



DISS HIGH SCHOOL

HALF TERM NEWSLETTER - FEBRUARY 2023

"One word frees us of all the weight and pain of life: That word is love." — Sophocles

Whether or not you will celebrate Valentine's Day next week, we do hope there will be some rest and relaxation!

A Streetcar Named Desire at the Almeida Theatre in London

On 1st February, 50 students from years 11, 12 and 13 were lucky enough to see a production of *A Streetcar Named Desire* at the Almeida Theatre in London. The play is a set text at A Level for English and gave the students a chance to see stars Paul Mescal, Patsy Ferran and Anjana Vasan play the lead roles of Stanley, Blanche and Stella.

It's safe to say that both staff and students were wowed by the performance! The run has proved so successful that the production has now moved onto the West End stage for a further six weeks.

The atmosphere was electrifying and students were inspired and awed by the story, the staging and the acting talent. They even got to meet Paul Mescal at the end of the show and have photos taken with him. A fantastic experience all round!



Mrs Bond, Miss Bishop, Miss Read, Miss Oliver and Mr Hurley

The Navy visits the Hospitality and Catering Department

On Tuesday 10th January, two men who were chefs from the royal navy came and visited us to tell us about what kind of job opportunities there are in the navy, how to get in and what would be included. This was interesting to know because now I know what I could be getting myself into if I did enlist.

Not only did they tell us about the navy, but they also put us into 4 groups randomly, so we could build team skills with people we may be unfamiliar with to cook up a main and a dessert. We had just under 2 hours to make chicken risotto and sticky toffee pudding. In my group we spilt it so there were 3 people making the risotto and the other 2 producing the sticky toffee pudding. This was very fun to do and the navy were happy to give us ideas on what could be done for dessert and were just a helping hand overall.

After we had made our dishes, we were told to present them so the navy could judge and pick the team they thought was the best. I really enjoyed this experience and would definitely do it again.

Sarah Milkinta Year 10



GCSE fieldtrip to Norwich



Over 80 Year 10 Geographers visited Norwich over two chilly days, to investigate how successful attempts have been to improve the quality of life in inner-city Norwich, as part of their topic on urban environments. Students visited three sites – Riverside, King Street and Westlegate collecting data on environmental quality, noise and footfall. They also interviewed members of the public in the city centre to find out their opinions on

quality of life in the city and how it could be improved. The students were well behaved and polite and demonstrated good geographical knowledge. A great trip was had by all, and many finished the day with a visit to McDonalds and Primark

Library News

This half term had been very industrious in the library. My brilliant team of library assistants have been helping me to give the library shelves a thorough tidy and to sort through old books ready for an exciting rejuvenation of library stock during the half term holiday! I am really looking forward to sharing lots of lovely new books with the students. Watch this space for more news on this!



The library has become really popular during lunch times it has been wonderful to see so many children enjoying the space. At the end of last term I launched Whispering Wednesdays. On Wednesday lunch time the library is a dedicated silent space for those who like a bit of peace and quiet to study, read and do gentle activities such as colouring. Our comfy sofa is reserved for those wishing to read. Whispering Wednesdays have been a real success and are helping to promote the library as a calm place to be.

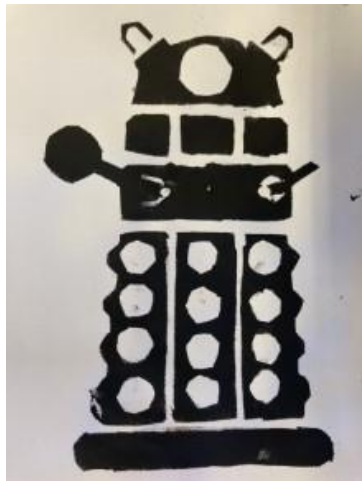
Mrs Goddard

Allotment update

This term has been getting the allotment ready for spring planting. The soft fruit beds have now been covered with mesh to protect them when they've been planted up from birds and muntjac and the greenhouse is getting a thorough wash from top to bottom.

It has caused great excitement that, whilst undertaking bramble clearance around the greenhouse, the foundations of old raised beds have been discovered in a previously unused area of the allotment. Our hope for next term is to try and restore them, increasing our outside planting area.





Year 8 Additional Studies

This half term the Year 8 Additional Studies group have been busy exploring t-shirt design. They have explored a range of tie-dye techniques as well as designing stencils to create surface prints. They have been highly creative and worked extremely hard producing great results.



Sixth Form Band Night

This week, the Sixth Form organised a band night to showcase the exciting creative talents of our musicians. Various artists played a selection of their own compositions and an array of eclectic cover versions to lively audience in the school hall. It was an excellent evening. Special thanks to Benji Filmer for organising the event,



Jack Jenner-Hall for running the lights, and a returning Michael Kearney for ensuring there was plenty of oomph to the sound. We are looking forward to the next band night in the Summer term.

TERM DATES remainder of academic year

Spring ends: 31st March 2023

Summer: 18th April 2023 to 21st July 2023

Half-term: 29th May – 2nd June 2023

TERM DATES for pupils 2023-24

Autumn term

- Wednesday 6 September - Friday 20 October 2023
- *Half-term holiday: Monday 23 - Friday 27 October 2023*
- Monday 30 October - Wednesday 20 December 2023
- *Christmas holiday: Thursday 21 December - Wednesday 3 January 2024*

Spring term

- Thursday 4 January - Friday 16 February 2024
- *Half-term holiday: Monday 19 - Friday 23 February 2024*
- Monday 26 February - Wednesday 27 March 2024
- *Easter holiday: Thursday 28 March - Friday 12 April 2024*

Summer term

- Monday 15 April - Friday 24 May 2024 (Monday 6 May is a Bank Holiday)
- *Half-term holiday: Monday 27 - Friday 31 May 2024*
- Monday 3 June - Friday 19 July 2024

We wish you a pleasant half term break.

Dr J Hunt - Headteacher