

NEWSLETTER

Ermysted's Grammar School



Dear all,

The final newsletter of the year and another photo-laden edition for you to enjoy.

- The easing of the restrictions have allowed Year 7 and Year 8 pupils to get out of the classroom and visit **Thornthwaite** for some fun activities.
- Our **A Level biologists** have completed their fieldwork in rivers of the beautiful Dales.
- Our pupils got to enjoy **athletics** in the glorious sunshine and all their pent up energy resulted in several long standing records being broken.
- Our **DofE** students continue to navigate the preventative measures and work their way though the various expeditions. Check out the photograph on page 4 — one group getting up at the crack of dawn to put some miles on the clock before the heat of the midday sun.

It is also time to say farewell to some of our colleagues who will be retiring at the end of term. Mrs Hopkins, Mrs Price, Dr Heron, Mr Peters, Mrs Whittaker, Mrs Spouse, and Mrs Lane — we thank each of you for your contribution to the school and wish you well in your retirement. You will be missed.

Michael Evans
Headteacher

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Thornthwaite Outdoor Activity Days



From 12-15 July, 232 students in Year 7 and 8 enjoyed a day out to Thornthwaite Scout Activity Centre. Two forms visited each day and undertook a variety of activities, including raft building, bushcraft, climbing, orienteering and a water fight.



Monday's group saw a lot of water, yet fabulously got on with it in the rain, before the weather turned glorious for the rest of the week. It was great to see the students in a

different environment and spend a day exploring the woodland and having fun outside.



Dr Needham

Malham Fieldwork Trip



As part of the A-Level Biology curriculum we took part in a fieldtrip to Malham in the Yorkshire Dales. We sampled the variety of stream invertebrates found above (near Malham Cove) and below Malham village using a technique called kick sampling. Once the sample was netted, it was transferred to water-filled sample dishes where the invertebrates could be identified and counted. After this, the invertebrates were released carefully back into the stream from which they came.



For the entirety of the day the temperatures did not drop below 25 degrees. Conveniently, there was a local shop that sold ice-cream. As you can imagine they received a lot of business that day!

The main purpose of the trip was to teach us about ecological sampling methods and how species diversity and biotic indices can be used to determine the quality of water in the stream. The hypothesis to be proven was that the water quality above Malham village was better

than that below the village. Through data processing techniques carried out by the boys this was suggested to be true.

Many members of the public were interested in what we were doing. It was a great opportunity for us to explain the process and aim of our practical work to other people and not just members of the school.



Tom Edward, Year 12

A Close Shave for Mrs Hopkins, Part 2



As you will remember from the last newsletter, Mrs Hopkins has been fundraising for the Juvenile Diabetes Research foundation (JDRF), a charity focused on treating, curing and eradicating Type 1 Diabetes. Her promise was that in return for donations to the charity, she would have her head shaved on Tuesday, 20 July,

during her final week at Ermysted's. Her target was £2000, and by the time the day came around she had already raised £2399! Well done Mrs Hopkins!



Duke of Edinburgh Award

The conclusion to the expedition season has not been without drama. After a couple of Year 12s were forced to self-isolate arrangements for the Gold expedition had to be amended at the last minute. A team of 6 managed to get away from Settle as planned on Saturday morning. Michael Heron, Jamie Burgess, Keiran Sandhu, Hamish Wills, Joel Holmes and Zak Shepherd took on the 90km four day challenge facing scorching temperatures. Day 1 took them over the summit of Ingleborough to Chapel-le-Dale. Day 2 was another 9 hour day but the team still managed to get into Hawes ahead of schedule. There

was no respite from the searing heat on Day 3 as the team walked another 20kms over to Newbiggin. The concluding day saw the team take on Buckden Pike before descending to the pick up point in Buckden. Seldom can a team have faced such persistent extreme heat and it is testimony to their preparation, fitness and teamwork that they completed the expedition, earning the respect of their assessor, who had met them periodically to top them up with water.

The second Gold team were able to begin their expedition on Tuesday morning, with no let up in the heat. Robert Mann, Bram Heierman-Rix, Luke Newbould and Peter Fishpool should be completing their challenge on Friday.



There has been a steady stream of assessor reports uploaded since the last newsletter and these are always a great read, showing the commitment offered by the boys to a massive variety of activities. The expedition reports reveal the learning that the boys have made across the range of skills needed to complete the challenge. For many boys this has been a brand new experience and I hope that they will reflect on their success and look to continue walking and exploring the countryside in the future, whether on the next level of the award scheme or not.

It is good to conclude the year by presenting a number of the Awards. Congratulations go to the following Year 9s; Archie Morton, Amer Khan, Hanzala Shahzad and Johan Mathew, who have completed their Bronze award

Bronze awards have also been achieved by a further 28 boys from Year 10; Sean Acornley, Talhah Amin, Owyn Applegarth, Daniel Ashdown-Hoff, Will Caygill, Thomas Copeland, Alfie Cryer, Charlie Falshaw, Jamie Fox, Ezra Gallagher, Sandy Greenhorn, Jack Haggas, Jack Healey, Oliver Mann, Greg Nattress, Reuben Nong, George Patterson, Alex Picton, Charlie Rigarfsford, Raamaan Rizwan, Talha Saddique, Caleb Shaw, Gurdith Singh,

Nathaniel Smith, Finlay Stewart, Vincent Tetley, Bramwell Tuck and Ed Whitlam.

This has been a taxing year for everyone involved in DofE but so much has been achieved despite the extra challenges imposed by the pandemic. Hopefully the rest of those who signed up last year will soon be able to complete their awards and that we can sign up many more to the scheme in the autumn.



Mr Lane

Immunisations

The Childhood Immunisation Team attended at School on Tuesday 20th July to administer the meningitis ACWY and Diphtheria, Tetanus and Polio vaccines to the Y9 pupils for whom parental consent had been received. This all went according to plan, and the boys fared very well despite the hot weather. Please be assured that if your child was absent from school on this date and you have already provided consent, they will remain on the

Nursing Team's list and will be seen at the next available opportunity (in the next academic year).

If you have any queries regarding the immunisation programme, please contact the Lead Nurse, Michael Wigglesworth, at Harrogate and District NHS Trust. His email address is: mwigglesworth@nhs.net.

Mrs Stanley

Sports Day 2021

At the end of such a disrupted educational and sporting year it is fantastic to be able to report on yet another successful Sports Day.

The pre-requisites of green grass, clear skies and for this year safe bubbles meant that special plans could swing into action for what would become Super Monday (a day akin the Gold rush of super Saturday at the London Olympics of 2012). Let's hope we do not have to

wait until the year 2102 for these magical numbers to align again.

Sports Day is at heart a whole school event focused on mass participation. There is no doubt that the points



gained towards the end of year House Trophy are important, but it really is the taking part that is the focus. To this end it is fantastic to report that all of the throws and jumps and the vast majority of foot races had maximum participation levels, with boys stepping in at the last moment in events to cover those that have been "pinged" and had to self-isolate.

Throughout the day we must give a mention to the Sixth

Form helpers who showcased to the younger boys the maturity expected of young men as they progress through our school. Also we would like to thank the Parents Association on behalf of the boys for supplying much appreciated ice-creams for all.

As has been highlighted, mass participation is the key to the event, yet it would be remiss to not highlight some outstanding athletic performances. Super Monday 19th July 2021 will go down in the history books as the event where four school records were broken in one day. In



my time at Ermysted's I cannot remember this happening before.

When I began at Ermysted's some two decades ago I took over the organisation of the school athletics records. Before my time a young man by the name of Capstick held the record for the high jump at 1m 60cm. If you know of this probably not so young man I am sure that he would be pleased to know that Toby F in Year 9 finally broke this long standing record with a jump of 1m

61cm. Toby's measured run up belied a gazelle like spring in his step.

The Hop, Step and Jump of the triple jump for Year 7 is a relatively new event with Jack S (now in Year 11) relinquishing his crown to Louis S with a distance jumped of 9m 26cm.

England Athletics adapted the rule for running in recent years with boys in Years 7 and 8 now running the 300m as opposed to the 400m. This year Tom H (Year 8) beat the current school record with a time of 43.59 secs.

Finally on Super Monday the Blue Ribband event of the 100m (Year 10), previously held by the now Professional Rugby League player H. Farnworth was beaten by Joseph R with an astonishing time on our grass track of 11.96 secs.

The overall House Sports Day results for 2021 are:

Ermysted—140

Toller—124

Petyt—114

Hartley—106

The final word of thanks must go to the boys who helped make this sports day one to remember.

Mr White

Selected Upcoming Events at Ermysted's

EVENT	DATE	VENUE
New Parents Evening (Year 7 & Year 12)	23 September 2021	TBC
Year 11 Parent's Evening	7 October 2021	TBC
Year 13 Parents' Evening	21 October 2021	TBC
Sixth Form Options Evening	16 November 2021	TBC

Thanks for reading...

This newsletter was compiled by Ermysted's Grammar School. If you have comments or anything for inclusion in future newsletters, please email ktamsons@ermysteds.n-yorks.sch.uk.