



ASPIRE

Celebrating success 2018-19 May Edition



Head First

This half-term has flown by, returning from a late Easter break, back to a range of end of year examinations. As I write Year 11 are in the midst of their GCSEs and Year 7 and 8 students have tested their synoptic knowledge in their end of year exams. These yearly, longer examinations help us to develop the skills needed to retain knowledge over a longer period, an important element of the new linear GCSEs. The examinations endeavour to prepare students in a low-threat way for what lies ahead and allow them to develop revision strategies that will stand them in good stead. I am sure that our current Year 11 students would testify that cramming near the end is not the best strategy.

Last week we said a fond farewell to Year 11 students in their final assembly. You might have seen our farewell video to them on the school website. In my farewell address I asked three things of them as they leave our school.

1. As you get older, you'll get to know yourself better. Always, always be true to yourself. Never try to be what you are not.
2. Have dreams and ambitions. School should have prepared you to be resilient and equipped you with the grit and determination to succeed. There will be hard times and inevitable knock-backs along the way but hold on to those dreams.
3. Never imagine that you are too small or insignificant to make a difference. This doesn't mean grand gestures, great discoveries or even saving the planet, though those would be great. Make a difference to people, show people kindness in all you do, and you will reap the rewards in how people treat you.

Finally, I end as we started the term in our post-Easter whole school assembly, led by Bishop Martin, with a prayer.

*May the glory and the promise of this joyous time of year
bring peace and happiness to you and those you hold most dear.
And may Christ, Our Risen Saviour, always be there by your side
to bless you most abundantly and be your loving guide.*

Julia Upton

Alde Valley Relays

In the words of the competition organiser, Debenham "smashed it" at this years' Alde Valley relays. 11 race wins out of 16 races, 2 records and the best ever points score! Max Kissick-Jones, Alex Oakley, Luca Barricello and Gethin Harries set a record time in the 4 x 200m Junior Boys race and Tilly Aldis and Alice King gained the record in the 2 x 800m with a time of 5 mins 20 seconds, 19 seconds faster than the previous record. A fantastic effort from all of our athletes.



Year 10 Geographers visit

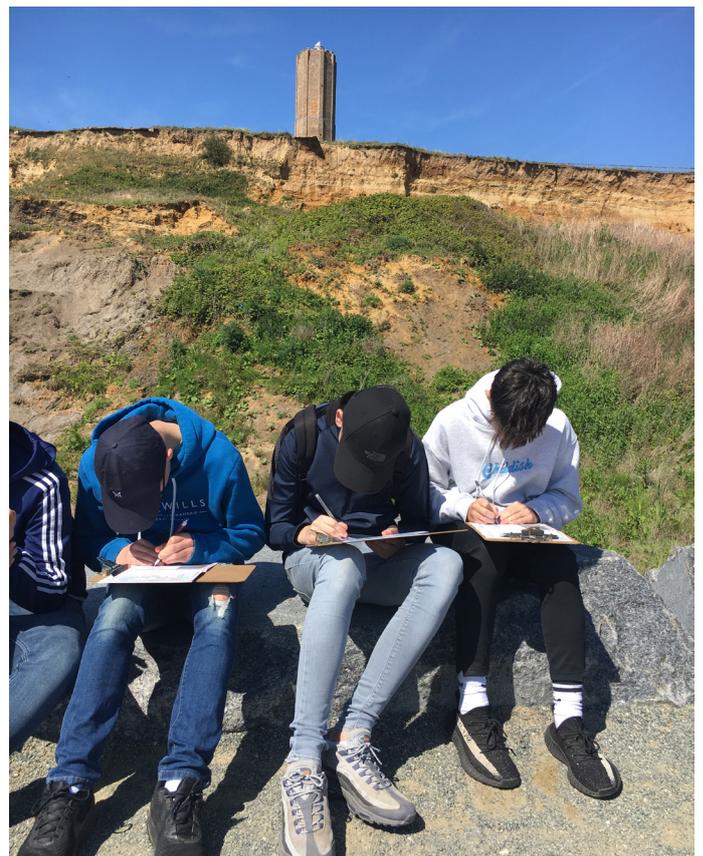


Year 10 Geographers battle the elements in Walton-on-the-Naze

Year 10 Geographers were lucky enough to experience some glorious sunshine on their fieldtrip to the east coast of Essex. At Walton-on-the-Naze, we were investigating the effectiveness of hard engineering on managing longshore drift. The trip is designed to bring to life the coastal processes of erosion and management. We looked at evidence of rotational slumping of the cliffs and it was clear to see why such massive defences as Crag Walk and the sea wall were required to defend the town and Naze tower.

New primary fieldwork techniques were learned, including bi-polar surveys of various coastal defences, beach profiles and groyne depth measurements. Students learned a lot about the local geology and its effects on the cliffs and coastline. This data will now be presented and analysed and used to prepare students for the fieldwork exam paper that is part of the GCSE Geography course.

The Geography team



Walton-on-the-Naze



Upcoming events

Friends of Debenham High School

Even if you can't get to one of our events there are several ways you can raise funds for our school projects:

- www.easyfundraising.org.uk this is a website where you can go to do all your online shopping and the Friends of Debenham can earn a small percentage of your shop.....at no cost to you.
- www.schoolgateway.com you are able to make a donation to the funds directly through the same website that you use for all other school payments.
- **Second Hand Uniform** - we do a couple of sales a year but we are low on 'stock' so if you have any logo school uniform that no longer fits or is needed please send it in to school
- We are now on Facebook to advertise our events, meetings and fundraising targets. Please show your support and like our page.
- **100 club** - join this to contribute to the school and maybe win a prize. Winners in the Spring Term (first prize £20, second prize £10): Vanessa Deeley, Miranda Courteen, Kinga Pascalides, C Smith, Maria Ford, Emma Morris, Fiona Muir, Lisa Collins, Jo Kelly, Helen Aust, Rachel Strongitharm, Natalie Rockett

CAMEL RACE NIGHT Friday 21st June At Debenham High school

Cheese ploughmans will be served at 7:00pm

First race starts at 7:30pm

It's a family event and suitable for all ages.

Tickets available on sale through gateway

Tickets are adult £5 - child £3

Or

£15 for 2 adults and up to 3 children

There will be a cash bar on the night and a raffle

Hosted by 

The Friends are currently aiming to raise £3000 to purchase some outdoor furniture and sporting equipment for students to use during social time in the school day. Since we finished our fencing of the school site and some more planting at the front of the school, we would like to make more of this currently under-used area of the school. We are considering outdoor items such as concrete table tennis tables, more social seating and perhaps even a basketball hoop.



TRACTOR DAY

22 JUNE 2019

A FUN FAMILY DAY OUT

LEYLANDS FARM, MIDDLEWOOD GREEN
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11am to 5pm

Tractor run at 10.00am
Tractor & trailer rides
Modern & vintage tractors
Have-a-go activities
BBQ with locally sourced meat
Other exciting refreshments
Just £5 per car entrance fee!

Fundraising for a 2021 educational expedition to Northern Tanzania with World Challenge

Support Isabella Porch in her World Challenge expedition and have a great day out.

Creative Careers

On 5 March students who study Film, Graphic Products or Textiles in Year 10 and 11 visited Harry Potter World with a specific purpose. We were given an insight into the creative process behind the making of the Harry Potter films. We saw the actual costumes which were used in the films and 3D models that were used to make the sets. After the lesson, we spent some time looking around the exhibits (and a little bit of shopping time). We all enjoyed the trip because it was interesting, but also inspiring, especially for those of us who have aspirations to work in the film industry. We all had a fantastic and informative time.

Eva Mills, 10E



Tanzania training

As training for the expedition element of their 2020 Tanzania World Challenge trip, Year 10 students, staff, parents and family pets walked the 8 miles around Alton Water. Fitness forms an important part of the build up and the teams have set themselves the target of the 19 mile Orwell walk later in the year as part of their training. Some look fresher than others than others at the end!



Battlefields of Ypres



On Friday 17 May, 49 Year 9 History students visited the Ypres Salient for a day focussed around The Western Front and Medicine. The students were able to visit the German trenches at Bayernwald to gain a better understanding of life in the trenches for both sides. Students followed the casualty evacuation chain back from Hill 60 to the Casualty Clearing Station at Lijsenhoek, which is now the second largest Commonwealth War Graves Commission cemetery in Belgium. The evening concluded with the Last Post ceremony at the Menin Gate before returning back to "blighty".

The trip was fantastic. It was a great insight into what happened in the Great War, and how different countries pay tribute to the sacrifice the men and women of their country made for the freedom we experience today. It was a very humbling because of the sheer number of people who had been killed, it really makes you feel lucky to be alive, as the amount of people who were not recovered from the battlefields was very surprising. The unknown soldiers whose families never got to know their loved ones final resting place, they only have the name. A name carved next to 51,999 others. It was amazing to see the way that these men are remembered. Every day they have the same ceremony, it is a way for us and others to celebrate every fallen soldier.

Fern Berry Year 9



In Flanders Fields



Duke of Edinburgh



The Duke of Edinburgh expedition season has got off to good start. The Silver Awards group went out in April, starting on a beautiful day walking along the Suffolk coast line. The temperature dropped on day two, finishing with a very wet day. However, the group kept their spirits high and completed with smiles on their faces! They have now experienced most weather, including hail, so let's hope the June assessed expedition can give the a more settled experience. The Bronze Award groups have made a good start on their award journey. Students completed their practice expedition with a stunning first day along the coast and through the Sandling area of Suffolk. All students are making good headway with the other sections, which includes volunteering, skill and physical, showing a good diversity of areas being learnt and experienced. The assessed expeditions will be in June, giving the students time to get all sections signed off for the end of the school year or early September. Well done all!



Sports



Year 8 Boys beat Alde Valley, but lost to Stradbroke, Thomas Mills and Bungay

A hattrick of goals from Toby helped the Year 7 Football team beat Thomas Mills 6-0. A great way to finish the season.



Under 15 boys, looking exhausted after beating Ormiston Denes to finish 5th in the County Handball Finals. Having won the Partnership Competition before Easter both the boys and girls teams made it through to the County Finals. The standard, as you would expect at county level, was very good and both teams had to raise their performance level considerably from the qualifying competitions. Both teams finished in a credible 5th position.

Year 7 Netball after beating Hartismere 19-3, supported by Alice (Year 10 coach) and a familiar face (former student, Bella Woodley, now studying A Levels) as umpire - let's hope there wasn't any Debenham bias in that officiating!



Football: County Champions



The Under 14 Boys Football Team played with heart and skill to win a nail-biting County Final, a repeat of last year's game against East Bergholt High School. In quite literally an end-to-end game the scoreline reflected a well-fought final. At full time the match was 4-4, with goals from Gruff Harries, Nico Valentine, Josh Stephens and Archie Simpson. It took another 20 minutes of extra time and another three goals to separate the teams, Josh Stephens claiming his hattrick. Every member of the team played their part, including two Year 8 students Lucas Britten and Alex Oakley. This result defines another wonderful season in which the team have shown character, dedication and skill.



Back left to right: Archie Simpson, George Dix , Charlie Smith, Gruff Harries, Mr Cook, Seth Carroll-Chambers, Josh Stephens, Ben Cook, Arthur Scott, Charlie Flatt
Front: Theo Jeans-Cunard, Archie Wright, Nico Valentine (Captain), Lucas Brittain, Alex Oakley

Sports round up

Year 10 Rounders after two close games: a win against Bungay 6-5 and a draw with Thomas Mills 11-11



Year 8 Girls Netball against Hartismere losing 6-0

Year 8 Girls in action



Under 13 girls and boys hockey teams competed in the HSSSP *In2Hockey* tournament at Hartismere.

Some fantastic progress made, well done Ollie and Jack on their debuts

Cricket: In the first of three group games in the County Competition, the Under 14 Boys Team hosted Hartismere. Having won the toss Debenham decided to field first and with a mix of some very good, but occasionally erratic bowling, Hartismere scored 96-8. This proved too much and Debenham's attacking batting style saw them bowled out for 64 in the 13th over. Let's hope for a better result next time.

'Oliver!' comes to Debenham

This summer (5th and 6th July) the Drama and Music Departments are pleased to be putting on Lionel Bart's iconic musical 'Oliver!' based on the characters created by Charles Dickens.

The cast, from Years 7 – 9, are currently busy in rehearsals to make sure this production will be unforgettable. Crow's Hall will provide the perfect setting for an evening of music and performance, both in the formal gardens and Elizabethan barn.

The evening will start at 6.00pm, so bring a picnic, enjoy the summer air, and let us entertain you!

In 'dramatic' news, congratulations to Jess Way who has been accepted as part of the National Youth Theatre. Former alumni include Dame Helen Mirren, Colin Firth, Orlando Bloom, Catherine Tate, Sir Ben Kingsley, Matt Lucas, Matt Smith and many more. Jess has been involved in many productions at High School, as well as beyond school and very much deserves this opportunity.

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