



# NEWSLETTER

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27 November 2015



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## Useful Dates

23 Nov - 4 Dec	Year 11 Mock Examinations
28 Nov	Sleaford Young Chef Competition
4 Dec	Clothes Show Live Trip
4 Dec	Year 13 Geography Trip to Meadowhall & Sheffield
11 - 14 Dec	German Trip to Frankfurt

## PTA 100 CLUB

The October winner of the PTA 100 Club prize is Mr Stephen Atkinson – number 72 – congratulations!

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Younger students have been trying out their Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths skills at a range of STEM events this week. KSHSSA provided the winning Project X team in the competition last year and so another ambitious Year 8 team set off this year to see if they could match last year's success. Year 9 too tried out their skills at RAF Cranwell this week.

Students from Year 11 upwards, meanwhile, have been hard at work this week in mock GCSE exams or as part of the formal AS/A level Assessment week in Years 12 and 13. As well as plenty of marking for their teachers, the assessments provide a real opportunity for students to test their knowledge and examination skills against the clock. Just as importantly however they will provide the chance for some really forensic feedback from staff to help students with the next stage of their preparations.

You may be interested to know that my assemblies last week in school were on the theme of the Paris attacks. A couple of parents have contacted the school enquiring about any revised plans regarding the Year 9 French History trip in June. I can confirm that the school currently has no plans to alter arrangements for this, or any of our other residential trips, but the school will of course keep a close eye on Foreign Office advice and keep you fully informed.

As the run up to Christmas gathers pace can I take this opportunity to remind you of the forthcoming Mulled Wine and Music evening on 10th December. This is followed by the Disco for both KSHSSA and Carre's Year 7 and 8 students on 11th December.

Finally it was lovely to see so many Year 10 students' parents at the Year 10 parents evening this week. With revised GCSE syllabuses and new grading systems in English and Maths GCSEs nationally this year it was good to have the chance to put those changes in context for parents. Please don't hesitate to contact the school if you have any follow up questions.

Best wishes,

Mrs J Smith  
Interim Head of School

## I'm a Scientist, Get Me Out of Here!

Last week ten Year 8 girls were selected to take part in some activities run by the winner of 'I'm a Scientist, Get Me Out of Here' (an online event where school students had the opportunity to meet and interact with scientists. It was an X Factor-style competition between scientists, where the students were the judges).

The winner was cell biologist Hayley Clissold, who researches the effects of pathogens on human cells. She was able to give the students a greater insight into the world of bacteria, explaining how they have various 'super-powers' that allow them to infect cells in the body. It was a fantastic opportunity for the girls to meet a real scientist and understand what being a scientist really involves.

Mrs L Cook  
Teacher of Science





# BBC School Report Practice Day – Superstitious Sleaford

On Friday 13<sup>th</sup> November, the Girls' News Team took the day off from lessons to participate in the BBC School Report Practice Day. The theme was 'Superstitious Sleaford', inspired by the rather interesting date, and throughout the day the team worked to create a detailed news bulletin.

The first part of the morning was spent planning what each individual was going to write about, researching for and drafting various scripts, and developing skills for presenting and editing a bulletin with iMovie. The news bulletin included a few minutes of each journalist talking to the camera about their chosen focus. There was a whole range of topics discussed, such as who has superstitions, what particular superstitions do people believe in, and is there ever any truth in them? We even focused on superstitions specific to Sleaford – did you know that a local Sleaford myth is that cow manure plastered onto a wound will heal the cut quickly? Apparently this one is still followed in some rural areas today!

In period three some of the team joined Mr Cassidy and Miss Natley out in Sleaford. Splitting up, the journalists interviewed the locals of Sleaford and found out what they believed in – or didn't believe in! Tamzen Brenton and Eloise Brown spoke with one woman who usually wouldn't even leave the house on Friday the 13<sup>th</sup>, because she was so superstitious!

Altogether, the day was extremely enjoyable. The material produced was of great quality, and the experience was really fun. For some, it was their first school report practice day, and it was thoroughly enjoyed. All, new and old, said that they would definitely want to attend the next BBC School Report Day and couldn't wait for the real deal on the 16<sup>th</sup> of March 2016.

Rosie Jones, Girls' News Team

Miss A Natley, Teacher of English



Emily Sunman (8MC), Isobel Smith (8MC), Kate Potts (12A), Megan Thompson (8MC), Daisy Couture (8KG), Rosie Jones (10F), Eloise Brown (8NP), Sophie Halse (10F), Flo Husson (10F), Priyenka Walsh (8MC), Tamzen Brenton (8NP)



Tamzen Brenton and Eloise Brown (8NP)

Check out our articles and our news bulletin on [thechainnews.wordpress.com](http://thechainnews.wordpress.com).

Students can apply to become a part of the GNT by picking up a form from the M5 GNT board.





# Tudor Day

On Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> of November, Year 8 enjoyed a Tudor experience. Students arrived at school in an array of themed costumes fit for the Tudor Day that we had been looking forward to. We started the day by being

introduced to a historical actor from the company running the day, before setting off to different Tudor workshops offering a range of activities.

One of my favourite activities was candle-making. The process was to hang a piece of string on a hook and dip into hot wax. Next, the wax was dipped into cold water to cool it. This needed to be repeated until the wax built up to become a regular candle size. This method was used by the Tudors and is still used today.

Another thing that we tried was ink making and calligraphy. To do this we used 3-5 spoonful's of charcoal and a special powder, the name of which was kept a secret. After the ingredients were ground down to a fine powder, a small amount of water was added to create ink. There was paper to practise writing letters, numbers and words in a swirly-Tudor-styled font using a feather pen and the ink that the students made.

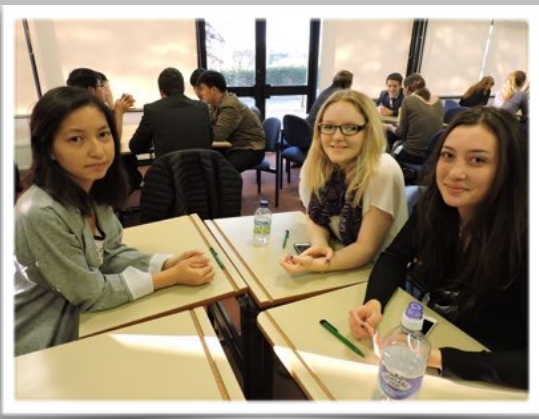
In the afternoon we were split into different groups to practise dramatic performances for a Tudor feast that would be happening later to celebrate the birth of Prince Edward. There were two plays, St George and the Dragon and Noah's Ark. There was also a group of singers who sang two songs and a group of dancers. After each group had practised they went into the main hall to show everyone their performances.

Between performances everyone sat at long tables whilst students playing the role of servants served bread, cheese, ginger cake and other yummy foods made in school by the Year 9 students. Finally once everyone had performed, and eaten lots of food, the servants cleaned up the tables and everyone sat down and listened to a story.

This story was described as 'tragic,' 'scary' and 'really good' by students.

By Lucy Kinnersley (8LC)





## Senior Team Maths Challenge

On Friday 13<sup>th</sup> of November four Sixth Form students from KSHSSA took part in the Senior Team Maths Challenge at The Priory Academy LSST in Lincoln, one of the 55 regional finals for the challenge taking place in centres across the United Kingdom.

The event consisted of three rounds of advanced questions addressed to the 25 schools in the challenge, including Carre's Grammar School, with the highest scoring schools taking part in the national finals in London next year. The questions for these challenges are written by the Further Maths Support Group and the events are funded and organised by the United

Kingdom Maths Trust (UKMT) as an opportunity for schools across the region to test their "mathematical, communication and teamwork skills".

The students who participated were Jordan Renwick (12F), Candy Yuan (12F), Hana McMath (13L) and Laura Hadley (13F). Coming in at a respectable 11<sup>th</sup> place, the KSHSSA team was not disheartened by not making the national finals, as one of the participants said "I think the experience was good preparation for another try again next year!"

By Jordan Renwick and Sydney Mawer (12F)

## KNITTING AND CROCHET CLUB

### 'Knitted Squares and Twiddlemuffs'

Mrs Fleming runs a Knitting and Crochet Club every week on Wednesday lunchtimes.

At the moment Year 7 students who are beginners are making squares which will be joined up to make a blanket for orphans.

Students will also be making 'Twiddlemuffs' which are really useful items for people suffering with dementia who often have restless hands and these can be twiddled to help keep their hands occupied. The Twiddlemuffs provide a wonderful source of visual, tactile and sensory stimulation plus they keep hands snug and warm. All of the Twiddlemuffs that are made will be donated to our local Dementia support group.

Any year group is welcome to come along to either knit a square for the blanket or to make a Twiddlemuff.

If you have any questions about this please speak to: Mrs B Fleming, Teacher of Textiles or Mrs S Baines, Pastoral Support



## 'A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE'

Coloured lights, an open stage and the bluesy backdrop of Elysian Fields greeted our Sixth Form students on 4<sup>th</sup> November.

The drama of 'A Streetcar Named Desire' didn't disappoint. One student commented that it really helped her to understand and feel empathy for the character of Blanch DuBois as we witnessed first-hand her tragic disintegration. The text is the first on the syllabus for our Year 12 Literature students and the English Department was delighted to be able to offer the opportunity to enrich and support the curriculum through their visit to the Curve Theatre in Leicester.

Ms E Verity  
Subject Leader English



# Duke of Edinburgh Award

## Celebration Evening – Wednesday 18 November 2015



The Duke of Edinburgh Award is about to begin its Diamond Anniversary Year (2016). It is a progressive Award which teaches young people the values of helping the community, keeping active, practising and developing a skill, and above all, working as a team to complete a challenging expedition. The Award is valued by Universities, Employers and the Public Sector as it requires commitment and develops skills required for life and employment.

On Wednesday, 18 November Mrs Jacky Secker from the Local Operating Authority (Lincolnshire County Council) presented 33 Bronze and 10 Silver Awards to KSHSSA girls with a hall packed full of parents and guests. Also presented were 28 British Heart Foundation 'Heart Start' Certificates which are achieved by participants as part of their Expedition training.

Over 120 parents, guests, staff, supervisors, and assessors supported the girls enjoying presentations from the D of E School Captains and Guest Speakers. Certificates were also presented to the staff. These volunteers give their time to supervise expeditions and assess the Award; without them the Award would not run.

The Guest Speakers were Marc Blackman, Greg Johnson and Carl Blackman who are three of a group of four boys who completed a Disability Gold Award in 2010. Their presentation was a huge success and inspired many of the participants as well as parents and guests.

Since I became the Coordinator at the school 113 Bronze and Silver Awards have been completed and we have just registered for the 2015/2016 period: 57 Bronze, 24 Silver and 18 Gold. Gold has been offered to the 6<sup>th</sup> Form students this year for the first time in many years and I am thrilled that 14 of the 18 registered are participants who have gone through Bronze and Silver with me since I started her in October 2013.

After the formalities all were able to enjoy the buffet, drinks and Celebration Cake discussing their Duke of Edinburgh Award experiences.

Mrs M Walker  
Duke of Edinburgh  
Coordinator







# Insight Event 2015

The annual Insight Event (Careers Fair) took place on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> November; there were 42 stands, the largest number we have ever had, from Universities, Colleges, The Armed Forces and local employers.

All Year 11 students were given an hour off timetable to look around, collect information and speak to the exhibitors to get first-hand information. Armfuls of prospectuses were seen leaving the Sports Hall! We were delighted to welcome Year 11 students from Carre's who joined us.

Students had been given a booklet prior to the event to help them plan their visit, a list of exhibitors was included and suggested questions, together with activities and action plans to be completed following the event.

Year 12 and 13 students attended during their free periods throughout the day.

Year 10 were also given a short time to visit, to help them get an 'Insight' for next years' event.

This year saw some 'new recruits' visiting; Northumberland, Cardiff, Liverpool and Edge Hill Universities, plus the Liverpool Institute for Performing Arts together with many other regulars such as Strathclyde, Surrey, Leeds, York and many more. Others present included; The Armed Forces, local employers Qube, Siemens, BE Design and Barclays Bank, Colleges were represented by Pearson College London (Business Management) and ICEAW, (the Institute for Chartered Accountants) and local colleges included Access to Music, Bishop Burton, Grantham and Boston. Gap year providers were also on hand for information. Hopefully something for everyone!

It is interesting to note that Universities now have access to school Examination results and Destination data, (figures only) this enables each establishment to make an informed choice as to whether to attend a particular event. Under these circumstances we can be immensely proud at the number of good Universities we are able to attract. Feedback from Exhibitors included lovely comments about the students; 'engaging', 'eager', 'interested', 'animated', 'smart', 'intelligent' and 'switched-on'. The school and parents/guardians should be extremely proud.

A very successful and enjoyable day for all!

Mrs P Hunter  
Careers Coordinator

## Christmas Mulled Wine Concert

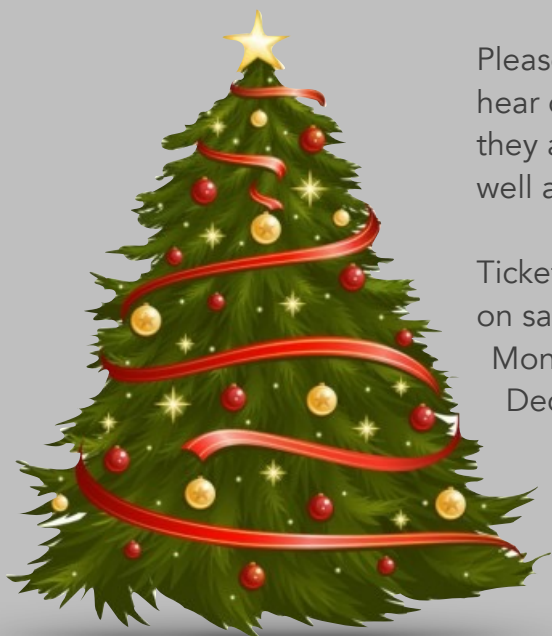
**Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2015 in the  
School Hall at 7.00pm**

Please come along to this wonderful opportunity to hear our students perform some of the music that they are preparing for the School Carol Service, as well as some seasonal favourites.

Tickets are £4 and include refreshments – they will be on sale at lunchtimes outside Mrs Tipper's office from Monday, 7<sup>th</sup> December until Thursday, 10<sup>th</sup> December 2015 (1.00-1.20pm).

We hope to see you there.

Mr S Mitchinson  
Subject Leader Music



## Pop-Up Sleaford

The Teenage Market goes from strength to strength as 'Pop-up Sleaford' opens in the Market Place.

'Pop Up Sleaford' is a shop entirely manned and stocked by young traders from schools across the town, supported by the Charity, Cats Protection, who help with cover during school hours.

In addition to the traders from local Secondary Schools the shop has Crochet Pixie, run by 20 year old Zoe, selling handmade crochet gifts, The Wood Elf, 21 year old Sam, making bespoke household items from reclaimed wood, and, Beatty May, run by 22 year old Sadie, selling shabby chic and vintage inspired items.

A great example of local collaboration the shop unit was empty and was donated to the town team by the owner for just costs (rent free), for the 7 weeks until Christmas as she was really impressed by the Teenage Market and wanted to give something useful back to benefit the traders.

During the traders time in the shop they are being mentored in real-world retail skills – such as stock control, cash accounting, customer service skills, selling skills, marketing skills and pricing and promotional strategies so, as well as making a profit, the shop is also giving the traders key skills and insights into running their own business.

Pop up Sleaford is offering a chance to win a fantastic hamper to anyone who shops there in the coming weeks – the more you visit, the more chances to win. The shop is

open Monday – Saturday from 10.00am–5.00pm and on Sunday from 11.30am–3.30pm.

Find out more here [www.facebook.com/popupsleaford](http://www.facebook.com/popupsleaford)

A competition run by the organisers....

Although our current shop is only open until Christmas eve we DO hope that we'll get more chances to bring Pop-Up Sleaford to life in future.... so... with that in mind **we'd like to invite ALL school children (from age 4-18) to design a logo / window poster for the brand.** It must be general, not seasonal, to ensure it has longevity no matter when or where we "pop-up" next!

Entries should be on a single A4 sheet with the name, age and contact details for the entrant on the back. These should be delivered to the shop (which is on the Market Place where Soft Options used to be) by closing time on Friday 18th December. All over 18s (accompanying the entrants) will also get a chance to win our AMAZING Christmas hamper (you can see it in the shop!) The winner(s) will be chosen and announced on Saturday, 19th December, when the hamper draw will also take place.

The winner(s) will not only get some lovely festive treats, but also, in the new year, we will then work with them to turn their artwork and ideas into a professional logo or poster design, fully attributed to them!

Mrs C Rayner

Local Youth Trader Organiser and mother of Victoria Rayner (7L)

## Mini Exec Club

The Mini Exec Club is part of an initiative by the Education Business Partnership to help school students interact with partners from the world of work, over dinner. The EBP asked all local schools to nominate a student(s) to take part; the students then had to write a short piece for submission as to why they thought this would be a good opportunity. This, together with a reference from their Form Tutor, was then sent for appraisal.

I am pleased to announce that both of our students who applied were successful, Olivia Sealy (12A) and Caitlin Scott (12L). A second dinner is planned for June 2016.

Mrs P Hunter  
Careers Coordinator

This is their account of the evening:

### Mini-Exec Dinner:

On the 4<sup>th</sup> November we attended a networking dinner set up by EBP Mentoring with the intent to put young people in contact with executives of local companies. We were each paired with a business leader and they were named as our mentors for the duration of the scheme. The aims of the scheme are to offer young people an insight into the working world through partnerships with mentors not only offering work experience but also helping with writing and proofreading of: UCAS forms, CVs and personal statements and also to provide advice with projects or research assignments that we may be set. Our mentors were from a Town Planning firm and the Deputy Head of the Business Faculty of Lincoln University. Over dinner we discussed our mentor's businesses and the work they do and also our own studies and aspirations. We also socialised with students from other schools. We would both recommend this scheme to next year's Lower Sixth students as we both found the night informative and are sure that the support of our executive mentors and the EBP organisation will be an invaluable tool for us throughout the coming year.

By Olivia Sealy (left) and Caitlin Scott





# PE DEPARTMENT NEWS

## Under 16 Football

The team travelled to William Farr School to play their first game as part of the Lincolnshire Schools Football Association competition. After dominating the first half they led 3-0 at the break. William Farr stepped up in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half but still couldn't match the team work and skill of our team with the score finishing 5-2. The next game is against Queen Elizabeth High School, Gainsborough in the quarter finals.

## Cross Country

Following some extreme weather conditions for the cross country, the girls proved their resilience and performed brilliantly to make team selection difficult. On the day the weather was surprisingly pleasant at Burghley House and the teams excelled against some experienced competitors from the other local schools. Runners qualified for the County Competition which will take place in January and particular mention needs to go to Bella Williams (12A) and Hazel Williams (8MC) who both won their age groups.



Well done to all the girls!



Bella Williams 12A



Hazel Williams 8MC

## Swimathon

Sleaford Lions Rotary Club held their annual Swimathon at Sleaford Leisure Centre on Saturday, 14 November and this year we were able to enter 2 teams. The competition was a 55 minute continuous relay and our swimmers worked tirelessly for the duration, maintaining an intense pace throughout. With the other teams coming from both St George's Academy and Carre's Grammar School, the competition was tough but our teams did brilliantly; Team 2 completed a total of 153 lengths and Team 1 came second overall with 196 lengths. We were very proud of both teams, particularly with how close the score was to the winning team from Carre's. Our swimmers included: Rosie, Celia and Katie in Year 7; Lauren and Katie in Year 8; Lauren in Year 9; Evelyn in Year 10 and Barnaby in Year 12.



