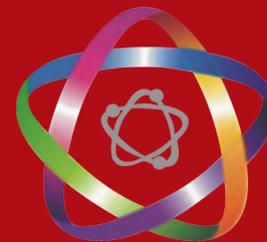


# aspire

2013-14 Christmas Edition



## Head lines

As we head towards the shortest day and the end of our first term of 2013-14 we do so having been busy once more with activities within and beyond the classroom. This edition has had to stretch to twelve pages, rather than the usual eight, as there has been so much going on.

We were delighted to welcome back the class of 2012-13 for their own Commemorative Assembly. This is the first time that we have held an awards ceremony for all of the outgoing Year 11 students and it was wonderful to see them all for one more time and to share their triumphs at Debenham High School. Our guest speaker for the evening was former student, Phil Robinson who is now a veterinarian and star of the ITV documentary *For the love of dogs*. Phil presented awards and certificates to all the Year 11 students, including his sister, Louisa. You can see all the award winners and pictures from the event inside this edition of *Aspire*. We expect this to now be an annual event, sharing with parents and carers our memories of the year just passed. It was a nostalgic evening and one to remember.

You may recall in my headlines last time I mentioned the group of parents and carers who form The Friends of Debenham High School. Through their efforts at the school production, *The Witches* (read more later) you raised over £300 towards new microphones and sound equipment for music and drama. Forthcoming events include the DHS Family Quiz on 28 February 2013. If you think you might be able to help in any way then contact Anne Mann at [friends@debenhamhigh.co.uk](mailto:friends@debenhamhigh.co.uk). Equally, please show your support by joining in one of the planned events which bring the school and local community together.

I wish you all a peaceful Christmas and prosperous New Year.

Julia Upton

## Remembrance

At the very start of this half-term we, like many across the world, stopped to remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom. On the morning of 11 November 2013 we held our Remembrance service at St Mary's Church in Debenham. We were proud that our students, who take part in cadets across the services, set the tone for the event with a guard of honour as students arrived at the church. There were readings from our Year 8 leaders about local people who gave their lives over the last one hundred years, from the First World War to more recent conflict in Afghanistan. As the youngest member of The Royal British Legion, Charlotte Williams read about the important role they play in society today and why we should take time each year to stop and reflect.



# COMMEMORATIVE

We were proud of the achievements of our Year 11 students last year. That is why we invited them all back for our first Year 12 Commemorative Assembly.

Award winners were:

## Special Prizes

Headteacher's Prize for Head Girl	Ele Williamson
Headteacher's Prize for Head Boy	Alfie Fawkner
Headteacher's Prize for Deputy Head Girl	Audrey McBride
Headteacher's Prize for Deputy Head Boy	Nick Harrison
Chairman's Prize for Something Exceptional	Katie Johnson
Governors Prize for Service to the School	Alfie Fawkner
Outstanding Academic Success	Hannah Gudde
Contribution to the Cultural Life of the School	Molly Hazelwood

Rhys Loram Trophy for STEM

Outstanding Progress

Global & Community Awareness

Ella Macey

Ciara Worrall

George Hutchinson

## Subject Prizes

Media Studies	Eleana Brock
Debenham Prize for Science	Bethany Brown
Debenham Prize for Drama	Olivia Bullock
Physical Education	Oliver Chidwick
Geography	Joel Dench
Mathematics	Rebecca Evans
English	Hannah Gudde
ICT	Jamie Lawrence
Art	Henry Mole
MFL	Georgia Pearson
History	Tom Pidgeon
Food Technology	Chelsea Prentice
Graphic Products	Sarah Reade
Religious Education	Louisa Robinson
Music	Sam Rockett
Textiles	Emily Rutherford
Resistant Materials	Hetti Sohi



# ASSEMBLY 2013



# French



**Francois Mitterand College**



**Activities at school**



**A Gaul soldier**

On Wednesday 13th November at 8am we set off on our adventure to Arras in northern France. After 3 hours we arrived in Dover and were on board the ferry. Once on the bus at Calais we adjusted our watches to European time and headed for Arras. As we drew closer both nerves and excitement set in and an anxious atmosphere descended over the bus. What would our correspondents be like and would we get on? Both the correspondents and their families were very nice and helpful, despite some obvious language difficulties and to start with quite a lot of Frenghish!

On Thursday we headed to the Francois Mitterand College for a breakfast of croissants and hot chocolate and welcome speech from the Head Mistress. We then went into two lessons. It was very different from Debenham High School as they had no uniform, a great alarm instead of a bell at the end of lessons and everyone is locked out of the school for break and lunch, regardless of the weather! We also had some very mysterious food for lunch. In the afternoon we visited the Arras Film Festival which was being run over a week. We were able to see four old black and white films with no sound and an orchestra playing during the film. Each film had its own theme tune. On Friday morning we were able to go shopping in Lille, and in the afternoon visited an exhibition at the Lille Science Museum on the life of the Gauls, Celtic people who lived in France and parts of modern day Belgium, Germany and northern Italy around the 5th Century BC. On return to Arras we visited the Cathedral before a formal presentation by the assistant Mayor at the town hall.

The weekend was spent with our correspondents enjoying varied trips from a day in Paris to visiting a WW2 bunker. On Monday morning we had a quiz in school followed by a sports competition in the afternoon.

Tuesday in school we saw an exhibition covering prehistoric Arras and had two trips in Arras. In the morning we visited the Carriere Wellington, a system of tunnels up to 20 metres underground. Built in WW1 by New Zealand tunnellers to link chalk quarries they gave 20,000 soldiers a secret base under the German front line. On the morning of April 9th 1917 the British Soldiers were able to emerge from underground a few metres from the German positions. It was very moving as many soldiers did not make it through the day alive.

In the afternoon we visited the Bovres, a system of tunnels 30 metres under the town hall used as cellars and silos, before a climb to the top of the town hall bell tower to enjoy the views of the town and countryside around Arras. We could not believe how fast the week had gone and soon it was time for an emotional departure, praying the next six months goes quickly so we can welcome to Debenham our new friends.

Bethan Barratt and Eleana Norman, Year 9



# Exchange

# Maths Team Challenge



Each year we send a team of our very best mathematicians from Year 8 and 9 to the Suffolk Team Mathematics Competition. Deciding who is to be selected is a tricky task, given the wealth of logical, problem solving talent that we have at Debenham High School. In order to aid selection (and to have some fun doing some challenging problems) over fifty students competed in teams of four for a morning of mathematical mind-teasers. The top three teams this year were:

3rd Place - ABEL - George Carter, Jamilla Simpson, James Pachebat, Marcus McMyn;

2nd Place - DE FERMAT - Harry Fawkner, Ella Heath, Mattie Carter, Ellie Billington;

1st Place - PYTHAGORAS - Poppy Fawkner, Aidan Coe, William Bosley, Sophie Caves.

Harry Fawkner and Aidan Coe from Year 9 and Matty Carter and Sam Fowler from Year 8, have been selected for their performance, teamwork, competitiveness and enthusiasm to represent the school at Framlingham College next term. Well done to everyone who competed and good luck to Harry, Aidan, Matty and Sam for the next stage.

## Puzzle Corner

**Tackle our teasers in logic, literacy and linguistics.**

### Word games

What is the meaning of this English word?

**Pantophobia means .....**

- a) the fear of everything
- b) the fear of underwear
- c) the fear of Christmas comic plays with music and merriment.

### Maths mayhem

A long time ago a farmer spent £100 on 100 animals. He bought bulls, cows and calves. Each bull cost him £10.00, each cow cost him £5.00 and each calf cost him 50p. How many of each animal did he buy?

### Multi-lingual challenge

Can you translate these words? The three words (in three languages) translate to the same meaning in English.

#### French

écurie  
voyage  
étoile  
auberge

#### Spanish

establo  
viaje  
estrella  
pension

#### Italian

stalla  
viaggio  
stella  
albergo

# The Witches



We were treated to another amazing production this year. With exacting performances from all the cast this professional show gained rave reviews from all the audience. From our Year 5 and 6 students who attended a special primary school matinee to parents, carers, governors and friends who came on Thursday and Friday evening. We know that performances like these take time and preparation and the students had clearly been set a high standard of performance. From the eerie witches to the comical puppet mice, the show had it all. Well done to everyone involved:

## **Cast**

Alex Lee, Victoria Huband, Romilly Hughes, Caitlin Corrigan, Hettie Ralph, Lella Ralph, Marley Straw  
Jess Hazelwood, Francesca Matta, Rohan Etchingham, Elsie Griew, Eleanor Roberts, Phoebe Frampton  
Izzy Mowles, Lois Bridges, Ellie Billington, Mia Iannelli, Rosie Halliday, Scarlet Eade, Skye Millar,  
Izzy Marsden, Emily Walker, Bridie Gilgan, Daniel Hempstead

## **Backstage Crew**

William Bosley, Elle Eglington

## **Technical support**

James Poole, Max Williams

## **Make-up and costumes**

Ellie Howard, Faye Gooch, Skye Millar, Faye Gooch, Ellie Howard



# The Witches



# MOUNTFITCHET CASTLE

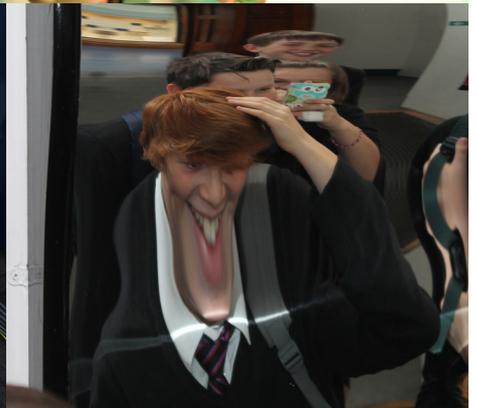
Year 7 students spent the day at this unique open-air museum experience where the visitor can travel back in time over 900 years and truly witness life in a medieval Motte and Bailey castle. The trip relates to the time period studied in Year 7 History and is a day where the students work together and get to know each other outside the classroom setting. The rather gloomy weather did not dampen a wonderful day. I hope they let them all out of the stocks before heading home. A bonus prize if you can name the students in disguise!



# THE NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM



Year 8 students went to London to put their Biology lessons into context at the Natural History Museum. Some brave souls volunteered to take part in the show later in the day - rather you than me Erin!



# All in a good cause

Year 10 were the first to lead a charity week this year and they decided to support Children in Need during their week in November. There were a range of events throughout the week to increase awareness of this good cause, to raise money and to have a bit of fun. Year 10 students gave their time in the following: "slaves for a day", running errands for teachers at break and lunchtime; co-ordinating and leading a lower school dodgeball tournament during lunchtime; car-washing (on a particularly cold November day); a cake sale - they really did go like hot cakes!; and a Year 11 students versus teachers basketball match. Unfortunately the teachers were victorious (mainly thanks to the skill of Mr Novak and the stature of Mr Rockett!), despite the only three-pointer of the game from Will Seccombe (in action below). From all their efforts and your generosity they raised an amazing £1,314.00.



Tackling his own amazing charity feat this half-term was Alec Lawson, Year 9. Alec joined the Ride4Sight team over 210 miles from Newcastle to Nottingham, via York and Doncaster and included some incredibly steep hills. The objective was to celebrate 25 years of Vision Express and to raise money for the nominated charity, The Childhood Eye Cancer Trust (CHECT), who provide research, medical facilities and family support for children affected by eye cancer. The ride raised a total of £28,000, Alec over £600 of this. The ride team were joined by - Bryan Steel, Olympic Silver Medalist and Darren Harris, Paralympian.



# Pray space

Once again, during the first full week of Advent, students across the school took time to be still and think spiritually in our Pray Space. Students rotated around stations based on different Christian teachings such as thankfulness, forgiveness and compassion. In our hectic modern world time is precious. Feedback from the students showed how much they valued the experience.



# Cross-country

Back in October you will recall that over fifty students took part in the first stage of the schools cross-country competitions at Royal Hospital School. This half-term those who progressed to the next round were back in action again. Congratulations to Lella Ralph, Freya Emerick and Jack Millar, who impressed again and have now qualified for the regional round at Culford School after Christmas.



# Spotlight on .....

Our two students in this edition are Olivia Da Costa and Benjamin Denton-Cardew, both in Year 11. Both Olivia and Ben are exceptionally talented musicians, but they have been sharing their aptitude in different ways this half-term.



Olivia performed a solo alongside The City of Cambridge Symphony Orchestra on Saturday 23 November. This was part of a range of events supported by the Rotary foundation. Olivia regularly performs in public, both as part of an orchestra and as a soloist. She hopes to one day become a professional classical musician. Remember the name - you saw her here first.

Benjamin Denton-Cardew in 11F has combined his entrepreneurial and musical talents to release a self-recorded CD of piano and strings music. Impressively, the CD starts with a recording of a performance where Ben was invited to play with One Republic after a chance encounter on a train. From there his recording continues to combine classical influences with a more modern flavour by including Pachelbel's Cannon fused with U2's With or Without You, as well as music from the score from the blockbuster film Inception. See Ben for your copy!



## Sports news

### Table-tennis

Under 14 table tennis team were bronze medallists in the County Final.

### Rugby

Under 13 boys rugby team defeated Alde Valley 68-0.

Under 16 rugby team won 104-0 against Hartismere.

### Girls Football

Under 13 girls football team defeated Stanway School 3-1 to reach the last 32 of the National Cup.

Under 13 girls football team edged an end-to-end match against Sir John Leman finishing winners by 7-6!

### Boys Football

Year Under 13 boys beat Hardwick Middle 2-1.

Under 13 boys progressed to the 4th round of the National Cup following a 5-1 victory over Archbishop Sancroft School - Jake Conway scored all 5 goals

Year 8 boys football played Arnold School, Bedfordshire in the last 16 of the Small Schools National Cup.

Year 7 boys football team beat Sir John Leman 5-4 in the County Cup. James Davies-Stokes netted a hat trick. Man of the Match: Max Lindley.

Year 11 Boys Football team beat Bungay 6-0: Goalscorers were Fowler (3), Ralph, Seccombe & Tapscott.

### Hockey

Under 14 hockey team defeated Hartismere 4-0.

### Martial Arts

Congratulations to Charlotte Williams, Year 8, who has recently taken her 2<sup>nd</sup> Dan in Korean Martial Arts.

### Badminton

Congratulations to Matthew Cross, Year 10, who has been competing in the Suffolk Badminton Team for some time but this year has had notable success, in and beyond his own age. Matthew won the Under 15 boys doubles and mixed doubles finals and the Under 17 mixed doubles final and was runner-up in two other finals.

