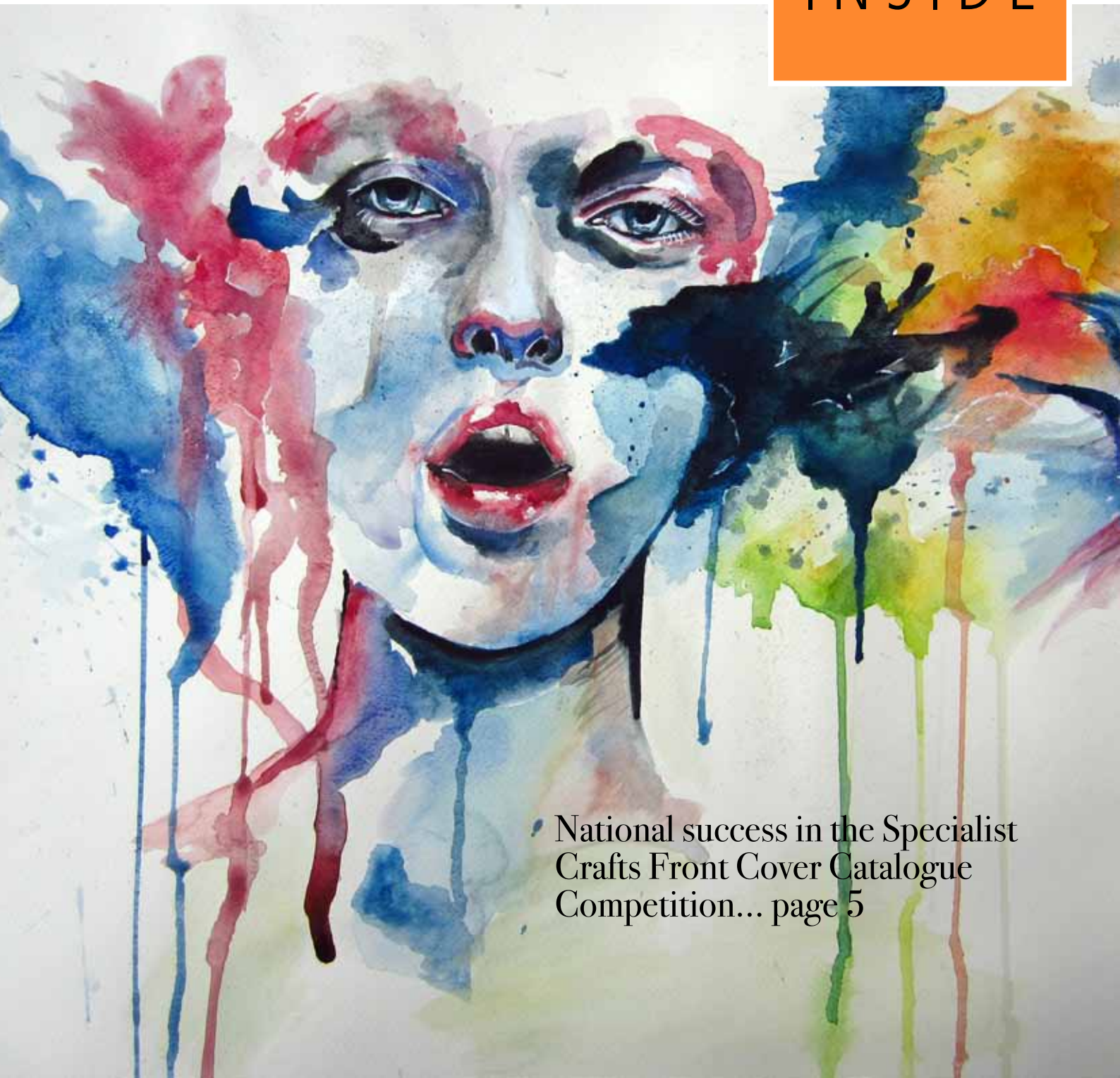


# Wymondham High

Wymondham High OCT/NOV 2012

news.issue21  
INSIDE



National success in the Specialist  
Crafts Front Cover Catalogue  
Competition... page 5

# IN SHORT

IM ENDIGNIS NOSTO EL ULLAOR ILIT ACIDUISIT  
NOSTO DOLORE CONSE TET VEL ULLAN  
VELENISMOD EX ENDIT NONSE MIN HENIT  
INISCIDUIP EA FEUGIAM IRIUREM QUATIN ERIT  
IUSCINCIN ET NUM VEROS DOLORE EL UTATEM

## Whistle Down the Wind

As suggested in WyHigh, I am writing to let you know about Tom's (Coath) forthcoming 'achievement'. Tom is passionate about drama and is part of the Norfolk Youth Music Theatre company. He will be playing a principal role (that of the Dad) in Whistle Down the Wind during half term (Weds 31st October to Saturday 3rd November) at the Maddermarket Theatre in Norwich. Tom doesn't like to 'blow his own trumpet' but I thought a little success in drama might fit well alongside sporting and other achievements.

## Korfball

I just wanted to drop you a line to let you know that Emily (Cocker) has been selected for England under 16's at Korfball. She trialled in the summer and has been attending a further 3 weekend selection/ training sessions which finished last Saturday and resulted in her being selected as part of the final 10. I am off course extremely proud and pleased for her but just thought school might like to know.



## Auf Wiedersehen

Wymondham High students studying GCSE German have just said 'Auf Wiedersehen' to their German exchange partners who have just spent a week staying with families (pictured below).

They visited Norwich, Cambridge and the Norfolk coast as well as spending two days in school. Many friendships were formed and the Wymondham students are looking forward to the return visit to Recklinghausen next March. This exchange with the Hittorf Gymnasium has lasted over thirty years marking the enduring strength of the relationship between our school and Germany.

In December forty Year 8 students will be going to the Cologne area for the Christmas Market and the Sixth Form will be visiting Berlin next year as part of their A level studies.



## Fund Raising

In July, The Portal raised £28.52 for Send my Friend to School. Mr Hibbert's readathon raised £138.80. Non-uniform day before Easter raised £483.42 for Sport Relief and £695.13 for the Mudeka Foundation. Non uniform day in the summer term raised £628.84 for a defibrillator. Macmillan raised £428 at the coffee morning this term.

## STEM

Wymondham High Academy is hosting its first ever STEM Christmas Fair and we would like you to be a part of it. We will be bringing together aspects of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics and, naturally, Christmas, to create an entertaining, hands-on evening of fun and learning. Think origami, stars, snow, gingerbread and fairy light chromatography, and you are on the right lines. This event is open to all ages so families are of course welcome, indeed encouraged! See you all on the 27th November between 4pm-6pm. Let's start Christmas early! Keep on the lookout for flyers and invitations. Santa's getting them ready as we speak.

## Norfolk Cricket

Aimee Palmer has been selected to the Norfolk Cricket Centre of Excellence after her first season of playing cricket in the Norfolk Girls U13s team.



## 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.

## From the Principal, Victoria Musgrave

How quickly the term is flying by and the Summer holiday is a distant memory. Things have been really busy here at Wymondham High Academy and the students and staff have been working very hard capitalising on the excellent results of the Summer; the best ever! Please do scrutinise our website and you will find lots of information that may be useful to you. Look at the Pupil Premium icon and Ofsted, DFE and if you would like to say anything to Ofsted about us please see the link to the Parent View in the Ofsted section.



Too often the only parents that write anything are those with negative comments to make and I would urge all those very many of you that write to us with letters of thanks to please go on and talk about the changes that have taken place over the last five years and the journey the school has been on, towards gaining 'outstanding' in future inspections. We are expecting Ofsted to visit us this term and hope to get a safe 'good' grading based on our recent successes and the more praise from parents the better.

The term thus far has seen successes on the sports field, our choir sang at St Andrews, our musicians and artists and dramatists have been working hard and the academy is looking wonderful with first class art work and photography on the walls of our corridors. Our Summer refurbishment programme saw the upgrade of the Caretaker's bungalow which is now a Year 7 Nurture Unit (The Gateway); a brand new Snack Shack, which replaces the rather dismal shed that used to be a food outlet; classroom and corridor upgrades; and a complete refurbishment of some of the Science laboratories. Building work starts in early November and our new £3M build programme should be finished for July 2013 for the students and staff to move into in September 2013. All very exciting!

## Enterprise Forum

On 12th October we hosted a business Enterprise Forum in our Social Sciences Centre with 50 local business people and local MP George Freeman hosting. This was a huge success and part of the brief of our new Director of Enterprise and Community who has a community, premises and educational business partnership role. Anybody who might be interested in contacting Mr Justin Smith to talk about education and business links, please feel free to call him at Wymondham High.

## Open Evenings

We have hosted two open evenings, one for the Year 6-7 transfer and we had a lively evening with hundreds of parents visiting the school, many from out of our catchment. Sixth Form Open evening is always a fabulous affair with over 1000 visitors coming to look at our provision and hear from our current students. We are very proud of our Sixth Form and the wonderful work ethic therein.

## Student Voice

Student voice is stronger than ever with two Principal's Councils meeting being held weekly in my study with representatives from the Year 11 prefects who are planning charity events and a Christmas formal and U6 Senior Prefects who are planning their leavers' ball in the city and ice-skating trips at Christmas. They are really a first class bunch of young people.

I am very proud of the work of students that feature in this newsletter and was particularly pleased to see Anna Chalcraft's success in the Specialist Crafts Catalogue to be published in January. Our Public Speakers won the Langley Cup; Georgia Montgomerie, Sophie Large, Aaron Long, Harry Flegg and Tom Shotton and my special thanks to Miss Macpherson for her time supporting this group of students. Similarly, many congratulations to Harrison Cutts, Clement Moylan and Sadie Scharff who won individual trophies in Y12 for their contribution to the debates at Langley. We are very proud of them all.

Visitors from Germany and Spain have been in our school this term and we are delighted that Modern Languages is flourishing at Wymondham High.

May I remind parents that it is part of the entry requirement to sixth form that students have a GCSE A\*-C pass in English, Maths, Science and a Modern Foreign Language.

## Change in the Weather and School Uniform

The weather is going to get colder and therefore may I respectfully remind parents of the uniform rules for the depths of winter. Coats (top coats may be worn) should be dark and neutral in colour (with high viz flashes for the cyclists and pedestrians).

Please do not let your children wear Superdry or really expensive coats as we cannot be held responsible for loss or damage.

Our lost property is full of designer shoes, coats etc. Goodness knows why students do not come and collect their goods. Could you also ensure that items are named. Gloves, hats and scarves may be worn to and from school but not around school. School shoes suffice for all weather apart from snow so please do not allow your child to come to school in Ugg Boots or the like. In snowy weather, we do allow wellingtons to walk to and from school but not around buildings as the corridors become like ice rinks.

...continued on page 6



The start of the autumn term is always a very busy, yet exciting time for the Art Department. We warmly welcome new A Level students and Year 10 students who have opted to study GCSE Fine Art or Art Textiles. This year due to the new change in the options process we welcome Y9 students to the exciting Art Foundation year.



## Environment and Natural Form

On Thursday 27th September 2012, 60 budding and enthusiastic Year 9 Fast-track Art Photography students and Year 10 GCSE Fine Art and Art Textiles students and department staff visited the beautiful, atmospheric and scenic North Norfolk coast where they visited Wells-next-the-Sea to draw, record and sketch the beautiful and distinctive landscape/seascape to inspire their first coursework project entitled the Environment and Natural Form.

The Art department is again hoping to hold its annual 'New Beginnings #4' exhibition of work undertaken on this theme around the end of March 2013, so parents – watch this space!

When we return from the half term break in November, Year 12 Fine Art students and a selection of Year 11, 12 and Year 13 Art Textiles students will embark upon the department's 5th enrichment art trip to the Curwen Print Studios in Cambridge. Dates for student's diaries are Monday (12th November – Fine Art) and Tuesday (13th November – Art Textiles). The centre is a well renowned and respected printmaking studio, which in the past has made original and reproduction prints for the likes of artists Rolf Harris and Paula Rego.

## Fast-Track Photography and Art Multimedia trip to Cambridge

On Monday 8th October, Mrs Pinnington, Mrs Elkins and Mrs Robbie accompanied the Y9 and Y10 Fast-Track students and Y12 Art Multimedia students to Cambridge. The aim of the visit was to inspire and give all students the ideal opportunity to take a varied selection of photographs of the beautiful architecture and majestic college buildings for their coursework projects. Students were able to use their digital photography techniques to capture punts on the River Cam, the quaint passages, and historic scenery that Cambridge provides.

## Knitting and Stitching Show

On Thursday 11th October, Y10, 11 and 12 Art Textiles students visited the Knitting and Stitching Show at Alexandra Palace, in London. The Knitting and Stitching Show is the 'definitive and best exhibition for lovers of textiles in the UK and Ireland'. The Show covered knitting and stitching but so much more; examples include felt-making, shibori dyeing, jewellery-making, card-making, mixed media... the list goes on! Whilst at the Show, students had access to hundreds of exhibitors selling specialist supplies, galleries from leading artists and groups, plus hundreds of workshops to introduce Art Textiles students to lots of new contemporary textile techniques.

## Showcase #4 Exhibition at Wymondham Arts Centre:

As usual the annual and extremely successful 'Showcase #4' exhibition was held at Wymondham Arts Centre in Beckett's Chapel between Tuesday 10th July and Monday 16th July. This is the Art Department's major exhibition of the year and featured all the fantastic work that has been achieved by our Fine Art, Art Textiles and Art Multimedia students. Mrs Robbie used her excellent design skills to create the invitation and we had the pleasure of a guest speaker – Professor John Last (Principal of Norwich University College of the Arts) to formally open the exhibition of final pieces from A Level students and selected GCSE students. During the week, over 500 people visited the exhibition and the many fantastic comments were left by members of the public.



## Life Drawing Master Class Enrichment trip

A-Level Fine Art and Art Textiles students were presented with an amazing opportunity to participate in an enrichment 'Master Class Drawing Day' at the Anteros Arts Foundation in the refurbished King of Hearts building in Norwich ([www.anteros.co.uk](http://www.anteros.co.uk)), which included drawing from a life model using a variety of skills and techniques. The enrichment 'Master Class Drawing Day' took place on Wednesday 18th July 2012 and was aimed at all Y12 Fine Art and Art Textiles students. The day was delivered by practicing artist Will Teather. Will Teather a Central St Martins College of Art and Design graduate has lectured on drawing courses at Leeds College of Art & Design and more recently Norwich University College of the Arts. In July 2008 he received a College Staff Award, in recognition of his contribution to the College's Drawing Workshop.

## Art Trip feedback from the summer term...

On Tuesday 17th July, the Art Department planned its final visit to national art galleries in London. The trip departed from the North bus bay at 8am and returned to school around 6.15pm. The trip was for new and current Art Fast-Track Photography students and Year 12 Fine Art, Art Textiles and Art Multimedia students. The aim of the visit was to inspire students and give year 12 students the ideal opportunity to view current exhibitions in preparation for their Year 13 'Image and Identity' coursework project.

## National success in the Specialist Crafts Front Cover Catalogue Competition

Last week the Art Department was informed of the very exciting news that Anna Chalcraft's ink/watercolour portrait has been selected to be published on the front cover of the Specialist Crafts catalogue. The catalogues will be published in January 2013 and are posted out to all Art Departments throughout the UK. This will mean that Anna's work gets national coverage!

The Art Department and Anna will both receive £100 worth of vouchers to spend.

Specialist Crafts staff thanked the Art Department for sending in a range of entries. They stated that 'we have been completely bowled over at the high standard of work from your school. You really do have some very talented students!'

I want to end the October 'Art Department' report by taking this opportunity to thank all Art Department colleagues (Mrs Francis, Mrs Pinnington, Mrs Elkins, Mrs Robbie, Mr McFadyen and Mrs Dalmay) for their continued hard work.

I wish all students, parents and staff a very happy and relaxing half term holiday.

Mr N Moulton (Head of Art)





# studentvoice

## Langley Cup Winner

On the 27th September 2012, I together with five other students, Georgia Montgomerie, Sophie Ebery-Large, Aaron Long, Harry Flegg and Tom Shotton, travelled to Langley School with Miss Macpherson to represent Wymondham High Academy in a Year 8 public speaking competition. On the day of the event we all felt the nerves but were determined to try our best. My speech was on 'Why Beauty Contests Degrade Women.' I felt strongly on this topic as it seems wrong for 8-16 year olds to feel the need to be caked in make-up or, in more extreme cases, to feel that they must have surgery to become more beautiful. In my speech I covered the issue of young girls receiving the wrong message from beauty contests, starving themselves to make themselves thinner causing anorexia and other eating disorders.

At the end of all of the speeches awards were handed out. I am proud to say that I received the best speaker award and also that Wymondham High won the Langley Cup for the best team overall. I am so pleased with our amazing results and hope that others will follow in our footsteps with the public speaking and will find it as thrilling and rewarding as I have. I have gained so much confidence from the experience and found it to be an amazing opportunity to excel.

Many thanks to the other members of the Wymondham High teams, Ewan Downes and Emma Taylor (my classmates) and Miss Macpherson for all of their encouragement.

Louise Burr A7

## My First Experience of Public Speaking

I have never entered a speaking competition before or in fact any type of speaking in front of people I don't know, so when I found out that there was the opportunity to enter a Year 8 competition I said to myself, 'I have to put my name down, if I don't I may not get the chance to do it again.' The schools taking part were: Langley School, Greshams and Wymondham High.

When we arrived it was scary, driving up to the entrance of such a large school. Once the other teams had arrived we made our way to a very grand ballroom and watched three Year 11 students from Langley School demonstrate how to speak in public successfully. After that we had lunch which was delicious and gave me the opportunity to relax and socialize with students from the other schools.

Following lunch we went back to the ballroom and found our team. I was the Chairperson, Louis Fraser Wilson was the main speaker from Greshams and Tom Shotton, also from Wymondham High was the Questioner. When we walked up to the table I started to shake, but I managed to control myself and delivered my speech confidently.

Once the contest was over we just had to wait to see who had won. After about ten minutes, we found out that one of the Wymondham High Academy teams had won overall and that Louise Burr had won best speaker. We all came away with big smiles on our faces.

Aaron Long C6

## Success for Harrison Cutts in Sixth Form Debate

Harrison Cutts participated in a Year 12 Debate at Langley High a fortnight later, together with Clement Moylan and Sadie Scharff, and succeeded in winning an individual trophy for being the best proposer on the given topic: 'This House would make involvement in team sports compulsory in schools.'

My congratulations to all of our competitors who represented Wymondham High Academy. They are a real credit to the school and should feel incredibly proud of their achievements in the face of fierce competition! Many thanks to Jon Kempton from Langley School for organising both events so successfully.

## Mrs Musgrave, continued from page 3

Finally, as I approach my final half term at the school as Principal, I do so with a modicum of sadness after a very enjoyable four and a half years here. Thank you all for your support for the many initiatives introduced during my time here. I am sure you will be disappointed to learn that Dr Fox, the Vice Principal will also be leaving at Christmas, but for the very best of reasons. He has been appointed as Principal of Flegg High, in the East of the County from 1.1.2013 and he richly deserves this promotion.

He has worked conscientiously for the academy for the last two and a half years and has been very much my 'right hand man'. We do wish him well. Similarly we will be saying goodbye to two other colleagues; Miss Katy Robinson (Second in DT) and Mrs Lyndsay Knight who has been Acting Assistant Principal (Learning and Teaching) this term. We wish Miss Robinson well in her work in the community in Iona and Mrs Knight to semi-retirement.

## TW Gaze – Gaze to the Future!

Thanks to a worthwhile new project with local auctioneer and estate agent TW Gaze, Wymondham High has a great chance to generate some funds towards student initiatives. TW Gaze have committed to donate 10% of their commission on any property sales that come about due to referrals from our academy community – that includes parents and grandparents of current students, current staff and alumni. So, if you or anyone you know, are looking to sell a property, please contact TW Gaze on 01953 423188 for a free no obligation valuation – you could help support a new school project! Students have asked for an internet café so any funds raised will go directly to funding this project.

## Grow Organisation

Many of you will be aware that the academy is making great strides in developing relationships with local organisations, whether they operate in the private, public or voluntary sector. We believe wholeheartedly that student experiences are strengthened when they can apply their learning to a real life project, particularly when the project concerned adds real value to the organisation.

The Grow Organisation, an award winning horticultural social enterprise, is working with some Year 13 students to develop some new marketing materials and to re-design their website. Having been briefed by the company CEO, the students are now working on some preliminary designs in preparation for presentation to Grow in November.

Jacqui Starling, chief operating officer at The Grow Organisation, said she was keen to find a way to integrate the work students were doing in the classroom into her business. She said the Year 13 students would get a lot out of it. 'It will be evidence that they have produced something at a commercial level. They will have effectively developed a resource for us that we would have had to do in house or otherwise, so we could offer a work-based reference for them too.'

## Enterprise Forum

On Friday 12th October, our school hosted its first 'enterprise forum' which was attended by over 60 business leaders, students and our local MP George Freeman. The Norfolk Way, who helped organise the event, presented their ideas for a Work Club whilst students (pictured below) took the opportunity to meet and chat with local business people. The afternoon was a great success and future events are planned.

## Fundraising Masterclass

Hosted by Bob Jennings OBE at Wymondham High Academy on Thursday 13th December. £135 per day including lunch, refreshments and all materials. Special concessionary rates available – please contact Mr Smith, Director of Enterprise and Community (smithj@wymondhamhigh.co.uk) for more details.



## Britannia Training

When Colin Wright, the MD of successful Wymondham based Britannia Training, recognised their profile would benefit from a corporate DVD, they turned to our award winning Media studies students for help. This exciting collaboration will see Wymondham High developing a range of marketing solutions for the company including a web-based virtual tour of their facilities, a corporate DVD and some short 'tool box' talks. Norwich based Epic Studies are on hand to help convert student work into the finished article.

These exciting collaborations bring with them so many benefits. Students have a chance to work with business leaders, gaining experience and valuable references to boost job or university applications. Organisations welcome the opportunity to engage with young people, particularly if they can apply their talents to actual problems facing the company. Additionally of course they help raise valuable funds for our school which can be spent on projects identified by the students themselves.

If you or your company feel there may be an opportunity to work with our school please get in touch – smithj@wymondhamhigh.co.uk or telephone 01953 713154.

Justin Smith, Director of Enterprise and Community

'I liked the atmosphere at Wymondham High; it was friendly and welcoming. It provided a wider variety of subjects and good facilities.' HETHERSETT OLD HALL STUDENT



'Wymondham has a good reputation and a really positive atmosphere and provides a wide subject range.'

Hethersett High School student

**CLOSING  
DATE FOR  
APPLICATIONS  
3PM FRIDAY  
14DEC2012**



'Before you know it you'll have switched to the Wymondham High network on Facebook and find yourself feeling a reluctant pride in the Sixth Form – it is truly a pleasant environment to be in.'

Old Buckenham student