

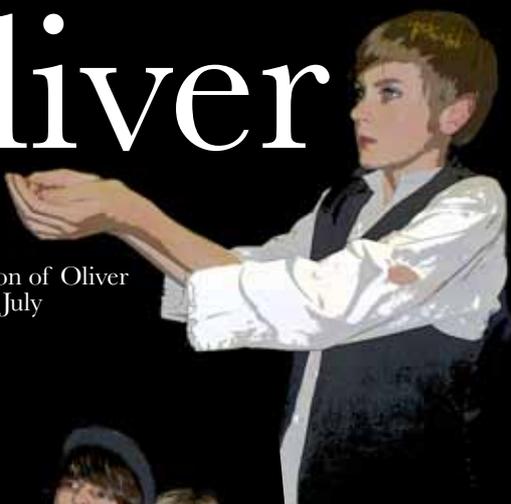
Cut-down version of the newsletter

This newsletter should have been a 16 page copy but, due to a computer malfunction and a corrupt file, we lost all the material (including the backup copy). Hopefully we'll be able to re-do the complete newsletter over the summer. In the meantime, here's a shortened version, have a good summer...

A dedicated cast tell the story of Oliver, a boy who was orphaned at birth and found life a struggle... Will he ever find a family to love him and live a normal life?

Oliver

Stage Adaptation of Oliver
Thursday 14th July



Oliver, the Stage Play

What a journey it has been for myself and the cast. We started the process back in February when over 100 students auditioned for a part. After much thought and discussion we managed to cast 28 students to be in the performance. This was gradually whittled down to a very dedicated cast of 17. Then the real journey began. The cast have worked incredibly hard to achieve the fantastic production performed on the 14th July.

With 130 members in the audience, the show was a huge hit amongst staff, students and parents.

The Cast have become very close friends and very supportive of each other: a little message sent by one member straight after the show was: 'Amazing show tonight guys! I haven't had so much fun since February and am really going to miss you all. But tonight, just... WOW! Thank you to Miss O'Hare. Couldn't have done it without you.' Hattie.

This could not have been achieved without the help of my two amazing assistants Ms Leman and Miss Purell, who have put up with my good and my bad days, who have managed rehearsals when I've been unable to attend, and who have just been amazing friends.

I'd also like to thank Mr Cole for putting the film together, and of course the Drama department for their continued support. Miss O'Hare

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, 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.

Dear Mrs Musgrave

Just wanted to let you know about the recent sporting achievements.

Lisa was chosen to represent Norfolk U15s at the East of England regional basketball tournament. Norfolk competed against county teams from Essex, Hertfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Bedfordshire and Suffolk and did very well. Lisa was one of the top scorers in the whole tournament. She has also been training every month since December 2010 at the East of England Area Performance Centre (APC) in Southend. She is the only female basketball player from Norfolk to be invited to the East APC. The England teams select their players from the Regional APC's and this is Lisa's next goal.

Matthew has been training with the Norfolk U13 Cricket squad since November 2010 and played his first game for the county against Northants in May. He did very well and has now been chosen to play against Hertfordshire and Sussex in June. As he has only been playing cricket for 2 years, this is a fantastic achievement. We are very proud of both of them. Lynn & Alan Miners.

Dear Mrs Musgrave

I thought I would let you know that my daughter, Lucy Hine M8, along with Lisa Miners recently represented Norfolk County in an inter-county basketball tournament on the 14th May in Bushey, Herts. The team played very well, coming 5th out of 8, however the results in their pool were very close: Norfolk beat Cambridge 28-4, lost to Hertfordshire 20-15, lost 19-16 to Essex and beat Bedfordshire 20-12. The girls played extremely well, and I am very proud of Lucy! Ruth Hine

Buying the Rainforest

Zara Bradley and friends from 8T1 have raised £64 from a cake sale recently to raise funds so they could buy an area of rainforest through the World Land Trust (www.worldlandtrust.org Patron: Sir Davis Attenborough). They learned in their geography lessons about the rapidly disappearing Amazon rainforest; about the nature of the rainforest and its inhabitants and the value of the rainforest to the local indigenous tribes, to the people of Brazil and to us, here in Wymondham. This motivated them to organise and co-ordinate the cake sale themselves and many of them made the cakes they brought in to sell themselves. The £64 will enable them to buy approx 1.2 acres of forest in the Amazon Basin. Well done all involved!

Photo below: L-R Top: Ellie Payne, Jess Lidstone, Charlotte Seiboth, Zara Bradley. L-R bottom: Emily Scory, Alice Wakeman, Anya Howe-Abram, Gemma Holdback. Also involved: Charles Segens, Isabella Tofts, Oliver Tribe, Megan Elliot, Poppy Howard, Ellie Soden, Isabelle Burroughes.



Stock Market Challenge

The Year 10 team we took from school to the Stock Market Challenge at the Open Youth Venue won. The team, Jake Lidstone M8, Paige Fairweather A12, Stephen Gombakomba M9, Emily Page A6 and Maia Schaffer C12 increased their initial portfolio from £21,000 to £97,300 over five days of virtual trading, some £20,000 more than the second team.

They worked very well together as a team and each of them took their roles seriously. Jake, as the investment analyst, quickly understood what he had to do and how the Stock Market worked. Emily made a very diligent media analyst (there was a newspaper every day before trading opened, TV and radio news bulletins) and Paige was an enthusiastic Finance Manager. Maia and Stephen were the busy Floor Traders, buying and selling and having to make some snap decisions if the market quickly changed. It was great to see the students working together and I could see from the gallery (teachers were not allowed on the trading floor) that there were some lively discussions on what to do and some quick and successful investment decisions were taken.

The team won a trophy a £10 Chapelfield voucher each and a year's site licence for the school for the Stock Market Challenge Simulation, worth £300.

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From the Head,
Victoria Musgrave

Dear Parents/Carers

Everyone thinks that the Summer Term is a comfortable one with year 11s and 13s going off on study leave and taking their exams but every single year we find that, if anything, the pace speeds up. We are all keeping our fingers crossed for a bumper crop of examination results this year as staff and students have worked harder than ever to achieve for Wyomndham High.



Academy Status

When we open in September it will be as Wyomndham High, a leading edge academy, rather than a community high school and whilst this will not at first appear to make very much of a difference, it will in fact give us greater autonomy and increase our budget share enabling us to invest in resources for our school. We look forward to this.

Prefects - Heads of all four Houses have spent some time carefully considering who might be a Year 11 prefect in September and our congratulations go to the 32 current year 10 students identified with particular mention of the 8 House Captains – Abbey (Rhianna Belham and Nick Middleton) Cheshire (Thomas Hunter and Emily Marshall-Nichols) Ellis – (Sameeksha Bhandari & Joe Bush) and Macmillan (Oliver Pfeiffer and Bethany Walton). These 8 students form the Head's Council which meets with me weekly to discuss whole school issues. From this group we elected our Head Boy and Head Girl and their Deputies and it gives me great pleasure to announce the following: Tom Hunter – Head Boy; Rhianna Belham – Head Girl; Oliver Pfeiffer – Deputy Head Boy; Sammy Bhandari – Deputy Head Girl

Saying Farewell to Staff

It is always sad to say a fond farewell to our staff who are leaving the school and a number are retiring including Mr Stephen Phoenix after a lifetime of service to our school both in the English Department and in the sporting arena, Mrs Delia Billington our Advanced Skills Mathematics Teacher, Mrs Anne Dring who has served us so well in the school library, Mr Tom Gray, our languages and drama teacher, Mr Martin Platt, a part time Mathematics Teacher, Mrs Mary Powley, a part time Mathematics teacher who has been here for more than three decades and finally Mrs Linda Davis, Head of Cheshire House. All these staff will be sorely missed and our thanks must go to them on behalf of the many thousands of young people who have passed through their classes (or areas of responsibility) over the years.

We also say goodbye to Samantha Jay (Technology Technician), Mr Jason Moore (English Dept), Miss Georgina Summerskill and Miss Danielle O'Hara (from the Youth Theatre group), Mr Martyn Hintridge (Geography & Science Dept), Mrs Joyce Spooner (English Department), Mr Joe Seiboth (Sixth Form Admin Support) and finally Mr Roger Higgins, Second in Science who leaves us to take up a promoted post as Head of Science at Notre Dame High School. Thank you to all these staff for their great service to our school. We send them on their way with our fondest, grateful thanks.

New Staff joining the School will be highlighted in the first newsletter of the new academic year.

Half Term Holiday Surprise

What a lovely surprise to find a group of our students walking in the Langdale Valley in the Lake District. I went up to the Lakes for a long walking weekend over the half term holiday and imagine my surprise when I saw a party of young people and their leader walking towards Elterwater with their back packs and Gore-Tex wet weather clothing. As I got closer I noticed they were all smiling at me and one said 'Hi Miss'. It was lovely to meet up with: Katy Sciannimanico, Katie Hartwell, Alexandra Greenwood, Daniel Machin, George Smith & Harriet Colquhoun (from Year 9 and 10).

They were on a week's camp with the Wyomndham Air Cadets walking in the Lakes and canoeing and mountain biking. A wonderful way to spend a week. It is most encouraging to find our young people on adventure holidays and this just dispels the mythology that we see in the media about 'couch potato youngsters'. Well done to them all!

New Skirts

I trust by now all the girls have ordered or bought their new school skirts for September and we look forward to seeing a much smarter turn out from them. Thanks to all the parents for their unstinting support in this area. It really does make a difference. We do have a stock at school for any students who arrive on the first day back in a navy skirt.

Student Services

Please be advised that we will have a new student services reception area in the middle block at school for students to collect timetables, planners, lost property, pick up items left at main reception etc. We will have two admin assistants working specifically to the Heads of House to support all our students next year.

New Titles

From September the leadership team will be changing their titles to Principal, Vice Principal and Assistant Principals to link with the more gender-neutral academy style.

May I take this opportunity of wishing you all a relaxing Summer break and thanking you again for all your support of our school this year.

Victoria Musgrave, Head

Phoenix says goodbye...

After over three decades at the school, Mr Phoenix has decided to say goodbye to Wymondham High and hello to an early retirement. Mr Phoenix is currently an English Teacher and form tutor of A11.

When we interviewed him (in form period) we asked him a few questions related to his time at the school.

What has been your favourite experience here at Wymondham High?

"That's a tough question, I have enjoyed teaching at this school, however, what I have especially enjoyed has been the numerous school trips, and sports days. But recently I really enjoyed going on the battlefield trip with Years 9 and 11."

Will we see you again at any events such as PSHE days?

"If I get invited or they wanted me, I'd always be happy to come and help out as I'd never want to say goodbye to the school for good."

What do you plan to do in your retirement?

"Lots of home chores which I haven't had the time to do yet. I would love to go travelling around lots of countries; and also take up golf and join a club. If I had any spare time left then I would like to work on my poetry and maybe get it published!"

Have you enjoyed teaching and is it something you'd recommend?

"Yes, I have enjoyed it! Though it's a hard job it's very rewarding and well worth it. You get a real buzz out of teaching at the end of a long day. I'd recommend it to anyone who is determined to work hard and is up for a challenge!"

We thank Mr Phoenix for all his hard work, and we hope he has a good retirement! **Rose Mason and Hannah Bradley, Year 7**

Norfolk Way Bursary

Two students have been awarded a bursary from the Norfolk Way Charity - an initiative led by mid-Norfolk MP George Freeman - which recognises their potential for entrepreneurship, and offers them time with local mentors to help them achieve their future goals.

Their award was given after an action-packed assessment day in May which saw a total of ten Norfolk students step forward to showcase their talents and meet a panel of judges. Tasks included orienteering, changing the tyres on a jeep, designing a marketing poster, building bird boxes, and an interview session with the mentoring panel.

Meghan Douglass-Ellis and Jack Wellstead were both commended for their mature participation in group activities and their assertive leadership qualities. Their enthusiasm for the challenges was unstinting and the panel felt that both students will benefit from the support of the business professionals and entrepreneurs within the Norfolk Way Charity, with the ultimate aim of giving them the tools and skills to succeed in their careers.

Marseilles Trip with Kamiko Judo Club

On Friday 10th June I travelled to Marseilles with Kiya Claydon and River Morris (not from Wymondham High) from Wymondham Judo Club and 5 members of Kamiko Judo Club. On arrival we were greeted warmly and treated to a lovely meal at a seafood restaurant overlooking the Mediterranean with members of other clubs from Spain and France.

The judo started on Saturday afternoon with a one and a half hour training session with two 6th Dan Grades and 70 judoka from the UK, Spain and France. It taught us some good new ground-work techniques and we did some fun activities to improve elements of our judo. The session was also a great opportunity to meet and make friends with many other players, it's a shame that not enough of the French or Spanish spoke German for me to practise (sorry Frau Chatenet!) but mum didn't opt for German at school and she could only manage some French! Then at the end of the session we weighed in so that they could assign us to our squads for the competition.

Then it came to Sunday, competition day, when I met the Lanzarote squad of 4 with whom I would be competing, and their coach Orlando. Since it was a team competition for each round we lined up in ascending order of weight and then we competed individually against the opposing player of the same weight. For your team to progress you needed to win the majority of the 6 fights and, since we were missing one player, we were already at a disadvantage because the other team automatically won that fight. The team had three fights each; I won all of my fights, one on points, one with a 25 second hold-down and one with a throw. Unfortunately our team didn't win enough of the other fights overall to progress beyond the round robin pool but it was a great experience for me, I made friends with my squad and I have been invited to visit them and fight in Lanzarote at some point in the future!

I had a really fantastic time and I thank Wymondham Judo Club for putting me forward, Kamiko Judo Club for taking me and the school for allowing me the time off to participate.

Alexander Tonnison

