

NEWSLETTER

Ermysted's Grammar School



Dear all,

Welcome to this event packed summary of recent school activity.

We pledged last year to flood our programme with extracurricular opportunities as soon as restrictions allowed, and the staff and pupils have fully delivered on that promise. Each night we have up to 100 pupils on the top field and elsewhere practising various sports, and the staff are putting some miles on the School minibuses in their determination to make the most of the opportunity for fixtures. One colleague mentioned to me that he had recently completed his eighth fixture of the term, a Year 11 B-Team clash against another local school, which ultimately we lost, but we both celebrated the fact that seven members of the team had made their school team debut and all had a great time. Isn't it wonderful to see the boys out and about again?

To those parents who have been enquiring, we believe the Schools' Immunisation Service will visit the School in mid December to deliver its 12-16 COVID vaccination programme. We have not received much information yet, but we will be sure to pass on all details as soon as we do.

Thank you for your on-going support of the school and may I wish you all a very relaxing half term.

Michael Evans
Headteacher

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Nell Bank Transition Trip

On Friday, 24 September, Year 7 embarked on a journey to Nell Bank. Nell Bank is a fun activity centre located in Ilkley, where children get to experience a range of outdoor activities and get to know each other better. A great day was had by all. Here are some reviews by the pupils who were there on the day!



At Nell Bank, we completed a series of fun activities throughout the day. After getting there, we walked up the hill to the sheltered area. They welcomed us to Nell Bank and introduced us to our group leaders for the day, then we got stuck in to the first activity of the day. To complete the activity, we had to cover holes and pour water into the tubes from the bucket wasting as little as possible in order to retrieve the rubber duck. Our next activity required us to cross the 'poisonous ice' in a pair on wooden planks and put the ball in the frog's mouth at the end. Our

team lost by a few points. Our final activity before lunch was orienteering. This was probably my least favourite



activity of the day. After lunch, we crossed the Piranha infested custard swamp and I loved this one so much. We worked very well as a team as we had more people on our team than the other teams and still managed to win the prize. Our final activity was the obstacle course and

we spilt the least amount of water. Overall, I had a great day!

Thomas Berry, 7H

Nell Bank was really fun. The staff are really nice too. We



did lots of activities like duck rescue, Custard crossing, Orienteering, The obstacle course and a frog & bear one. My favourite was the obstacle course.

We had 100ml of water, chicken and a baguette and we had to transport it across the obstacle course but whoever was holding one of these couldn't move. This activity got me talking to

many people that I wouldn't usually talk to, and I also got to know more people too. All of the activities required multiple people working together so if you



were trying to do it on your own, it wouldn't work. I liked how all of the activities had a story. Like custard crossing was custard infested with piranhas. Duck rescue had the endangered Nellbanian duck that had fallen asleep and got stuck in the pole at night. I thought that Nell bank was great and I think that lots of others did too and it was a fantastic start to Ermysted's! Thank you for taking us!

Harry Hardaker, 7H



On the 24th of September, Year 7 got to go to Nell Bank. There were lots of team building activities for us to do, such

as the 'Custard Crossing' where we had to use a limited supply of equipment to cross 'piranha infested custard,' the 'Nelbanian Mountain Range' where we had to carry a litre of water in our teams around an obstacle course,

and the orienteering, just to name a few. I personally enjoyed Nell Bank. I found it an amazing teambuilding activity for all and a good chance to communicate with each other and make some great friends. I would recommend this activity centre for all schools and other communities for bonding and friendship.

Hanzalah Ahmad, 7P

Duke of Edinburgh's award scheme



After the hectic, yet very successful, completion of expeditions in the summer term it has been great to see the number of boys who have completed various activities across their Volunteering, Physical and Skills sections. It has enabled a number of full awards to be presented since the last newsletter. Awaiting their presentation at Gold level are Louis Smith and Ben Kelly, the first two from last year's Year 13 to tie up all sections. At Silver, full awards have been presented to Ben Whitaker, Ruairi Sweeney, John Lambert, Ayman Al-Farooq, Joseph Smith and Niall Fitzgibbon from last year's Year 11, along with current Year 11s, Alfie Cryer, Will Caygill and Talhah Amin. Some 30 boys currently in Year 11 have completed their Bronze Awards, and, despite the additional challenges posed by Covid-19, there have been 19 boys currently in Year 10 who have completed all sections, within a year of signing onto the scheme. I have no doubt that many more of the current participants will add their names to the list by chasing up their assessors for the reports on their progress and commitment.

It is around this time in the school year that we turn our attention to signing up new recruits at Bronze (Year 9), Silver (Year 10) and Gold (Year 12). Parents should keep their eye out for the information which is being sent out. I have no doubt that many boys will see the benefits of getting involved in the Award Scheme.

Mr Lane

Shine School Media Awards

Josh, Sam (both Year 13) and Mr Barrett went to the Shine School Media Awards ceremony at the Guildhall in the City of London to receive Highly Commended awards in the categories of Best Newspaper, Best Environmental and Sustainability Initiative and Best Newspaper Front Page. They had a chance to network with national journalists before a delicious sit down lunch followed by the awards ceremony. Josh and Sam sat next to Peter Day (formerly BBC Radio 4 reporter, now retired) who was tremendously good company – he thrilled the boys with exciting stories from his career, whilst they in turn impressed him with their views on the future of the BBC and the German election.



Here are the boys being presented with their award by Alison Strachan, Shine School Media Awards Chair (photography by Lucy Young).

Virtual Work Experience

There a number of virtual work experience opportunities available which pupils in any year in Middle and Upper School may find beneficial.

“Speakers for Schools” is working with a number of companies to provide on-line opportunities free of charge to gain an insight into different work places.

Some of our pupils took advantage of events offered by this company last year.

Please see virtual courses this half term here:

<https://www.speakersforschools.org/experience-2/vwex/>

Mrs Rose

English Schools' Cup



Pictured above is the Year 10 football team ahead of their English Schools' Cup game at Clitheroe Royal Grammar School. Conceding after 20 seconds wasn't in the script, but the team showed excellent character by equalized through Ali soon after. A cross-come-shot managed to somehow find Hamza's top corner just before half-time meaning the Ermysted's boys headed into the second half trailing. Despite superb defending by Aidan and Nathan in particular and repeated turn-over of possession by Daniel in particular in midfield, the score remained 2-1 to the home team.

Mr S J King

National Boxing Champion

Congratulations to Mobeen in Year 9 who became the 'National Schoolboy Boxing Champion' this month!

Mrs Diccoc



Homework Policy 2021

Please click the link to read our [Homework Policy](#) for 2021-22.

Football Success



Jacob and Tawseef (Year 8), were successful at trials for Bradford Schools' Football Association U13s representative squad during the summer. Both boys will represent our district this season with fixtures against other metropolitan areas, such as Leeds, Wakefield and Calderdale.

Mr S J King

NYCC Consultation

We have been asked to raise awareness of the following NYCC consultation. Ermysted's Grammar School is a voluntary aided school which determines it's own admissions arrangements, and is therefore unaffected by this consultation.

In accordance with our statutory duty under The School Admissions (Admission Arrangements and co-ordination

of Admission Arrangements) (England) Regulation 2012. North Yorkshire County Council is consulting on proposed school admission arrangements for community and voluntary controlled schools 2023/2024. This consultation will run from 11 October 2021 until 3 December 2021.

All pre-determined documents can be found at <https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/admission-arrangements-consultation-2023-2024>

The views of parent/carers, schools, neighbouring authorities and other interested parties are being sought during this consultation period. Any comments should be addressed to schoolorganisation@northyorks.gov.uk.

Geography trip to Norber



I had an amazing day at Austwick and learnt a lot about the formation of limestone and developed many new skills. We learnt how to read a map and find bearings on a compass, then we learnt about the history and formation of limestone, and later did a chemical practice on the limestone to show how limestone erodes and what gasses it releases into the air. We then learnt how the massive boulders, called erratics, were moved to the site by the glaciers. The day was perfect due to the beautiful weather and clear skies, letting us see the limestone landscape in clear view. I had a wonderful time and have learnt many useful facts and new skills.

William Newall, Year 9

eBooks for half term

Looking for something extra to read over half term? There are now over 1,400 ebooks for students and staff to download via our school library catalogue. Simply follow the link <https://uk.accessit.online/erm00/> or scan the QR code. Below is a handy guide on how to borrow an eBook.



Enjoy your half term reading.

Mrs McCabe

Superb start to the 2021-22 cross-country season

The season has got off to the usual hectic start with five inter-school events already completed. The general feeling at all of them from teachers, pupils and parents has been how good it has been to get out competing again. We have as a school performed brilliantly overall.

Bingley was our first race and we had 36 runners out in the three age groups including 13 of our new Year 7s. They were first race and showed we have some great new talent and strength in depth. George M with a great finish was runner-up in the Year 7/8 race and led his team to victory. Tom H won the Year 9/10 race again leading his team home first and our seniors were team runners-up.



At the English Schools' Fell Championships we had our most successful day ever, where we won three of the four boys' team titles and had an individual winner in Year 7 George M, Tom H in Year 9 was a national runner-up. We also won the overall best school trophy but that was not a surprise with the Year 7, Year 8/9 and Year 10/11 team titles already collected. Not bad from 90 schools, 28 of whom entered at least three races and were therefore eligible for the overall title. The one boys' title we didn't win was won by Harrow School, showing that it was truly a national event but that our boys were just that good!



The Year 7/8 team then ran at Sedbergh Prep School and the lads were further back in the very large field. However, even with only one in the first 10 home we packed well with all of our counters being in the top 30 of the 125 finishers, it meant that we were surprised to bring home another shield and medals all round!

At St. Aidans in Harrogate the day after we really did get a wakeup call as their Year 7/8 team blitzed the field, coming home in the first four positions. Our runners were nearly all Year 7 and against other Year 7s would probably have won but we'll see in next month's area championships at Giggleswick after half term. Our Year 9/10 restored the school's honour as they won the team this time with Ewen W leading them home with an individual victory.

The final race this half term was last Monday as we embarked on the National Schools Cup. This year there is also a senior event so we had three age groups to try and get teams qualifying for the North East of England regional final on Saturday, 13 November. Our Year 7/8 returned to winning form again led by our impressive Year 7s for whom George M, Will O, Will F and Will P were in the first six home. Our Year 9/10s were even better as Sam B, Ewen W, Samesh C and Daniel R came back in procession from 2nd to 5th place. Our seniors too were victorious as Alex T led the team (Dougie S, Freddie M and Oscar S) home with a perfect score of just 10 for the aggregate of the first four places. In fact, we had the first six home as Sean A was 5th and on debut Will H came 6th.

So a great start to the season but two important races in the first two weeks back so plenty of incentive to keep up that training! **Mr Speak**

Selected Upcoming Events at Ermysted's

EVENT	DATE	VENUE
PA Meeting	23 November 2021	Virtual (see website for link)
Year 8 Consultation Day	1 December 2021	Virtual
Year 12 Parents' Evening	8 December 2021	Virtual

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.uk