

# INTOUCH

ST. AIDAN'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL

NO.19 - JUNE 2022



Welcome to our latest edition of InTouch, our newsletter of good news stories. In this edition we celebrate many brilliant events and activities, including for those students who have worked exceptionally hard to complete milestones along the way - well done to all! We continue to be very pleased with a reinvigoration of trips and clubs within our community and this is having a very positive effect on the school. Memories are being made and relationships are being strengthened.

Well done especially to Year 11 and Year 13 students who have been able to celebrate in style, with their Prom and Ball, after completing their exams and looking forward to the next stage in their lives. We are very proud of you all.

## Year 9 trips

For the Year 9 residential this month, the students have been lucky enough to choose which trip they would like to go on. There was something for everyone; The Blue Peris Mountain Centre in Wales, Sightseeing in Edinburgh, Sightseeing in London, Music and Drama in London, a Football Tour or a Netball Tour. As always, we are so grateful to the staff that work hard to organise these trips and to the staff who take time away from their families to accompany the students. Fun times were had by all judging by these photos!



## Cookery Masterclass for Year 10

As a reward for all their hard work, Year 10 GCSE Food and Nutrition students were treated to a wonderful cookery masterclass with Consultant Chef Stephanie Moon. Steph and the students created pear and vanilla roulade with toasted hazelnuts and the results were fabulous! Well done Year 10 and thanks to Stephanie Moon for coming into school and inspiring the students!

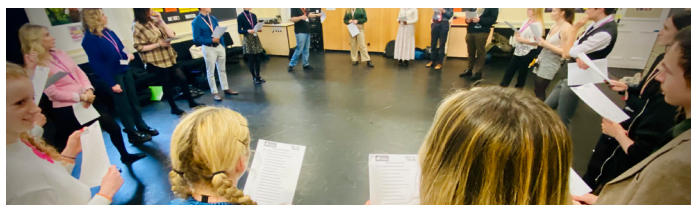


## Trainee Teachers graduate

As the lead school of the Yorkshire School Alliance, St Aidan's is delighted to congratulate our cohort of trainee teachers who have this month graduated with Qualified Teacher Status. It's fabulous news that 90% of this year's trainees have achieved teaching posts for September 2022. Well done - we are very proud of you all!



## Northern Broadsides Drama Workshop



On Wednesday 29 June, A Level Drama and Theatre students were lucky enough to have a workshop with the well-known, Halifax based, theatre company Northern Broadsides. The company have just finished their national tour of *As You Like It* with the run ending at Harrogate Theatre. *As You Like It* was the focus of the workshop and the students were thrilled to have the Creative Director Hallam Breen and the cast sharing their knowledge about the play. Mrs Bray's group were also going to see the play on stage which will no doubt be enhanced by this experience.

## Post-18 Options and Careers Conference

The Careers Department have been busy this month focussing on what is available to our students once they leave the sixth form. On June 9th, there was a talk in Main Hall for parents of Year 12 students; this included a speaker from Bangor University. The presentation is available on the school website in the careers area for those who were unable to attend. On June 13th, it was the Careers Conference which involved a packed programme of workshops in the morning and industry talks from 51 industry representatives in the afternoon. We hope Year 12 and their parents found both events useful in helping to make the right post-18 choices.

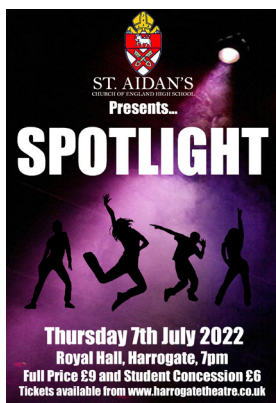
## Acclaimed Brodsky Quartet visit school



On Tuesday 28 June we were lucky enough to welcome the much-acclaimed Brodsky Quartet into school for a Masterclass with our students. They listened to and encouraged some of our string players, pianists and composers with many other young musicians watching and taking note of the wealth of musical experience provided by Kryssia, Ian, Paul and Jacky. Year 10 students Jack Brierley and Annabel Baxter composed some music for the quartet to play and both compositions sounded fantastic in the capable hands of the four musicians. In the evening the Brodsky Quartet launched Harrogate International Festivals' Summer Festival at the beautiful St Wilfred's Church. Our music department, along with two generous donations, were delighted to collaborate with Harrogate International Festivals to make this event possible.

## Oatlands Infants visit

This month, our Junior Band (with a few Year 11 students to lend a hand) played to an enthusiastic audience at Oatlands Infants School. With a selection of catchy tunes including the theme from *The Muppet Show* and *Star Wars*, the children clapped along and were thrilled to learn about all the different instruments our students were playing. The finale was the retro classic *YMCA* which, thanks to guidance from Mrs Elliott, the infants picked up in no time at all. We hope our students have inspired them to play music themselves.



## Exams are over!

For Years 11 and 13 it has been a rollercoaster of a couple of years with the pandemic causing many lessons to be taught remotely and periods where students have had to isolate due to contact with Covid. The GCSE and Sixth Form exam period was also intense, lasting six weeks in total. We want to congratulate all of our students for the way in which they have risen to the challenges and we are very proud of the way in which they have shown resilience at every stage.



## Party time for Years 11 and 13

Following the exams, it has been wonderful to see the Year 13s and Year 11s be able to come together as year groups and mark the end of an era with their separate celebratory occasions.

For Year 13, who weren't able to have a Year 11 prom due to the pandemic, it was an extra special occasion. Friday 24th June was the Leavers' Ball at The Pavillions in Harrogate. The Sixth Form leavers arrived dressed to the nines in great spirits and partied the night away.

For Year 11 it was the return of the Year 11 Prom at Constance Green Hall which was dressed beautifully by Mrs Rosser and her helpers. Year 11 arrived at front of main school in many spectacular forms of transport before heading for pizza and partying in Constance Green Hall. We thank all the staff for coming to both occasions to lend a hand and celebrate with the students. The photos speak for themselves. More can be seen on the sixth form and main school social media pages which can be found on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram.



## Senate and Congress Elections

This month the Associated Sixth Form held the annual elections for Senate at St Aidan's and Congress at St John Fisher. All year 12 students were welcome to apply and staff and fellow Year 12s voted for the fourteen positions. Out of the students elected, some chose to go for Senate Leader, so they were then interviewed by Mr Kidman and Mrs Orton to identify what they could bring to the role. This year we are delighted to announce the following students have been elected for the St. Aidan's Senate: Kareem Abdelsabour, Ambur Ashcroft, Reuben Bhogal, Romal Biju, Daniel Bryant, Ella Colbourn, Ben Green, Fin Hewson, Spencer Johnson, Ellie Kidd, Isabel Miles, Euan O'Connell, Toby Peyton and Ewan Reid. The Senate Leaders are Ella Colbourn, Ewan Reid and Ben Green. Congratulations to all our new Senate members.



## Year 12 Geography Field Trip

In Bridlington, we started off with doing a field sketch of the chalk cliff, taking different observations and annotating the sketches. We then learnt how to do beach profiles which involved giant poles called ranging poles and tape measures. We learnt a lot for our coursework, and to finish off the day after filling out some more tables, we all got to enjoy our food in the sun!

In Leeds we were given a walking tour by Leeds University professor Rachael Unsworth, who knows everything there is to know about Leeds and its regeneration. We walked all around Leeds, looking at areas such as Leeds Dock, Briggate and the Tetley building, learning lots of interesting things about its history and development. We then completed pages in our workbook with different surveys and questionnaires which will be useful to us in our coursework. We finished off the day with food in Trinity Kitchen, which we all enjoyed loads (including the teachers)!

## French Breakfast for Year 8



Madame Murray's Year 8 French lessons have been fun recently. To complement the module on meal times and what they eat for breakfast and dinner, Madame Murray ran a competition, the judging focussed on team work, presentation and French spoken "à table". Well done to the three winning teams pictured here!

## Planner Design Winners

Congratulations to India Gooden (Y7) and Georgina Villars (Y9) for winning the Planner Design competition for their year groups. We are very excited to see your work on the front of the KS3 and KS4 planners next year. Well done too to all the students that got Highly Commended. The results are all on display in reception as you can see here..



## Year 10 Sports Leaders help at local YCST primary schools



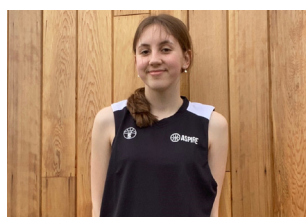
Year 10 sports leaders have been busy in action at local Yorkshire Causeway Schools Trust primary schools as part of their final assessment. They can be seen here at Richard Taylor Primary School in Bilton. They also stayed on to help at their whole school sports day on a very warm afternoon last Wednesday.

Richard Taylor School were not the only ones to benefit from the enthusiasm and support from our young leaders. They have also been supporting a number of primary school sports days including St Peter's, Oatlands Infants and Saltergate.

## Celebrating our students!



Well done to Sam Grass (Year 9) who has been selected to play cricket for North Yorkshire every year since Under 10s. He now plays in U14s. He is a medium to fast opening bowler and a top to middle order batsman. He also plays for the Nidderdale League team at U14s, his local club at U15s & U18s age groups and also a Senior Team.



Congratulations to Year 10 student Hattie Miles who has gained a place at Basketball England's All Star Event in Manchester this month. She will be one of only twelve players representing the North of England. The Aspire programme looks to develop potential England and GB Basketball players.

## Year 9 Footballers in National Win for the Harrogate and Craven District team



Harrogate and Craven School's U14s brought National silverware back home for the first time in history with a 2-1 victory over Swale Schools FA at Sixways Stadium in the English Schools Football Association Champions' Cup Plate final.

Harrogate & Craven manager Ryan Smith said: "What a momentous achievement for the boys. They have created something very special, and that is reflected by their performances on the pitch, and the relationship they have off it as a group."

Well done to the Year 9 boys who played: Tom Perry (GK), Sam Grass, Otis Baker, Ollie Holdsworth, Jack Warren, Aaron Brompton and Henry McQuade.

## Year 13 Football Success

Congratulations to two of our year 13 students who are making great strides with their football careers. Following on from the successes of Stan Mills at Everton and Harry Christy with a professional contract at Leeds United, George Horbury has been awarded a professional contract at Harrogate Town after successfully negotiating his work in sixth form and developing his skills in the academy. A special mention also to full back Charlie Peach who has been awarded a soccer scholarship to Baker University, Kansas in the US for four years. Well done lads and good luck!



## Athletics Round Up - Individual Achievements

Eve Whitaker (pictured below) is representing both England and GB u20 teams in this Summer's world mountain running cup and fell running championships. She helped the England team to a win in the first of these and is soon to race the second.

Ella McIntosh has been selected for the county team in the English Schools Championships, to throw hammer for the u15 and is currently ranked 10th in the UK.

Alex Huby broke the long-standing school 100m record for year 10, with an impressive 11.4s at the District Championships.

Aaron Brompton (pictured below) and Ella McIntosh both won 3 medals each at the N Yorkshire Championships - Aaron in 100m, 200m and Long Jump; Ella in hammer, discus and javelin.

Ella Colbourn is currently ranked 5th u20 in the UK over 800m and working hard to try and get into the GB juniors team.

Dr Bryant still hopes, injuries permitting, to go to the World Masters Championships in Finland to run the 3000m steeplechase for the GB 50+ team.



## Upcoming dates for your diary

- |              |  |         |  |
|--------------|--|---------|--|
| 7 July       | Spotlight at The Royal Hall            | 12 July | The Sports Awards Constance Green Hall |
| 9 July       | Family Fest to Launch the 3G Pitch     | 22 July | Last Day of Summer Term                |
| 12 & 13 July | Year 7, 8 & 9 visit The Yorkshire Show |         |  |



We hope you have enjoyed this edition of **INTOUCH**.

Thank you for your feedback so far; please do send any further comments or suggestions to Kate Caine ([k.caine@staidans.co.uk](mailto:k.caine@staidans.co.uk))