

What's in this issue?



L.E.A.R.N

Be the Best you can Be



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Headteacher's Welcome



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It's hard to believe we've reached the end of the first half term already. We have achieved much over the last eight weeks and, as always, our students have made us extremely proud. This half term we have welcomed the beginning of PROUD Thursdays; an opportunity for our students to bring work they are really proud of to the hall and showcase it. It's been wonderful seeing how proud our students are of themselves as they've joined us to celebrate their hard work and effort.

We've also seen record number of merit awards handed out to students for embodying our LEARN values: Leadership, Engagement, Ambition, Respect and No Excuses. We've even awarded our first bronze merit badge of the year to a well deserving learner who has already managed to accumulate 100 merits!

Attendance has also improved this half term with a greater number of students awarded for having 100% attendance in school. We are all aware of how important attendance is to student outcomes, successes and life opportunities as the table illustrates, poor attendance has huge ramifications and I'd therefore like to thank the many parents and carers who continue to support us in helping their children attend school as much as is possible.

I'm also delighted to report that, after a tough application process and with strong competition,

Attendance % 195 Days	Effect on GCSE Results in Grades
97 - 100 %	1.4
92 - 96.9 % (15 days - 7 days)	-0.7
90 - 91.9 % (19 days - 14 days)	-1.5
85 - 89.9 %	-1.9
80 - 84.9 %	-2.7
0 - 79.9%	-3.3

Amy and Kieran have been appointed our head students for the class of 2024. Both produced compelling applications and have impressed us already with their leadership skills across school since taking up their posts. Please join me in extending our congratulations to these two excellent candidates. In addition to this we have also now established our student leadership group. These are students from each form group that have been democratically voted by their peers to represent the voices of the students at Filey School. Congratulations to all those students who were successful in gaining their position on the student leadership team.

We also need to celebrate our students' successes out of school too. This half term brought the return of our much loved trip to Poland and the students who attended were an absolute credit to themselves, to Filey School and to our community. It's wonderful to see students once again able to travel and together build strong memories as they learn outside the classroom environment.

Once again, our students have overwhelmed us with their success stories from both in and out of school this half term. I hope you enjoy reading all about them in this autumn edition of our newsletter.

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We warmly welcome our new staff...



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Miss K Keys - Humanities



Miss K Keys
Teacher of Humanities

I graduated from University of York in 2020 (the first year of Covid) so it has definitely been an interesting start to my teaching career. I've taught at Malton School and at a school in Leeds, but I am really excited to now be based at Filey School. I am originally from Kirkbymoorside near Pickering but am currently living in Scarborough which I love.

Miss K Perry - English



Miss K Perry
Faculty Leader - English

My name is Miss Perry and I am the new Faculty Leader of English. I am very proud to be back where I am from and working with the community in which I grew up in. I love reading, my absolute favourite is the Lord of the Rings series. I look forward to continuing my career at Filey School and doing my best to support your children.

Mrs A Cutler - English



Mrs A Cutler
Teacher of English

I am no stranger to Filey School as I am returning to Filey having worked in the English department for eleven years previously. I am really looking forward to getting back in to the classroom and teaching our young people. I enjoy spending time with my family, reading and gardening outside of school.

*We warmly welcome
our new staff...*



L.E.A.R.N

Mrs C Foster - Art

Mr J Oakley - Head of Yr 9

Mr A Petch - Cover
Supervisor



Mrs C Foster
Teacher of Art and Food
Technology.

My name is Mrs Foster and I am the new Creative Arts Teacher at Filey School. I have a passion for art and anything creative. One of my favourite artists is Egon Schiele. I look forward to working with and getting to know your children.

Mr J Oakley
Head of Year Nine

I am Mr Oakley, Head of Year 9. I am an ex-student of Filey School and I am delighted to be back working here. I have worked in both primary schools and secondary schools before joining you all here at Filey School. I am passionate about education and love our Filey 'L.E.A.R.N'.

Mr A Petch
Cover Supervisor

Hello my name is Mr Petch and I am the cover supervisor here at Filey School. This means that if a teacher is off school I will cover your lesson rather than a supply teacher. I love football and have been a coach for many years. My favourite team is Sheffield Wednesday!

Meet our Student Leaders



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Kieran B - Year 11

I am proud to be Head Student because I want to represent and help make our school a better place. Also, I am proud to represent the other students and I am ready to start addressing their concerns to make school more enjoyable for them. Being Head Student is a huge accomplishment of mine as over my time here I have seen many changes and I want to make sure the school continues to improve for the new students and that they experience more stability and progress like we have seen in the past couple of years.

Amy C - Year 11

I am head girl at Filey School this academic year and it is such a lovely opportunity that I get to take on. I study core English, Maths and Science, as well as History, Child Development, Spanish and Performing Arts. I love being part of the school musicals and helping out at whole school events such as open evenings.

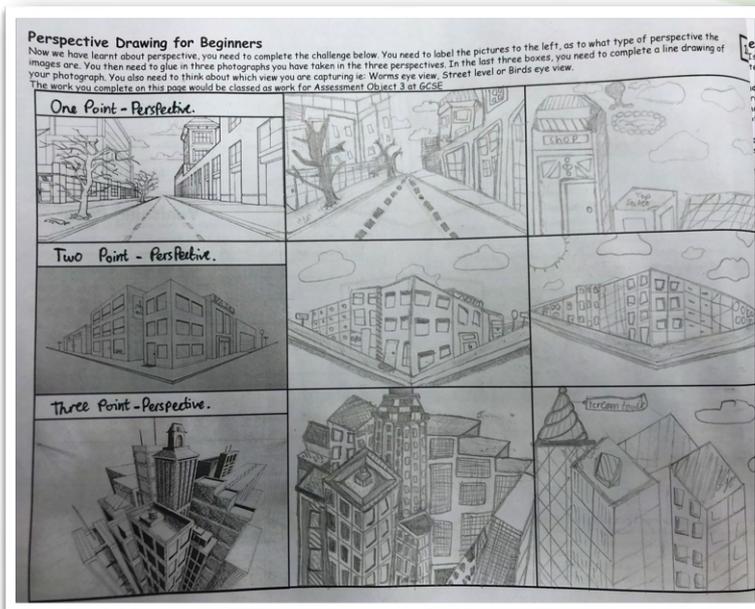


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Outstanding Work in Technology...



Be the Best you can Be



Year Seven Textiles Work

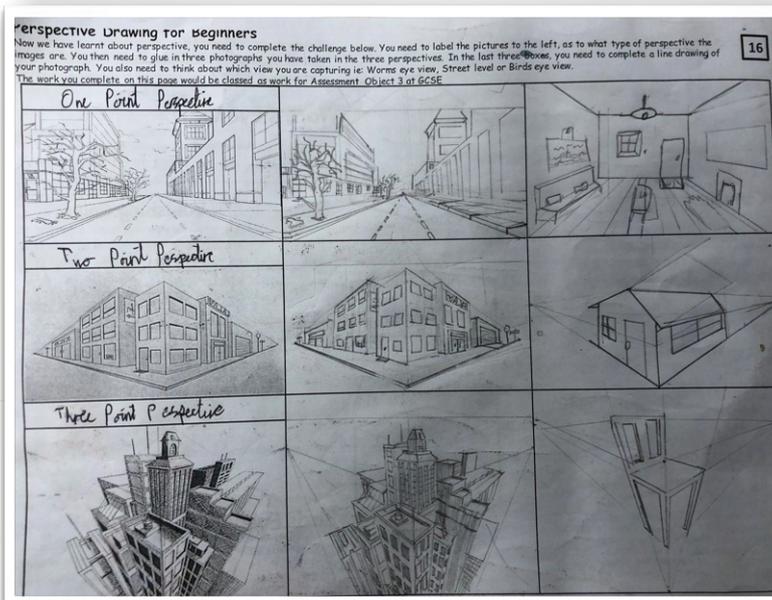
These two examples of work undertaken by two Year Seven students for homework, clearly shows the amazing talent we have at Filey School.

Perspective drawing is an exceptionally difficult skill to master at GCSE level, so the quality you see here really is something worth sharing. The accuracy and detail of the work is excellent.

Miss Moreno who is lucky enough to teach both these students believes these two examples to be some of the best perspective drawing she has ever seen from students of this age.

Picture Left
Thomas B
Year Seven

Picture Top
Fatima F
Year Seven



Youtube Sensation Zak Hull visits.



L.E.A.R.N



On Tuesday 10th October we welcomed Zak Hull back to our school. Zak was last with us in February 2023 and was so well received by our students that we invited him back to perform a selection of songs and deliver important messages to our new Year 7 students about mental health, online safety, and self-esteem. Students sang along then listened attentively while Zak spoke about his own experiences of dealing with bullying, before offering advice and pointing students in the direction of support both in and out of school if they find themselves in the same situation. Gracie F said, "Zak taught us about mental health and why we should always care about each other. Thanks Zak, for giving us the best day ever!"

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Celebrating Success! 'PROUD' Thursdays



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Be the Best you can Be

Some of the best moments of the term so far have happened during our regular 'PROUD Thursday' event. Students are encouraged to bring examples of their best work to the Main Hall and share it with members of the Senior Leadership Group and our newly appointed Student Leaders. The work is celebrated and rewards and seat treats are given out to those students work that truly represent the vision and values of Filey School and positively demonstrate our PROUD rules for work presentation.



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Celebrating Success!

Harriet W - Yr 7



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Being the Best you can Be

'When I received this mini classroom, the box said 14+ at the time I was only 10 so I decided to give it my best shot and just have a go.

When I opened the box, I was presented with lots of miniature materials that I assembled to create this school room. Such as: small squares/rectangles of material to create school bags, wires so the lamps/lights would light up and 6 or 7 pieces to create each of the mini tables and chairs, and small paper boxes and wooden squares to make wheelie bins, small countries shaped pieces of paper to stick on a globe and way more things! It was very fiddly and tricky to make, and I needed LOTS of patience so the way I found was easiest was to do a little bit at a time.

I built/made 98% of this mini classroom but I was assisted by two family members, my Mum and Grandad. Mum helped with cutting a few things out and Grandad helped with the lighting and electricity, so my classroom had lights (it also plays music).

I took me about a week on average to make this classroom, but I worked so hard trying to finish'



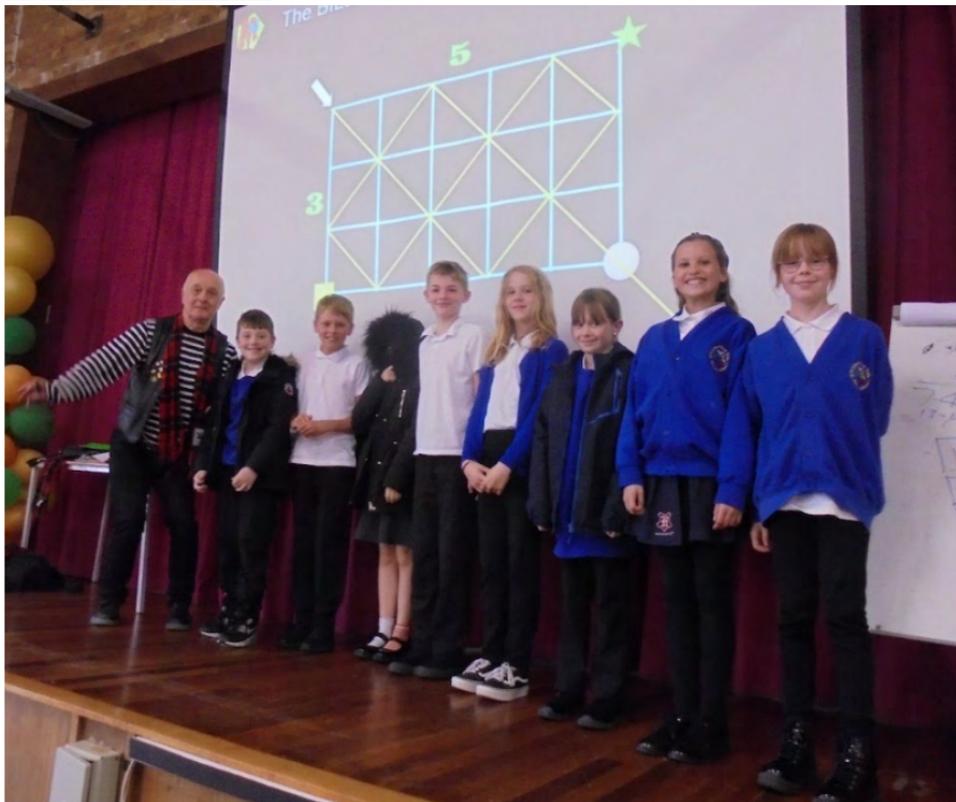
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Filey School - Community Centred



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It was fantastic that we were able to host a visit from renowned author Kjartan Poskitt along with students from Hertford Vale School. Kjartan is a local author who was born and schooled in York. He is most well known for writing the 'Murderous Maths' series of books for children. Our thanks go to the Maths Department for organising the visit and for being on hand to help the smooth running of the event. The visiting students had an absolutely great time!



An Afternoon with Kjartan Poskitt

We've had an excellent afternoon with Kjartan Poskitt! A huge thank you to Filey School for inviting us and hosting the event.

Eight of our lucky year sixes were randomly selected to have an afternoon with the famous author of Murderous Maths. They laughed from start to finish and learned lots of interesting facts about maths which went far beyond what we ever anticipated. They have learned many mathematical tricks and I know they'll be keen to show you. This experience not only enhanced their love of mathematics but also allowed them to process extremely difficult mathematical concepts like never before.

Kjartan Poskitt, it was a pleasure - thank you again from all at Hertford Vale.

Community Centred Students at Filey School



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Be the Best you can Be

I heard on BBC Radio York about the Make A Difference Awards. There were 9 different categories and I nominated Alan Banks in the volunteer category. It's like unsung hero award really because that is what Alan is.

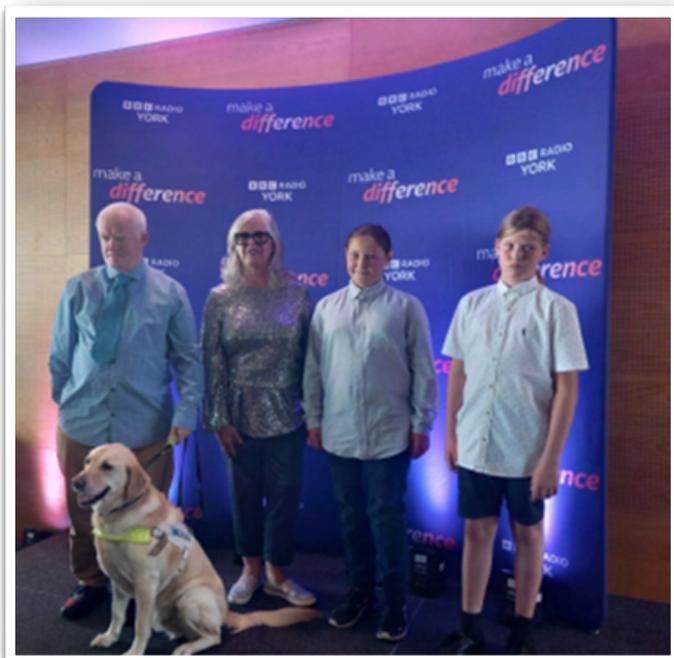
He set up the kid's footy club (or re-established kids footy in Filey) and Filey Holt have several teams with around 100 boys and girls now on their team sheets.

I thought Alan deserved the extra mention because he has been a kids coach for 34 years (at Holt) and has coached in total over 800 kids and all this despite being registered blind.

Also, as a side note he was always so inclusive, and has always been incredibly supportive of my son, with his ADHD. Many folks have and continue to write neurodiverse/ special needs kids off. Not Alan. He took them all into his team and under his wing.

The world needs more people like him.

J and N were invited. N had been with the team as had J since it started (under 12s as they are now). They helped Alan go on stage to collect his award and were both interviewed with Alan live on the radio.



British, European and World Record!!



We wanted to share the following news with you all, as the achievements of this young man - Jack D in Year 11 are absolutely phenomenal.

As a School we were unaware that Jack was involved in dead lift weightlifting until he burst in to school and informed Mr Bond about this truly amazing achievement.

Jack entered the 2023 BPO UK International Powerlifting Championships in Ystalyfera, Wales

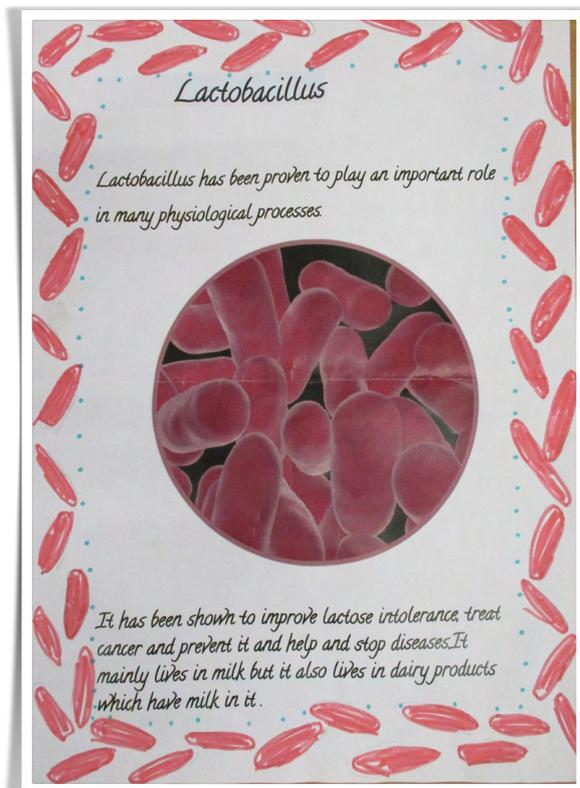
He won the Bilateral Powerlifting Championship breaking the **British, European, and World record** for the Deadlift, lifting 165kg. In addition to this he also beat the British record on Total lift.



Outstanding Work in KS3 Food and Art..



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The work displayed here further reinforces the fact that we really do have some extremely talented students at Filey School - both in terms of academic prowess and sporting / extra curricular strengths.

These three pieces were submitted by Mrs Foster - our Art and Food teacher (KS3). She wanted to celebrate this work with the rest of the school and the community beyond to further demonstrate the qualities and strengths of our students.

Well done to you all!

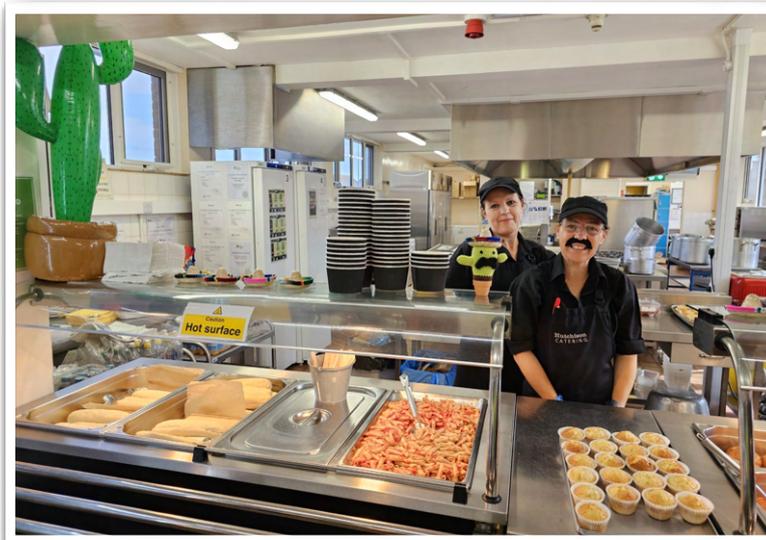
European Day of Languages



L.E.A.R.N

European Languages Day – 26th September 2023

We celebrated European Languages Day with different activities throughout the week. Lo pasamos muy bien (we had a great time). Staff dressed up in the colours of their chosen European Countries in addition to decorating their classrooms in the national colours. Lessons were themed around languages and all 'Sharp Starts' to every lesson during the day had a languages theme. There was also an opportunity for students to complete a quiz about the travels undertaken by our staff - a truly wonderful day!.



In assembly, we talked to the students about why learning languages is important. Some of the things we talked about were:

- Better job opportunities: over 70% of British employers say that they value language skills in their employees.
- Understanding the culture of the countries that you visit and being able to communicate with so many more people.
- Scientific studies which prove that bilingual people are better able to handle many more tasks at the same time.
- Travelling being easier (and cheaper) if you can use a different language.
- How learning a foreign language can give you a better understanding of your own language.

European Day of Languages



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When doing a 'find a member of staff who...' activity, students in years 7 and 8 discovered that....

- Miss Moulton represented the UK in the European Parliament when she was at school
- Mr Gunning was christened on the ship HMS Hermes in the Mediterranean
- Miss Sweeney adopted a dog in Mexico City
- Mrs Stubbs taught tap dancing in Gibraltar
- Mr Bond learnt how to play the didgeridoo in Australia
- Miss Francis lived in Dubai for 4 years
- Mr Allan adopted a cat in the Cayman Islands
- Mrs Baxter can perform in 7 different languages
- Mr Earnshaw has visited the most countries
- Miss Wescombe lived in the Bahamas, Jamaica & Malta

In addition to all these activities, the canteen put on an amazing 'World Menu' throughout the week, as well as all of the teachers displaying their country flag and the words 'Hello' and 'Good Bye' on their classroom doors in their language.

Teachers dressed up in the colours of the flag of their chosen country. Miss Adams wore the Danish flag and Miss Charters wore an Austrian dirndl (dress).



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Fantastic Opportunity Visit to Poland



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Between the 6th and 10th October 2023, a group of 20 Year 10 and 11 students had the fantastic opportunity to visit Krakow in Poland. For a good number of the students this was their first time on a plane and a first time overseas.

The students participated in a very thought provoking tour of the Auschwitz and Auschwitz Birkenau concentration camps as well as spending time enjoying the culture of Krakow.

Krakow was lovely and the students really enjoyed time in the main square shopping, socialising and visiting McDonald's (apparently it's better in Poland! Who



Fantastic Opportunity Visit to Poland



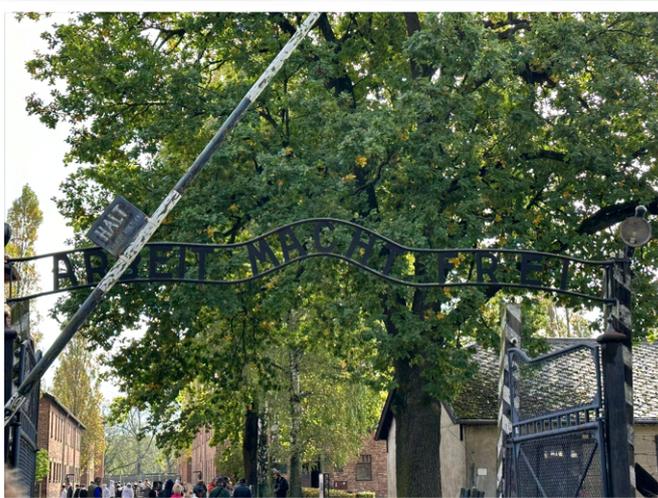
L.E.A.R.N



The people of Poland obviously suffered enormously during the Nazi regime. Auschwitz and Auschwitz Birkenau are just a short drive from the city of Krakow and our students took a guided tour around both camps to learn about this extremely dark period of European history.

The following day, the students had the extremely humbling experience of meeting Monika Goldwasser, a Holocaust survivor. She described her experience of the holocaust and explained how a non jewish family put their lives at risk by adopting her and moving hundreds of miles away from their family home.

It was a truly memorable trip for all involved.



Newby and Scalby Library Donations



L.E.A.R.N



Last term we received another wonderful donation of books from Newby and Scalby library. Students enjoyed sorting through them and choosing ones they were particularly interested in.

Lucas, Cameron and Asher were very excited to find a big book on the military history of WW2, and Dylan was interested in looking at a book called 'Yesterday's Britain,' which contains photos of how people lived, worked and played from the 1900s, until now.

Mia really enjoyed reading 'Inside Ferrari,' and Olivia was looking for her next murder mystery book to review!

Joe reserved a selection of fiction books which included 'Boneless Mercies,' 'S.T.A.G,' and 'The Monsters we deserve.' We shall look forward to hearing which one he likes best!

All of these and more now are available to borrow from the LRC!

Successful Students

Bella B - Year 7



L.E.A.R.N

Be the Best you can Be

It is always wonderful to celebrate our successful students particularly when they achieve something beyond the classroom and out in our local community and beyond. This is what Bella had to say about her experiences... 'I joined Sea Cadets because I really like the sea and I have made loads of friends that now go to Filey School with me in Year 7. I enjoy all the things we learn at Cadets and I also enjoy going in the sea on sailing boats in the summer. I have achieved lots of things such as learning how to sail, how to row and how to turn a circle on a power boat.'



Coventry University Year Eleven



L.E.A.R.N



Our year 11 sports studies students visited the Coventry University Scarborough Campus on Wednesday 18th October to explore post 18 options.

Students participated in a range of activities, including coaching and psychological based sporting sessions on the Flamingo Land Stadium Pitch led by CU Scarborough students.

Students then spent the afternoon in the Strength and Conditioning room, exploring factors which may impact the output of a fitness test result by completing a range of strength and power-based fitness tests and comparing results.

The students behaved fantastically and were complimented on their behaviour and engagement

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Scarborough 'STEM' Event - October 2023



L.E.A.R.N



Science
Technology
Engineering
Maths

On Wednesday 11th October Year 10 students visited the 14th annual Scarborough Science and Engineering Week at Scarborough Spa.

This is an employer-led 3-day exhibition designed to show young people how Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) are so important in the real world. Students got to grips with the hands-on activities delivered by local and leading businesses, universities, and training providers, to discover the wealth of exciting career opportunities available to them in Science, Technology, engineering and Mathematics.



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The IT and Computing Club



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About the IT & Computing club

The IT & Computing club allows students to explore topics in the IT & Computing sector. This could be learning how to program in JavaScript or Python. Students may want to learn how to animate using Blender or learn how to photo edit. The club gives students a space after school on a Thursday to explore these topics.

Programming on the Micro: bits

Students have been learning how to program on the Micro: bits in JavaScript. They have had a go at programming the Micro: bit LED lights to show a sequence of pictures, producing an animation.

They have been using the showLeds function which allows them to map what light is showing on the front of the Micro: bit

IT and Computing Club News

```
1 basic.showString("Hello!")
2 basic.showLeds(`
3   . # . # .
4   . . . . .
5   # . . . #
6   . # # # .
7 `)
8 basic.showLeds(`
9   . # . # .
10  . . . . .
11  . . . . .
12  # # # # #
13  . . . . .
14 `)
15
```

Samual R (Y7) animation

Each term we look at a key question which allow students to think about the problems/questions that are being asked today. Sometimes these questions can be real-world questions and we can work together to think about how we would solve these problems.

This term we are looking at AI and how AI could change jobs/careers. You may be aware of how AI has taken off with Chat GPT and Windows Co-Pilot as it has been featured in the news over the past year. While this advancement in computing is remarkable, it does make people think about how AI will be changing careers and jobs.

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What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

X

AGE RESTRICTION

13+

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

In October 2022, the enormously popular social media network Twitter was purchased by tech tycoon Elon Musk. That sparked a host of changes to the platform – not all which have been received positively by its fans. The alterations have continued with each passing month, many of them raising online safety concerns among the 530 million users of Twitter (now rebranded as simply X). With further adjustments reportedly in the pipeline, X has attracted more than its usual share of controversy and caution in recent times.

A BLOCK ON BLOCKING

X has announced plans to remove its blocking feature. Previously, this stopped other users from viewing your profile or sending you direct messages, while also hiding their posts from your feed. Only this latter function will now remain. The decision has been criticised by some members, who feel that blocking (in its current form) protects them from X users who 'promote denial and hatred'.

LIMITED REPORTING FEATURES

X offers a premium membership, with some functionality (such as controlling who can view and reply to your posts) increasingly being made exclusive to those who pay the subscription fee. Several commentators have speculated that X could one day become an exclusively paid-for service, with access to accounts being revoked for anyone unwilling or unable to take out a subscription.

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Many of X's less age-appropriate posts can feature anything from extreme political views to pornography. While accounts marked as 18+ are restricted from non-members, it's still fairly easy to stumble across this material accidentally. X's new 'For You' page also shows content from accounts that a user *doesn't* already follow – meaning that almost anything could end up on a child's feed.

VERIFICATION FOR SALE

Historically, Twitter's moderators granted account verification: certifying someone as authentic by placing a blue tick next to their username. One of X's earliest changes was to place verification behind a paywall; this caused the number of celebrity impersonators to rise and left no way to distinguish, say, a legitimate influencer from a copycat fake account seeking to exploit other users.

BLUE TICK SALE

Advice for Parents & Carers

PROTECT PRIVACY

Unsavory characters may try to gain access to a young person's X account – either to view their posts and gather information on them, or to completely take control of it. To minimise risk, ensure the account has a strong password and enable the 'Protect Your Posts' feature (via the account settings), so that strangers can't view your child's posts without first being approved as a follower.

DON'T RISE TO THE BAIT

To gain more views and followers, some X users post deliberately inflammatory comments on sensitive topics such as race, sexual orientation and gender issues. Many young people could find this upsetting. Emphasise that, if your child encounters someone spreading hate on X, it's best not to give that person what they want: an argument. Ignore them, mute their account and move on.

STAY ALERT FOR IMPOSTERS

Make sure your child understands that X's blue ticks no longer guarantee the identity of anyone on the platform. While it might be exciting if a celebrity liked your child's post, it could just as easily be an imposter with malicious intentions. If your child's not 100% sure that an X user actually is who they claim to be, advise them to err on the side of caution and avoid interacting with that account.

ONLY FOLLOW TRUSTED ACCOUNTS

Using the 'Following' tab on X helps to ensure that the only content your child sees has come from accounts they've chosen to follow: this should reduce the chance of them inadvertently being exposed to harmful, violent or explicit content. Show your child how to report another user's account if, say, they're behaving inappropriately by spreading misinformation or offensive opinions.

BE READY TO TAKE ACTION

If your child suffers harassment on the platform or becomes the target of a hack, you could consider deactivating their account entirely. Recently, X's safety features have been criticised for allegedly failing to protect users' wellbeing – so if your child is being subjected to abusive messages or similar mistreatment on the platform, it might be prudent to remove them from X altogether.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is Editor in Chief of gaming and esports site GGRecon and has worked in the gaming media for around four years. Always eager to test out the latest apps, games and online trends, he's also a parent who understands the importance of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his articles have been published on influential sites including IGN and TechRadar.



National Online Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday