



# BATLEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL and PRIESTLEY HOUSE SPRING TERM 2007 NEWSLETTER



## PAULINE JEFFREY



Tears were shed and fond memories shared at the funeral on 6<sup>th</sup> March of one of the well loved members of Priestley House 'family.' Mrs. Hawkes spoke the following words at Miss Jeffrey's funeral, not only in her capacity as Head of Priestley House but as a dear friend.

"It is only 6 years since I first met Pauline but by golly what a 6 years! From the moment she bounced through the door into Priestley House, she touched the hearts of everyone she met – adult or child. We owe so much to her at Priestley House. She has left a wonderful legacy. By far one of her great loves, besides shopping, was books. When Pauline first joined us our library consisted of about 100 books in a broom cupboard but not for long. Once she took charge she nurtured the children's desire to read, cajoled me into parting with some money and built up a library of over 2,000 books, which is a testament to her enthusiasm and determination.

Her work with the children in art again shows her boundless enthusiasm. How many of us remember her work on Rennie Macintosh, Tiffany and Monet?

In fact, I must admit I learnt more about some of the great artists from Pauline than I ever learnt when I was a pupil at school.

And will Christmas ever be the same again? I think not at Priestley House. St. Nicholas' Day, Advent Calendars, Christmas slide shows, talks on Christmas customs in Germany and decorations will never take place again without a little chuckle and thought about Pauline.

Batley Bear was also another of Pauline's great projects. She travelled the world from Europe to China and he always accompanied her and David, compiling books about their journeys together to show the children. As you can see I thought it quite fitting for him to come along today to see her off on her final journey.

From a very personal note I will never forget Pauline's tremendous generosity of spirit and unending optimism. She would often put her hand on my arm and look at me with that reassuring, little smile and say, "Everything will be just fine."

Pauline was one of those rare people who touched the hearts of both children and colleagues with her warmth, generosity and infectious enthusiasm. She had a real zest for life and will be greatly missed and remembered in the hearts and minds of all those who were lucky enough to have been touched by her unique qualities."

## THE COMPUTER CONSOLE CLUB

..... a new and very popular extra curricular activity!



The Computer Console Club got off to a flying start this year. Too many pupils wanted to join and as a result of this the club had to take place over two days instead of one.

The 'Super Smash Brothers' tournament was a huge success with 98 contestants taking part. The likes of Miss Marshall, Mr Foster and Mr Bowden were early victims of the many experienced gamers. The quarter and semi-finals of the button smashing competition were tense and all the contestants clearly felt the pressure.

Robert Gaskin was a firm favourite to win the contest so it came as a surprise when he was beaten by George Pidgeon in the well attended final. George beat Robert by 4 games to 2. Both players had apparently prepared for the game by practising at home throughout the previous week.

Congratulations to George who will be rewarded with a DVD of his choice (BORAT).

The competition showed that regardless of your ability you can play a part and have some simple fun. Mr Hussain encourages all pupils and staff to take part in future competitions.

## CCF EXPEDITION TO NAMIBIA AUGUST 2007



Plans are well underway for our expedition to Namibia this summer.

Cadets have been involved in a variety of fundraising events, and we would like to thank everyone who has already given their support in buying raffle tickets and quiz sheets, Christmas puddings, Valentine's Day roses and tickets for the Valentine's Ball. Expeditioners have sold sherbet and buns, been carol singing in Upper Batley, provided refreshments at athletics meetings and parents' evenings, and are currently involved in car washing at motorway services and bag packing in local supermarkets.

Next term, we shall be holding a competition for all students in senior school, and the prize will be a one-hour flight with an instructor on a British Airways Boeing 777 flight simulator.

In the last newsletter, we gave details of our community project, which will involve working at the Okaepe Project School. We are hoping to take out lots of equipment for the school, as well as providing uniforms.



**This is a request to all parents in Senior School and Priestley House to send in any items of unwanted uniform which their sons and daughters have outgrown, but which are still serviceable. These items can be brought in at any time next term, and left at the General Office or handed directly to Mr Wilby.**

**Thank you once again for your help.**

## IT'S ALL BALDERDASH AND PIFFLE!

The BBC recently interviewed Mr Tony Bannister, our Network Manager, in school.

"I enjoyed 'Balderdash and Piffle' when it was on BBC2 last year, so when a request for information about one of a new set of words for this year's program appeared in early January, I replied. I told them that I remembered a reference in a newspaper advert to this word from over 40 years ago. Yes really 40 years, I am old enough believe it or not!"

That seemed to be it. He didn't hear anything else until the beginning of March. It was then a case of 'Can you find the reference for us or shall we send our researchers?' He spent two whole Saturdays searching every copy of the Telegraph & Argus from May 1963 to March 1965, but no luck. He thought, "Oh well that's it, they won't be interested now."

But wait! "We like your story," they said. "We'll send a camera crew and get an interview with you. Bring old photos and any other evidence you've got."

Gosh, talk about 15 minutes of fame, this must be it. So it was, that the interview took place on the 27<sup>th</sup> of March.

"I just hope my 15 minutes of fame doesn't end up on the cutting room floor," he says!



**When will it be on? "They will let me know."**



**What was the word? "You will have to watch the program."**

## CALLING ALL PARENTS ... THE PA AT BGS NEEDS YOUR HELP

There are plenty of opportunities for parents to get involved at Batley Grammar School!

The Parents' Association and Friends of Priestley House work together to arrange social and fund raising events to support the learning experience of all the children in school, whatever their age.

Over the years, parents have raised funds to provide equipment often used in the many extra-curricular activities on offer at BGS. Recent purchases have included media and photographic equipment, sports gear, lighting and sound equipment for whole school music and drama productions and the latest in high-tech teaching aids.

Parents normally meet each half term to organise social events and fund raising activities. Friends of Priestley House meet in the afternoons after school and the Parents' Association meetings are held in the evenings. The groups work closely together so it doesn't matter which meeting you come to. Whenever you are available, there is a meeting to suit you!

Our aim is to make sure that our children have terrific memories of their schooldays and we want them to remember that their parents were an active part in this.

Details of meetings and events will be posted on the Parents' page of the school website. Our next two major events are our **'Ladies Party Evening' (Pampering and Retail Therapy) on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> May**, and the **School Gala on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> June**.

Check the website or contact Kay Barker in the school office and please help us to support our children at BGS.

**We look forward to seeing you at our next meeting!**

## ALTON TOWERS HERE WE COME!

The 29<sup>th</sup> June will be a celebration of a year of hard work and good behaviour, as the vast majority of our pupils take part in the "Big Event". Around 200 pupils and staff will be spending the day at Alton Towers as a reward for reaching their Credit target, with smaller groups visiting Chester Zoo, York and the Dales.

Our first year of Action for Learning has proved a great success, with the vast majority of teachers and pupils reporting a calmer atmosphere and improved behaviour in lessons. A recent survey showed that at KS3 and KS4 the giving of stamps has been a motivating factor for most pupils.

We are constantly looking at ways to improve the system - hence the questionnaire given to all pupils and teachers - and in particular we are introducing a new system for the Sixth Form from next term. This will replace the giving of stamps, and will be based on a weekly grading system which will allow students to track their progress.

Special congratulations go to **Farah Khaleeq**, **Harriet Lunt** and **Cameron Pye** (all 7jew) and **Mohammed Aasim** (9 dib) who have already reached over 400 credits.

## IMPORTANT DATES, SUMMER TERM 2007

Summer Term begins	:	Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April
Friends of Priestley House Party Evening	:	Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May 7.00 pm
OBA Meeting	:	Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May 7.45 pm
Mayday Holiday	:	Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> May
Year 8 Exams	:	9 <sup>th</sup> - 11 <sup>th</sup> May
Cabaret Evening	:	10 <sup>th</sup> & 11 <sup>th</sup> May 7.30 pm
Year 10 Exams	:	14 <sup>th</sup> - 18 <sup>th</sup> May
Priestley House KS2 SATs	:	14 <sup>th</sup> - 18 <sup>th</sup> May
CCF Annual Inspection	:	Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> May
PA Meeting	:	Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> May 7.30
Year 7 Exams	:	21 <sup>st</sup> - 24 <sup>th</sup> May
Half Term	:	28 <sup>th</sup> May - 1 <sup>st</sup> June
Year 9 Exams	:	7 <sup>th</sup> - 12 <sup>th</sup> June
Year 12 return to lessons after AS exams	:	Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> June
CCF Field Day	:	Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> June
Founder's Day, Batley Parish Church	:	Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> June 7.00 pm
Year 13 Leavers' Day	:	Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> June
Action for Learning 'Big Event'	:	Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> June
School Gala	:	Saturday 30 <sup>th</sup> June
Priestley House Sports Day	:	Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> July 1.00 pm
Priestley House Speech Day	:	Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> July 7.00 pm
End of Term, Senior School and Priestley House	:	Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> July 12 noon

### Batley Grammar School

Carlinghow Hill, Batley, West Yorkshire, WF17 0AD

Tel: (01924) 474980 (School Office) Fax: (01924) 471960

e-mail: [info@batleygrammar.co.uk](mailto:info@batleygrammar.co.uk)

Internet: <http://www.batleygrammar.co.uk>



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



## THE ENERGY TEAM



In several school assemblies this term, the Headmaster has addressed the issues of energy waste, and of recycling. As a result the school has formed an 'Energy Team' of staff, pupils and including a Governor to improve what the school does. Sadly, up to now, the waste which is deposited in our bins has ended up in land-fill sites or in the incinerator. Pupils are becoming more conscious of recycling issues, and with the help of Kirklees MC, we have begun to put all our used paper in special bins which are emptied every two weeks. The team is now looking at how glass, plastics and aluminium cans be properly disposed of.

The pupils have also become more conscious of the costs, both financial and in terms of damage to the environment, of leaving electrical equipment switched on unnecessarily. Hopefully, our pupils have got the message that everyone has a contribution to make towards saving the planet

The pupils are: Nicholas Walter, Ammaarah Akudi, Aysha Patel, Philip Bembridge and Nazim Andani.

## CHINESE LESSONS

This half-term the year 12 Chinese pupils started a lunch-time club to introduce English pupils to spoken and written Chinese. Numbers attending have fluctuated but a group of regulars, mainly from year 8, have learnt the names of family members, the words you need to be polite in China and some of the numbers. Through demand, the main focus of the sessions has become the teaching and practising of Chinese characters which have proved fascinating to our pupils.

So xie xie to Zhu Chen (Chris), Geng Chen (Richard) and Li Xing (Lee).



## GARDENING CLUB



After a lot of hard work from Professor Double, teachers, parents and the children from Priestley House, the Priestley House garden is slowly getting under way. The land has been cleared and the money has been raised to complete the next stage of development, building four raised beds. It is hoped that these beds will be completed before the end of the summer term and that we will be able to plant bulbs, herbs and various other plants that will flower in the following spring.

## TEXTILE TECHNOLOGY CLUB

The members of the Textile Technology Club have had a busy year so far! They have tried their hands (literally) at knitting, have learned to master the sewing machine and have even found time to include some impressive craft work by designing and making their own greetings cards for Christmas and Mother's Day.

Textile Technology Club meets every Monday at 12.45 in the Resource Centre and new members are always welcome!



## NEW IMAGE ON THE WEB SITE

After lots of hard work, we are proud to reveal the new design of the school web site. The site is split into three main areas - Priestley House, Senior School and Sixth Form. Here you can find out information such as Curriculum, Results and News.

There is also an area for Parents to visit, which will contain dates and event details. The Old Batelians' Association is represented, with a message from the President. On the Merchandise page there are several items that are available to purchase.

This fresh design of the site has provided us with an opportunity to re-establish ourselves as a leading provider of education in the region. The overriding message throughout the site is one of quality education, a friendly atmosphere and a wider school experience through sport, CCF and other extra curricular clubs.

We hope you enjoy the new feel of the web site, and please continue to visit the site to find out what is going on here at Batley Grammar School and Priestley House.

Priestley House  
3-11 years

Senior School  
11-16 years

Sixth Form  
16-19 years

Batley Grammar School  
- Founded 1612 -

We believe Batley Grammar School is a unique and special place. Our small size makes individual attention a reality; a warm, friendly atmosphere enhances the air of calm professional purpose in lessons, and we want everyone to make a strong contribution to the school's success, in and out of the classroom. We are sure that your child will not only enjoy his or her time at the school but also thrive.

We operate an Open Door policy at Batley Grammar School, and our school is open to visitors at any time: I'm sure you will be impressed. I would be glad to show you the school in action, and extend a warm and personal welcome to you and your family.

Brian Battve - Headmaster

Batley Grammar School - Carlinghow Hill - Batley - West Yorkshire - WF17 OAD

info@batleygrammar.co.uk

## CAPPUCINO ....HOT CHOCOLATE?

Pupils have been enjoying the extended catering facilities on offer. Hot drinks have been on sale at both break and lunch times and have proved very popular, especially on some of the cold days we've had recently.



## CCF CANADASKI 2007

During the Easter holidays, a party of 19 CCF cadets and three Officers flies out to Canada for two weeks downhill and cross country skiing in the Canadian Rockies. The group, which will be staying at Trails End Camp in Alberta, will also take part in hill walking and mountain biking.

We hope to be able to show cadets something of life in Canada, and sightseeing visits include the zoo, 'downtown' and an ice hockey match in Calgary, as well as the famous beauty spot, Lake Louise, and Banff for the hot springs and some souvenir shopping. This will be our third trip to Canada since 2003, and it is a fantastic opportunity for cadets.

## MUSIC, MUSIC, MUSIC!



Pupils and staff gave a very enjoyable concert at Staincliffe Parish Church. This was primarily to help raise funds for the Church which has recently launched an appeal to combat crumbling stonework. In addition it was the first of a series of concerts and recitals which the new Parish Priest Father Howe is keen to promote. The concert opened and closed with solos from members of staff, Mr Bellamy on the organ and Mr Lorriman on his euphonium: performances from first class musicians. Pupils provided the remainder of the evening, accompanied by Mr Jonathan Wilby and Mr Goldthorp. Beautiful vocal solos came from Linzi Greaves, Helen Forsbrook, Vicky Glover and Alexandra Jones, whilst a variety of instrumental solos were performed by George Pidgeon (trombone), Nick Dodgson (clarinet) Oliver Barker (soprano saxophone), Linzi Greaves (piano) and Helen Forsbrook (flute) – a full and varied programme. Mr Goldthorp, as organist and choirmaster, welcomed everyone to Christ Church and Father Howe thanked everyone involved for a most enjoyable evening of music.

## SCHOOL OFFICERS AND PREFECTS 2007-8

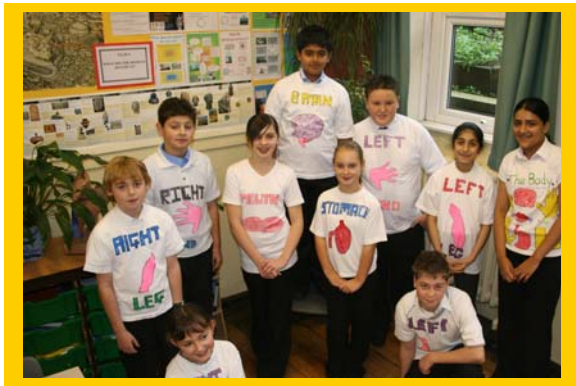
Our new Senior School officers and Prefects for 2007/8 have just been appointed from our year 12 students. Our new School Captain is Philip Bembridge, and his Vice-captains will be Natalie Firth and Victoria Glover. The new Head of Sixth Form will be Azhar Laher. Our School Prefects are elected by year 12 students and by the teaching staff of the Senior School, and as a result of the recent election, our new Prefects are: Usma Afzal, Daniel Clow, Nicholas Dodgson, Helen Forsbrook, Thomas Gill, Linzi Greaves, Emily Greenwood, James Hartley, Katy Horsfall, Alex Jones, Joanne McArdle, Calum McIntyre, Sadia Mohyudin and Nicholas Walter. Our new Officers and Prefects will assume their duties next term.



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Members of form 7JEW presented their first assembly to pupils of Key Stage 3 with a performance of their play. "The Body". Wearing T-shirts designed and illustrated by Liam and Declan Chisholm they each played a different part of the body – limbs, brain, stomach, hands etc and worked together (as parts of the body should) to deliver an entertaining and polished performance. Younger pupils also enjoyed seeing the play when it was presented again in Priestley House and enthusiastically applauded the hard-working actors!

## 7jew and THE BODY



## LOOKING FOR WARNER GOTHARD

The four Y13 historians – Richard Wyatt, Laura Kelly, James Gill and Katherine Paley - spent an afternoon at the Wakefield Local Studies Library researching the life of Warner Gothard, a Victorian photographer. Using maps, newspapers, trade directories and census returns, they pieced together the life story of a businessman whose success owed much to his ability to exploit the latest developments in photography. The library staff were impressed by the hard work of the students, but much of the success of the afternoon was the result of the planning of the local studies librarians themselves.

## RETURN TO THE FORBIDDEN PLANET

*Return to the Forbidden Planet* is our most ambitious project to date. The play is a parody of Shakespeare's "The Tempest" and the 1950s sci-fi B movies. It is full of mangled Shakespearean quotations spoken by an unlikely gallery of characters: the mad professor, the clean-cut hero, the beautiful daughter and the lowly heartsick Cookie.

The songs are drawn from the 50s and 60s and include *Great Balls of Fire*, *Good Vibrations*, *Teenager in Love*, *Go now* and many more.

No Sci-fi movie would be complete without an alien. Ours is the Monster from the Id, the biggest special effect we have ever mounted, constructed by that famous design team Harknett, Hinchliffe and Woodley. It also gives an opportunity for a team of our Chinese students to participate in a play at BGS as monster-puppeteers.

The lighting system has been given a complete overhaul so that it can cope with the demands of this complex musical and is controlled by computer.

Sparked by our new singing tradition at BGS, this production gives another platform for some of the stars of our cabaret. Fresh from their success as the comedy characters in "A *Midsummer Night's Dream*", Josh Girling, George Pidgeon, Mark Lajca and Brett Longstaffe are the principal male characters. The play is further enhanced by the presence of Fiona Hepworth and Vicki Glover who were so memorable last year as Titania and Puck.

Music is provided by an eight-piece band directed by Jonathan Wilby, who also trained the singers and did some direction. It is a very demanding show to perform, but great fun on both sides of the footlights.



On 3<sup>rd</sup> March between about 11pm and midnight, many of you may have seen a total lunar eclipse. Viewing conditions, for once, were excellent and the moon could be seen to turn a deep red colour. Some staff and pupils from the photography club attempted to photograph the eclipse to see how easy it would be to do using just a camera and no other specialised equipment.

An eclipse of the Moon occurs when the Moon, Earth and Sun are arranged in a perfectly straight line. The Earth blocks some of the Sun's light and its shadow extends out into space. During an eclipse the Earth's shadow falls onto the Moon's surface causing it to appear dark when viewed from Earth. In fact some light does fall on the Moon's surface. This light has passed through the Earth's atmosphere where it has been filtered and refracted causing the Moon to appear deep red in colour.

Many modern digital cameras, particularly the increasingly popular "ultrazoom" compacts enable good quality photographs to be taken even under fairly difficult circumstances such as these. The photograph here was taken by Sam Paley of Year 10 using such a camera and a tripod to support it. An excellent example of what can be achieved without advanced equipment and just a little care.

**A TOTAL LUNAR ECLIPSE  
.....DID YOU SEE IT?**



## INTERMEDIATE MATHS CHALLENGE 2007

This term, it was the turn of our Year 9, 10 and 11 students to take part in the United Kingdom Mathematical Trust Maths Challenge competition, solving problems and logic puzzles.

Nazim Andani was placed highest, winning the Best In School award, closely followed by Alex Bembridge, Olivia Otway, Megan Watson, George Pidgeon and Brett Longstaffe. Olivia and George were the highest scorers in their year group.

The above six students all won Silver awards, and a further eight were awarded Bronze certificates, placing all of them in the top 40% nationally. Well done to all who took part! The Junior competition for Year 7 and 8 takes place in April.



## TIME FOR A SPLASH!



January 12th was an eagerly awaited day by the children in Year 2, as they were to have the first in a course of nine swimming lessons at Batley Sports and Leisure Centre. Some children had already been swimming before and were confident but for others going to a swimming pool was a new experience and was viewed with a degree of trepidation. By the second week even those children who approached the experience somewhat hesitantly were enjoying being in the water and by the end of the course were confident enough to jump in to the pool. As the weeks passed it was wonderful to see how all the children gained in confidence and expertise and how many of them are to continue swimming outside of school.

## TRAVELLING BOOK FAYRE



Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> March saw the start of Book Week in Priestley House. Whilst individual classes enjoyed and celebrated their favourite books in different ways many pupils, parents and teachers met together at lunch time and at the end of the day to browse and buy books and stationery at the "Travelling Book Fayre".

Many families took the opportunity to donate a book in memory of Pauline Jeffrey and all the wonderful work that she did in setting up and running our library. These will be personalised with a commemorative bookplate and will be placed in the library as a lasting tribute to Pauline. Later in the year we will be unveiling a plaque in the library in memory of this special lady. The book fayre raised an amazing £846.21, the commission of which has been used to buy further books for the library shelves. Our thanks go to all those who very willingly supported this event.

## CLIMBING CLUB – HANGING IN THERE!

Climbing Club has continued to meet on Monday evenings down at Leeds Indoor Climbing Wall. Frazer Hainsworth and Farhaan Shaikh have both passed their junior assessment qualifications and can visit the wall without an instructor. Inspired by these successes both boys have entered the local heats of the British Regional Youth Climbing Competition organised by the British Mountaineering Council. We wish them well in this national competition. Hang in there boys!

## DEBATING SOCIETY

The Debating Society have enjoyed a number of successes this term with Fiona Hepworth and Laura Kelly getting through to the second round of the English Speaking Union Debating Competition before being knocked out by a very strong team from Leeds Grammar School.

In the Daniel Nelstrop Competition our girls showed great passion and fluent rhetorical skills to get through two rounds and into the final where they will propose the motion This House believes 'We're all doomed'.

These performances have inspired others in the school to try their hand in a series of lunchtime debates organised by Mr Woodley.

James Hewitt and Joe Moynihan proposed the motion that This House Would Ban the Sale of Football Clubs to Foreign Buyers, but their trademark humour and spontaneity was unable to defeat the well prepared and strategic approach of Liam Chisholm and Jordan Webster.

In a practice debate for an external competition Fiona and Laura proposed the motion that This House is Terrified of Technology, picking up vital pointers from the strong opposition team of Nazim Andani and Mr Hussain.

Novices Jonathan Cook and Richard Geng, one of our Chinese students, won a landslide victory proposing that We Pull The Plug On Big Brother and its Celebrity Relations. Amaarah Akudi and Aysha Patel succumbed to self-consciousness and were unable to rally their fan base to keep their favourite TV programme.

We enjoyed a Troops out of Iraq debate with Lee Li and Mark Lajca taking on Nick Walter and Nazim Andani followed by Healthy Eating in Schools debate, with Alex Bembridge and Eleanor Wyatt taking on Daniel Archer and Jonathan Crewe.



We are now into the second round of our Batley Grammar School series. With such talent emerging from Year 10 the future once again looks bright for the Debating Society.

Fiona and Laura represented the school in the final of the Daniel Nelstrop Competition at the end of March and did exceedingly well to finish joint third in a field of very strong competition.



## BGS SUPPORTS FAIR TRADE

Mr Bowden and the Year 11 Geographers marked reaching the end of their syllabus and also Fair Trade fortnight with a "Fair Trade Breakfast". Students have been studying patterns of world development and looking at the inequities of world trade. They have made a pledge to try to help small scale farmers in the third world by buying Fair Trade products. They brought into school a wide variety of drinks, fruit and tasty snacks. Buying these products is just one of the many ways in which BGS students can act as responsible Global Citizens.

## HITLER ON TRIAL

Year 11 history students visited Bradford's Priestley Theatre for a GCSE revision course. In the morning they learned about what makes a good exam answer, then after a brief interval they saw 'Hitler on Trial', a mock trial of the German dictator on the charge of having caused the Second World War. Among the witnesses were Chamberlain, Mussolini and Hitler himself. Although skilful questioning by the defence barrister showed that Hitler was not solely responsible for the outbreak of war, the audience eventually voted that Hitler was guilty. Our students learned much from an enjoyable morning and their exam results should reflect this.

## ARMY SECTION MILITARY TRAINING WEEKEND 17-18 MARCH



23 cadets and three staff “enjoyed” two days of military training at Strensall Training Camp near York in spite of the cold weather!

On day one the activities included basher building, setting up a patrol harbour, section battle drills followed by section attacks and an ambush.

The cadets showed their resilience and fortitude as they “bivvied” out overnight in the wind, snow and rain, with only a 24hour ration pack to sustain them, and they still lived to tell the tale.

The next morning cadets took part in three further activities, the DCCT, LSW training and command tasks before returning home to join the Mother’s Day celebrations!

The majority of the cadets who took part were from years 10 and 11 but they were extremely well led by 3 senior NCOs, Sgt Nathan Barker, RSM Richard Wyatt and CSgt Laura Kelly.



## DUKE OF EDINBURGH’S AWARD



The Duke of Edinburgh’s Award expedition season has got under way with two one day walks in the Pennines. Twenty-four year 10 students took part in a 15km accompanied hike in March followed by a 15km unaccompanied hike (when of course some groups got well and truly lost!). Their next trip out is to the Yorkshire Dales in May then their Bronze Final expedition in Scotland during Half Term.

## AWARD FOR SCHOOL CAREERS

For the third year running Batley Grammar School has kept up its high standards in careers support for pupils. We retained our Quality Standards in Careers Education and Guidance award from Kirklees Careers after having re-applied and achieved the standard yet again....with flying colours.



We are one of only 15 schools and colleges in Kirklees to hold the standard, having passed the rigorous inspection against 12 criteria, showing that we offer our pupils, an excellent programme of careers education and guidance in line with national standards. Pictured above is Mr Peter Wilby, Head of Careers, receiving the award from Jack Costello, Chief Executive of Calderdale and Kirklees Careers.

## SOMETHING IN THE PIPELINE..... BGS WIN DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY TOURNAMENT

This year saw the first ever Design and Technology Tournament take place at the Frontier Club, Batley.

This event was organised by the International Rotary Club in a bid to promote this important subject area, teamwork and leadership within young people.

There were three levels of entry:

Basic (11 to 13 years),

Intermediate (14 to 16 years)

Advanced (17 to 18 years)

Each team consisted of four members. There were 25 teams entered in total in the competition from schools in the local area.

The challenge was to design and build a vehicle powered by an electric motor. This device was to travel through a test pipeline, over an obstacle from one end to the other, and then travel back to the start again in the quickest time possible.

Marks were awarded for team organisation, problem solving, development work along with the final testing of the prototype.

Batley Grammar School fielded four teams from Year 10.

**TEAM 1:** Mohammedamin Variava, Jamie Pickard, Jonathan Crewe, Danny El Koussy

**TEAM 2:** The winning team of Afeef Patel, Thomas Woolley, Ryan Bragan, Frazer Hainsworth,

**TEAM 3:** Miles Worsley, Joseph Davis, Joshua Mousavi, Asad Patel

**TEAM 4:** Megan Watson, Mohamed Variava, Farhaan Shaikh  
Well done to all who entered the competition.

At the end of the tournament Team 2 and Batley Grammar school were judged to be the overall winners of the Intermediate competition.

