

NEWSLETTER

Ermysted's Grammar School



Year 9 GCSE German pupils enjoying a German breakfast earlier this month!

Hello everyone,

The school has been busy since Easter with **Senior Prefects** selection, **sporting** and **academic competitions**, the **mock election**, and large numbers securing the prestigious **Ermysted's Award**. Even the staff have had an early run out onto the cricket pitch!

How wonderful to see international residential trips back in the calendar. Thank you to the staff who accompanied the Sixth Formers to **Berlin**—the report inside really conveys how much everyone enjoyed the experience.

Enrichment Week later this term will see nearly 100 Ermysted's pupils in Germany, spread across the **Music trip** and the **Exchange**, with more off to **Normandy**, or **camping** back here in Yorkshire.

The pupils have been making good use of the fine weather out in the Dales: the initial phase of the **DofE** expeditions has passed successfully and the pupils have certainly impressed with their attitude and enthusiasm.

Finally, may I thank everyone who supported the recent **sponsor a book** initiative—it's made a real impact. A few titles remain (see page 8) if anyone is keen to join in!

Michael Evans

IN THIS ISSUE

BERLIN TRIP

MOCK ELECTION

SENIOR PREFECT TEAM 2023-24

EGS AWARD

DUKE OF EDINBURGH

AND MUCH MORE!

Berlin Trip



On Sunday 2 April, Sixth Form German and History students met at Manchester Airport. After minor hiccups through security, we were ready to embark on our trip to Berlin. Once we had landed, and queued through passport control at Berlin Brandenburg Airport, we bedded down at our hostel at midnight.

After an early start at 9am, we walked the short distance from the hostel to Alexanderplatz. Once the hub of East Berlin, the TV tower, the Berliner Fernsehturm cut through the skyline. The TV tower stands at 368m, making it one of the tallest structures in the EU. After a split into groups, Germanists and Historians, we embarked on a three-hour walking tour of the city. Our guide, Greta, was happy to let us stop at a coffee shop in the ornate Humboldt University. A hot Kakao warmed me up from the bitter 2-degree chill. The tour concluded with a walk up Pariser Platz, where many international embassies stand, to the Brandenburg Gate, one of Germany's best-known landmarks. We visited the Führerbunker, now destroyed and filled in with earth, where now blocks of flats and a car park stand. After lunch at The Mall of Berlin, we continued to the Checkpoint Charlie Museum, a museum dedicated to the most prolific checkpoint in the Berlin wall. Our guide showed us the car he had built with a secret compartment and how he had smuggled people across the border. Our day ended late with currywurst and apple strudel in a restaurant, and our journey back to the hostel by U-Bahn.

Our second morning in Berlin began with a U-Bahn trip to Bernauer Straße, a memorial park dedicated to the Berlin

Wall. Much of the original inner-wall ran alongside the park, now serving as a garden fence. The recently reopened DDR museum, on the river Spree, came next. The museum, dedicated to contemporary life in a divided Berlin, featured many interactive displays, and the mock-up of the interior of a German house. Pretzels from a



street vendor followed, and after lunch we reconvened at the Reichstag, the German seat of government. A massive, 1,200 tonne glass dome sits atop the building, and provides 360-degree views of the city. We were given an audio guide and slowly made our way up, around the dome. After the Reichstag we visited The Memorial to the Sinti and Roma Victims of National Socialism. The monument, and reflecting pool, is dedicated to the memory of the hundreds of thousands of Roma and Sinti people murdered by the Nazi government. Outside the Tiergarten we stopped at the Memorial to the Murdered Jews of Europe, a large abstract field of concrete slabs that you could walk through, conveying the enormity of the holocaust. Dinner was at Hofbräuhaus, a large Bavarian-inspired beer hall with a band and waiters in lederhosen. We ate soup, schnitzel with potato salad, and chocolate mousse with cherries. Our night concluded in the hostel with games



and awards, with grand prizes of chocolate eggs.

The final morning began with a walking tour of residential east Berlin, as we looked out for sights seen in *Das Leben der Anderen*, the film studied at A-Level German. We found the bookshop on Karl-Marx-Allee, a monumental socialist boulevard built by the GDR; and the journalist Dreyman's flat, in a verdant residential neighbourhood. We met the history group at Ostbahnhof station, after what I'm sure was an invigorating revision session with Mr Barrett. We continued by tram to the Hohenschönhausen Memorial, the site of East Germany's largest Stasi prison, where over 42,000 political prisoners were held, interrogated, and tortured. The weight of the site was apparent and impactful. Our Greek tour guide gave a comprehensive tour of the prison's history, as well as the Stasi's origins. After lunch back at Alexanderplatz, we visited the East Side Gallery - a series of murals painted directly on a kilometre long remnant of the Berlin Wall. Our flight back to Manchester was delayed, and we eventually took off at 23:28, two minutes before the Berlin airspace closed for the night.



Our trip was eye-opening, and an illuminating experience for both History and German students regarding our courses, and wider German culture. A massive thank you to Miss Waudby, who invested an incredible amount of time and effort into planning this trip, to Mrs Warburton, Mr Barrett and to Mr Blythe of Skipton Girls' High School. This trip was an amazing experience that we all appreciated and will remember.

Henry H, Year 12

Mock Election



Two of the four fundamental British values are Democracy, and Respect and Tolerance, and at Ermysted's a display of both has been shown at the mock election. The annual mock election has just come to its conclusion with Sebastian G, candidate for tory and "right wing king" celebrating his victory breaking the five year long chokehold the communist party has had on ballot box. Sebastian had 31% of the being the favourite of both Year 7 & 8 and drawing with communist for favourite of Year 10. Hot on his heels was Nathaniel S for Communist party with 26% of the votes whilst being the favourite of Year 12 and drawn for Year 10. Third was Labour ran by Vincent T and Cassian C coming in with 19% of the votes, fourth Jamie J running for Independent with 15% and finally Gabriel O running for Liberal democrats coming fifth with 7% of the votes.

As a collection we would all like to thank everyone who participated from the voters to the poll counters to the staff who were able to make this event possible. We hope this event has sparked an interest in politics for students in lower years and given them an experience in voting!

Nathaniel S, Year 12

Senior Prefect Team

2023-24

After a lengthy and grueling application process, we are delighted to announce the Senior Prefect Team for 2023-24:

Head Boy: Edward Whitlam

Deputy Head Boys: Sean Acornley, Douglas Segger-Steveley and Gurdith Singh

House Captains:

Ermysted: Dan Jones and Boe Kennedy

Hartley: Hatim Aziz and Charlie Hanson

Petyt: Sandy Greenhorn and Gregory Nattress

Toller: Eisa Barket and Jack Healey

The selection process consisted of a formal written application, staff ballot, student ballot, in-tray and presentation round, and two final round interviews. This year's process was incredibly competitive, with 82 applications in total and 47 for the role of Head Boy alone!

Mr Barrett

Match Report: 1st XI

Cricket v the MCC



The overcast conditions and damp outfield at Bolton Abbey Cricket Club made for an interesting setting for the match between Ermysted's and the MCC. After the MCC won the toss and chose to bat the Ermysted's opening bowlers of I. Kullar and J. Davies started strong. The consistent lines and lengths coupled with tight fielding

reduced the MCC to a slow start with their openers under high pressure, this pressure was rewarded when on the final ball of the 4th over I. Kullar picked up his first of the game, with a safe catch from A. Hussain. More good bowling from Davies and Kullar culminated in a second wicket for Ermysted's and Kullar, this time caught by captain D. Canny with R. Burton 21(26) returning to the pavilion.

The third wicket came shortly after with a brilliant ball from Davies, breaking L. Haider's defences, leaving the score at 48-3 with Ermysted's firmly on top and applying pressure. However, a strong 4th wicket partnership of 99 steadied the ship for the MCC as J. Best reached his 50 and M. Harrison supported showing impressive defence against the consistent spin bowling of A. Hussain and M. Ibrahim. The deadlock was finally broken when A. Hussain got a well-deserved wicket after multiple high-quality overs and close calls. A well-placed delivery finally found its target, sending J. Best back after a well-made 63.

With the score at 147-4 and the game in the balance Ermysted's looked to gain the advantage with some quick wickets but M. Harrison remained resilient seeing off balls and halting Ermysted's progress but then the 5th wicket fell in the 40th over, another for Hussain with some tidy glove work from J. Birks to stump T. Mity for 5. The wickets of Harrison and Hinchcliffe came shortly after with Davies getting a well deserved second and Kullar wrapping things up with his third. With the score at 173-7, the MCC declared putting Ermysted's into bat.

After a short tea, the Ermysted's openers J. Davies and J. Birks were sent out to begin the chase. They got off to a strong start navigating through the first overs and then capitalising on loose deliveries, leading them to an invaluable 50 partnership. The first wicket for the MCC came from the bowling of D. Lees as J. Birks fell for 23 (52). With the score at 59-1 and Ermysted's still in pole position only requiring 114 for victory the pressure was still firmly on the MCC and its bowling attack. A flurry of quick wickets fell with I. Kullar (0), F. Walker (1), G. Keane (8) and E. Whitlam (2) all falling for single digit scores, leaving Ermysted's teetering at 92-5. J. Davies still stood firm and kept playing impressive cricket, he was eventually uprooted when he was caught in the deep, 1 short of a well-deserved half century.

With Ermysted's left at 94-6, victory seemed much

further away than it had only a handful of overs before. The remaining 4 wickets fell for 20 runs S. Gokhale (1), M. Ibrahim (6), A. Hussain (9) and H. Qureshi (retired out) with D. Canny (5) not out. The loss by 59 runs didn't do justice to the quality displayed from a mixed year group team.

After the game was finished the man of the match award was given out, to which A. Hussain was awarded with it after an impressive display of spin bowling, ending the match with figures of 2-35 off 13 overs.

Edward W, Year 12

Chemistry Olympiad

This year was the 55th annual chemistry Olympiad.

Gold certificates were awarded to Matthew Connell and Alex Oliver whilst a bronze certificate was awarded to Andrew Robinson. Alex and Matthew were in the top 9.2% of the 11838 candidates who took the exam!

Well done to the boys for giving up their lunchtime to attend the sessions.

Mr Fearnley

EGS Award 2023



On Speech Day we will recognise the achievements of many of our pupils who have gained an 'Ermysted Award'. They will each receive a smart enamel pin badge and certificate.

The Ermysted Award is organised so that pupils in Year 7 & 8 aim for Bronze, Year 9 & 10 are eligible for Silver and Year 11 & 12 go for Gold. Evidence of achievements is spread over both years and the award itself is claimed via submission of a portfolio of evidence, usually at Easter.

This year we have returned to the traditional pattern of presenting these awards on Speech Day.

Pupils had to show evidence of substantial and sustained contributions under six headings; Academic, Service in School, Cultural, Skill, Physical and Community. Although called the 'Ermysted Award' for a reason, due in part to lockdown, we also look favourably on any evidence which might have demonstrated commitments outside as well as those for school.

The following boys have submitted successful portfolios this year and will therefore be receiving their respective awards.

Bronze: Quilan Andre (8E), Jayden Booth (8E), Lukas Horne (8H), Tomasz McCormick (8H), Jason Chapman (8P), Benjamin Rawling (8H), Alfie Whitlam (8H), Isaac Jennings (8H), Lennan Ratcliffe (8H), Isaac Chapman (8H), Zeb Procter (8E), Stanley Dunne (8T), Hanzala Ahmed (8P), Sam Devane (8P), Alfie Blacka (8P), Alfie Burgess (8E), Ming Kai Lin (8P).

Silver: Alfie Swinton (10JS), Nicolas Weekes (10MA), Daniel Reid (10SK), Pranav Raja Srinivasan (10KW), Michael Benny (10KS), Emmanuel Joseph (10SK), Elliot Stone (10MA), Mohamed Badawi (10KW), Bilal Hassan (10KW), Aaron Brady (10KS), Taha Iqbal (10JS), Teilo Livermore (10MA), Mathys Boukemach (10JS), Haris Yaseen (10MA).

Gold: Henry Gowans (12AA), Oliver Mann (12AH), Ammar Khedapa (12MS), Oscar Smyth (12GH), Boe Kennedy (12TE), Toby Noland (12TE), Sandy Greenhorn (12GH).

Congratulations and very well done!

Mr Speak & Mrs Carr

UKMT Junior Maths Challenge 2023

An incredible 97 awards! All Year 8 students sat the UKMT Junior Maths Challenge with record results. Congratulations to all who achieved the 18 Gold, 42 Silver, 37 Bronze Awards. Benjamin qualified for the Maths Olympiad and 10 others for the Kangaroo follow-on round. Well done!

Dr Needham

Golf at Sedbergh



Pictured above is the Ermysted's Year 12 golf team who were hosted by Sedbergh School for our annual match. Congratulations to Sam G and Freddie M who won their match and to Sean A for his nearest the hole on the 160 yard ninth hole. We look forward to welcoming Sedbergh back to play the return fixture in June, kindly hosted by Skipton Golf Club.

Mr King

Staff Cricket



The first of 3 fixtures for the Ermysted's Staff Cricket team resulted in a defeat at Cracoe.

We posted a creditable 120 in our 20 overs but our hosts (great spot to play and a cracking barbeque) knocked them off relatively easily. However, cricket was the real winner. And what a gorgeous place to play!

Mr Speak

Swing Band



The school's swing band played two concerts recently. The band attended the Addingham Gala on 7th May and played for two hours in the afternoon. The Gala traditionally raises money for charitable causes, so we were glad to give up our free time to help them - and we believe that there were 700 to 1000 people there. A great afternoon was had by all. This was followed by a concert for Mr Hamilton in Skipton Town Hall - which was for the Rotary Club, and to provide funding for polio immunisations. The concert raised £1000 which will be match funded (tripled) by the Bill Gates Foundation - so will provide £3000. It was a good concert - which was also played by a trio from Ilkley Grammar School, the Amici wind group and the Yorkshire Voices choir. Our band played brilliantly, and it is sad that we will lose 7 of them at the end of this year. Next stop Germany!

Dr Cloke

Duke of Edinburgh



Boys from this year's cohort and previous cohorts are continuing to complete DofE sections and awards. Duke

of Edinburgh Expedition Practice has taken place this half term.



5th - 7th May: 21 Year 12 Gold Award participants trekked for three days from the Settle area, around the vicinity of the Three Peaks, to Buckden in Upper Wharfedale. They performed excellently and impressed the supervisors. They were trained in complex mapping skills and wild camping craft. They look forward to a four day expedition in the Lake District on 29th June.

13th & 14th May: 56 Year 9 Bronze Award participants carried out camp craft skills at Ermysted's and undertook a trek around Skipton Moor in beautiful weather. Again, they showed fantastic team work, aptitude and enthusiasm. They look forward to a two day expedition in the Yorkshire Dales on 10th June.

19th - 21st May: 28 Year 10 Silver Award participants are carrying out a training expedition in the Wharfedale and Nidderdale. They look forward to a three day expedition in the Yorkshire Dales on 16th June.

Mr Allen

KASIN—Non-uniform Day

We are very pleased to announce that our non-uniform

day on 31 March for 'Kids at School in Nepal' raised a fantastic £1032.69! A huge thank you to Pat Wherity for coming into school to talk to the pupils about this venture.

Mr Speak

RS Drop Down Day: Year 12

On Tuesday 16th May, normal lessons were suspended, and Year 12 had a thought-provoking day of lectures and workshops, all focused on religious education. An eclectic range of speakers encouraged discussion and debate among the year group, which was divided into (a welcome reunion of) the four house groups.

The charismatic and engaging Roger Carswell spoke to the groups, arguing why he believed Jesus rose from the dead and its significance to the Christian faith. Thoughtfully piecing his ideas together, he presented his evidence, interspersed by a unique range of witty, personal anecdotes. A question-and-answer style debate followed.

Joe Winstone, from the UCCF, delivered talks on breaking our limits and evading aimlessness in everyday life. He drew upon several different sources: religious texts, Netflix dramas and academic texts to spark conversation amongst the groups. The debate was highly philosophical at times – in my session we discussed the relationship between humans and artificial intelligence.

Pastor Chris Haley, of Beech Hill Church in Otley, guided a deep, philosophical discussion into 'why God allows suffering'. He referred to the Old and New Testaments, as well as other religious traditions, to direct the conversation and his talk was well regarded.

Nicky Shoesmith, from the Rotary Club, gave a brief overview of law and morality, before dividing the room into two groups. We then prepared for a fun, yet intense, mock trial. She acted as the judge, while the pupils were the advocates. We debated historical morally divisive cases. Other talks encompassing law and morality were delivered by the solicitors from AWB Charlesworth and Andrew Aspin, a former government adviser on psychiatry. Mr Aspin's session was very interesting looking and psychiatric detainment. His reference to government policy on the topic gave a useful insight into the topic. The conversation was

particularly useful for those interested in the medical profession.

Naomi Dodgson, from Oxfam on Skipton High Street, spoke on Oxfam's work locally, nationally and internationally. Her friendly nature and mix of videos were informative and eye-opening. She encouraged Ermysted's students to come and volunteer at the shop. Several props made the session interactive, most memorably the bright yellow 'Life Saver Cube', costing £65 to fundraise, vital in emergency situations, filtering dirty water, making it safe to drink. Her in-depth insight into development work in the Ukraine was particularly interesting.

The year group were attentive and participated excellently throughout the day. I thank the speakers for their engaging, well delivered lectures and workshops and you are all welcome to return in the future.

Nicholas Hall, Year 12

Ermysted's Friends' Association

At our last Ermysted's Friends' Association meeting, Mr Evans presented us with a few departmental funding requests. You will remember that we had been raising money to buy new Sixth Form computers. However, Mr Evans has fortunately been able to find money for this purchase from another source and therefore we are delighted to be able to meet the following requests from staff:

Art - £900 for the purchase of 3 new cameras to support GCSE and class work and also to support a new photography club and competitions

English - contribution (tbc) towards a Year 9 theatre workshop on Macbeth

Geography - £1400 for essential fieldwork equipment

Music - approximately £3000 for a class set of Djembe drums and software subscriptions to resource class and extracurricular music activities.

Thank you to all those who have supported our fundraising efforts this year by volunteering, attending Christmas concerts, bag packing, 200 Club or ParentPay donations.

Our next fundraiser is now up and running - the sale of our brand new Ermysted's Grammar School mugs! They cost £7 each, come individually boxed and show the school logo on one side with the four house crests on the other. A must have for your mug rack. They can be purchased via ParentPay using this link: <https://app.parentpay.com/ParentPayShop/Uniform/Default.aspx?shopid=9793> Collection only from School Office.



Finally, our last meeting of this academic year will be online via Zoom **Tuesday 27th June at 7.30pm** when all the GCSE and A-Level exams are over. An email reminder with the link will be sent out shortly so please do keep an eye out for that. Hope to see you there!

Katrina, Lisa and Phil (EFA Committee)

Sponsor a Book Scheme



Our 'Sponsor a Book' wish list remains live, so if you'd like to help by purchasing a book for the school library, you can do so by clicking [here](#). Thank you so much to everyone who has taken part in the scheme so far.

Mrs McCabe

Craven Open Door

Ermysted's once again welcomed members of Craven Open Door to the Food Room in their annual baking session.

A classic recipe of Melting Moments biscuits from Mrs Reynoldson's old Be-Ro recipe book was a popular choice with our guests!



A very BIG thank you to the boys from Years 7, 8, 9 and 13 who volunteered and assisted on the evening. Mr Graham Hamilton, a volunteer with Craven Open Door,

said "It's always a pleasure to come to school and work with Mrs T, Mrs R and the boys! Thank you so much - all of it done with patience and good humour!"

Mrs Taylor



Selected Upcoming Events at Ermysted's

EVENT	DATE	VENUE
Sixth Form Taster Day	28 June 2023	School
Year 13 Leavers' Event	30 June 2023	Quad (or Refectory if wet)
Speech Day	4 July 2023	Sports Hall
Open Evening	4 July 2023	School

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