

NEWSLETTER

Ermysted's Grammar School



Hello everyone,

Welcome to our newsletter. This edition details further successes for our athletes and footballers, and describes what was a very enjoyable trip to Wigan to watch former old boy, Herbie Farnworth, represent his country in the Rugby League World Cup.

Our congratulations to our mathematicians on their performances in the recent competitions and especially to Matthew Connell and Oliver Mann who both qualified for the Olympiad.

We have recently moved our mock examinations to the autumn term, so Year 11 and Year 13 are in the thick of it at present—good luck to them all. Before we closed down the Hall for the exams, however, we managed to complete the House Music competition and a group of students led assemblies on a series of events to raise awareness on men's mental health.

Our English Literature students have been to see Othello and the Library has launched a *sponsor a book* scheme, which has been so successful that parents are buying the suggestions faster than we can upload them. Be patient—more will appear! The pupils' appetite for new literature is voracious and apparently bottomless!!

Michael Evans
Headteacher

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Year 13 Othello Trip

On the wettest day of the Autumn term I took 10 Year 13 pupils to see Othello in York. Given it was the first time I had driven the minibus, the weather was particularly unhelpful. Nevertheless, we got there and back safely; Benedict's music taste was generally well received for the duration of the outward trip and his Duke of Edinburgh experience made him an excellent navigator.

After a short interlude to hear Liz Truss' resignation on Radio 4, we dodged the showers through the streets of York and arrived, along with hordes of other schools.

To say the show had mixed reviews is an understatement. Frantic Assembly pride themselves on making their productions accessible for a modern audience; unfortunately it seems that the Ermysted's English Literature pupils buck the trend of their Generation Z peers in their desire for a purist production. Utter horror appeared on many of their faces at the interpretive dance and variety of accents which were the furthest thing from the Received Pronunciation they were expecting. I thought it was actually quite good and audibly gasped at the slitting of Emilia's throat, much to the embarrassment of Haaris and Theodor.



Their humiliation was complete when I insisted on a selfie of us all before our departure home. Theo's music choices on the return trip caused even more horror than the production and his navigating skills left much to be desired. A thoroughly lovely day was had by all.

Mrs O'Leary-Hall

Othello At York's Theatre Royal

This attempt at Othello fell slightly flat, but its disappointment lay not in its failure but in its briefly brilliant successes. Such was the excellence of the fight scenes, and Desdemona and Emilia's performance, one can't help but despair at how they were restricted by those around them.

In particular, Montano's relegation to mere gesticulations was one of disappointment – often retreating to the very back corners of the stage to mirror the emotions of those who surround him. At best, he stated the obvious to a well-attuned audience. At worst, he was neither use nor ornament to anyone; an unnecessary parody of the governor who cheapened the performances of his co-stars.

To say, however, that the entire ensemble was similarly disappointing would be a disservice to what were brilliantly cast female characters, in particular Desdemona and Emilia. Their intimate discussion provided a fantastic example of female solidarity in an otherwise patriarchal society. They spoke tenderly in a cramped bathroom on a blackout stage, both staring into the distance. At once, their intimacy became singular. They transcended their lowly societal positions and elevated themselves far beyond their co-stars, and so their individual tragic ends became all the more potent.

That potency was valued given the lack of any catharsis – a shortage owed to the comparatively lacklustre performance of Othello. He fell far too quickly into anger and bitterness. Gone was the gradual descent into jealous rage that symbolises his personal tragedy, instead we were presented with a sustained anger that presented him as nothing more than a caricature of the tragic General. This weakened the impact of his performance.

However, one cannot fault the brilliance of the fight scenes, in which the actors' skill as dancers became apparent. They were excellently choreographed, whilst not sacrificing the impact of the chaos with which we're presented upon arrival in Cyprus.

Overall, this was an adaption of momentary brilliance:

excellent fight scenes and fantastic performances from the female leads. Unfortunately, these were punctuated by lacklustre acting from others, and one can't help but wonder how great this performance might have been if not for those disappointments.

Benedict C, Year 13

England Rugby League School Trip



On Saturday 5 November, a group of 30 lads from Years 7 to 13 made the trip down to Wigan to watch Ermysted's Old Boy Herbie Farnworth and his England teammates play the Rugby League World Cup quarter final against Papa New Guinea. We arrived at school at 9am and hopped in two minibuses to make the journey down. After an hour or so in the minibuses we arrived in Wigan. Once we arrived at the stadium and after a short briefing from Mr Stewart, we picked up our Rugby League World Cup clappers, found our seats and watched the end of the England vs Canada women's game. Not long after, the main event kicked off, and our boy Herbie was straight into the action with a huge first set in defence. England displayed dominance right from the start and took an early lead and continued this throughout the match. Farnworth centric chants echoed around the Ermysted's section every time he got near the ball and the atmosphere was joyful and bubbly. The game ended in a resounding 46-6 victory for the English. We then walked down pitch-side and Herbie spotted us and came for a chat and a few photos. He was also delighted by the sight of Mr Stewart! We then headed back to minibus

and went back home. Overall it was a great day for everyone and a huge thank you goes out to Mr Stubbings for organising it!

Eoin 'The Destroyer' B,

Year 10 Football Win

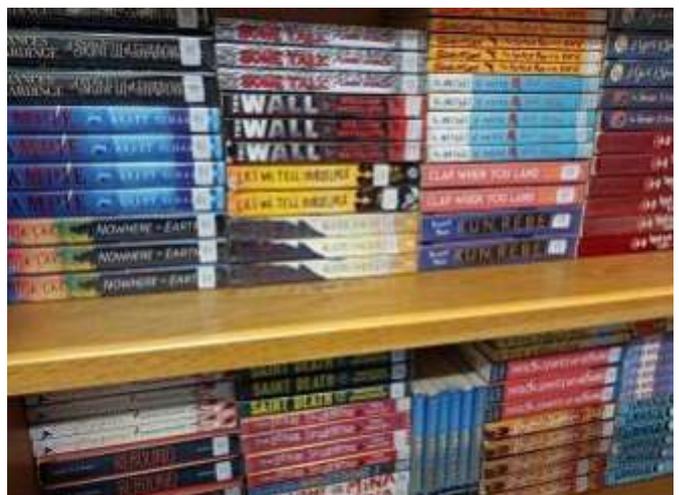


Congratulations to our Year 10 football team on their 3-2 win against Richmond School in the recent County Cup!

Mr King

Sponsor a Book

Our new 'Sponsor a Book' scheme, which was launched on Monday, has started with a bang! Over 60 books have been purchased already and we are now busy replenishing the list. Thank you so much to everyone who has taken part in the scheme so far. If you'd like to purchase a book, you can do so by clicking [here](#).



Mock Exams Begin

Year 11 mock exams began last Friday with the GCSE Food Preparation and nutrition Practical, and profiteroles!



Mrs Taylor

House Music

Congratulations to all who took part in our annual House Music Competition on Friday, 18 November. The results are: (out of 20):

Toller: 16.1 (1st Place)

Hartley: 14.85 (2nd Place)

Petyt: 14.45 (3rd Place)

Ermysted's: 13.3 (4th Place)

Dr Cloke

NE England Cross Country Cup

Ermysted's Tom H gained a superb individual victory at Middlesbrough's Stewart Park in this North East of England qualifying round. He helped ensure that all three of Ermysted's teams qualified for the national final as they were each runners-up on the day and so gained a top three spot and a coveted place in the final to be held at Leeds Grammar School on Saturday 3rd December.



Ermysted's Juniors had won at Aireville Park in the North Yorkshire round and had high hopes of qualification. However, withdrawals due to illness meant they would have it all to do to qualify. George M leads from the front in this age group both metaphorically and often literally. Saturday was no exception as he challenged at the head of the race. He eventually had to settle for second place but would only get the chance to battle for national honours if his team qualified. Will P was next home in 7th but it was then left to the three Year 7 runners as the team counts the positions of each team's first runners home. Seth B was next as he continued his excellent early season form and Dexter W had his best run to date for school as he was 22nd of the 60 runners on the day. Their total of 44 points was just one behind the winners on the day and meant comfortable qualification for the final. Non scorer Isaac R was 36th and with a full-strength team they would hope to challenge at the sharp end in the final.

Ermysted's Inter Boys have two superb athletes in Tom H and Ewen W who both had a realistic ambition of



winning this race. It was Ewen that led after the first of three laps but Tom having started conservatively was moving ominously through the field. Tom caught the leading pair at the start of the second lap and moved swiftly passed to pull away for what was eventually a comfortable win. Ewen let second place slip away and despite an incredible sprint finish he couldn't quite him on the line. That great start meant that they too had every chance of qualifying for the final and they did so, again as runners-up, this time three points behind the winners. Matthew S having an excellent run finished 14th with Seth L completing the team scorers in 19th. Lucas S 20th, Oliver G 30th and Rowan B 31st were the school's non-scorers but all well up a competitive field of runners.



Ermysted's Seniors were equally impressive as they too qualified as runners-up, this time with just 39 points, as Sam B 7th, Dougie S 9th, Lachlan W 10th and Samesh C 13th all finished very highly placed. Their non-scorer Oscar S was 27th and their team will also look forward to a good showing in next month's national final.

There is now just a week left to fine tune their preparation for the final, where Ermysted's will be hoping for high places in both the individual and team events.

Mr Speak

AMSP Maths Competition

On Monday, 21 November we took eight Year 8 boys to Keighley college to compete against other local schools in an AMSP maths competition. The boys worked in two teams during the afternoon to complete four different tasks that had been set. All of them enjoyed completing the challenges set and worked well, sharing ideas and working collaboratively to successfully solve many of the problems set. Throughout the afternoon not many marks were lost between the two teams! Well done to all of the boys who attended and competed in the event.

Miss Coombes

First XI v Ripon Grammar



On 16 November, Ermysted's enjoyed another friendly, this time against Ripon Grammar. Historically we have played some close matches versus the Ripon and we could meet them in the next round of the Area Cup. The game started and we looked good making the most of the Astroturf surface to play some nice football with the ball on the deck. We also settled any nerves quickly when Sam A finished smartly from the right corner of the penalty box with a low shot to the far corner following a neat through ball from strike partner Will M (1-0).

It wasn't long before Sam had doubled his personal tally when Jenson M played a long through ball which Sam took in his stride and comfortably beat the advancing keeper (2-0). Two minutes later and Will M was on the scoresheet. However, it was laid on a plate for him by Jake B's sublime cross with the outside of his boot following excellent work down the left (3-0) (one of 4 assists for Jake in the game!).

On 24 minutes Will M chased a lost cause and their

keeper's half-clearance was picked up just outside the box by Sam A. He beat his man and crossed from the left goal-line for Aryan G to drill a sweet volley home from about the penalty spot (4-0).



We then made some changes and with Freddie S's first touch he fired a low shot inside the near post from the inside right position (5-0). We weren't finished for the first half yet and Tom having moved to midfield got his name on the scoresheet thanks in no small measure to a great advantage played by the referee (6-0).

It only took Tom 3 minutes of the second half to score what was probably the pick of the goals as his sweet volley from ten yards out nearly burst the net (7-0). On 50 minutes Freddie S continued his happy knack of finding the back of the net as he had a simple tap in following Jenson M's 30 yard free-kick which struck the bar (8-0). After an hour, Tom W, secured his MoM, as he claimed his hat-trick, with a header from Freddie S's cross (9-0).



On 70 minutes Will M's cross was half stopped by their keeper but all he could do was deflect it onto the nearest defender who scored an own goal that he knew nothing about (10-0). Almost immediately it looked like Godson A was going to get on the scoresheet but he blazed over

when through on goal.

Sam A then finished as he started with another brace in the final minutes. First he shot home following good work by Jenson and a neat pass from Boe K (11-0). Then he was in the right place when Boe's decent shot was saved and Sam gleefully hammered home (12-0) from point blank range for his second game in a row with 4 goals to his name!

There was hardly enough time to restart so it was nice for the defence and keeper to keep a clean sheet and record a comprehensive win to keep the season bubbling along nicely. We look forward to the Old Boys' game on the 4th January before we start our County and Harrogate & Craven Cup campaigns.

Mr Speak

British Youth Sailing

Congratulations to Emre Frankland, Year 9, who is a member of the Royal Yachting Association and has recently been selected for the North Topper – Regional Training Group !

Emre's selection for this RYA activity recognises his potential to progress within British Youth Sailing, with the aim of progressing to UK Youth Squads. Emre has been selected based on performance and commitment to a programme of training and competition over a period.

Mrs Diccox

UKMT Senior Maths Challenge 2022

Nine Gold, 12 Silver, and 37 Bronze Awards were achieved by the 83 sixth formers who sat the UKMT Senior Maths Challenge on 4 October. This national competition tackles 25 mathematical problem solving questions. Special congratulations must go to Matthew Connell (Y13) and Oliver Mann (Y12) who qualified for the British Maths Olympiad, and to seven students who qualified for the Senior Kangaroo follow on round.

Dr Needham

Skipton Food Bank Christmas Collection



A huge thank you to everyone who donated items to our recent appeal for Christmas goods for the Skipton Food Bank—as you can see it was a great success and the Food Bank staff were astounded by the response—it might be our best effort yet.

Mrs Tamsons

Ermysted's Grammar School
Christmas -ey Concert
 A performance of Music with some Festive elements

Join us for an evening of
 musical entertainment
 and festive cheer

14th and 15th December at 7pm
 The Ermysted's Memorial Hall
 Ermysted's Grammar School
 Gargrave Road
 Skipton, BD23 1PL

There will be refreshments, possibly involving
 Mulled Wine and Mince Pies served by the EFA

Featuring music from anyone who wanted to be involved!
 Proceeds to Ermysteds Friends Association / School Music

Tickets are available from the Ermysted's School Office,
 and may still be available on the door on the night - but don't bank on it!

Price: Adults £8 All Concessions / Children £5

Selected Upcoming Events at Ermysted's

EVENT	DATE	VENUE
Year 8 Consultation Day	w/c 28 November 2022	Online
Year 12 Parents' Evening	7 December 2022	Online
Founders' Day	9 December 2022	Holy Trinity Church
Christmas Concert	14 & 15 December 2022	Memorial Hall
Certificate Presentation Evening (2022 leavers')	5 January 2023	Memorial Hall

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