



DISS HIGH SCHOOL

HALF TERM NEWSLETTER - MAY 2023

'Nothing is impossible. The word itself says "I'm possible" (Audrey Hepburn).

We are now well and truly into the examination season and we wish each and every student the very best. This half term has been a busy one for all year groups as the snapshots below show.

A-level fieldtrips

Y12 Geographers spent two days in the field conducting fieldwork as part of their A-level course.

The first day was spent at Winterton-on-Sea profiling the dune system from the foredunes (most recently formed) to the climatic climax community (established dunes at the back). This involved measuring changes in gradient and amount and diversity of vegetation. They also got to see first-hand the impacts of rapid rates of erosion along our coastline as well as sampling some fish and chips!

On day two students visited Stratford, London to investigate how the perceptions of residents vary across the town. The investigation was carried out in both the regenerated areas (Olympic Park and former Athletes Village) as well as older more established parts such as the original Stratford Shopping Centre speaking to locals about their experiences. A great day was had by everyone, and it finished with a trip to the Westfield Centre!



Y7 Readathon

The English Department and Miss Goddard would like to congratulate Year 7 on raising £278 in their Readathon for Read For Good: a charity that brings the power of stories to children in hospital via their mobile bookcases and resident storytellers. The pupils who raised the most will be announced soon and awarded their prizes accordingly. The money raised also means DHS Library receives £55 to spend on new books for everyone to enjoy – well done Year 7!

SPORTING AND PE NEWS



County Plate Runners-Up

Sadly it was not to be for our Year 7 boys this year. It was a closely contested final against a St Clements side who were strong and well organised in defence. Despite having two good periods in the game the final score was 1-1 thanks to a good goal from Lewis Wills provided by Cley Gipson. Despite several chances in extra time the game went to the dreaded penalty shoot-out where St Clements managed to hold their nerve and secure a deserved 5-4 win.

SUPPORTING YEAR 2 and 3 TRI GOLF EVENT

Our Year 10's stepped in last minute to support the Year 2 and 3 Tri-Golf event at Bungay golf club. With relatively little golfing and leadership experience some were initially a little apprehensive. However they quickly settled to the task and performed superbly during a long 7 hour day.

They were hugely supportive and encouraging of all the pupils. Staff from the other schools were quick to compliment them on their enthusiasm, care and inclusion of all involved. They were a HUGE credit to the school and Mr Kemp could not be prouder.



SCHOOL ALLOTMENT

With the fine weather the allotment group has been busy planting all the plants sown in the greenhouse earlier in this year. We have a huge variety that should produce a great harvest later on for the pupils to sample.

One of the groups that uses the allotment took advantage of all the growth we have been having to harvest some rhubarb and make some delicious rhubarb crumble.

Our volunteer numbers have increased this term thanks to some dedicated year 9s and 10s who are volunteering as part of their Duke of Edinburgh award. Working alongside one of our supportive site staff they have been learning bricklaying skills to build some new raised beds for our potatoes and raspberry bushes.

10 & 11 ASDAN UEA trip

The Year 10 and Year 11 had a very successful trip to the UEA on Tuesday 5th May. We started the day with a visit to the Sainsbury Centre. There was an exhibition displaying work from the indigenous people of North America, which featured a stunning woodcarving made from a single piece of wood, this captured the students interest trying to work out how the Art Gallery managed to install the item. In addition, a carved light box threw out patterns on the wall that everyone enjoyed. We walked through the UEA campus possibly taking the longest route to make the most of the concrete on show. Much more artwork was admired, including the sculpture on the roof, very close to the edge, which did make us jump!

After lunch, the students had instruction on how to climb the Indoor Climbing wall, complete with ropes and harnesses. There was a lot of healthy competition between the students, with one or two surprising results! It was a pleasure to see even the least confident students embracing the challenge and having a go.

Mrs Palmer, Mrs Halil & Mrs Goddard



How's your geocaching??



Geocaching is a type of global treasure hunt of people looking for caches, or hidden stashes of objects. Geocaching may also be described as a series of hide-and-seek games, where hidiers provide online clues for seekers. Seekers use global positioning system (GPS) devices to find hidden caches. The Asdan group had a fabulous time – and so did the staff!

Sixth Former Emma Lidzey wins a Taylor & Hammond Educational Foundation Travel Scholarship

After sitting her A level exams, Emma will be travelling to Barcelona and will be undertaking a TEFL course there in July. She will use her qualification to spend the remainder of the year teaching English in the city. Of course, she is also determined to use the opportunity to immerse herself in the culture and society of her host nation. She hopes that this will be helpful to her when she undertakes a degree course in Social Anthropology at the LSE from September 2024.



READY.....STEADY.....COOK !

This term the Year 10 students have been putting their preparation and cooking skills together to create complete dishes. In one lesson, they worked as a team with a tray of ingredients to produce a two course meal, Ready Steady Cook style.

We have had some excellent results, and I look forward to seeing the skills in their practical mock exam after half term.



Corn Hall gig

Musicians in Years 9, 12 and 13 performed as support acts at Diss Corn Hall earlier this month. They played a variety of original music and covers, and worked with the Corn Hall's professional sound and lighting technicians to prepare for the event. Congratulations to all the performers for a fantastic night of live music.



Year 7, 8 and 9 students exhibit their artwork at Diss Corn Hall

Diss High School students have been given the opportunity to exhibit their work at Diss Corn Hall from 12 May-24 June alongside the illustrator, cartoonist and writer Gemma Correll.

Artwork from students' in Year 7, 8 and 9 is currently being exhibited in the upstairs gallery space and cafe.

Please pop along and have a look; as you can see students have produced some really excellent pieces of work.

Mrs. D. Marshall



COMPETITION TIME!

Design a safeguarding poster! Two £50 amazon vouchers to be won!

Poster must include one or more of the topics below:

- **Child on Child abuse** (where a child or group of children physically, emotionally or sexually harm another child)
- **Online safety** (Staying safe online, age restrictions, grooming, social media, privacy settings)
- **Sexting** (sending or receiving sexually explicit photographs, videos or messages)
- **Mental health** (issues like anxiety, feeling low)
- **Sexual harassment** (e.g. sexual comments, sexual gestures, sexual jokes, sexual acts without consent)
- **Or any other safeguarding issue!**

Poster must state what the issue is, who can help, strategies to help and where you can get support!

If you are unsure about this look at the board outside Miss O'Neill's office for some ideas.

Your poster can be a piece of art work or you can design it on a computer!

The winning 2 posters will be put up around school!

All entries to Miss O'Neill by Monday the 12th of June!!!!

We say goodbye to Mrs Girling at half term and thank her for all her hard work in PE and kindness. We are sure she will be a success in her new post. After half term, we welcome back Mrs Jeffers from her maternity leave.

Dates for the Diary

SUMMER TERM ENDS 21st July 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