting, visual and practical environment. It was really great fun for the students to have the opportunity to touch and try on artefacts."

"The day was made even better by the excellent behaviour of our students throughout the day. This was a totally new visit for the History department and everywhere we went, the students were a credit to themselves."



# ALUMNI

## CATHERINE INSPIRES STUDENTS WITH HER PRESENTATION

Students, in Years 7 through to 11, were treated to a whistle-stop tour of an ex-student's exciting career path since leaving Richmond School and Sixth Form College in 2005. Catherine Parums told students that our school values of creativity, excellence, independence, respect, resilience and teamwork are not just relevant in school, but throughout working life and they are values that she lives by. She told the students that they are very lucky to be at Richmond School which has developed so much and has such fantastic facilities.

Catherine was always encouraged to commit to and stick to everything she took on and say yes to as many opportunities as possible, as you never know what they may lead to. This approach has stayed with her throughout her career and she urged the students to do the same. After graduating in Music from York University, Catherine moved to London to pursue a career in Music Education, working in Music Outreach and at the Royal College of Music. A job came up with BBC Proms, including working on the Horrible Histories Prom. Catherine is convinced her volunteering with the Teenage Cancer Trust helped her application.

Catherine then moved to the City of London Festival and joined the central band of the Royal British Legion, having incredible opportunities of playing at Lords, on an Aleisha Dixon music video, and she also sung with the Bee Gees.

Catherine went on to work for HRH The Princess Royal. This was a really exciting job, working very hard with excellence very much the base level for everything. Gala parties, Ascot, Downing Street, the Trooping of the Colour, Twickenham, the list goes on, Catherine even went to Botswana! Catherine was fortunate to have fun and really enjoy this job and encouraged students to strive for the same in their future careers. She was very privileged to work for the Princess Royal for five years.

Catherine is currently employed as Head of Communications and Events at the Royal British Legion, where she manages a team of ten, organising events such as the Festival of Remembrance and Remembrance Sunday at the Cenotaph in London. She explained to the students that she feels very fortunate to work for a charity and she often pinches herself, especially when she has the opportunity to meet incredible people such as the last-surviving Dambuster.

Eight months ago, Catherine became a mum to Zoe. She concluded her presentation by saying that she is 32 years old and has no idea what she wants to do for a career, but that she has had a pretty good journey so far!

There was some wonderful dancing during the assemblies and the symphony orchestra played beautifully, also ensuring some fun-filled audience participation for the students.



## BARONESS HALE, GUEST EDIT'S RADIO 4'S TODAY PROGRAM

Alumna, Baroness Hale, President of the Supreme Court, joined Jim Naughtie, Radio 4's Today program special correspondent, for a tour of her home town of Richmond. The interview included a visit to her former school, Richmond High School for girls, now Richmond Sixth Form College. Jenna Potter, headteacher, was delighted to host the visit and enjoyed listening to Baroness Hale share memories of her time at school.

Baroness Hale was the first woman to have made her career as an academic and public servant rather than a practising barrister. In 1999, she was the second woman to be promoted to the Court of Appeal, before becoming the first woman Law Lord and President of the Supreme Court.

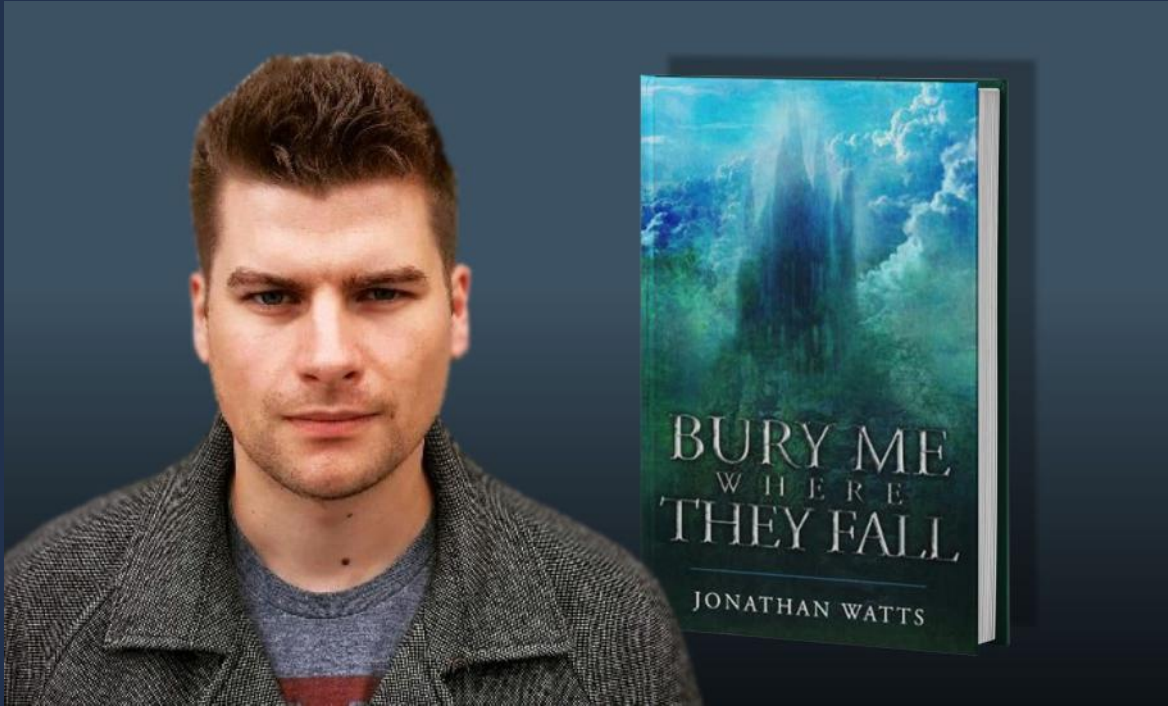




# ALUMNI

## FANTASY WRITER GETS SET TO COME BACK TO SCHOOL!

An ex-student who developed a passion for Classics and writing whilst at Richmond School and Sixth Form College has published his first book. 'Bury me where they fall', by Jonathan Watts, is a fantasy novel that promises to keep readers spellbound. The book, which will be launched at Waterstones' flagship store in Bristol on 8<sup>th</sup> February, follows the story of Amiel, a young rebel warrior who begins a deadly and mythical mission into uncharted forest lands.



Jonathan is planning to return to Richmond School in the spring as a guest speaker. He will share his experiences since leaving school and how his subsequent studies, work experience and passion for writing have led to his first book being published. A project is already underway for the school library to host a dedicated display area about Jonathan's novel and use this as a platform to encourage students to read the story. They will then be invited to write reviews and this will form a question and answer session with Jonathan when he visits.

Jonathan is not the first alumnus of Richmond School who has penned fantasy works, he is proud to follow in the footsteps of Charles Dodgson, more widely known as Lewis Carroll, who wrote the acclaimed 'Alice's Adventures in Wonderland'. After his A-levels, Jonathan studied a BA and MA in Classics at Newcastle University before pursuing a career as an advertising copywriter, writing for Kylie Minogue, Jack White of the White Stripes and Comic Con, among others. However, after being inspired by fantasy author David Gemmell, and writing his first book at 14, it was always Jonathan's dream to become a published writer. Seventeen years on, he has released his first novel which is receiving admirable reviews and plaudits, as well as enjoying strong sales around the world.

Jonathan commented: "I had a fantastic time at Richmond School and Sixth Form College, and really felt I engaged with the subjects. It is a wonderful place to study. When I left to go to university in 2006, I never imagined the next time I'd be returning was as a published author! I am so grateful to everyone at the school for having me for this visit. I'm really looking forward to it."

Rebecca Weston, Lead Teacher for English, said: "It is really exciting for our students to have the opportunity to meet and engage with a writer. Many of our students who enjoy creative writing have ambitions of publishing their work. Hearing from Jonathan, as a former Richmond School student, talking about his experiences will be incredibly inspiring, and may lead to others following his example."

To find out more about Jonathan's book visit [www.facebook.com/JonathanWattsAuthor](https://www.facebook.com/JonathanWattsAuthor) . The launch video can be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d8FKbluSxN0>

The book is available locally, in Richmond, from Castle Hill Book Shop [www.castlehillbookshop.co.uk](http://www.castlehillbookshop.co.uk)

# COMING SOON....

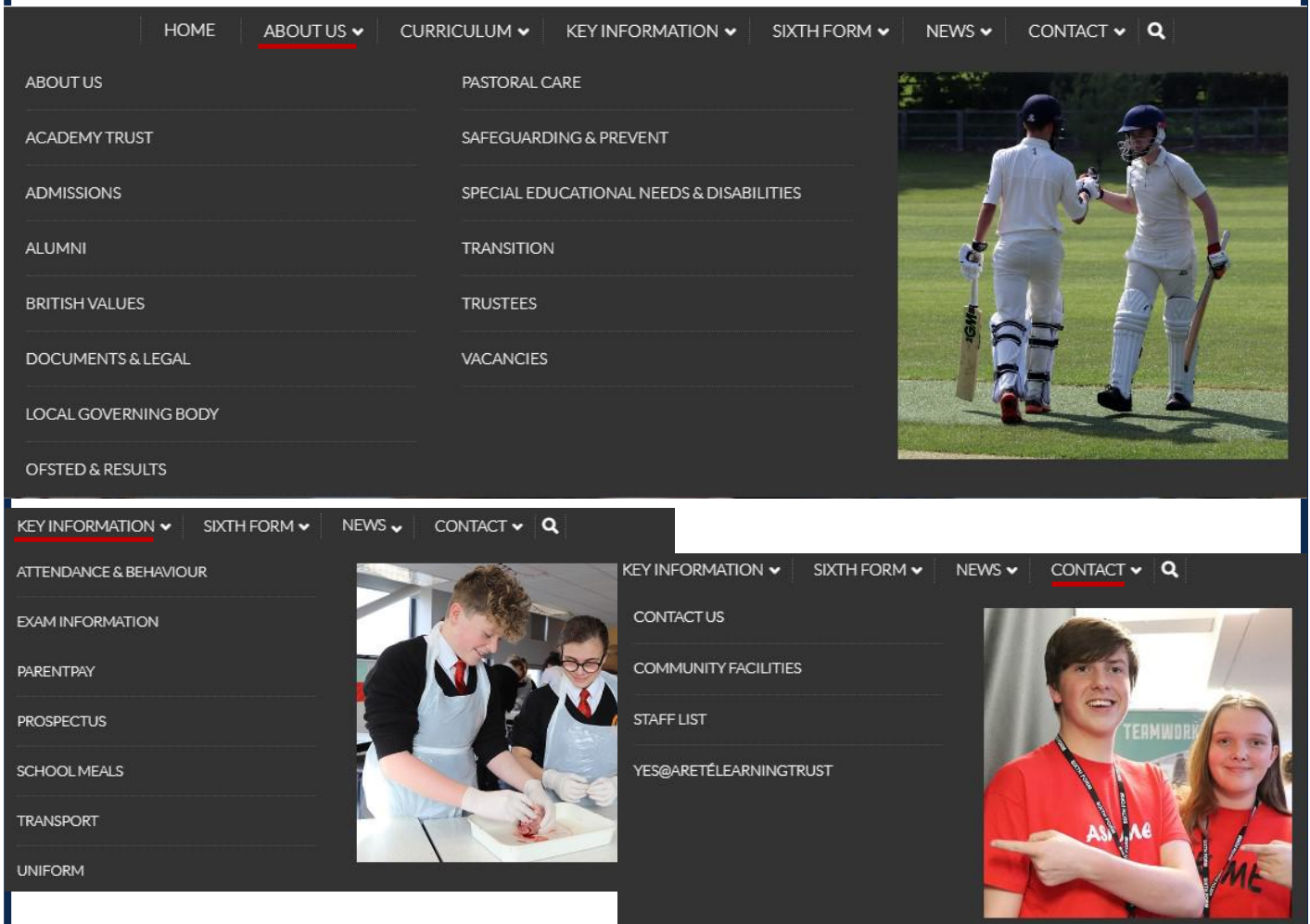
## THE AIM OF THE NEW WEBSITE



The aim of our new website is to deliver up-to-date news and useful information about the school by combining ease of navigation with a fresh and modern look.

Keeping the navigation clean and simple, the functionality of the site has been designed to help people visiting the site to quickly find the information they are looking for.

The menu items feature drop downs that are easy-on-the-eye and avoid too much scrolling, displaying information at a glance.





# COMING SOON....



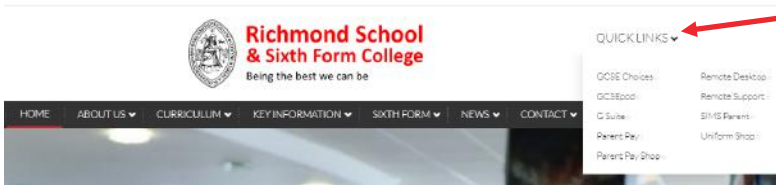
The site has been created to give a flavour of school life and to share all that is good about Richmond School and Sixth Form College. The colour palette features the instantly recognisable red of the Richmond School logo as the accent colour and this is combined with complementary softer greys to be easier on the eye.

The news pages will be regularly updated and the newsletters will be posted each half-term for a snapshot of everything that has been happening in the last few weeks.



Our School and Sixth Form prospectuses are available to download for more detailed background about the school.

Curriculum and careers information, plus key information (such as uniform, transport and school meals), are all easy to find on the site. There is a dedicated menu item for Sixth Form.



The handy 'quick-links' menu is positioned in the same location, top right, for instant access to sites we know you need to reach on a regular basis.

The website address remains the same [www.richmondschool.net](http://www.richmondschool.net)

The Areté Learning Trust website has also been updated at [www.aretelarningtrust.org](http://www.aretelarningtrust.org)

# HEADTEACHER'S VALUES AWARD WINNERS



**CHARLIE MILLER, YEAR 10, WAS NOMINATED BY MR BIRDSALL FOR HIS FABULOUS CONTRIBUTION TO PERFORMING ARTS.**



**IZZY WALTON, YEAR 13, WAS NOMINATED BY MRS COLLIER FOR HER COMMITMENT AND RESILIENCE TO ACHIEVE HER GCSE MATHS.**



**CHARLOTTE ADDISON, YEAR 12, WAS NOMINATED BY MR HENDERSON FOR HER CONTRIBUTION TO ALL ASPECTS OF SCHOOL LIFE SINCE SHE JOINED OUR SIXTH FORM, INCLUDING HER EXCELLENT CHARITY WORK**



**LEONI DALE, YEAR 9, WAS NOMINATED BY MISS ABBEY FOR GOING ABOVE AND BEYOND WITH HER CTEC SPORT HOMEWORK. HER PIECE WAS OUTSTANDING.**



**FLORENCE HALL, YEAR 11, WAS NOMINATED BY MRS WESTON FOR HER EXCEPTIONAL PERFORMANCE IN ENGLISH. IN HER RECENT ENGLISH LANGUAGE PPE SHE BARELY DROPPED A MARK.**



**MATTY CALLENDER, YEAR 11, WAS NOMINATED BY MS DUNWOODIE FOR BEING A FANTASTIC EXAMPLE OF A YOUNG MAN WHO HAS DEVELOPED RESILIENCE AND TRANSFORMED**



# HALF-TERM HIGHLIGHTS

As another busy and productive half term draws to a close, I hope you enjoy looking back on some of the highlights.

Jenna Potter, Headteacher



# DIARY DATES

## February

**Friday 14th**

**School Closes**

**Monday 24th**

**School Opens**

## March

**Tuesday 17th**

**Dance Show: United As One**

**Thursday 26th**

**Year 7 Parents' Evening**

## April

**Friday 3rd**

**School Closes**

**Tuesday 21st**

**School Opens**

**Thursday 30th**

**Year 10 Parents' Evening**

## May

**Friday 8th**

**May Day (school closed)**

**Thursday 21st**

**Year 9 Parents' Evening**

**Friday 22nd**

**School closes**

## June

**Monday 1st**

**School opens**

## July

**1st - 3rd**

**School Production: West Side Story**

**Friday 17th**

**School closes**