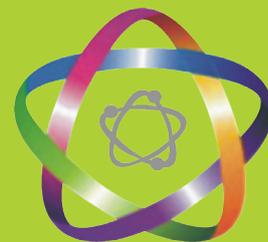


ASPIRE



2015-16 Harvest edition



Jamie Mallett: English

Mia Ianelli: Science

Charlie Williamson: MFL

Up front

I shall keep my introduction short and sweet as our Harvest edition just doesn't seem big enough to capture all that has been going on this half-term. In our Summer Awards Evening just last week, we celebrated those students who have made exceptional academic progress across the year and were delighted that Terry Hunt, the Editor of the EADT was able to join us and present the prizes (a few pictured above and more inside). Then of course there has been Sports Day, our Art and Design Exhibition, Geography Fieldtrips, Mathematics competitions, Year 7 MicroBit Challenge, Duke of Edinburgh Award and so much more.

To all our readers (including those who join us in September) we wish you a restful and sunny summer holiday.

Julia Upton



Duke of Edinburgh: Silver Award

Aldeburgh, Boyton, Hacheston to Debenham.

After several stormy days prior to our expedition, our 14 intrepid explorers arrived at the start of their expedition just outside Aldeburgh. Once bags had been checked, compass, whistles and maps issued groups 'Rambo Returns' and 'Lads on Tour 2.0' set off on their first day of adventure through marshland and forest.

For the majority of the day, the two groups remained on track and it was not until later in the day we encountered thunder, lightning and two torrential downpours!

Day 2 was much warmer, yet had more challenging terrain with the first section through forest on tracks difficult to navigate. Day 3 saw the groups up early again for the final push. After a porridge and cereal breakfast bar they set off, a little slower than the previous two days but determined to complete the expedition. And in next to no time ... everyone was back at Debenham. Well done to both groups and we wish you every success in your assessed expedition later in the month.

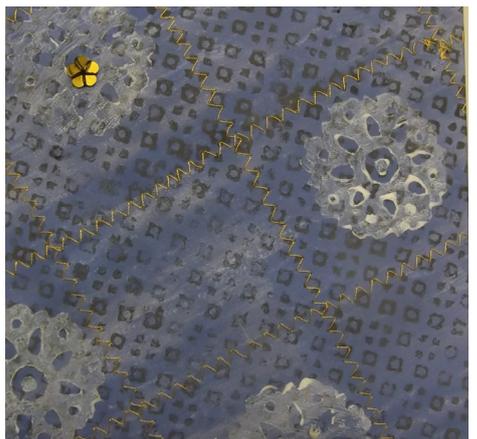
Year 8 Geography

Year 8 students spent the day at Southwold carrying out a geographical investigation to assess the volume and effectiveness of the coastal protection. They explored areas where there was little coastal protection, considered how geographical processes were exploiting the weak sandstone cliffs and considered the implications of this on people and the environment. Students identified and evaluated the variety of man-made coastal protection methods like sea walls, and undertook geographical field sketches, beach profiles and conducted questionnaires with members of the public to use in their studies back in school. Chips and ice cream were a well-deserved reward for their hard work throughout the day.



Textiles at the Cathedral

Students' work was exhibited at Bury St Edmunds Cathedral for the Queen's birthday celebrations.



Midsummer

The magical tale of romance and mystery, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* is about the clash between the human and fairy worlds. Comedy and romance abound as love potions are applied and misapplied, and one character wakes up with the head of an ass! Will the mishaps be put right in time?

Inside the Tudor barn, it was atmospheric with the moon, trees and smoke representing the forest. As the characters entered and the band started to play, the air was buzzing



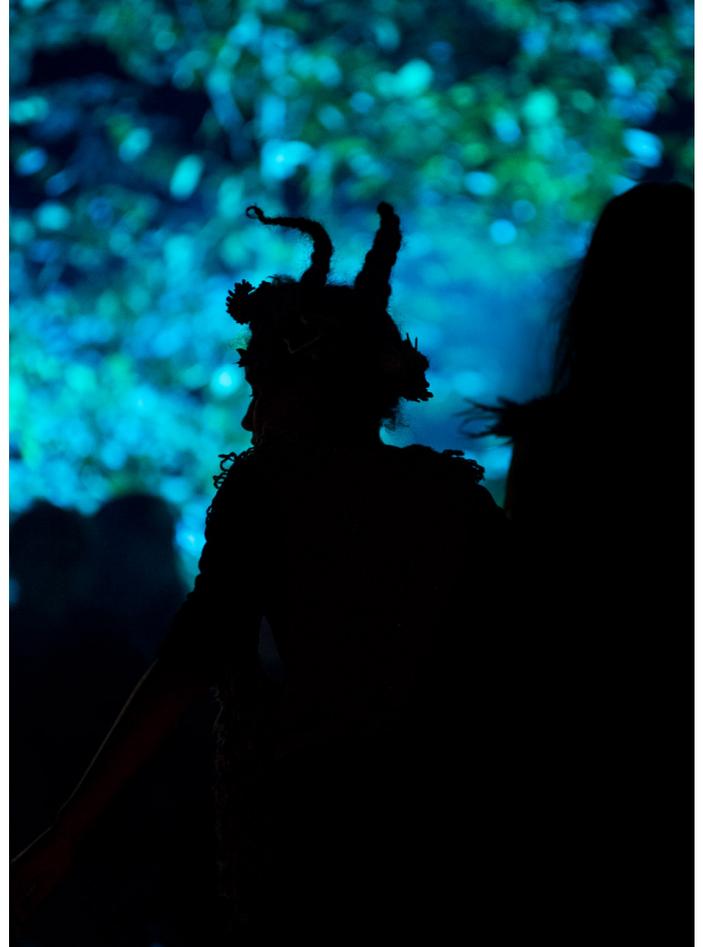
Magic

with anticipation and excitement. The play exceeded the audience's expectation. There were repeated spells of laughter and a sparkle of magic as the production went on, the acting and singing was perfectly executed in Shakspearean rhyme and the modern twist with Ska music was ingenious. There were many songs including 'It Must Be Love,' a must have in any romance!

Kerry Self



Midsummer



Thanks go to Mr Chris Grover for the wonderful pictures from this event. These are

Magic



available for purchase on DVD. All proceeds go to the Music and Drama Departments.

Year 6 Poetry

On the final Year 6 Liaison day of the year, students wrote poetry, inspired by the natural beauty and science of the simple tree.

Given the creativity and sophistication of their writing, we very much look forward to seeing these students join us in September.

The tree was as old and wrinkly as a grandma
It is lonely
It is a crocodile lurking
in the depth of the forest
Its limbs are spreading
very slowly

A tree is like a snake
A tree is like a font of nature
A tree is a factory
A tree is a humble home

The tree is shaped
like a banana
And is a dominant
figure in the unforgiving
wasteland
As wrinkly as an old
alien
It stands firm with
superior strength

The old dead tree was
as twisted as a sick
person's mind
The gnarled branches
were as sharp as knives
The tree was a beast,
lurking in the forest
The tree was an act of
nature, gone horribly
wrong

The tree's bark looked
as scaly as a crocodile
The tree is lurking in
the darkness
The branches look like
hands that are creeping
out towards you
The tree was bent like
an old witch's spine

A tree is like a pump
A tree us like an energy
form
A tree is like a solar
panel sucking up the
sun
A tree is a sky scraper

Trees are like an
imposing army of
green men
The lost souls of the
derelict undergrowth
The tree is a twisting
hand, ready to grab its
next victim
The branches are like a
creature not yet found.

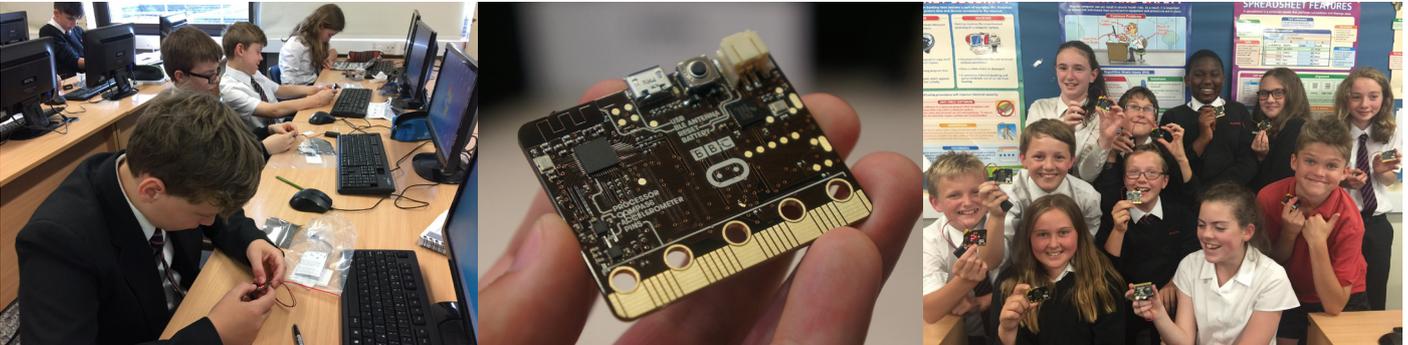
The tree is a monster
reaching down to me
With its hands like
branches grabbing me
I tried to run but the
woods surrounded me
Like a barrier blocking
my way

Micro:bit - have you got yours?

Year 7 students have finally received the much-heralded BBC micro:bit devices. The micro:bit is a hand-held, fully programmable computer being given free to every Year 7 student across the UK. This device has a lot of features, including 25 LED lights that can flash messages. It also includes two programmable buttons that can be used to control games or pause and skip songs on a play-list. The device can also detect motion and can tell you which direction you're heading in. An amazing device indeed!

The students have started using the device during their Computing lessons to learn more about how to write and run programs on their micro:bit. Some of the programs created by students range from creating a compass to games such as Magic-8 Ball. They will have the opportunity to take the device home at the end of the term so that they can play around with it all summer.

For more information about micro:bit, please visit the following website: www.microbit.co.uk The website contains plenty of tutorials for students to try.



Mathematics Kangaroo



Following the UKMT Junior Maths Challenge in April, five pupils from Years 7 and 8 reached the Kangaroo stage. From Year 7 Nicolas Van Ek and Sam Challis qualified for this challenge alongside Ewan Green, Alfie Tournay Godfrey and Abu Al-Amin from Year 8.

Pictured left (all Gold Award winners)

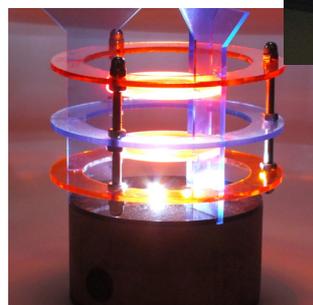
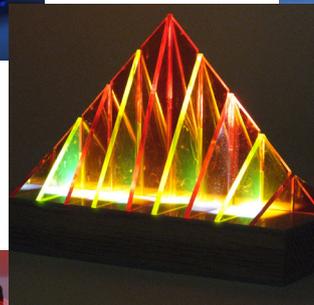
The top 25% of the pupils that qualified for the Kangaroo stage were awarded Certificates of Merit which was given for scores in excess of 95 out of a possible 135 marks. This was achieved by Abu Al-Amin and Ewan Green with the best result in the school gained by Nicholas Van Ek. Congratulations to all five pupils for reaching this stage and joining only 5,000 students across the country who qualified to enter this follow up round of the Maths Challenge.

Design and Technology

Year 8 Gifted and Talented Design and Technology students spent part of the day in the workshop making a pencil holder and spinning tops. Students developed their skills in making products accurately, and had a go on the metal lathe for the first time. Students involved were Luke Bower, Nick Haynes, Leah Skinner, Grace Burrowes, Zach Flatt, Tom Baker, Tom Boast, Sully Manto, David Ramsay, Charlie Williamson, Callum McLoughlin, and Will Newcombe.



Students in Year 10 designed and made lights inspired by the work of either Alessi or Sir Norman Foster. This counts towards the controlled assessment component of GCSE Resistant Materials. Lights have been designed and made by Charlie Aldis, Archie Atkins, Will Bosley, Charlie Coe, Sam Crick, Erin Fulcher, Holly Gilbert, Henry Haddon, Rachael Hook, Romilly Hughes, Tom Irving, Mark Lee, James Lemondine-Martin, Barnaby Long, Jamie Mallett, Marcus McMyn, Tom Norton, James Pachebat, Rhys Pearce, Fin Quilliam, Adam Shepherd, and Hannah Stephenson.



We love a fieldtrip!

All Year 7 went on a Geography Fieldtrip to introduce them to the ever important skill of Geographical Fieldwork skills and data collection. The aim of the day was to study the River Gipping from source to mouth to identify how it changes and how people make use of the land around it.

The day started with a boat trip on the Orwell Lady, leaving from Ipswich Marina and sailing under the Orwell Bridge. Students then had the chance to get into the river and collect data in groups, including the width, depth, velocity, nitrates, phosphates and ph level. Lunch was at Needham Lakes and we even found time to enjoy a well-deserved ice - cream! (The theme of all good Geography Fieldtrips it seems.)



Music by the moat



the moat



Summer Awards



Julie Davy: Food



Phoebe Frampton: Drama



Callum Stephenson: Engineering



Year 10: Consistent attainment and effort



Year 10: Consistent attainment and effort



Year 9: Consistent attainment and effort



Year 8: Consistent attainment and effort

Ceremony



Nathan Godding: Computing



Jodie Mitson: History



Anna Bruek Seeley: Geography



Year 8: Consistent attainment and effort



Year 7: Consistent attainment and effort



Year 7: Consistent attainment and effort



Year 7: Year Leaders and Deputies

A remarkable



Nathan Austin: Music



Bea Trott: PE



Emily Bower: RE



Year 8: Year Leaders and Deputies



Year 10: Year Leaders and Deputies



Year 9: Year Leaders



Year 7 Head of Year Award

year



Year 9 Progress Award



Year 8 Progress Award



Year 10 Head of Year Award



Year 7 Progress Award



Year 8 Head of Year Award



Year 10 Progress Award



Headteacher's Special Commendation:
HEROES Community Project

Sports Day

Another fabulous sports day was enjoyed by the whole school. Despite the weather closing in towards the end of the day, we managed to get all events in and finished with the very inclusive team relays and tug of war. The House Captains from Year 10 did a wonderful job organising their teams in all events and it was another excellent and memorable occasion. Congratulations to Nelson who secured the title for the second successive year. Many congratulations to all houses and competitors for making the day so special once again. The Simon Crofts trophy was awarded to the following pupils who may not have won their events, but tried valiantly in a number of events.





Simon Crofts Trophy
1st – Hannah George – Curie
2nd – Rebecca Tavendale – Owens
3rd – Ben Evans – Austen
Final Sports day standings
1st – Nelson – 1761 pts
2nd – Curie – 1710
3rd – Owens – 1566
4th – Da Vinci – 1563
5th – Austen – 1545



Sports Day

Sports Round Up

Tennis

This is the first year that the school has entered four teams into the team AEGON county rounds, including two girls teams. The Year 7/8 boys team lost all their matches in their group, but considering most of these players were from Year 7 this bodes well for next year! Those that played were Jackum Strutton, Franek Ouko, Taylor Scales, Ashton Darwell-Taylor, Fraser McMyn and Freddie Mallett. Special mention to Olly..... and Alfie Tourney-Godfrey for stepping in to play at short notice against Woodbridge!

The Year 9/10 boys reached the finals, despite losing to last year's National winners Culford in their group games. They beat County Upper School to set up a final against Culford's A, B and C sides! Despite losing to Culford's B side they won a close encounter with the C side 8-4 to finish overall 3rd. Congratulations to Harvey Mills, Josh Blunden, Jake Phillips and Baris Altintop. The Year 7/8 girls found life difficult in their group matches, losing to St Joseph's and St Benedict's. Emma Jardine, Issy Shields and Amelia Stephens were our Year 8 players.

The Year 9/10 girls fared a bit better, beating both St Joseph's and St Benedict's to qualify for the finals day at Framlingham. Here they faced very stiff competition from the hosts, County Upper School and St Josephs. Despite their best efforts the girls finished 4th Overall. Well done to Helena Hines, Bea Trott, Amelia Stephens and Scarlet Angrove.

Football

Back in June our female footballers were invited by Suffolk FA to attend a girls football workshop at Bury St Edmunds. This day was part of a national programme to showcase the womens game and professional players from Millwall Lionesses were in attendance, supporting with various skills sessions for the team to try. Anglia TV were also there filming a piece for their news coverage! The girls had a great time, picked up lots of new skills, played friendly matches against other schools and received information about local teams. Aluric Humphrys from Year 9 was also there a recently qualified referee helping out for the day.

Cricket

Under 13 Girls: vs Hartismere won by 7 runs. DHS 64-1, Hartismere 56-3

Under 13 Girls: vs Thomas Mills lost by 14 runs. DHS 59-3, TMHS- 73-3

Under 14 Girls: Made it through to the quarter finals of the county competition but lost by 25 runs against Hartismere.

Under 15 Girls: Having beat Hartismere and Thomas Mills in the group stage, the team have made it through to the county finals which take place on the 13th July at Woolpit Cricket Club

Under 15 Girls: Lost to Bungay by 7 wickets in round 1 of the county competition. DHS- 100 FOR 5, BUNGAY 104-3.

Athletics

We won the Alde Valley Relays and both the Under 13 and Under 15 Arthur Hollifield Athletics for the 5th year in a row. This annual athletics event is of course held in memory of the first Headteacher of Debenham High School so perhaps fitting that we keep winning! By winning the girls section of the Under 13 competition the team qualified for the county finals. Just making the print deadline the result from this on 8 July was a super 3rd in the Suffolk School Games. A stunning achievement. At the same event the Under 15 Archery Team (Lexi Simpson, Trixie Francis and Ben Hubert) won the archery team competition, with Lexi individual winner. The Under 15 Girls Cycling Team finished third in the team cycling competition.

Golf

Josh Goulton won the Suffolk Schools Northern Area Golf Competition and Josh in tandem with Sean Chadwick came second overall in the team competition.



Language Leaders

On 21 June, over twenty language leaders spent the afternoon at Sir Robert Hitcham Primary with the Year 6 pupils, running a carousel of activities in French. The workshops included a café situation, conversations about secondary school and favourite subjects, a quiz in English about French general knowledge as well as a parachute activity where students had to respond spontaneously to spoken language, using the imperative tense. It was a pleasure to watch so many youngsters immerse themselves totally in French with such determination!

“C’était intéressant, nous avons aidé les enfants qui se sont beaucoup amusés comme nous. Nous avons joué avec les enfants et on a fait un quiz.” Izzy W.

“It was a good experience which boosted my confidence when having to teach young people French” Zac H

“Using a series of different activities we became more confident teachers to the Year 6 students. The workshops helped them improve their confidence, their accents and understanding abilities. This experience was beneficial not only to the younger students but also to the language leaders.” Bea T.

“Planning the activities and delivering them helped us develop different skills, such as thinking and answering on the spot in French whilst the primary school pupils grew in confidence with their pronunciation as well as their vocabulary.” Aluric H.



Alde Valley Relay and Arthur Holifield Athletics



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