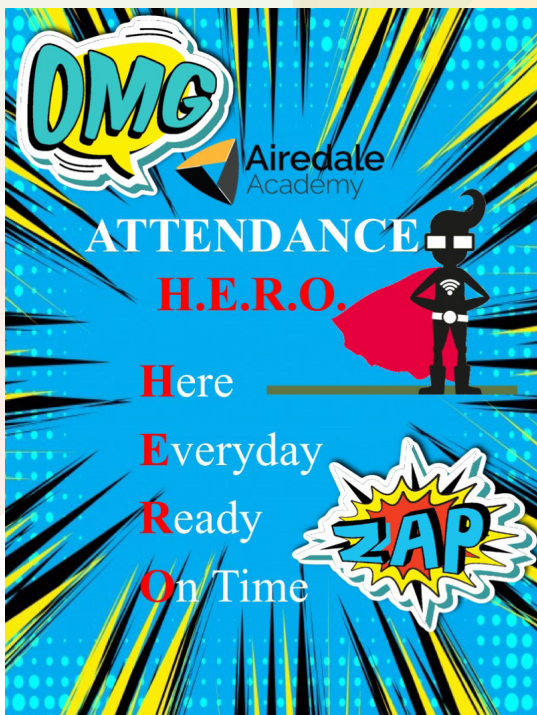


Dear Parents and Carers

As we come to the end of another academic year, I would like to update you all on the summer term events and inform you of events and key dates for the start of the new school year. The summer term is always a very busy one and this one was no exception! As always, I ask that you take some time to read about the fantastic things that have taken place over the course of the term and all about some of our upcoming autumn events. There are also important dates for your diary at the end of the newsletter.

Attendance Matters!

Although improving, this remains a key priority for the Academy. I would like to congratulate all students with improved attendance as well as those at 100% and those students who are punctual every day. Thank you for your continued support with this and please remember – attendance at school is vital to your child's success, academic and other.



Your opinion matters!

We would really appreciate it if you could take the time to follow the link to give your views about the academy. We really do care about parent/carer opinions and take them all very seriously. www.parentview.ofsted.gov.uk



Pack your 3 Ps!

In September, we will be having a big push on being here and ready to learn. Having the correct equipment is a huge part of this. All students will be expected to have the '3Ps' (*planner, pen, pencil*) every day and their planners will be checked to record this.

Please ensure your child comes to school every day with the correct equipment, and a bag to carry their belongings in. We will continue to run a school shop for emergency stationery purchases, before school and at break time each day, to support with lost items. This will be located in Cool Off reception and will be reasonably priced!

Happy Retirement Mr Leake!

After having dedicated 36 years to Airedale Academy (High School as was!), we will be waving Mr Leake off and wishing him many happy, healthy years of retirement as we finish for the summer break. I am sure that you join the staff, students and governors in thanking him for his commitment to and passion for the thousands of young people who have attended the school over the years he has been here. Mr Leake, we will miss you!

Inspirational Staff!

Congratulations to Ms Evans, Mr S Wharin and Mrs K Ball on being nominated by Sheffield Hallam University for an Inspirational Mentor Award for 2017/18. Following this nomination, their names will now go forward for selection for an overall Inspirational Mentor for 2018, which will be presented at the University's annual mentor conference. We are keeping our fingers crossed!

Events this term

Transition Programme 2018

Transition into Year 7 has been as busy as ever with Induction, taster days and the family lunches. Our packed transition programme ensures Year 6 students are excited about joining us and this year we have again attracted high numbers of pupils from both within and outside our catchment area. If you have a younger child joining us in September, thank you for choosing Airedale Academy.

Airedale Annual Sports day!

On Friday the 6th of July we held our annual whole school Sports Day! There was a record number of students involved in a range of activities including Tag Rugby, Rounders, Baseball, Tug of War and Team Relay Races. This was all followed by a Fun Run to raise funds for the School Activity Day. Students thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon's sporting activities, as well as fully embracing the Fun Run atmosphere by dressing up in fancy dress outfits ranging from Storm Troopers to Cowboys. The winners of Sports Day will be announced shortly!



Goodbye Year 11!

On the 27th June, the Year 11 students attended their long awaited Prom at Kings Croft, Pontefract. It was a lovely summers evening where all the Airedale staff and parents gathered excitedly for the arrival of Year 11s and we were not disappointed. Students arrived in style! Some arrived in old fashioned cars, limousines, new sports cars, horse drawn carriages and even riding their own horse. The students looked magnificent in their glamorous dresses and their cool suits and the staff couldn't have been prouder. The evening was filled with laughter, smiles, dancing, presentations, awards, videos and even a brilliant magician (Oliver Parker). The Prom Queen went to the beautiful Corrie Churm and the Prom King went to the fabulous Brighton Mhiza. Thank you to all the staff, students and parents who came and made this years prom 'the best one yet'. Thank you to the class of 2018, I can't wait to see you all on results day (23rd August).



Rugby Successes

Recently the Year 7 rugby team played a match against the current Year seven All Star's team, a team made up of all the best players from the Wakefield, Pontefract and Castleford area. Our Academy team won the match with a very narrow margin of 1 point, the score finishing at 17 -16 to Airedale. This is a huge accomplishment for the team as we are the only team to have a victory against them. Well done boys!



New Football Kit Sponsors

We would like to say a huge thank you to Allotts Chartered Accountants for kindly sponsoring our new Y7 Football team kit. Don't they look smart!?



Literacy Week 2018

As part of our Literacy Week, students have been spending some of their lessons in our new Reading Room. This room has been designed by the English department as a relaxing space for students to enjoy reading the books that they want to read. Reading Club takes place in the Reading Room after school every Tuesday.

As part of the Literacy week, our Reading Patron, Steve Way, led a Skype chat with some of our keen readers. Students were given a sneak preview of Steve's latest novel and they even offered him their best advice.

Students were also given the opportunity to take part in our very first DEAR (Drop Everything and Read) session. This was a whole-school event which gave our students and staff the chance to take some time out and enjoy reading for pleasure. We are looking forward to more DEAR time very soon!

Reading Superstars

Over the course of the year, the following students have made significant improvements to their Reading Age scores:

- Karolina Dziobkowska (+2 years)
- Ebony-Jo Firth (+2.08 years)
- Katherine Fish (+2.08 years)
- Trenyce Davis (+2.11 years)
- Kara O'Brien (+3.02 years)

Well Done!



Ghana comes to Airedale!

At the end of June, as part of the British Council's Connecting Classrooms project (which connects British schools with schools across the globe) we welcomed Eric Opoku Mensah into the academy for the day. Eric teaches computing at Asamang D/A Primary and Junior High School in Ghana.

During the day, Eric took part in many lessons and got to meet many of our students. He was amazed by our facilities and by the size of our classrooms, as the classrooms in his school are much smaller and contain just wooden desks, chairs and a chalkboard. Even though Eric teaches IT, the school only has 4 computers for 500 students, and one of those laptops was kindly donated by staff from Airedale Junior School.

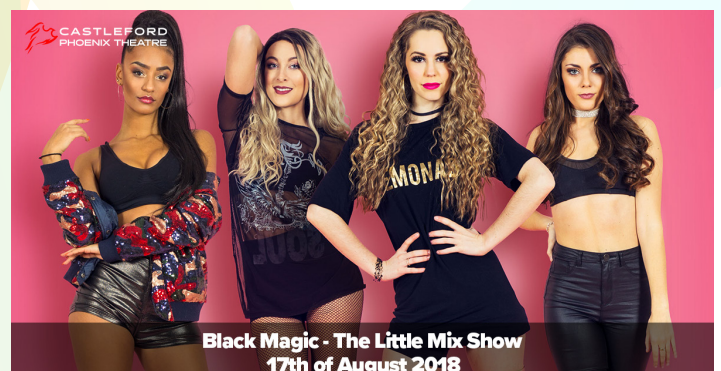
Eric particularly enjoyed taking part in a Food Technology lesson, in which our students made Eric a British banquet of regional dishes for him to try. His favourite was Toad in the Hole! He also delivered an African drumming masterclass to some of our talented musicians.

The Modern Languages department also had the pleasure of meeting Eric on this day. He kindly came to our classes and shared with us, information about his country and culture. It was an amazing experience for us all. Our students asked so many questions of Eric and he taught us our names in Twi, his language. We were proud to give him some of our own Pontefract Haribo Minion sweets to take away with him. *Merci Eric pour tous et bonne chance a l'avenir.*

Eric also gave the academy a gift, which is now proudly on display in our Visitor Reception area. It is a wooden sculpture, which was hand-crafted in the school where he works. Make sure that you take a look, the next time that you come to visit us!

We are hoping to maintain links with Eric's school and two of our staff are hoping to gain British Council funding, to enable them to go out to Ghana during February half term.

Finally, we would like to thank Mrs Barnes at Airedale Junior School for enabling our academy to benefit from the Ghanaian links that she has built up over the past few years.



13-HOUR 26 MILE THREE PEAKS TREK RAISES £2,100 FOR CANCER RESEARCH!

At 3.30 am on a cold Saturday morning, 13 students from Y11 departed for the Hill Inn at Chapel-le-Dale. After a quick pitstop in Hawes, we arrived at just after 6.10am. We met our expert guide, Heather, who gave us a rundown of the day and all the safety aspects of the route. One last kit check was done and then we were off!

The first part of the challenge was to ascend the 2372 ft fell of Ingleborough, starting at the Hill Inn at Chapel-le-Dale. The ascent took us firstly up some steep flagstones and along the very impressive pot holes. This part of the walk has been described in some guides as a 'steep and tedious climb' and the guides were not wrong! The path then took us what seemed like a vertical route upwards towards the top of the fell and required some scrambling to get over the rocks. After a quick break, we finished the last part of the climb to reach the summit's trig point at 8.08 am. There were some fantastic views at the summit as clouds rolled in over the part of the fell that we had just climbed. Sadly, we couldn't admire the view for long as we began one of the longest parts of the journey – the arduous walk between the summit of Ingleborough and the village of Horton-in-Ribblesdale to start Pen-y-ghent. The descent into the fog was amazing, but at about 9.00am the fog lifted and the view of Pen-y-ghent appeared on the horizon – we knew we had a lot of walking still to do! We reached the 2-mile signpost at 9.30 and the 1-mile signpost for 9.53 am. Mr Leake had parked the minibus in Horton and joined us for the final mile as we kept up the pace to reach the train station for 10.17am. Steven couldn't let the opportunity pass to have his photo with the train station sign bearing his name.

At 10.24 am, we had reached the first checkpoint - the car park in Horton-in-Ribblesdale to see the start of the Yorkshire Three Peaks Challenge race, with over 1,000 participants. Mrs Fairhurst had arrived and got to work serving drinks of tea and coffee, whilst Mr Leake warmed up the compeed

for blistered feet.

By 10.43 am, we were on the road again and set off to conquer the next fell on our challenge: the 2,277 ft summit of Pen-y-ghent. The first part of the walk is a gentle stroll through Horton and then into the wooded area alongside a school. After taking a gentle walk along the stone-walled road, everything changed when we reached the farmer's field – everything beyond this point was uphill! The pace was ferocious and in terms of the hill-climbing, most of us agreed that it was the most difficult part, as although it appeared to be a steady climb, you could walk quite quickly, which tired us all out. It just didn't seem to end and the summit didn't seem to get any closer! Then, just as you didn't think it could get any worse, the nice grassed route turned into large flagstone steps again and they were a killer to get up! Finally, we reached the gate in which we needed to turn left, marking the start of the scramble part of the climb to reach the summit. Like Ingleborough, it was easy to make up a lot of altitude at this point and was the best part of this fell's ascent. Very quickly we reached the top to complete this part of the walk at 12.27 pm. Mr Leake had joined us on the first part of the ascent and returned to the minibus halfway up to meet us at the next stop. Spirits were high as we began the descent from Pen-y-ghent to Whernside. This involved the longest part of the walk – an 8-mile trek across the countryside. From the top of Pen-y-ghent, Whernside appeared as just a small mound in the distance. After 2 hours, it didn't really appear to be any closer! This was now a case of mind over matter as we all started to flag and had to dig deep to keep going. The sight of the main road, leading to the viaduct, was a welcoming sight. Both Mr Leake and Mrs Fairhurst were ready for us at the second pitstop, which could easily have rivalled an F1 pitstop with the speed that we had to get a drink, off-load rubbish and re-load food and headtorches for the final walk. We had arrived at this checkpoint slightly behind time at 3.35pm, so we needed to push our hardest when we were at our weariest.

By 3.54pm, we already alongside the viaduct and Mr Leake waved the remaining walkers off for the

last time as they set off to scale the tallest fell of the challenge: Wherside. Coming in at 2,415 ft, it also the highest point in the ceremonial country of North Yorkshire. The first part of the trek took us parallel to the fell, before we started a slow ascent up, turning left until we joined the fell to begin walking along the top in a south-westerly direction. By 6.11pm we had reached the summit of Wherside and were absolutely elated to have done so. The end was so very nearly in sight – we could even see the minibus at the top of the summit – and we gave Mr Leake a call to see if he could spot us! It was very cold and windy at the summit, so after a quick break to re-charge, we began the steepest descent of the challenge, which took us less than an hour to complete. After this, we had a simple walk through Philpin farm, which ordinarily would have been a breeze to complete, but we were battered and bruised and took our time, finishing the entire challenge in about 13 hours.

The students were an absolute credit to the academy and showed extreme resilience when it would have been all too easy to have given in – every single one of them ploughed on and battled through injuries, only stopping when Heather deemed it too dangerous for them to continue. Thank you to all the staff and students who took part and for all the extremely generous donations – they've raised over £2,400 so far, with donations still coming in - fantastic! If you wish to donate, you can still do so at: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/airedaleytpc>



TIM HENMAN'S UNSUNG HEROES AWARD!

We always knew our students were heroes, but we had it confirmed by Tim Henman on Friday 8 June, when our very own Mackenzie Millington collected her award for being one of Wakefield's 'Unsung Heroes'. Mackenzie collected the award on behalf on her Y11 peers for their charity walk up the Three Peaks in April, raising over £2,400 for Cancer Research.

The evening was fantastic, starting with a drink's reception at Unity Hall and was followed by a 3-course meal. The Y11s who attended looked incredibly smart and dapper. After the delicious meal, the nominees were introduced by the instantly recognisable Kate Hardcastle MBE (who received her MBE at the end of the night!). The nominees' 2-minute videos were played and all had awe-inspiring backgrounds. Following this, Tim Henman, via a video-link, announced the winners, of which Mackenzie was one of them! Ever the modest type, she mentioned in the video that it was a team effort. Along with the trophy and certificate, Mackenzie also received a cheque in recognition for her remarkable commitment and talent, which she instantly donated to school to make sure everyone who took part in the challenge can take part in a congratulatory meal, which again is just a fine example of her selflessness and why she's our hero and a very deserving winner.

Well done Mackenzie and to the Y11s who attended; we couldn't be any prouder!



SPARKS ARE MADE AT DRAX POWER STATION!

As GCSEs loom for Y11s, students from Airedale Academy visited Drax power station, the UK's largest coal-power station to see how electricity is generated using biomass and coal. After being given security clearance by south gate Bob, we were met by the very knowledgeable Leigh, who started off the tour by showing us a miniature version of Drax and quizzed students' knowledge of the workings of the power station in the on-site Education Centre.

After a safety briefing and being fitted with very snazzy personal protective equipment of a hard hat, high-vis jacket and safety glasses, the factory tour started. We were taken to the biomass domes, which are made of the same material used in bouncy castles. Leigh asked us to hit them to see how bouncy they were, however they were rock solid! The domes house the wood pellets used for biomass-firing. We were also taken the gypsum storage house, in which the by-products of firing coal were kept to be shipped out to make gypsum plaster board. We also stopped off at the cooling towers to find out how they operate.

The group then donned ear defenders and entered the power station itself. Leigh commentated using a microphone, taking us firstly to the grinding mills in which the wood pellets are ground up into a fine powder. The grinding mills have to be kept on their own dampened foundations to stop them shaking the building to bits! After, the ground up pellets are blown into the boiler using a huge fan that was difficult to see in its entirety. The boiler is enormous and more impressively, it is suspended from the ceiling. The high pressure super steam made in the boiler is fed into the turbine, which we saw in the turbine hall. This is directly linked to the generators. They are both precision pieces of engineering and the fan blades are so finely balanced that it is possible to spin the many tonnes of metal with just one hand - the movement of the fans, turning at 50 times a second, were almost imperceptible.

Finally, we stopped off at the control centre which was akin to mission control at NASA with huge screens controlling all of the generators. Drax has 6 generators and each one is controlled by just one person, which is a huge level of responsibility. The control centre was eerily quiet in comparison to the rest of the power plant, although bells and alarms could be heard going off.

It was a fantastic, albeit wet day. Leigh gave a lively and interactive tour and the students were excellent ambassadors for the academy.

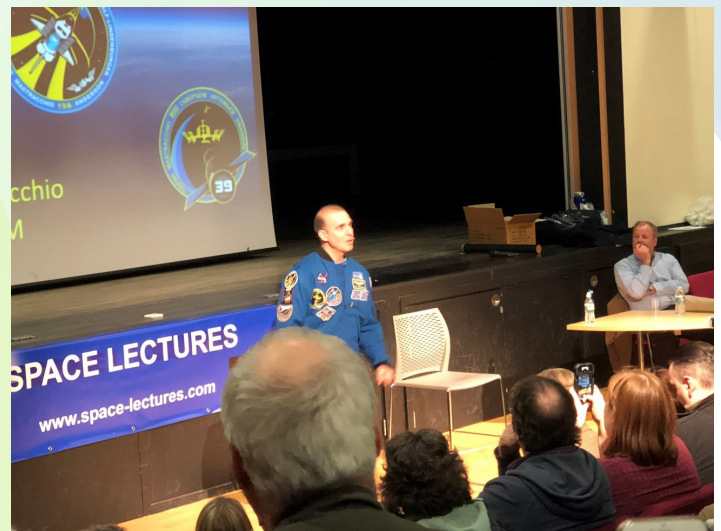


STUDENTS RE-EMERGE FROM SUBMARINE AS VICTORS!

8 students and 2 staff took part in the first head-to-head Escape Room, 'Submerged' at The Great Escape in Leeds on bank holiday Monday. The aim of the game was to work as a team to escape the abandoned submarines in 50 minutes before the oxygen reserve ran out! Each submarine had three sections: comms room, weapons room and navigation room.

The game had a difficulty of 5/5!! Amazingly, the first team not only emerged before the time ran out but managed to escape in 32 minutes and 38 seconds, meaning they currently stand 14th on the overall leaderboard (with over 3,000 teams playing the game!) An incredible achievement! The other team were also hot on their heels and disabled the first team's sub on two occasions by firing missiles at them to slow them down!

Students celebrated with a few pizzas and drinks. Well done everyone!

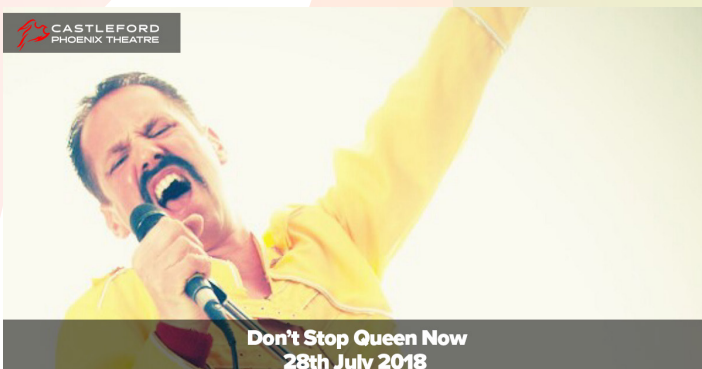


STUDENTS MEET ASTRONAUT RICK MASTRACCHIO

3 students from Airedale Academy had the chance to meet former NASA astronaut Rick Mastracchio at the Space Lectures event held in Pontefract on Saturday 24 March. Rick has flown on three NASA Space Shuttle missions as a mission specialist in addition to serving as a Flight Engineer on the Soyuz TMA-11M on Expedition 38 and 39 for a long duration mission aboard the International Space Station. Rick has spent 227 days in space and has undertaken 9 space walks, totalling 53 hours!

Rick gave a fantastic, lively talk about his journey from being an engineer in his early career to working his way up to be an astronaut. He gave a first-hand account of many of the feelings he went through each time they launched, explaining what it was like to sit on the launch pad inside the Space Shuttle as the engines fired up and how it felt like to re-enter the Earth's atmosphere in the Soyuz; he even went on to describe his trepidation of having to explain how the toilet works on the International Space Station to a live TV audience in the UK. The talk included videos of Rick's time in space and some of the experiments he conducted, such as fixating E. coli bacteria to test the effectiveness of certain antibiotics, as Rick explained that bacteria are more resistant in space.

After the talk, there was an opportunity for a Q&A session and all students received signed copies of their tickets and a photo from the night.



Y10 hit Alton Towers

On 18th June 45 enthusiastic and fantastically behaved year 10 students went on an educational visit to Alton Towers. The talk was based around Merlins success as a business as they own Alton Towers and many more entertainment sites across the world! The educational speaker told the students about their new ride, The Wickerman. This rollercoaster is made almost all from wood and cost a massive £16 million to build! £5 million of this was just to dig the hole for the ride to go into underground level. The talk also covered the marketing campaign to ensure Alton Towers were to make their money back- and more! The students then got to have a go on some of the rides to experience them for themselves. A fantastic trip and a brilliant opportunity to see a global giant in more depth.



Sixth Form News

Friday 29th June saw the last day for most of our Year 13 students. They finished their courses with a leaver's assembly where they received a variety of awards including attendance awards, progress awards and outstanding achievement awards.

The evening saw the leaver's party at the Squash and Leisure Club in Pontefract where the students partied the night away.

The staff would like to wish good luck to all the students as they take their next steps towards Higher Education, an apprenticeship or employment. We look forward to seeing you all at the Level 3 results day on August 16th in the theatre foyer between 10am and 12pm. (GCSE results are a week later on the 23rd August).

Monday the 2nd July saw the induction day for both the Health and Social Care and Performing Arts students who will be joining us in Year 12 in September. We are excited to say that the Business induction day is planned to take place in London this week.



An Enterprising day!

On the 10th May the whole of Year 10 took part in the Rymans enterprise challenge day. The winning team will now travel to Telford in Shropshire to compete in the national final on the 4th July. Good luck to all taking part!

Year 7

All of Year 7 students took part in an Enterprise Activity this half term which was delivered by NG Bailey. Students were inspired to consider STEM Careers and they found out about skills used by engineers in real world projects. They all put their skills into practice, working in teams to up with some creative designs for bridges which they then built and had to put to the test!



WDH Community Leadership Programme

14 of our Y10 students took part in this fantastic programme. This event was paid for by WDH it involved 2 other schools from the Wakefield area, Featherstone Academy and Freestone Academy. The aim of this residential was to inspire and motivate students in a natural environment, students were able to use listening and communication skills effectively and also set and achieve goals. Students were split into mixed groups from each school where they worked together co-operatively and collaboratively. Students were asked to fill in an application of interest for this activity. All students who applied were then given a 5-10 minute interview with staff from WDH as to why they had applied and what they expected to achieve from the residential.

The successful candidates were then asked back for a second interview where they were given the good news that they had been accepted on the residential. Prior to the event taking place we held a parents information evening so parents/carers could speak to staff from WDH and also staff from Airedale Academy who would be accompanying the students on the trip.

Eventually the day arrived for our adventure.

Day 1

We set off by coach from school to Ullswater in the Lake District where on arrival students were allocated their rooms and were told who they were sharing with. Every student had to make their own bed!! (Mums and dads, they can really make their own beds!) They were also split into groups for the activities. One activity was the famous Jog and dip where students jog down to the lakeside and then take a dip in the lake!

Day 2

After an early rise and breakfast 2 groups set off on their overnight expedition equipped with tents, dehydrated food rations and sleeping bags for a night of camping on Helvellyn. The remaining groups spent the day either gorge walking or cliff jumping.

Day 3

The remaining 2 groups set off for their expedition across the lake in a rowing boat with a long day

of climbing and walking before setting up camp. The first two groups returned back to the centre where they took responsibility for the equipment that had been used by making sure it was all cleaned and put away.

Day 4

Some of the campers were picked up by canoes and paddled the 5 miles back to the centre, other groups went out gorge walking or did team building exercises. In the evening all groups were in mini classrooms where they worked on presentation skills.

Day 5

Each group did a presentation to WDH mentors, Outward bound and school staff on what they had learnt from the week. One student went on to say " we arrived as 3 separate schools but we leave as one" another said " I feel that I can be myself and have made new friends who accept me for who I am" and many students said that they have overcome fears .

Nos Chers Voisins!

Modern Languages students from Airedale and Delacey Academy really enjoyed the performance of 'Nos Cher's Voisins' which came to Airedale on the 4th July. We all laughed, had so much fun and students got up on stage participating! The performance was funded by Go Higher West Yorkshire and we say, 'Merci Beaucoup!'



Performing Arts News

Let's get moving!!

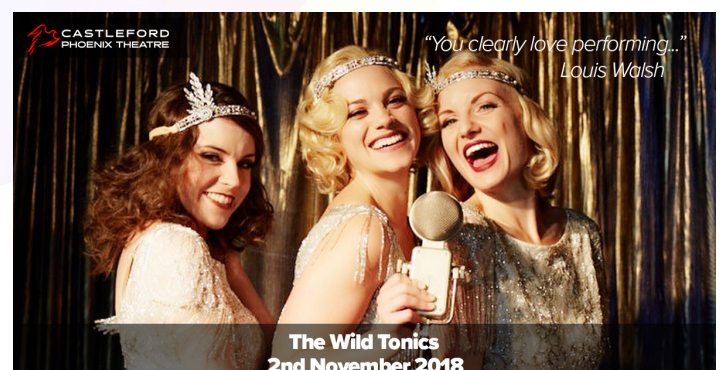
Well done to all involved in this year's fabulous dance showcase "MOVE IT!" Whether you were a performer or helping backstage, each and every one of you should be super proud of yourselves for all of your hard work, determination and commitment during the rehearsal process and show. Thank you to families and friends who came along to watch and members of staff who helped out during the show.

Our musical successes!

It's been a very busy academic year for our Music department. It began with our fantastic choir getting the chance to experience what it is like recording at a professional studio and ending with our biggest music festival to date, watched by a packed Phoenix audience.

Many of our students have performed within the local community during 2018 with highlights including the Remembrance Day service and a fantastic second performance at Wakefield Theatre Royal, by Sasha Chizhande and Tom Szczypinski. Year 9 and 10 also visited Leeds College of Music to get a taste of life as a post 16 music student.

Finally, good luck to all those students taking their instrument exams this summer, keep up the good work. Well done to all our brilliant musicians this year!





The Cast were recently invited to perform at the "Access All Areas" event, a higher education showcase organised by "Go Higher West Yorkshire" and "Backstage Academy" which was held at Production Park - a part of the "LSLive" compound in South Elmsall. The evening was centred on careers in the live events industry and comprised of performances from The Cast and the Minsthorpe Community College Soul Band with guest panels speaking about education and employment opportunities in the Arts around West Yorkshire.

As usual The Cast performed their hearts out on their own medley of "Façade\This Is the Moment" from Jekyll and Hyde and also "Suspend My Disbelief" from Ghost. Aside from their stellar performance The Cast were also outstanding ambassadors for Airedale Academy, the events manager from Go Higher had this to say about them;

"Your performers were incredible at our Access All Areas Event last week and really made the night for all involved! They are so talented and as a group are such wonderful young people to be around - true professionals!"

Again, at breakneck speed our students have soared, excelled and have been a roaring success on so many levels.

GHOST – the Musical wins award.

In early April, we had a sold out run of 'GHOST- the Musical' which was awarded in recognition of the standard by a Certificate of Excellence from the writers of the show and the London licensing office. The certificate is proudly displayed in our studio. The review from the ex UK director of the last British tour who attended all three shows cited our production as 'the best and biggest production of Ghost since the original UK tour 7 years ago'. As I am sure you will agree this is praise indeed!



The Cast in the Community

Since the end of April to date the Cast have provided entertainment and educational performances at various venues these include: 'Go Higher' as headline act to promote further and higher education and Autism Awareness charity concert. The Wakefield Secondary Head teacher's Conference as Pre - Dinner entertainment and also a final and humbling performance at Oakfield's School to students much less fortunate than us. The latter was a moving and emotional experience and one that will stay with us all for a long time. The Cast have invited the Oakfield students over to the Academy in October to see a performance of their next Kabaret, the lighting and sound in our Theatre will add to the sensory experience those children need.

Theatre in Education

Our Theatre in Education piece on Anti - Social Behaviour has been performed to all our students in the Academy, to Wakefield safeguarding team and to the Community Policing Team, Castleford Alcohol Partnership and Spectrum Health Services. MP Yvette Cooper supported and attended the performance, spending some time afterwards talking to the students about funding for the Arts or lack of it!

Onwards and Upwards to follow their dreams!

'Kabaret of Dreams' in June was the final performance for our wonderful Year 13 as they leave us to start their new lives in the big wide world. They have done so well and have been offered places at top Theatre Schools and Universities with large scholarships. A massive Well done to Connor Cox and Charlotte Embling who have both been awarded 100% scholarships to train for 3 years. These Scholarships are very exclusive and worth £45,000!



Next Year's News.

As traditional at our final Kabaret of the season we announced our full musical shows for next year. We are delighted to have secured the rights to these productions and tickets will be available very shortly.

Singing in the Rain December 19th – 21st 2018 (with real rain on stage!)

Hairspray April 3rd – 5th (working with the Grammy award winner Judine Somerville)

From the Cast we hope you have a great summer and would like to thank you for all your support this year. See you next season, bigger and better!





The Phoenix soars to new heights!

As the Academy year draws to a close so too does the theatre season. The 2017/18 season has been a fantastic one for us and has seen the Phoenix host over 100 performances with over 14,000 people watching the various shows. People from across the country now journey to Castleford to see shows and events at the Phoenix which range from Academy shows, local dance schools, pantomimes and musicals as well as touring tribute shows, bands, plays and much much more.



Looking forward to the first half of the new season and there are so many great shows coming up, many of which are new acts to Castleford.

October has a visit from the UK's favourite medium - Psychic Sally Morgan, along with nights for T.Rextasy and the return of Elvis The Legend, November has several local dance school performances as well as a visit from 1920's inspired 'The Wild Tonics' and December sees the annual family pantomime - Peter Pan as well as the Casts production of the classic loved musical Singin' In The Rain.

Look out for our new season brochure in September as well as adverts in each edition of 'Local Eyes'. You can also check out whats coming up on our website and follow us on social media. as we celebrate the theatre being 10 years old.

Dates for your diary – Autumn Term 2018

20th Sep	Y10 National Apprenticeship Show
25th	Y11 Choices at 16+ evening
3rd Oct	Y6 Open Evening
4th	Y11 Yorkshire Skills Event
8th	Y10 Assessment week
11th	Restart a Heart Day
18th	Y7 Form Tutor Evening/Y7 Pupil Premium Evening
22nd	Y11 Mock Catering Exam week
24th-26th	Sixth Form Kabaret
26th	Break up
5th Nov	School reopens
5th	WW1 Celebration Week
9th	D&B Auditions, London (Sixth Form Performing Arts students)
13th-22nd	Y11 PPEs
14th	Y10 Report Issue
16th	Y12 & 13 Report Issue
21st-23rd	Battlefields Trip
22nd	Y11 GCSE Presentation Evening
26th-30th	Y9 Theatre Trip
10th-14th Dec	Faraday STEM Challenge
12th	Y11 Mock French Speaking Tests
13th	Y9 Assessments
18th-20th	Y11 Consultation Evening & PPE results
21st	Y11 GCSE Dance Choreography examination
	Y11 Report Issue
	Sixth Form Show
	Break up – School closes

INSET Dates 18-19

3 September 2018

5 October 2018

7 Jan 2019

22 July 2019

23 July 2019

Many thanks for taking the time to read this newsletter, have a relaxing and enjoyable summer break. We look forward to welcoming all students back to school on Tuesday 4th September.

E Fairhurst – Principal