



DISS HIGH SCHOOL

END OF TERM NEWSLETTER - MARCH 2023

“The privilege of a lifetime is to become who you truly are.” [Carl Jung](#)

There is nothing more satisfying for teachers and parents than to see youngsters succeeding at something that has become their real passion.

6th Form Student is an Ambassador of Aviation

We are very proud of year 12 student Jack Jenner-Hall who has been appointed the Ambassador of Aviation for the Department for Transport. Jack’s role is to help create a sustainable, accessible, and diverse sector for the future and he is passionate about making the aviation sector more secure and attractive to the next generation. Jack’s role has so far involved attending events with government ministers and giving speeches at schools, universities and colleges whilst successfully pursuing a demanding programme of A level study.



Lessons from Auschwitz

Two of our sixth form students, Ellesha Close and Lily Jones have participated in the Lessons from Auschwitz Project this year. This project endeavours to bring more awareness to the atrocities of the Holocaust, to discover more about the individuals whose lives were affected and the lessons that can be learnt from it. They describe their experience below:

"As part of the project we went to Auschwitz and Auschwitz-Birkenau. This was a harrowing experience for the both of us and put into perspective the sheer scale of the horror that occurred there. For example, The Book of Names lists the names of $\frac{2}{3}$ of those who died but still took up the majority of the room. The feeling of walking through a gas chamber where thousands of people tragically lost their lives is almost indescribable and certainly an experience I will never forget."

"We also had the opportunity of hearing from Janine Webber who is a survivor of the Holocaust. She is from a town called Lwow in Poland and when the Nazis began to round up Jewish people she had to hide in a hole in a wardrobe and then was eventually found and taken to a Ghetto with her family where the conditions were awful. Soon after arriving in the Ghetto her mother fell seriously ill with typhus and died aged just 29. After escaping the ghetto she moved around many different families that hid her, including where a German soldier found them and shot her brother and Janine only narrowly escaped. She then found Edek who was risking his life hiding 14 Jews including Janine and her aunt where they stayed for a year before it was considered too dangerous. . Hearing her story highlighted for us how her life was affected and how unfathomably difficult her experience must have been."

Ellesha and Lily are now completing their Next Steps project to educate others about the Holocaust and the lessons we should learn from it.



Year 13 Drop Down Day

This term, year 13 had a challenge of shopping for their ingredients and making a main meal. They had to cost their food and be creative with the ingredients available to them. We’ve seen some amazing results and we are confident the students can fend for themselves after 6th form! Well done everyone!

Languages Trip

Y12 and 13 Spanish A Level students went to London to see a production of La casa de Bernarda Alba. The play is one of their set texts and was performed entirely in Spanish.

SONGWRITING

Throughout March, 27 students from Years 9-13 have been collaborating with professional musicians to write and perform their own songs. For lots of the participants, this was their first experience of creating original music and performing in a band. We are looking forward to opportunities for these bands to perform at public events later this year.



Hospitality and Catering in KS4

This term the students have been developing their knife skills and cooking techniques. We joined a chicken and froze the chicken breasts, legs and wings separately to use over the next practical lessons. The first dish was chicken goujons with chips and either coleslaw or a dressed salad. I'm sure you will agree with me that the students have done a fantastic job, and I can't wait to see their chicken tagines and marinated chicken wings next!



Allotment



Thanks to the charity East of England 'Apples and orchard project' the allotment now has a selection of 10 new fruit trees. A mixture of apple, plum and cherry. The groups have enjoyed planting them and look forward to when they start producing fruit to taste.

With the nicer weather the number of pupils volunteering at the allotment will increase and we would like to ask if any members of the community have spare or unused garden tools they would be happy to donate to the group. We need items such as shears, secateurs, loppers, trowels, forks and rakes. Any donated items will be gratefully received and can be left at the school reception.

Library News from Mrs Goddard

It has been a really exciting term for the library. During the half term holiday, I worked with a wonderful team from the [Norfolk Children's Book Centre](#) to rejuvenate our library stock. With the help of a grant from the Taylor Hammond Trust and a generous contribution from local employer [Midwich](#), we were able to add hundreds of new books to the library catalogue. We now have a fabulous selection of non-fiction, fiction, graphic novels and Manga titles on our shelves which students have been thoroughly enjoying exploring this term.



This term also saw the celebration of 'World Book Day.' During World Book Day week, tutor groups took part in a competition to guess who the recorded 'Masked Readers' were. Teachers were recorded reading one of their favourite books by sixth form student, Charlie Scott-Bell, who added masks, altered their voices and compiled a short film. Tutor groups had lots of fun voting for who they thought were behind the masks with Mrs Adams' form, 10RA, coming out as the overall winners!



On World Book Day, March 2nd, I visited all the year 8 English lessons to gift every child in year 8 a free World Book Day book. They were able to choose from a range of 5 titles. During lunch break we had fun in the library making origami bookmarks and designing book vouchers for the National Book Token competition. I have a great collection of entries to send off so fingers crossed!

Recently, some talented year 7 students helped me to create this lovely spring display by making origami butterflies and flowers. Hopefully, it will bring us some nice spring weather!

SPORTS NEWS

Year 11 Football Team

This has been a very successful season for the Year 11 team. They have not lost a league game against our local high schools and had a great Norfolk Cup run which ended in a defeat at the semi-final stage to a strong Hellesdon team. I am not only proud of the success of the team but just as importantly their attitude. They have supported each other and been a pleasure to be with. At the start of the year, we had more than 30 at training which is lots more than I normally expect for any team but particularly Year 11. It made the job of choosing the team difficult but to use a football cliché 'all managers like having tough decisions to make.' Sorry to those who have not been selected, please keep playing out of school, lots of you have the potential to play at a good level. I must thank Sam Aldous who has captained the side very well this year and also the help I have received from Ashton Baldwin and Adam Parker with organising the teams. The others involved on a regular basis have been Sam Everett, Charlie Brown, Levi Lanchester, Sam Bernard, Zach Self, Joe White, Sacha Guy, Landon Frary, Oscar Chamberlain, Ben Butler, Archie Turrell, Oliver Walpole, Oliver Ramm, Brad West and Harry Last. Well done to all of you and good luck with your football in the future.

Mr Cole



It has been a football and netball packed term with all of our boys and girls engaged in hard training and competitive fixtures.

It has been a positive start in our entry to girls football this year- both our Year 7/8 and 9/10 teams have had a mixture of success and tough competition. Sadly, fixtures have dried up this half term and we are looking to enter more competitions for next year to get them all back out playing. We are proud to see Sophie Turrell and Evelyn Day make the county representative sides this season.

The boys leagues and cups are drawing to a close with our Year 11 unbeaten in the league and the Year 7 through to the County Plate semi-final.

This netball season saw our first entry into the Under19 regional competition. It was great to see so many of our Year 11 step up to play at such a high level- grabbing some wins and plenty of bruises on the journey.

TERM DATES remainder of academic year

Summer: 18th April 2023 to 21st July 2023

Half-term: 29th May – 2nd June 2023

Additional Bank Holiday: Monday 8th May

TERM DATES for pupils 2023-24

Autumn term

- Wednesday 6 September - Friday 20 October 2023
- *Half-term holiday:* Monday 23 - Friday 27 October 2023
- Monday 30 October - Wednesday 20 December 2023
- *Christmas holiday:* Thursday 21 December - Wednesday 3 January 2024

Spring term

- Thursday 4 January - Friday 16 February 2024
- *Half-term holiday:* Monday 19 - Friday 23 February 2024
- Monday 26 February - Wednesday 27 March 2024
- *Easter holiday:* Thursday 28 March - Friday 12 April 2024

Summer term

- Monday 15 April - Friday 24 May 2024 (Monday 6 May is a Bank Holiday)
- *Half-term holiday:* Monday 27 - Friday 31 May 2024
- Monday 3 June - Friday 19 July 2024

We wish you a pleasant Easter break.

Dr J Hunt - Headteacher