

NEWSLETTER

Ermysted's Grammar School



Hello everyone,

Welcome to our final newsletter of the term. The falling temperature failed to dampen the enthusiasm and energy of our pupils, with many activities crammed into the final weeks.

Congratulations to our mathematicians, especially to Matthew on his stellar performance in the Senior Olympiad. Fundraising has continued apace, with boys raising over £3,500 for flood relief in Pakistan and a significant sums for Skipton *Step into Action* and the *Friends' Association*—well done to everyone involved.

My thanks to all those who have [sponsored a book](#) over the past few weeks. Our student librarians have been delighted to receive the parcels and the new books are now proudly and prominently on display in the library.

In a similar vein, it was interesting to visit *The Petyt Library*—a rare and important collection of books and papers donated to the School and the town 300 years ago, by former Ermysted's students Silvester and William. Clearly a well stocked school library has always been considered a priority!

May I end by wishing you and your families a relaxing and restorative break. I look forward to seeing everyone again in the new year—until then, all the best!

Michael Evans
Headteacher

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British Maths Olympiad - Selection



Matthew showed his hunger for solving complicated maths problems in this year's Senior British Maths Olympiad. He produced elegant solutions to six challenging maths problems in 3.5 hours. His fantastic result in the BMO1 resulted in his selection for the UKMT Hungary IMO Training Camp over the New Year. Sadly, he was unable to renew his passport in time to attend. Huge congratulations to Matthew from us all at Ermysted's. It is great to see students excel and perform in the top handful in the country!

Dr Needham

Duke of Edinburgh Award

Congratulations to those boys who have successfully finished their DofE awards. A substantial number of participants have completed Bronze, Silver and Gold awards this half term.

This year we have 56 boys commencing their Bronze DofE award, 28 boys commencing their Silver award, and 21 boys commencing their Gold award. We look forward to supporting them in completion of these fantastic challenges.

Mr Allen

Sponsor a Book



A huge thank you to all the parents, carers and friends that sponsored a book for the school library. Your response and generosity has been incredible, resulting in the receipt of an amazing 80 books from our wish list. This has kept the student librarians very busy cataloguing and backing the books that have been arriving on an almost daily basis. The new stock will now be proudly displayed in both the main and sixth form library for everyone to enjoy. Your support is very much appreciated.

If you would like to view our wishlist, it can be found [here](#).

Mrs McCabe

Bag Packing at Keelham



On a chilly Saturday in December, 27 smartly dressed young men descended on Keelham Farm shop in Skipton

throughout the day to assist the EFA in raising money towards the new school computers (as per Mr Evans' Christmas wish list).

Having run through the Christmas quiz of how to pack a shopping bag, the boys adorned themselves with Santa hats and manned the tills and doors. They greeted the shoppers with a big smile, wished them a Merry Christmas and politely offered to pack their shopping - all the while cheerfully jingling their collection buckets. Every so often, the words "sorry I don't have any cash" were greeted with the refrain, "Don't worry, we have a card machine!" (the Treasurer's favourite Christmas Carol).

For the boys this was an opportunity to interact with others, learn some new skills and represent their school - which they all took in their stride. It was great seeing their confidence grow through their hour of volunteering (or in some cases 2 or 3 hours).



And their hard effort paid off. Not only did they receive many positive comments from the Keelham staff and shoppers (and many positives from Mr Jackson), they also made a staggering £635.28 to put towards the new school computers.

Many thanks to the boys and the helpers on the day for a making it a great Christmas experience.

EGS Friends' Association

Readers of the Term Award

Our Year 7 and 8 students have proved themselves to be great readers with a fantastic accumulation of Accelerated Reader points and a wide range of titles and genres being read. Well done to 7H and 8T for gaining

the most quiz point and winning the form competition. Congratulations to our individual Readers of the Term. Edward Lawton Year 7, Rishi Hebbar Year 8, and Yusuf Bin-Kabir Year 9.

Mrs McCabe



Language Talk – Study a foreign Language!

On Friday 2 December, The MFL Department welcomed Cyrille Rollet, a Teaching Associate in French in the Department of Languages and Cultures at Lancaster University.

Mr Rollet had previously been invited to the EGS careers fair in November, where he gave a talk about languages and managed to convince pupils and parents of the multiple benefits of learning MFL. Following that successful night, we welcomed Mr Rollet's offer to visit school again in order to give a language talk to our Year 11 pupils who study French and German at GCSE.

Mr Rollet mentioned the numerous opportunities offered to students who study a foreign language in KS5 and at university, in terms of adding personal and professional experiences while studying or completing work experience abroad, but also in terms of future careers, as it opens many doors in Great Britain where employers are desperate to find employees who can offer one or more foreign languages alongside their expertise in another field. If young people manage to do so, this is indeed perceived as a rare and valuable asset, for which employers are ready to pay a lot of extra money.

Our Year 11 students saw the value of mastering a foreign language if they want to be successful in the worlds of economy, business, law, politics and many other fields. The understanding of other cultures was also presented as being absolutely essential if a country needs to build international relationships in many fields and on a variety of levels.

Mr Rollet also explained the importance of studying beyond classroom language lessons if students want to boost their learning of languages, using authentic material, which would appeal to them and enhance their learning.



Our students also realised the extent to which languages could trigger opportunities which would never happen without learning a foreign language. Mr Rollet explained how he ended up working for the French Rugby

Federation as a translator while they were in England and was invited to Buckingham Palace along with the Rugby Federation as a result, working with Manchester United and Manchester City and then making friends with famous sports people, working for a TV channel or even travelling to other countries like Japan.

Mr Rollet concluded his talk emphasising the value of combining a foreign language with another subject. We hope then that our Year 11 students now fully appreciate how worthwhile language learning is and how relevant it is to them in the current world of work or just on a personal level to discover exciting experiences in the international world.

***“A language will always be useful,
no matter what you do”***

Mrs Lagrange

House Quiz 2022

These traditional pre-Christmas events took place with plenty of wit, intelligence and good-humoured banter.

We had the usual mix of questions from curriculum subjects, general knowledge, mental arithmetic, sport, memory, pictures and novelty topics, in rounds of various formats.

Toller won the opening quiz with Year 12 showing a vast array of knowledge not least from star performer Henry Hall (12T), Hartley then made the early running thanks to victories in the Year 10 and Year 13 Quizzes with Aaron Brady (11H) and Nial Fitzgibbon (13H) picking up the Man of the Match award.

Day 2 saw the youngsters enter the fray. Year 7 was won by Toller with Joe Kennedy (7T0) leading his house to victory. Year 8 by Hartley as Daniel Hood (8H) and having won three of the first five quizzes were strong favourites overall. Ermysted then won Year 9 thanks to Harsh Gourapur (9E) which actually meant with one quiz to go Hartley, Ermysted or Toller could win overall. However, Petyt and in particular Eoin Burns (11P) decided to come to the party and spoil Ermysted’s and Toller’s chances of overtaking Hartley. Petyt’s win actually got them level with Toller in 3rd place on 18 points just two behind Ermysted who were a further two behind this year’s brainboxes Hartley.

Well done to everyone involved and in particular the teams for another impressive demonstration of the students’ abilities.

Mr Speak

School Cross Country

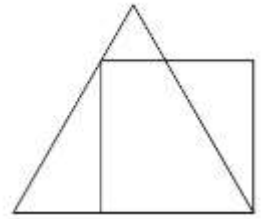
A huge thank you to everyone who took part in and donated money for the whole school cross country in October. The final amount raised was a whopping £3556.90! This will go to the Pakistan Flood Appeal.

Maths Senior Kangaroo

Congratulations to Alex Oliver, the top scorer in the Senior Maths Kangaroo (follow on round from the UKMY Senior Maths Challenge). He gained a Merit alongside Ishaan Khullar and Arayaan Abhishek. Well done. See if you can solve the puzzle overleaf!

Dr Needham

15. The perimeter of the square in the figure is 40. The perimeter of the larger equilateral triangle in the figure is $a + b\sqrt{p}$, where p is a prime number. What is the value of $7a + 5b + 3p$?



The Petyt Library

Early in the eighteenth century, parcels of books began arriving in Skipton, consigned from one 'Silvester Petyt of Barnards Inn London'. The books were marked for the 'augmentation of the library in the Church' or 'for the use of the Grammar School' of which Silvester Petyt was 'heretofore a schollar'. Silvester and his brother William had been scholars of Ermysted's before departing to pursue careers as lawyers in London. Both went on to be very successful; William in particular rose to the office of *Keeper of the Records* in the Tower of London, which gave him ready access to some of the government's most important documents. On his death in 1707, some of William's extensive collection of books and papers began appearing in the parcels arriving in Skipton. In



total, over 4000 volumes were generously donated by the brothers, creating what is now known as 'The Petyt Collection'.

Over the years, The Petyt Collection has been housed in many locations, with the books owned by the school and the town sometimes held

separately. Most recently, the entire collection has been housed in the [rare books section of York University Library](#), where it is being thoroughly catalogued and preserved. Last month, a party of town councillors and representatives of the school visited the library to view progress.

Unusually for such a collection, detailed records were kept during the arrival of the parcels at Skipton in the years 1708-1714 (click [here](#) and [here](#)). Of note from the books given to the school is an early printed bible from

1476 (pictured below) with detailed illuminations; an enormous atlas from 1676 (pictured opposite), complete with painted illustrations and hand-wrought lettering; and a mathematical text book from 1696 (pictured below), which contains one of the first recorded uses



'cosine' – admittedly, I alone may have been excited by that news!

Anyone may contact the university directly if they wish to view any of the books. It is an extraordinary collection and well worth a visit.

Mr Evans

SGHS Winter Concert



On 30 November our (joint) choir took part in the Winter Concert at SGHS. It was great fun performing the pieces

which we had been practicing since September. we sounded brilliant together and we got to spread a little Christmas spirit too! Thank you, Mrs Evans and Dr Cloke for making our involvement in the evening possible.

Daniel E, Year 9

The British Empire

Year 8 History students worked in groups to produce some excellent projects on the impact of empire. They researched different countries that were formerly part of the British Empire; their work was informative, engaging and told us of different cultures.



Miss Swaddle

Young Enterprise

On Tuesday, 13 December our two Young Enterprise teams took a trip to the Head Office of Skipton Building Society to take part in a trade fair, along with another team of pupils from South Craven School.



Team *Threads*, lead by Business Advisor Joanne Barwick, designed and produced limited edition t-shirts featuring their company logo, and Team *Opus Noctis*, lead by Eli Smith, created laser-cut Christmas decorations crafted from local wood.



Both teams have been working on their products since October and the trade fair was a great opportunity to gain some hands-on experience of the different aspects of running a small business.

Janet Jay, Educational Partnerships Manager for Young Enterprise said the “students did (the school) proud and were outstanding in the way they presented their products and themselves, showing amazing confidence and skills in achieving absolutely fantastic sales results. I cannot praise them highly enough and they will all be a force to reckon with in the area competition this year!”

Mrs Tamsons



Selected Upcoming Events at Ermysted's

EVENT	DATE	VENUE
Certificate Presentation Evening (2022 leavers')	5 January 2023	Memorial Hall
Ermysted's Friends' Association meeting	12 January 2023	Library
GCSE Options Evening	17 January 2023	School
Sixth Form Options Evening	31 January 2023	School
Year 10 Parents' Evening	2 March 2023	Online

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