

## Return to the Golden Age of Elizabethan Wymondham

The Golden Age event was a large-scale, cross curricular, commemoration of the visit to Wymondham of Queen Elizabeth I in 1573. Our event took place over 3 days, May 3rd – 5th and the whole of Year 8 were off timetable for two of the three days, spending one day in school and another day at the Abbey.

Urine was very important to the medical profession in Elizabethan England... see pages 8/9 for Tudor Days report...



# calendar

JUNE			JULY		
<u>1</u>			<u>1</u>	DofE Silver	Year 6 CATS
<u>2</u>	Half Term		<u>2</u>	DofE Silver	
<u>3</u>			<u>3</u>	DofE Silver	
<u>4</u>			<u>4</u>	DofE Silver	Holt Hall
<u>5</u>			<u>5</u>	New Intake Evening	Holt Hall
<u>6</u>	Year 10 Geography Field Trip		<u>6</u>		Holt Hall
<u>7</u>			<u>7</u>	New Intake Evening	DofE Silver
<u>8</u>			<u>8</u>	Paris, Rhineland, Normandy Trips	DofE Silver
<u>9</u>			<u>9</u>	Paris, Rhineland, Normandy Trips	DofE Silver
<u>10</u>			<u>10</u>	Paris, Rhineland, Normandy Trips	DofE Silver
<u>11</u>			<u>11</u>	Paris, Rhineland, Normandy Trips	
<u>12</u>			<u>12</u>	Paris, Rhineland, Trips	
<u>13</u>			<u>13</u>		
<u>14</u>		Year 8 Geography Field Trip to North Norfolk	<u>14</u>	Year 9 DofE Silver Introduction Whole School Production of Oliver	
<u>15</u>	Celebration Evening		<u>15</u>	Sports Day	
<u>16</u>			<u>16</u>		
<u>17</u>			<u>17</u>		
<u>18</u>			<u>18</u>		
<u>19</u>			<u>19</u>	Reserve Sports Day	
<u>20</u>			<u>20</u>		
<u>21</u>			<u>21</u>		
<u>22</u>	Specialism Celebration Evening		<u>22</u>	End of Term	
<u>23</u>	Sixth Form UCAS/Careers Days		<u>23</u>		
<u>24</u>		Cranedale Trip	<u>24</u>		
<u>25</u>		Cranedale Trip	<u>25</u>		
<u>26</u>		Cranedale Trip	<u>26</u>		
<u>27</u>		Cranedale Trip	<u>27</u>		
<u>28</u>		Cranedale Trip	<u>28</u>		
<u>29</u>	Year 6 New Intake Day		<u>29</u>		
<u>30</u>	County Inset Day	DofE Silver	<u>30</u>		
			<u>31</u>		

Wymondham High, Folly Road, Wymondham, Norfolk, NR18 0QT (t): 01953 602078 (f): 01953 605518  
(e): office@wymondhamhigh.norfolk.sch.uk (w):www.wymondhamhigh.norfolk.sch.uk

To obtain a larger type version of this newsletter,  
please contact the school office on 01953 602078

From the Head,  
Victoria Musgrave

## Dear Parents/Carers

### £3M for Wymondham High

You may have seen the coverage of the wonderful news about our £3M for capital build. This means that we will be able to remove the mobile classrooms from our site and build a brand new 16 classroom block over the course of the next two years. Added to plans for a new Sixth Form building, this is wonderful news indeed! I want to thank governors and senior staff for all their work in moving our plans forward.



### Academy Status

Our application for Academy Status is being examined by the Department for Education and we hope to hear something very soon. We will keep you informed as soon as we hear from the DfE.

### Healthy Lifestyle

Most of our students are very healthy and not only eat well but play a good deal of sport both inside and outside of school. There are however, one or two students who still come to school without having eaten breakfast and during the morning our school nurses often have to deal with youngsters feeling faint, often as a result of lack of food. As a parent myself, I know how difficult it is to insist that they eat something, but all encouragement would be greatly appreciated. All the information from the Department for Education and Health indicates that school performance is directly linked to good nutrition. Also, please may I make a plea to parents to discourage the purchase of high energy drinks such as 'Red Bull'. These are not good for growing youngsters. We do see a number, particularly our older students, walking into school drinking such things.

### Celebration Day

Once again the Year 11 Celebration Day was a great success. From the House assemblies in the morning through the activities during the day and into the final assembly in the afternoon our students had an enjoyable and memorable day. Pictures from the day will be available on the website very soon.



### Uniform

Students are making us proud. They are representing the school in all areas and their dress has improved noticeably. Thanks for parental support over the skirts issue and they are now available at school to purchase. May I remind parents that in hardship cases we are more than happy to help support our families. The girls have seen the new skirts now and many have stated how 'pleasantly surprised' they were to see what has been chosen by governors and fellow students. Boys' uniform - may I remind parents that boys' trousers should be grey NOT black. We have several boys coming to school in black trousers. Can you please ensure your child adheres to the uniform rules.

### Your News

Thank you to parents for keeping in touch with news of your children's successes outside of school, you will find mention of them in the newsletter and on the website. Just as the newsletter was going to print we received a letter...

From reading the school newsletter, I know that you are keen to know about the achievements of your pupils both in and out of school. I thought that you might be interested to know that three of your students, Annabel Rose, Rebecca Latham and our daughter, Kareema Louis, are all part of the Norwich Youth For Christ Gospel Choir, and tomorrow (Sat) they will be singing with the choir in the final of the BBC Radio Norfolk Choir of the Year competition. It is a big achievement for the choir to have got this far, and I thought that you would like to know of this success. We will not know who has won until later in the year, and if they are successful I will let you know.

# IN SHORT

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We salute and congratulate all 6 for their skill and determination... and for their brilliant results.

We are proud of you all: Thomas Goodrum, British Schools Champion 2011. Nick Parker, Bronze Medal; Alexander Tonnison, 5th place (i.e. lost fighting for bronze); Toby Goodrum, 5th place; William Booth, 5th place; Alexander London, did not progress to later rounds but fought really well.

Thomas and Nick automatically qualify for the England squad, with Toby, Alexander T, and William welcome to train with them.

In the quarterly BJA (British Judo Association) magazine 'MATSIDe' there is a two page report on the event including photos of all the medalists.

It also mentions that Thomas Goodrum won gold in the largest group of the entire day, and that he won the final in under a minute!

Regards, Carl Goodrum

## Volleyball

This is just to let you know that our daughter, Rebecca Warrington (below front row, 1st on the left) represented the East of England in the U16 Girls Junior Volleyball Championships in Kettering over the bank holiday weekend and brought home the Gold medal!

Rebecca was the only Norfolk representative of a team of 8 selected to represent the U16 girls at the Championships. The other girls came from Essex, Herts and London. Over the past 6 months Rebecca has attended selection training sessions in Essex from where the East Coach selected his squad. This is the second year Rebecca has represented the East of England and it will be her final as she is now too old! If she wants to progress on the competition circuit, she now has to work hard to be selected for UK School Games and National League. We are of course very, very proud of Rebecca.

## Dear Mrs Musgrave

I am Alex Pinniger the Head Coach of UEA City of Norwich Swimming Club and I would just like to let you know how several of your students performed at the recent Norfolk ASA County Swimming Championships in March.

**JORDAN MANN** was placed 3rd in the 50 metres, 100m and 800m freestyle; 4th in the 200m, 400m, 1500m freestyle and 100m individual medley; 5th in the 50m backstroke.

**ELISE BARRETT** was placed 2nd in the 50m, 100m, 200m, 400m and 800m freestyle; 2nd in the 50m backstroke, 200m backstroke and 50m butterfly; 3rd in the 100m backstroke.

**CASEY BARRETT** had an exceptional championships winning all 10 of his events: 50m, 200m, 400m and 1500m freestyle; 50m and 200m butterfly; 50m and 200m backstroke; 200m breaststroke and 200m individual medley not to mention the top boy award.

All 3 received fantastic medals and trophies and will now advance to compete at the East ASA Regional Championships in June where they will be targeting more medals and their National Qualifying Times to compete at the National Championships at Sheffield in July.

All 3 are exceptionally talented, hard working and a credit to your school.

## Society of Chemistry

The following students took part in the Royal Society of Chemistry's 43rd Chemistry Olympiad in February: Year 12, Daniel Holland, William Clark, Daniel Cade. They all have been awarded participation certificates.

Year 13, Gyles Whiting achieved a silver certificate. Gabriella Johansson achieved a bronze award. Callum Scarth achieved a bronze award.

This is only the second year that we have participated in the RSC Chemistry Olympiad and the first year that we have won awards.

Chemistry is an incredibly difficult subject and the Olympiad takes the students into thinking beyond A level and into the realms of research. I am sure everyone will be proud of all students who participated.

## Judo

Reading the latest WyHigh newsletter, I thought I would drop you a line regarding the achievements of some students from Wymondham High competing at the British Schools Judo Championships in Sheffield during March.

Attached are extracts from the Wymondham Judo Club website, posted by Head coach Chris Claydon: Six players from Wymondham Judo Club travelled to Sheffield to take part in the 2011 British Schools National Championships on Saturday 26th March.

The event is one of the premier junior events of the year, and is open to players from all associations. Representing Wymondham High were Alexander Tonnison, Thomas Goodrum, Toby Goodrum, and Nick Parker.

William Booth represented Morley School, and Alexander London the Eaton CNS.

## We want to hear from you...

If your child has done something that you think we should know about, then do let us know. You can write to us at [head@wymondhamhigh.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:head@wymondhamhigh.norfolk.sch.uk), giving us details about whatever it is your child has done. It doesn't have to be a great academic or sporting achievement, it can be about anything that says something positive about your son or daughter.



# German Exchange

The week before the Easter holidays, students from Year 10 and 11 travelled to Recklinghausen on the return leg of the exchange, to stay with their partners who had visited Wymondham High in October.

We flew from Luton to Dortmund and by coach to the school where our partners were waiting for us. Sunday was spent with the host families before attending school on Monday. This was followed by a tour of the town with the opportunity for a 'Schnellimbiss' (snack) as breakfast had been rather early. Frau Diehl kindly offered to test a Currywurst to ensure they were up to standard.

## Tuesday

On Tuesday we took the bus and underground to Bochum to visit Deutsches Bergbaumuseum, the largest coal-mining museum in the world. We saw the equipment used to rescue trapped miners which was similar to that employed in the rescue of the Chilean miners. One or two of our students volunteered to try it but needed some assistance to climb out again.

Ascending to the top of the winding tower we had a panoramic view of the Ruhrgebiet. After a short spell of retail therapy in Bochum we took the tram to the Veltins-Arena, home of Schalke 04, Gelsenkirchen. The stadium is quite impressive, with a pitch which is rolled in and out at great expense. Our visit was courtesy of Herr Maas, the headmaster of Hittorf Gymnasium, who is a dedicated Schalke fan. Returning home by train meant that we experienced four different means of Germany's efficient public transport system.

## Wednesday

Wednesday was spent in Münster, an attractive medieval university town, with more bicycles than people it would seem. Sights included the town museum, the Friedenssaal town hall where the Treaty of Westphalia was signed, the cathedral with the 500 year-old astronomical clock and the church with the hanging cages where religious protesters were displayed after being tortured. The afternoon was spent at Münster zoo learning some animal vocabulary.

## Thursday

Thursday we went by coach to Köln (Cologne) together with our partners and sampled the wares at the chocolate factory museum before walking along the River Rhine and climbing up the 509 steps leading to the top of the cathedral tower (well most of us). The view over the Rhine and city made the climb worthwhile.

We were back in school on Friday and delighted to see Mrs Musgrave who had come over to see our German partner school first-hand and meet up again with Herr Maas who had visited Wymondham in October. She was able to look around the school and attend lessons as well as spending some time with our students. After a week of intensive German they are ready for their examinations.

An evening of bowling finished off the week and we were all ready for a lie-in on Saturday. The weather was very good for March and the last day was like summer. We said Auf Wiedersehen to our partners on Sunday before flying home. Some have already made plans to return.

We are planning the next exchange and students studying German for GCSE will be receiving letters soon.



# Wartdepartment

As I write the Art Department's report for the May newsletter, the final exams are now taking place for all GCSE, AS and A2 students. It has been a nervous, exciting and exhilarating time, watching students produce an array of creative and original final responses to their externally set assignments.

Over the next few pages I hope to draw your attention to the important events that have happened in the Art Department since the last newsletter in March.

NEWS...

## Year 8 'Golden Age' cross curricular event:

The Art Department was very proud to be part of the cross curricular Golden Age event which was staged on Tuesday 3rd May, Wednesday 4th May and Thursday 5th May. The event which centred around the year 1588, gave Year 8 students a flavour of life in Tudor Wymondham, 400 years ago.

The Art Department participated before the event (due to A2 exams taking place) by gaining inspiration from Rolf Harris and his idea called the 'Big Event' which replicated Constable's *The Hay Wain* in 2004. Rolf Harris was joined by up to 150 artists in Trafalgar Square, as they recreated the famous painting on a 30ft by

20ft canvas. The team had just one day to create 144 canvases to form the painting. The results were screened on BBC One's Rolf on Art on Sunday. Follow this link to see more: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/entertainment/3686058.stm>

## What did we do in the Art Department? ...

The Art Department decided to base an idea on 3 images of Elizabeth I – a young Elizabeth, Elizabeth at her coronation and an old Elizabeth!

We used 3 large MDF boards (240cm x 122cm) for each of the 3 rivers (Yare, Wensum and Tiffey). We then divided each MDF board into 48 segments, which resulted in 16 segments per class. This allowed students to work mostly in pairs on their individual segment which measured 30cm x 20cm (A4). Before the Easter holidays, students had 2 lessons to enlarge and draw their individual segment from the photograph of Elizabeth I they were given. Students then applied their colour mixing knowledge and skills with watercolours before adding detail with oil pastels. The results were very impressive as you can see from the photographs. A big thank you has to go to Miss Maynard who put all 144 segments together to make up the 3 images of Elizabeth I.



Below: a selection of images from the Tudor event at the Abbey, including the 3 panels of Elizabeth I.

## National Success

On Friday 13th May, the Art Department was informed that Year 11 student, Laura McDonald had been successful in the School Artists' latest national competition called True Colours. In earlier newsletters I stated that several of our students were selected to have their work featured in a portfolio to showcase 'Britain's school students' creative talents'.

I am pleased to report that Laura has been chosen as one of the 10 winners. Congratulations to Laura who will receive a canvas print of her drawing.



## End of year exhibition

A note for all students' and parents diaries is the end of year 'SHOWCASE #3' exhibition and private view. This year, the Art department is pleased and delighted to announce that we again have acquired Wymondham Arts Centre from Monday 11th July until Monday 18th July 2011. The exhibition in July 2010 was a huge success and proved to be very popular with the general public. We are hopeful to be inviting another guest speaker to formally open the exhibition. More details to follow in future newsletters.

## Regional success for 2 students

On Wednesday 11th May the Art Department was informed of the amazing news that 2 Wymondham High students have been selected as winners for the Elements Extra competition organised by The Forum and Sainsbury Centre for Visual Arts (UEA). The organisers would also like to feature work from 21 other Wymondham High students in the exhibition.

The two winners are Zoe Pullinger, Year 10 and Ellie Sharp, Year 11 (examples of their work can be seen left).

Elements: Material Worlds is a significant open art exhibition for the Eastern Region to be held at The Forum in Norwich for two weeks in July 2011 (follow this link to see more: <http://www.theforumnorwich.co.uk/events/elements-material-worlds/elements-extra>)

The Sainsbury Centre for Visual Arts, UEA, was involved in choosing artwork to be exhibited and the 6 overall winners will spend a day with a local artist to develop their work. Students were asked to develop work which shows their response to landscapes and habitats, the environment, or the interaction between the material and man-made worlds.

The Forum would also like to feature the work of the following students:

YEAR 10: Carlie Thompson; Danielle Leaver; Emma Askham; Harrison Cheal-Ferris; Jessica Meades; Joseph Bush; Katie Marriot; Katie Willoughby; Lauren Pincher; Leah Howells; Sophie Collins.

YEAR 11: Abigail Martins; Benjamin Annis; Bradley Watkins; Hayden Godley; Laura Booty; Laura Freedman.

YEAR 12: David Webb; Jamie Knights; Jordan Holmes; Nicole Rance.

# Year 10 Exhibition

In September, Year 10 students started their first coursework project entitled the 'Environment and Natural Form'. Since early March students have been working hard on their final pieces. The department is now ready to showcase final pieces in an exhibition in and around the north reception area over the next few weeks. Keep your eyes peeled for a plethora of paintings and art textiles work inspired by Wells-next-the-Sea and Holkham beach. All exhibiting students and parents will be invited to a private view to celebrate students' successes. The date will be announced very soon!



Above: a selection of Year 10 artwork (there will be more examples on the website after half term)





# Return to the Golden Age of Elizabethan Wymondham

the Heritage Museum and Old Bridewell...

The Golden Age event was a large-scale, cross-curricular commemoration of the visit to Wymondham of Queen Elizabeth I in 1573. Our event took place over 3 days, May 3rd – 5th and the whole of Year 8 were off timetable for two of the three days, spending one day in school and another day at the Abbey. The aim was to give students an unforgettable interactive experience of Tudor life and through incorporating the Heritage museum and the Abbey, increase their awareness and knowledge of their local history.

At school, students undertook a number of 'unusual' lessons. In History they experienced a Tudor household, upstairs and downstairs. Students designed menus for the Queen, met a pig's head in the kitchen and learnt some Tudor hobbies and pastimes from the Lord and Lady of the House. In Geography, students learnt about all of the exciting new voyages of discovery in the Tudor period and many of the exciting new items that were brought back to Britain from this 'New World'. In RE, students examined all of Elizabeth I's offers of marriage and decided who, if anyone, she should choose. Many thanks to 6th former, Warren Tutt, who adroitly played all of the different suitors, accents and all! In Maths, students developed their code-breaking skills by looking at how Queen Elizabeth's secret service defeated the Babington Plot, which planned to replace Elizabeth as Queen with her Catholic cousin, Mary, Queen of Scots. In English, students learnt about the plot of Shakespeare's 'Much Ado About Nothing' in readiness for them watching a version of the play in the afternoon. In the afternoon of the school day, every student was able to watch a performance by Spin Off Theatre Company called 'Mardling the Bard'. This show took the basic plot of Shakespeare's 'Much Ado About Nothing' incorporated stories and places specific to Wymondham and told it all using Norfolk dialect.



In 1779 John Howard, the prison reformer, condemned the old Bridewell as one of the vilest in the country; the present building was the first to be built to John Howard's recommendations and it became a prototype for new prisons both in England and America.



Wymondham was once renowned for brush making, an industry which lasted until the Briton Brush Company closed its factory in the early 1980s.



They met Sir Walter Raleigh and Queen Elizabeth I





# In RE, students examined all of Elizabeth I's offers of marriage and decided who, if anyone, she should choose

The Art Department decided to base an idea on 3 images of Elizabeth I – a young Elizabeth, Elizabeth at her coronation and an old Elizabeth (see page 6)



On the Abbey day, we encouraged the students to dress up in Tudor costume and then walked them to the Abbey for a day of meeting and interacting with a number of colourful Tudor characters. They met Dr Dee, alchemist, astrologer, philosopher and Queen Elizabeth's personal advisor. He taught them about Tudor 'science' and even showed them some of the latest Elizabethan experiments. They also met a Tudor doctor who regaled them with highly graphic descriptions of what was cutting edge medical and surgical knowledge at the time. He showed them a number of 'wince-inducing' medical apparatus as well. The students also met a couple of Tudor musicians who played and taught them about Tudor musical tastes and the musical instruments that they played.

- They also met Sir Walter Raleigh and Queen Elizabeth I themselves who talked about Tudor fashion, Tudor manners, what to do about the threat of the Spanish and a whole array of other questions and topics. Students also devised and performed some Shakespeare inspired drama amidst the ruins of the Abbey. At lunchtime students were able to sample the authentic delights of hog-roast. Decorating the Abbey over the 3-days were three magnificent panel paintings of Queen Elizabeth herself. Every student in Year 8 contributed to an A4 panel that made up one of these paintings. The weather at the Abbey was very kind to us and the students were immaculately behaved for which I am very thankful.



Mrs Haythorpe teaching a few medieval taunts ...

The whole event was funded by Creative Partnerships, part of the Norfolk and Norwich Festival, as well as the school itself. The event involved a huge number of people; 245 students, 30 teachers, 6 professional historical re-enactors, staff at the Heritage Museum, a number of Abbey staff, parents, volunteers and Spin Off, a visiting theatre company. I would like to take this opportunity of thanking all of these people for their invaluable help and for allowing the event to take place so successfully. We have been given the green light for a similar event next year, so watch this space if you would like to be involved next time!

Duncan Rowe

# first exchange toulouse

On May 20th, 29 French students will make their way to Wymondham where they will spend a week with their English partners who went to visit them in Toulouse, in the South of France, the week beginning 17th March.

Students from Year 9 and 10 signed up last year to take part in the first exchange to Toulouse. After a long journey through France, we arrived in Castanet-Tolosan (Toulouse) to be welcomed by the French students and teachers in front of the Collège Jean-Jaurès. Saturday and Sunday were spent with the families where our students experienced living in a French family and some of them also had the opportunity to meet up and go bowling on Saturday evening.

The Monday was spent in the Collège Jean-Jaurès where some teachers volunteered to teach our students Maths, Spanish, Music, Geography and Science. It was a long day for our students as lessons started at 8am and finished at 5pm!

On the Tuesday, we went to La Cité de l'Espace, a theme park oriented towards the conquest of space. We had time to look around the exhibition hall, take part in some experiments and even be filmed presenting a weather forecast. We also attended a screening of a 3D film about space in an IMAX cinema, which was as tall as a 6 storey building! We went to a planetarium which taught us about planets and stars and we saw the sky as it would look in Toulouse the following night. Mr Costello even experienced walking on the moon and some students convinced Madame Chatenet to try the gyroscope, which made her spin in every direction.

On the Wednesday, we walked across Toulouse city centre to go the Musée d'Assézat where we walked around an impressive building which hosts an art collection dating from the Renaissance. After a morning of culture we had a bit of time to go around the shops and some of our boys bought rugby balls and caps from the Stade Toulousain shop. In the afternoon, which is a time off for French students, most of our students went around Toulouse with their host family to do some more shopping and buy some souvenirs.

On the Thursday, we went to La Cité de Carcassonne which is a fortified medieval French town. We walked around the beautiful narrow paved streets, visited the castle and walked on the ramparts. In the afternoon, we went back to the school for a 'goûter' where the French students had baked some cakes as an 'au revoir' to their correspondants.

The following morning, after walking to a lock on the Canal du Midi only a few minutes away from the Collège, we played an improvised handball game with a rugby ball before going back to school for lunch and a last goodbye to the French pen-friends.

Overall, we all had a fantastic time in Toulouse, made the most of the sunshine and the summery temperatures and we will soon be planning our next trip for which our current year 8 and 9 studying French will soon receive letters.

## House Champions Cup Results... Macmillan are Champions Again

The House sporting competitions for this years House Champions Cup concluded just before the Easter break with House Rugby and Hockey. The competition always runs from Easter to Easter to account for the fact that this is the Year 11's final round of competitions due to study leave.

This year proved to be the closest for a number of years with Abbey House only 20 points away from victory. However, for the fifth successive year, Macmillan are the champions. This is a great achievement. It also reflects the quality of the students in Year 11 who have experienced victory each year they have been at Wymondham High. The next round of competition starts with cricket and rounders in June and we look forward to see if Macmillan can hold on to the cup or whether one of the other houses challenges for top spot.

## Aquathlon Report

As a result of their impressive performances in the area competition, hosted at our school, seven of our students qualified for the County Aquathlon Championships which were held at UEA Sportspark. These students were Casey Barrett, Bethany Palmer, Rosie Rackham, Elise Barrett, Zoe Hollingsworth, Emma-Jade Glover and Anna Chalcraft. All performed admirably on the day. Casey Barrett was 8th in the Year 7 boys. In the Year 8 and 9 girls Elise Barrett finished 6th, Bethany Palmer 9th and Rosie Rackham 15th. Zoe Hollingsworth, Emma-Jade Glover and Anna Chalcraft came 6th, 7th and 10th respectively in the Year 10 and 11 girls competition. This placed our school 5th overall in the county out of the 25 schools represented. To cap the day off in magnificent style Elise, Bethany and Rosie won the Year 8 and 9 girls team event and are now county champions for their age group. Well done to them all.



# Alien Adventures Through Time

On 6th April 2011 Wymondham High hosted a Philosophy Workshop for able, gifted and talented students in Years 6 and 7. Thirty students had to pit their wits against the might of an alien life force, learning how to problem solve to ensure that the alien spaceship landed safely in space, use philosophical thinking to persuade a higher life form not to eat them and to use their questioning and reasoning skills to break riddles before escaping safely back to earth. Thankfully their combined brain power was sufficient to appease the aliens and they did escape..but only just!

Here are the students' views of the day: 'Today opened my mind to new ways of thinking about the most ordinary questions.'

'It was fun. I loved the riddles!' 'A great day.. very exciting!' 'I loved the life-like concept of the lesson.' 'Very interesting! A good day!' 'It definitely made me think and even as the day passed made me get defensive about my beliefs/ideas.' 'I enjoyed the group discussions.' 'It was fun discussing questions.' 'Fun!' 'Creative - I liked it.' 'Really exciting,



## Abbey House Year 11 Leavers Assembly (extract from Mr Fehners assembly)

This day is the end in one sense and the beginning of your next chapter: the end of the formal timetable and being with friends in lessons and break times. The start of your next education training or for some starting real work or apprenticeships. It is an exciting time, and for some it's a hard time emotionally.

It is also a time of reflection, looking back on memories of past trips, sports, lessons and activities. You have all changed since joining Abbey House back in September 2006 – look for example at Steve Hadley and Elly White and their Year 7 and then Year 11 prom photographs (can you tell which is Steve and which is Elly).

You have had four Heads of House in that time Mrs Franklin, Mrs Stevenson, Miss Denyer and myself. What are my personal memories since September 2010 when I became Head of Abbey House? Well, we have some characters in our group!! Some of you caused me extra paperwork and meetings. I have worked closely with a number of you: the Prefect Team and House/Sports Captains – a Big thank you to all of you and I wish you the best for the future.

For each of you I have designed, with Mr Swords an Abbey House Leavers Card (a copy can be seen on the Abbey page on the website) just to say 'best of luck for the future in whatever you do'.

Keep in touch and I know that I will see some of you back in School completing Sixth Form courses next year.

Examinations have already started but I would like to remind you of what I said a few weeks ago in our special assembly: My advice to you is simple and really has not changed for many years: Prepare, Revise, Keep Calm, Look after your health, and do your best. Don't take chances with your education.

Mr Fehners, Head of Abbey House



# The Norfolk Way Bursary Assessment Day

The Norfolk Way bursary assessment day for 2011 took place on Friday 13th May. Ten students, including seven from Wymondham High, stepped forward to showcase their talents and potential entrepreneurship and meet a panel of judges during a challenging and varied day packed with activities in Swanton Morley.

The bursary scheme is an initiative of The Norfolk Way, led by Mid-Norfolk MP George Freeman who said: 'Teachers have nominated youngsters who have got a real spark about them but might not reach their potential in an academic setting. If they've got an entrepreneurial instinct this bursary will help give them the tools and inspiration to succeed in further training or perhaps starting their own business.'

During the assessment day the students met several of the Norfolk Way trustees and heard from business leaders who had successfully started enterprises themselves, such as John Carrick who hosted the event at Hunters Hall and Castle Farm in Swanton Morley, and Ali Clabburn, founder of Attleborough based liftshare.co.uk. Ali is a former winner of Young Entrepreneur of the Year award and will be mentoring the winner.

Tasks included orienteering, changing the tyres on a jeep, designing a marketing poster, building a bird box and an interview session. Professional head-hunter Fergus Williams advised the students to be themselves and enjoy the day, and explained that the process was designed to find out what their aspirations were with a view to helping them get there. He also offered further support and advice to the students in the future.

Simon Wilson Stephens, of outdoor experience company Smokesilver Travel, who led the outdoor activities said: 'The activities were designed to help the students show how motivated and enthusiastic they were, their willingness to work hard, and their teamwork and leadership skills. Throughout the day we were constantly impressed with the initiative and potential they demonstrated.'

Results will be announced on July 7th at a celebratory awards event.



## Celebrating Success

**It has been an exhilarating term in the Drama Department with stirring performances from Year 11 and Year 12 examinations. We would like to congratulate all students involved in the exams for their hard work and determination.**

Furthermore, it is always a delight to hear students continuing their passions outside of school and seeking opportunities to broaden their horizons. Three talented young ladies are going to be honing their skills at various prestigious locations over the summer and from September. Lauren Scott studying AS Drama and Theatre Studies has gained a place with the National Youth Theatre; Lauren is now waiting for a casting recall audition from this season's directors so that she can be cast in a show in London this summer. Ellie Sharp will be continuing her studies at Britain's only free Performing Arts and Technology school, The Brit School from September and Eve Silver has gained a place at the Hightide Academy this summer where she will participate in a 6 day intensive master class led by a professional theatre director.

As many of our students prepare for further education or the world of work the Drama Department are pleased to have encouraged and developed their abilities to communicate. We are keenly aware of the social and collaborative skills that Drama offers and look forward to supporting students in developing their communication skills throughout the next academic year.