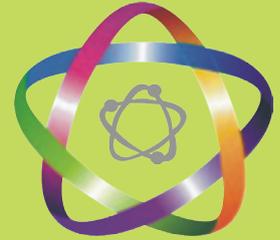


aspire



2014-15 Summer edition

Heads Up

I am proud to send home our last edition of Aspire for the year. The examination season has come to an end and our Year 10 and 11 students taking GCSEs have worked hard throughout. Pictures of students in the school hall don't make the most exciting article but all students taking examinations this year deserve credit for the way they have approached their studies.

This term we say farewell to a number of staff. I would like to formally thank teachers Mrs C. Witts, Miss T. Cook and Mr J. Farr; support staff Mrs J. Gridley, Mrs J. Mitchell and Mrs A. Norman; and graduate interns Miss I. Delpy, Mr J. Vyse and Miss C. Mortimer for all they have done for the school over their time with us. As a school, we aspire with staff, as well as students, to develop and build expertise. It is a sign of their professional development that many of these staff move on to positions which utilise the skills that they have developed at Debenham High School.

Thank you to all those parents, carers and friends of the school who have responded to our offer of advertising in our school newsletter. At £240 for an advert in every one of the six editions across the year and hand-delivered to over 600 homes, we think it represents very good value and a chance to contribute to our celebration of the many talents that young people today possess.

With our residential experiences and activity days at the end of term there will be much to report come September, but for now we wish all our readers a happy holiday.

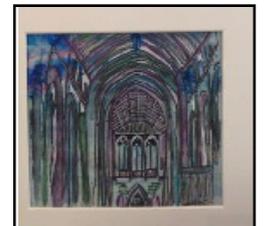
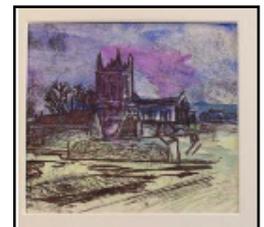
Julia Upton

Exhibiting around the county

THE BANK
The best of our areas Art Work created by those U18 years old.
15th July to 2nd August

www.thebankeye.org

Debenham High School artists have been showcasing their work in exhibitions around the county. Over thirty students were chosen to show their work on *Cathedral Views* at the Edmund Gallery in June. This month six students' work will be shown at The Bank in Eye. We were delighted that Lena Hadrwick's work was chosen for the advertising poster for the exhibition.



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Summer



Soiree



If you missed it, you missed out; as our students (and staff) performed in a new format for our summer concert this year. With two stages and a two-course meal served as performances took place around the room this really was a special evening. Over one hundred students in twenty-two acts took to the stage to showcase their musical talents in an evening of non-stop entertainment. Our thanks to Debenham Leisure Centre for their contribution too in making this a very special evening.



Green Light Trust



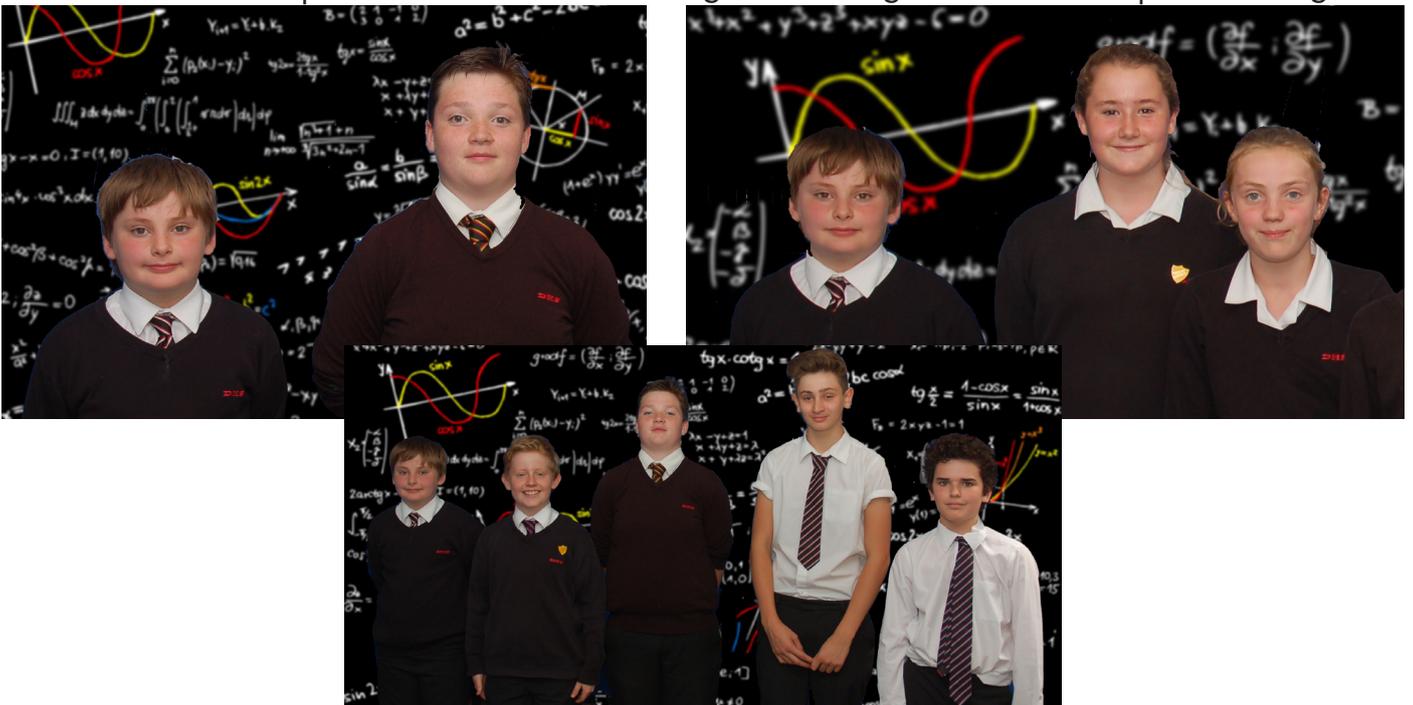
A group of Year 9 students took part in a scheme run by the environmental charity the "Green Light Trust" where they worked towards a qualification in Environment and Conservation. They learnt about the principles of conservation and also developed new skills needed to complete this work practically. They spent a number of sessions working in Redlingfield Wood carrying out coppicing, tree identification, dead hedging, firewood processing as well as learning some "bushcraft" skills.

Mathematicians in Action

Following their excellent performance in the UKMT Junior Maths Challenge earlier this term, five pupils went through to the next round and were invited to take part in the first ever Junior Kangaroo event. They all performed well but Ewan Green, Year 7 and Rory Coe, Year 8 did exceptionally well and were placed in the top 25% of entrants across the country and were awarded a Certificates of Merit.

The Year 7 Team Challenge event took place at Farlingaye on Friday 10 July. Ewan Green, Andrew Driver, Poppy Simpson, Emily King, Franek Ouko & Josh Goulton represented the school. They were ahead after three rounds but unfortunately fared less well in the final round, with an engineering challenge.

Congratulations also this term to Ewan Green, Alfie Tournay-Godfrey, Andrew Driver, Rory Coe and Isaac Bachu who competed in the Mathematics Kangaroo challenge - a national competition of logic



Water Aid Charity Week

Year 7 took the lead in our final charity week of the year with, raising money for Water Aid an international charity that transforms lives by improving access to safe water, hygiene and sanitation. Some of the exciting events included 'Blind Makeovers', stocks, the plane game and the sweet game. It was a super week though some of us enjoyed the stocks less than others!

Jools McKenna and Ewan Campbell organised the paper aeroplane competition. The event was popular with both staff and pupils. The prize for furthest plane went to Ewan Green with a distance of 10.4m and the prize for best design went to Rachael Hook.

Amelia Hood and Charlotte Hailstone ran a sweet game in the covered way during break. The object of the game was to move as many jelly babies from one plate to another using chop sticks! Rachael Hook popped up again winning first prize for moving 21 sweets in 30 seconds. In total Year 7 raised a whopping £730.



Year 8 Design and Technology Workshops

Students designed and made a spin art machine before creating their own works of art. Students also used CAD-CAM to make lights based around a Pacman theme as well as soldering electronics to create the lighting element.

Students who took part were Josh Easter, Jake Phillips, Zinnia Smart, Holly Bloomfield, Leigh Dennis, George Johnson, Matthew Walczak, Holly Walker, Joe Bagnall, Rhys Huges, Anna Mowles, Lexie Simpson, Tilly Felton, Jess Gaitley, Molly Weir, Alexander Booker, and Eve Poole.



For the chop!



Before

Jessica Claridge in Year 8 decided to have her long locks chopped off in aid of charity. Jessica wanted to help others and has donated her hair to a charity that makes wigs for young children.



After

ICT @ the Science Museum

GCSE ICT students went to London to visit the Science Museum. The visit particularly focussed on the Computing and Information Age Gallery. The Computing Gallery, originally conceived as a showcase of modern and historic computing techniques, has in recent years become more focused on the historical aspects of early electronic computers. Our students had the opportunity to look around and see for themselves the development of computers from the early devices designed by the likes of Sir Charles Babbage.



Students also had the chance to visit the Information Gallery which was opened by the Queen in October 2014. This is where the Queen sent her first ever "tweet"! The gallery explores the important events that have shaped the development of information and communication technology, from the growth of the worldwide telegraph network in the 19th century, to the influence of mobile phones on our lives today. They even had the privilege of having the World Wide Web explained, albeit via video, by the man who invented it - Sir Tim Berners-Lee.

Bringing the Bard to life

Year 7 students have been considering the works of William Shakespeare as part of their English Literature studies this term. After exploring the themes of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* one group put on a play to the rest of the year group and created their own set designs. Whether performers, directors or technical crew, they really did bring Shakespeare to life.



Year 11 students celebrated the end of their examination season and marked the start of a very much deserved rest at their Prom held at Thonrdon Coach House. This year group have always been inventive and individual. They remained true to this as they arrived in an eclectic and very personal range of vehicles.



Arriving in style



Dressed to impress

Fieldtrip



All of 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 enjoyed at Needham Lakes and we even found time to enjoy a well-deserved ice cream.



Fantastic

Year 8 students spent the day on Southwold carrying out a geographical investigation to assess the volume and effectiveness of the coastal protection there. They explored areas where there was little coastal protection, considering 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 case-studies back in school. Chips and ice cream (*I am spotting a bit of a theme to these trips*) and were a well-deserved reward for their hard work throughout the day.



12th Annual



Simon Croft Award:
1st Harry Eade

Simon Croft Award:
2nd Gus Terry

Simon Croft Award:
3rd Kieran Everson



We were delighted to welcome back Ben Mead, former student of Debenham High School, to present the awards in our 12th Annual Sports Awards. On this evening we celebrate the talents, dedication and achievement of our students on the track, pitch, gymnasium or field. Who better than Ben to present the prizes? Since leaving the high school four years ago, Ben has visited 21 countries playing basketball for his country and currently attends Franklin University in Boston; he talked to all gathered for the evening about the opportunities that sport has created for him. Ben above with the Team of the Year.



Gold award winners: Most improved
Alex Herman, Zac Carroll-Chambers, Jack Marsh

Gold award winners: Excellence
Romilly Hughes, Helena Hines, Molly Warnes,
Hannah Champion

Sports Awards



Upper School Sports Personality:
Gold: Kate Gilbert



Silver: Lella Ralph



Bronze: Matt Cross



Lower School Sports Personality:
Gold: Tim Leggett



Silver: Ellie Fawkner



Bronze: Freddie Grover

Sports Day



Sports Day 2015 was epitomised by a spirit of participation and excellence, with students giving their all for their house, whether they came first or last. As the sun shone between the clouds we were treated to some exceptional performances on the track and in the field. The eventual winners were NELSON house, for the first time in the history of the school, quite appropriate in our Jubilee year. Congatulations to the following record breakers on the day:

Marcus McMyn: Senior Boys Javelin 29.02m

Jordan Ejembi: Year 10 Boys Discus 25.35m

Gus Terry: Senior Girls Javelin 17.82m

Rhys Hughes: Year 8 Boys 400m 63.00s

Ben Jepson: Year 10 Boys 400m 57.25s

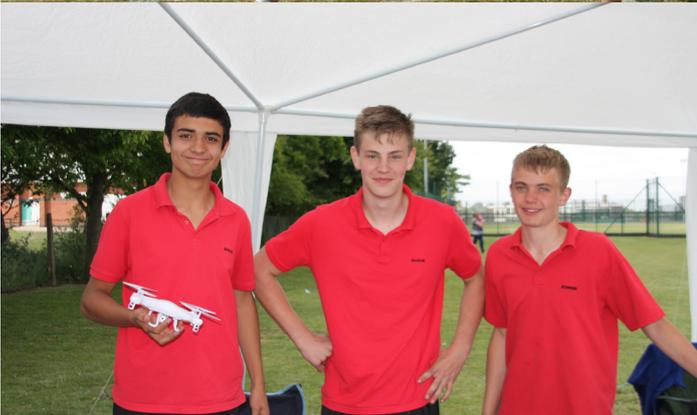
Nelson Relay Team: Year 9 Boys 3 x 100m 39.58s (Tim Leggett, Jake Conway, Sam Fowler)

Curie Relay Team: Year 10 Boys 3 x 100m 38.28s (Sammy Tournay-Godfrey, Matt Bensly, Ben Jepson - perhaps it was the headbands that did it!)

Owens Relay Team: Year 10 Girls 3 x 100m 43.79s (Rohan Etchingham, Francesca Silverton, Beth Shaw)



2015



Sports Round-up

Suffolk Youth Games

Our Super 8 Boys and Girls squads prepared thoroughly for the finals on Friday 10 July at Bury St Edmunds. They joined the Under 16 squash team, a cycling pursuit team (a new event) and our sports leaders who were volunteers at the event. The format of the "Super 8" Competition is that every one of the eight members of team must take part in one field and one track event. All eight then form one large relay at the end. The girls blew the competition away, ending the final relay some 60m ahead of the rest of the field and coming first overall. This is remarkable achievement, not only beating ALL other schools in Suffolk but by such a considerable margin. The boys team did not disgrace themselves either coming a very respectable 6th out of 12 teams.



Cricket

We have had mixed results in league matches this term. Year 9/10 boys lost to Thomas Mills by 26 runs, despite economical bowling from Joe Farrall and Alec Lawson. They then beat Stradbroke comfortably by 86 runs in a home fixture. Year 7/8 boys played Hartismere and won by 8 wickets - this format is 8-a-side and played with an Incrediball. They then beat Thomas Mills and Bungay before losing in the quarter finals last week to Sir John Leman. Year 9 beat Alde Valley and Thomas Mills but lost to overall winners Stradbroke.

Girls cricket - The Year 7/8 girls lost a close game to Hartismere, but beat both Thomas Mills and Bungay. They are due to play in the county finals on the 14th July where they will face 5 other schools.

Football

Max Lindley, Baris Altintop, Jake Conway and Will Aldis all participated in county trials last week. Congratulations to Baris, Jake and Will who have been invited back for further trials to make the final squads for next year.

Tennis

This year we entered a Boys Year 9 and 10 side in the Division 1 of the AEGON team event. This is a big step up from Division 2 which we won last year. A tough first game was against Culford 'A' and despite the best efforts by Josh Blunden, Harvey Mills, Myles Peck and Ryan Bridges, we only won one game out of the 6 matches. We then lost a close game 7-6 to County Upper before losing 8-4 to King Edward VI. Special mention to Harvey in this match as in his singles match he managed to beat a level 3 ranked player!

The Boys Year 8 side travelled to Brandeston Hall and came away with a resounding 12-0 win - Jake Phillips, Matthew Waltzak, Barney Vingoe and Joel Etchingham winning all their doubles and singles matches. For the first time ever, we have entered a Girls tennis side into Division 2. We also played Brandeston Hall and although we tried really hard we lost overall 8-4. Helena Hines and Bea Trott winning our points. Special mention must go to Beth Quinton and Phoebe Eglington who stepped up to play their first ever Tennis matches and gave their all!

Other results Boys lost 7-6 to Pakefield, and beat Thomas Mills 12-0 and Hartismere 7-6. They also drew a friendly with Woodbridge School. The girls also drew with Woodbridge and Thomas Mills, and beat Pakefield.

The school tournament is now down to the semi-final stage and will be completed in the last full week of term.



Follow our sporting exploits on twitter @DebenhamHigh

