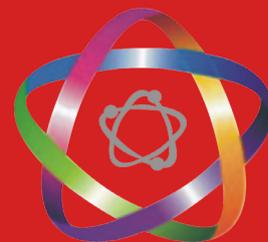


ASPIRE



2015-16 Christmas edition

Heading home for Christmas

It has been another busy half-term, with much to celebrate. As GCSE results from the summer are benchmarked against national data we were delighted to be named as the 10th best 11-16 state funded secondary school in The Times Parent Power League table. It was lovely to see students from our Year 11 from last year at their Awards Evening at the start of this half-term. Their performance placed the school in the top 5th percentile for progress – a tribute to their hard work and participation in school life in its broadest sense. Hearing their news since leaving us and sharing their success made for a memorable evening.

An interesting characteristic from the Year 11 cohort last year, was their ability to persevere. This year we are working with our pyramid primary schools on the theme of resilience, knowing that the more students can hang in when times are tough and the work is challenging, the more progress that they are likely to make. Showing these characteristics in abundance are our Young Carers, those students who support close family members at home. I hope that you will take time to read about their work this term inside this edition.

This term we say a heartfelt farewell to Mrs Da Costa, who on Thursday last week led her last music concert at the school. We wish her every success in her new job and will be welcoming Mr Rinaldi, joining us from a London school to continue this important part of life at Debenham High School.

We wish all our readers a joyous Christmas and a Happy New Year.
Julia Upton

Bugsy Malone

See more about our wonderful production inside this edition.



An Inspector Calls

One student's critique.....

On 3 December all Year 10 and 11 students went to see *An Inspector Calls*, performed at the Theatre Royal in Norwich. The performance was extremely helpful in furthering our understanding of the play. The play tracks the actions of a family that lead to the suicide of a young woman. The main themes of responsibility, justice and supernatural events were demonstrated very well. The set was a house that opened up into a dining room. However most of the acting took place downstage in front of the house. I personally thought the set was incredible and really made the play come to life. However, it was a surprise when at the end of the play, the house collapsed as the Inspector left. Although I am sure that some thought this was exciting, I myself thought it ruined the tense moment that I experienced when I had read this moment of the play in class.

The acting itself was very impressive, especially Sheila and Eric who at the end of the performance showed such passion, meaning we could easily relate them to the characters that we had created in class. Despite the amazing acting, I believe that Eric's character was directed to be far too drunk at the start of the play. I would have preferred him to be more mysterious and puzzling throughout, Furthermore, I thought the play was too comical, considering its intention to change the way that people think and show the importance of responsibility. This came across especially in the role of Mrs Birling who I see as cold and not a figure of comedy. However, I loved the way the play focused on the future by the sound of air sirens and the sense of future war and trouble ahead. Overall the play was very clever and it will definitely give me greater confidence when writing about the text in my English GCSE.

Phoebe Frampton, Year 10

Book Mastermind



In all 24 pupils competed. Competitors were asked a series of 20 questions on their chosen book. Two points were awarded for a correct answer, one point was awarded for a partially correct answer. The winner, Ella Bedford scored 39 points out of a possible 40. She received £15 in Christmas Book Fair tokens to spend at the half price book fair in the Learning Resource Centre this week. First Runner Up was Ellie Boyle – 36 points out of a possible 40 and second Runner Up was Emma Burley – 33 points out of a possible 40. Ella will now go on to represent Debenham High School in the regional finals in March, where she will be choosing a new book of at least 250 pages and as well as a general knowledge round.

H.E.R.O.E.S. Cookbook Challenge

At Debenham High School HEROES is the name for our young carers group. HEROES stands for Helping Everyone Receive Opportunities Especially Students. This group meet once a half term at an informal drop in with Lucy Farrell from Suffolk Young Carers.

The HEROES task group is a group of six young carers who are driving a project within school to collate and produce a cookbook with recipes that are easy, inexpensive and ideal for young carers or other young people who need to cook a family meal.

In July 2015 Debenham High School was awarded the Bronze and Silver Young Carers Awards by Suffolk Young Carers. Therefore, as well as helping young people have good ideas to cook, the HEROES task group was set up to help the school achieve the Young Carers Gold Award. At our next drop in session in January, the plan is to have a cooking workshop and taste testing so that we can test the products that we would like to have in our book. Therefore we are asking readers of Aspire to send in contributions for the cookbook, so that we can produce a cookbook with as many ideas as possible. Please send recipe ideas to Mrs Ramsay at lramsay@debenhamhigh.co.uk Bex Tavendale, Amber Peace-Wright, Daniel Hempstead, Year 10



MEMOit



This year's Debenham High School Young Enterprise team, Memo-it, have certainly hit the ground running. After a fabulous factory tour, training and a meeting in the boardroom at Ransomes Jacobsen, followed by the launch of their website <http://memo-it.co.uk> and facebook page, Memo-it have attended 3 local Christmas Markets where their innovative memo boards have been literally flying off the shelves. This has created lots of revenue but also some production challenges. All part of the learning process!

The team are now considering where to go next - with "corporate" sales and external production being considered!



Bugsy



Malone



One student's glowing report.....

This film is based on a struggle for power between "Fat Sam" and "Dandy Dan", but instead of using real guns they use splurge guns. Fat Sam calls for the help of Buggy Malone when he finds out that his whole gang has been splurged by Dandy Dan. Will Fat Sam find where Dandy Dan is keeping his splurge guns before it is too late?

To a full house, the cast of the production started their show with a bang. Buggy (Phoebe Frampton) fell for Blousey Brown (Gina McDonald), who was auditioning to be one of the speakeasy girls (Lily Roberts, Tabby Euston, Emily Bower, Carrie Chadwick and Lily Hudson). Another character trying to get into show business was Fizzy (Jodie Mitson) but he was always told to come back tomorrow.

The show was fantastic with singing and dancing to a phenomenal standard. Well known songs such as such as "Fat Sam's Grand Slam" and "Buggy Malone" had the audience enthralled. The acting was brilliant, with lots of character and thought put into it.

Special thanks to Mr Hardcastle, Mrs Da Costa, Mrs Wilkinson and team of crew behind the scenes. It was a truly wonderful performance; the bar is set very high for the next year.

Kerry Self, Year 9



The Hour of Code!

In the second week in December Debenham High School joined millions of students around the world to celebrate the 'Hour of Code'. This initiative, organised by code.org, is a one-hour introduction to Computer Science, designed to demystify code and show that anybody can learn to program a computer. All students had the opportunity to join the event either during their ICT lesson or by coming to the lunchtime activities. The excitement was evident as everyone was focused on completing their tasks. Themes ranged from Minecraft, Star Wars and even Frozen! Certificates of completion and stickers were given to those who successfully completed the tasks. Students were thoroughly engrossed in the activities and it was so good to hear students saying how much they had enjoyed coding.



Think Computer Science Event



GCSE Computing students attended the 'Think Computer Science' event held at the Imperial War Museum at Duxford. Over 500 students across 34 schools attended the annual event hosted by Microsoft Research in Cambridge. 'Think Computer Science' is an educational, inspirational day that showcases the field of computer science.

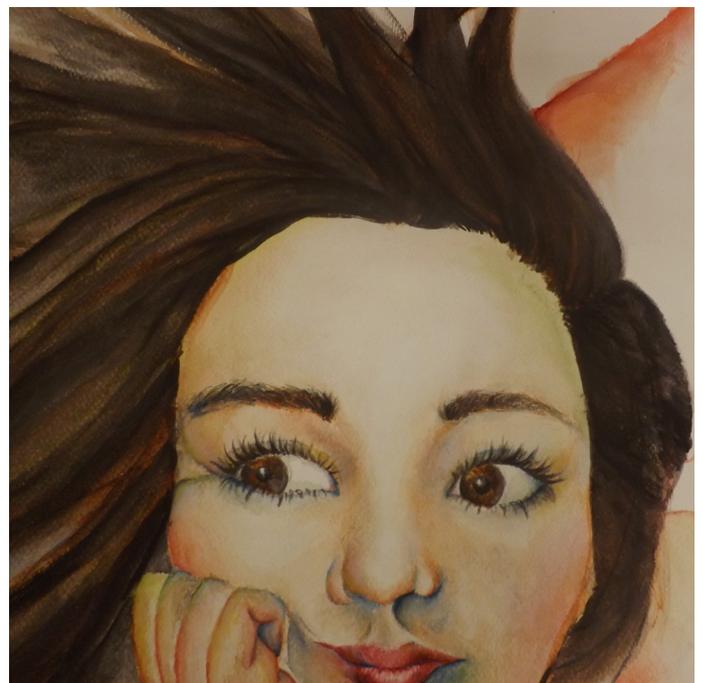
Students attended talks in: "Engineering the Future", "Computer Games: The Evolution of Fun" and "Hacker is not a Dirty Word". Throughout the day they had the opportunity to wander around the museum and watch different demonstrations. One part of the day was a workshop learning to code using 'TouchDevelop', a mobile app creation environment; our students had the edge over other schools here as they had previous experience of the app in Year 9, where it is part of our Computing curriculum. They also had the chance to use the BBC Micro:bit, a pocket-sized codeable computer with motion detection, built-in compass and Bluetooth technology. This device is to be given free to every child in Year 7 across the UK next year. It was a truly informative and enjoyable day out (the goodie bag was good too!)



Art Attack



Year 11 Art students have been working very hard on their mock exam project which they will use as part of their GCSE coursework. After a five hour exam, everybody had made excellent progress and with the last five hours being undertaken in lesson time, the final pieces are nearly complete.



Sounds of the Season



Annie Voller
Adam Johnson
Jenni Rochford
Alicia Stephens
Zinnia Smart
Barnaby Long
Amber Pearce
Mathew Langley
David Ramsay
Eleana Norman
Bailey Rockett

Molly Weir
Ewan McMyn
Leigh Dennis
Hannah Champion
Izzy Woodhouse
Emily Bower
Alfred Scott
Daisy Rockett
Anna Brueck Seeley
Aidan Coe
Catherine Mole

Phoebe Frampton
Gina McDonald
Will Bagnall
Poppy Simpson
Freddie Grover
Jodie Mitson
Nathan Austin
Jamilla Simpson
Bailey Rockett
Millie Clarke
Caitlin Shore

Hannah Champion
Izzy Woodhouse
Emily Bower
Izzy Woodhouse
Alfred Scott
Daisy Rockett
Emily Walczak
Nerys Feeney
Howells
Lucy Clarke
Poppy Simpson

Toby Sharpe
Julie Davy
Ellie Fawkner
Zac Flatt
William
Botwright
Zoe Hurst
Susanna
Halliday
Lucy Johnson
Henry Grover

Emma
Sharpe
Ella Bedford
Mia Francis
Emily Walker
Millie Gaitley
Sara Manto
William
Chapman





Bonjour, nous sommes arrivés au port d'Ouistreham près Caen port à approximativement neuf heures et demie mardi dix Novembre. Le voyage était long mais c'était amusant. Quand nous sommes arrivés, nous avons rencontré nos partenaires et leurs familles, c'était intimidant!

Le Lendemain matin mercredi, nous nous sommes retrouvés devant le collège et nous avons parlé de nos expériences et nos familles. Nous avons ensuite marché à la batterie de Merville, où nous avons eu une visite guidée des bunkers et nous avons trouvé que c'était froid et intéressant. Après le tour nous avons mangé notre pique-nique. Nous sommes allés visiter le château de Guillaume le Conquérant à Falaise, où nous avons eu une visite guidée.

Jeudi 12, nous nous sommes rencontrés à l'école à 8h25 le matin. Nous avons ensuite pris le car pour aller à Caen, la ville la plus proche principale. Nous avons visité l'Abbaye-aux-Hommes, qui a été créé par Guillaume le Conquérant. C'était un bâtiment étonnant qui était architecturalement magnifique. L'après-midi nous avons visité le mémorial de Caen sur la Seconde Guerre Mondiale qui était une visite très instructive et aussi vraiment émouvante.

Vendredi 13, nous avons passé la journée au collège de Merville avec nos correspondants afin de voir comment se déroule une journée typique dans une école française. C'était petit et plein de jolies couleurs, alors c'était un peu comme une école primaire ! Le déjeuner était très copieux, avec deux tranches de pains, une entrée, un plat principal énorme, une salade verte, du fromage et un dessert par personne. On a tous eu un plateau. C'était vraiment délicieux.

Lundi nous avons un voyage prévu à la tapisserie de Bayeux et Omaha site de Mémorial ont été annulés en raison des récents attentats de Paris. Au lieu de cela, nous avons passé une autre journée à l'école, sauf que cette fois, nous ne sommes pas allés au cours normaux. Mme Halford-Thompson et madame Touzé ont organisé des activités pour tous les Anglais et les Français à faire et c'était vraiment génial car nous avons travaillé avec nos correspondants. Nous avons pensé que c'était la meilleure journée !!!

L'échange était un succès et nous étions tristes de partir mardi matin et nous avons hâte de leur visite à Debenham en 2016 !

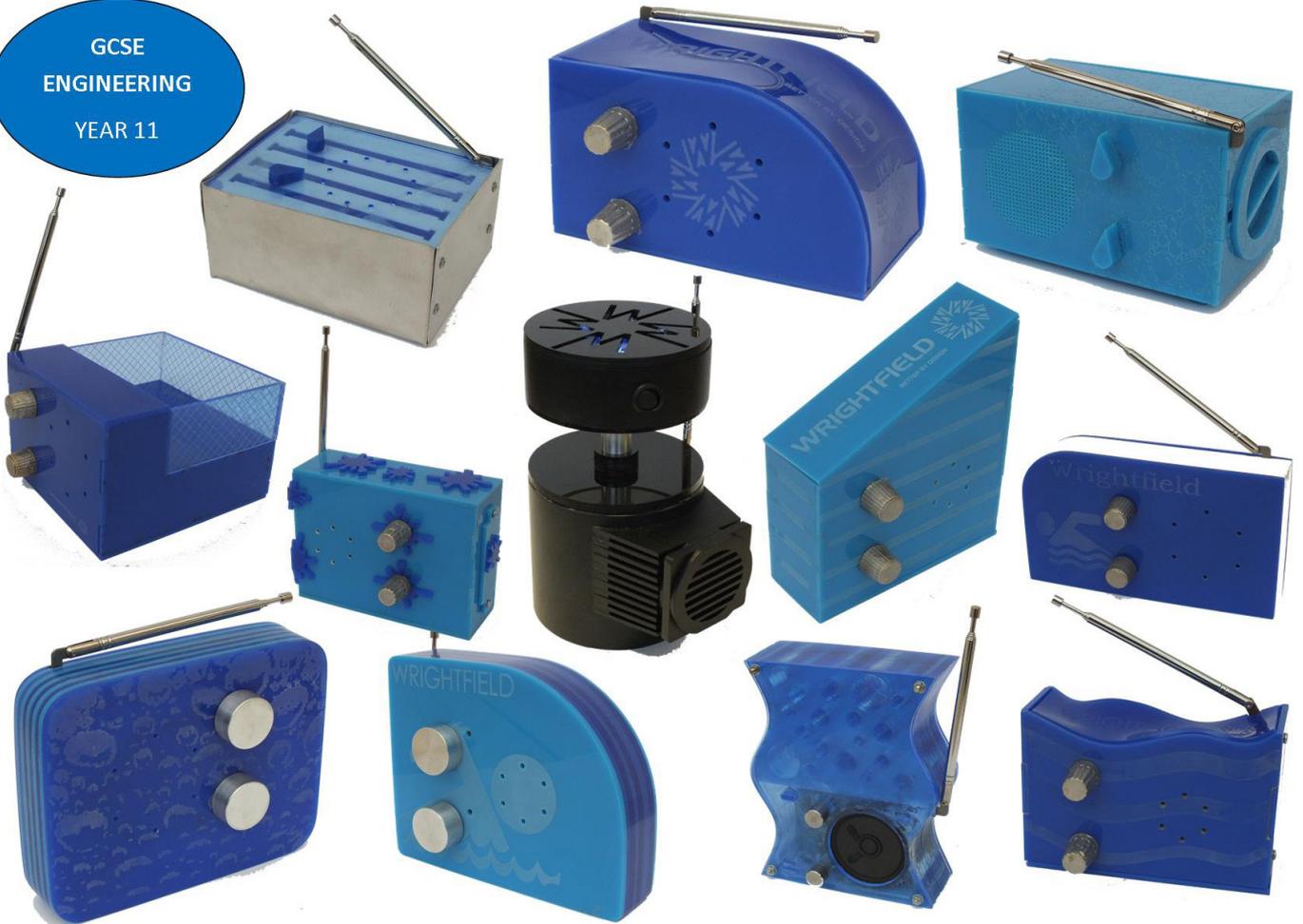
Technology round-up

Year 11 – Resistant Materials

Students designed and made tealight holders using acrylic. Students used 2D Design and the laser cutter independently to design and make eye catching products. Designs by Kate Hailstone, Ben Sculpher, Jonny Dalby, Fran Silverton, Eddie Knock, Harry Barrett, and Issy Judge.



GCSE
ENGINEERING
YEAR 11



Year 11 Engineers

Students have designed and made radios for their client, local engineering company Wrightfield. One of the products that Wrightfield design and make is swimming pool floors that move up and down. Students designed radios that could potentially be sent to Wrightfield's customers at Christmas as a promotional gift. Year 11 Engineers are Matt Bensly, Henry Bullock, Sean Chadwick, Kate Hailstone, Katie Evans, Eddie Knock, Maisy Palmer, Alex Scott, Toby Sharpe, Rory Stevenson, Harry Calver and Connor Ellis.

Cathedral Links

This is the third time that Debenham High School has been involved in art projects for Bury Cathedral and this time it was an opportunity for some talented Year 7 artists to demonstrate their skills. The Diocese were excited to hear we would be contributing to the St Nicholas project, having been impressed with the excellent quality of work from our students in the past!

The Year 7 students spent a day creating a giant group sculpture based on the concept of "giving" at Christmas time. The project aimed to focus our minds away from the modern commercial idea of Christmas as a time to receive presents to the man behind the modern idea of Father Christmas - St Nicholas who focused more on the notion of caring for the needy and the hungry.

Students created observational drawings of their hands poised as if handing someone a gift or offering a kind, caring gesture. They practised using tone to create depth and detail to create realism in their drawings. The students then developed these drawings into painted hands, learning skills such as contour shading and blending of paint. Students then worked in 3D, creating symbols of doves using collage, paper and textiles. The culmination of these works resulted in a large 3D "gift", with doves and hands spraying out from the centre; like an act of celebration. The exhibition was held in the Cathedral cloisters, Bury St Edmunds until 13th December 2015.



Inspired by pottery



Have you been watching The Great Pottery Throwdown? George Jessup, in Year 11, has been inspired by the programme and even persuaded the Art department to pull out their old pottery wheel. George threw his first ever pot and is enjoying the opportunities that using clay provides. Keith Brymer Jones, one of the judges on the programme and a well-known potter, was pleased to hear how inspiring he had been!



Lauren Carr @Dillsydaisy 11h
@KBJWhitstable - you have totally inspired one of the art students at my secondary school - he's thrown his first pot today #throwdown



Keith Brymer Jones
@KBJWhitstable

@Dillsydaisy Brilliantthat's what it's all about ! Well done ! Carry On ! :-) x

Sports

Netball

Under 14 Girls netball team came 4th in the County finals at Rushmere Sports Centre in November. They had qualified for the finals by beating all schools in the Northern Area Competition in October. During the finals they were up against some extremely experienced teams and players and performed fantastically well. After beating King Edward VI and losing to Thurston, the highlight of the day was the result against Ipswich High School for Girls. After an extremely close game we managed to win 6-5 in the dying seconds of the game! This took the girls to a semi-final against a Culford team packed with County and Regional players. In the end they were too good for us and lost the game. Coming 4th in the County is a fantastic achievement and the school are extremely proud of them.

Also in Netball

Year 8 v Hartismere won 12-7
Year 7 v Hartismere lost 15-6 & v Thomas Mills won 9-3
Year 7 B v Stradbroke A lost 5-4
Year 9 B v Stradbroke A won 12-4 & v Thomas Mills A lost 18-4
Year 9 A v Hartismere Y10 won 8-3, v Alde Valley
Year 10 won 12-4, v Thomas Mills
Year 9 Girls beat Year 9 Boys 12-2 and Year 10 boys 6-1!!

Girls football

With a regular turnout of thirty girls after school on Mondays, we have had a mixed bag of results so far.

Under 13 - lost 8-0 to Sir John Leman in Round 1 of the National cup and then beat Saxmundham 9-0 in the County Cup. They are due to play Thurston next in round 2.

Under 14 defeated Thomas Mills 4-0 in their National Cup match, with goals from Bea Trott and Scarlet Angrove. They were then very unlucky to lose 1-0 to Kesgrave in a National and County Cup game.

Under 15 beat Thomas Mills 3-0 and then lost 8-1 to a very good Taverham side from Norwich in the 3rd round of the National cup.

Rugby - Year 11 and 10 combined squad

The first game of the season was against Hartismere. All the training paid off. From the start the squad played an excellent game with the forwards making ground to offload to the back line. At the breakdown the strength of the pack also allowed us to turn over the ball regularly, and the linking work of the backs proved very effective in securing our lead. The game finished Debenham 71 - Hartismere 5. Player of the game was Harry Trott with notable contributions from Connor Williams and Henry Bullock.



Action

Suffolk Young Sports Personality of the Year
Huge congratulations to Lucy Turmel, who was recently crowned Young Sports Personality of the Year at the Suffolk Sports Awards ceremony in November. A fantastic achievement for such a talented athlete. Lucy is currently Regional Girls Under 19 Champion – not bad a age 16 – well done Lucy!



Table Tennis

The Under 16 Boys team qualified for the County Finals in November by beating all teams in High Suffolk. They competed in the County Finals at St. Joseph's in Ipswich. The boys played well and won their pool beating Copleston and County Upper. They then took on Sir John Leman in the final and although they played well, SJL were too strong for us. We will have the same team for next year's competition and 2nd in Suffolk at U16 level with a very young team is an excellent achievement.

Hockey

Under 13 Boys v Thomas Mills lost 10–7 & Hartismere 3–2
Under 13 Girls v Thomas Mills lost 6–3
Under 14 Hockey v Hartismere won 3–1 & 8–2 & v Thomas Mills lost 3–2
Under 16 Hockey v Thomas Mills lost 9–2
Year 9 Girls v Thomas Mills won 3–2

Badminton

Our Under 14 sides competed at the recent partnership tournaments. The boys side of Jake Phillips, James Davies–Stokes, Ryan Keeble and Matt Walker won 13 out of their 15 matches against to secure their appearance at the County finals in January. The girls side had a tougher series of matches, and finished 4th despite nearly beating the runners up. The side was Helena Hines, Bea Trott, and two Year 8 students playing older pupils, Mollie Richardson and Emily King.

Football

Year 9 boys are still in the Small Schools National Cup as we speak! They defeated Ormiston Endeavour from Ipswich in Round 2 4–1 and thumped Stradbroke 13–1 in the next round. There were goals galore from James Davies–Stokes and Jack Creasy in particular. The side next play Old Buckenham Hall from Norfolk in the last 32 of this competition on Monday 14th December. They unfortunately lost 6–1 to Hartismere in the County cup and participated in a friendly football festival against 6 other teams here in early December. They are due to play IES Breckland in the County Plate competition next term. The Year 11 side enjoyed much heralded success last year in reaching the semi finals of their National Cup competition. This year they received a bye in round 1 and then played Archbishop Sancroft School from Norfolk, who were our same opponents at this stage last year. Despite three regular players out injured, the side won 3–1, thanks to goals from Harry Trott and Sam Spurling. In the next round, we faced East Point Academy from Lowestoft, who also entered the National Open Cup for schools and who have Centre of Excellence players. Again, missing three regular players from the side meant a tough encounter, and despite a penalty from Callum Scott and an own goal the side lost 4–2 and went out at the last 32 stage. In the County Cup, the side beat Strabroke 4–1, and will next play East Bergholt in January. They also played and drew 2–2 with Thomas Mills in a friendly.



Year 10 Engineering

Students have made an excellent start to their GCSE. They have now completed three practical projects – to make a name tag, a coat hook and a mobile phone holder. They have learnt to work with new materials (aluminium and milled steel) and have learnt how to use a range of new equipment, including the metal lathe and the polishing machine. In September, students also visited the Cycle Show at the NEC to learn about bike design. This will be especially useful when they start their first piece of Controlled Assessment in January – product analysis of bikes, since the 1940s.



Unwanted Wellies Wanted

In collaboration with one of our sponsors, we would like to share this charitable appeal. The Country Trust is a locally based charity that organises residential trips for primary school children from inner cities to enable them to experience life in the countryside. All trips include at least one farm visit. It is often the case that children on these trips have never visited the countryside and a good number do not have wellingtons. To save its visitors from wet feet the Country Trust is trying to build up a supply of such footwear to lend to the children whilst they are in Suffolk and, to this end, are asking parents at Debenham High School if, lurking in the dark corners of cloak rooms or cupboards, they have any wellingtons suitable for children aged 8–11 that they no longer need. The only thing that is essential is that they do not have any holes in them – any style or colour is acceptable. If you do, could I ask you to drop them off in the receptacle that will be placed in the main office for the duration of the week beginning Monday 4 January. If you prefer to have them collected please contact the Country Trust via e-mail swright@countrytrust.org.uk or by phone 01728 628001. Thank you for your support.

Intermediate Maths Challenge

On Wednesday 2nd December some students from Year 8 and 9 spent the morning doing a variety of different mathematical challenges. 13 teams of 4 pupils took part in activities such as a mathematical relay race, cross-number puzzle, group task and a head-to-head challenge. The competition was keenly fought and the final result was very close. The winning teams were:
1st Gauss: Ewan Green, Emily King, Jake Phillips, Helena Hines
2nd Newton: Andrew Driver, Elise Dix, Rory Coe, Nerys Feeney-Howells
3rd Euler: Nathan Rooney, Richard Denny, William Chapman, Lottie Lanketster.

Regional Finals of the UKMT Team Maths Challenge will be held at Framlingham College in March next year.

The following have been selected to represent the school
Helena Hines, Emily King, Ewan Green, Jake Phillips with reserves
Rory Coe and Andrew Driver.



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