in. view

The news magazine of
Prince Henry's Grammar School

Volume 47 Summer 2025

Award-winning achievements

Students step up to receive their Duke of Edinburgh Awards

Respect | Flourish | Achieve

Headteacher Sally Bishop with Peter Mao and Pippa Earney.

Welcome to the summer 2025 edition of *Inview* magazine

I AM immensely proud to share highlights of our 'exceptional school community' as endorsed by Ofsted inspectors in our 2025 report, confirming we are 'Outstanding' in all areas. The opportunities and experiences students and staff receive are second to none, and we were delighted they recognised that 'everyone has the opportunity to flourish' and that 'everyone can, and will, succeed in their future endeavours' through academic and enrichment opportunities. These quotes really do exemplify our wonderful school, where our culture of respect means that we can all flourish and achieve. We are privileged to be part of a special community, and I am sure you will agree that these pages, once again, reflect that. Enjoy!

Check mate(s)

CHESS is gaining worldwide popularity and students at Prince Henry's are big fans of the game, too. Since the relaunch of Chess Club this year, students from all year groups have been turning up at lunchtime to take each other on. "Chess is said to improve your planning, memory, concentration and problem-solving skills, as well as being fun, so it's great to see so many students coming along to the club," said Dr Koritsas.

Leading by example

IT has been another very successful year for the Sixth Form volunteering programme. Over 100 Year 12 students have given up their time to support younger students in Reading Club, SUMS Club, Peer Mentoring or by working with Year 7 form groups. Co-ordinator Miss Rosillo said, "Year 12 should be really proud of the positive contribution they have made, serving as fantastic role models for younger students as well as developing skills for their own future progression."

Charity champions

THE school community has been busy fundraising to support two causes selected by students this year: Wildlife Friendly Otley and the young suicide prevention charity Papyrus. Led by Senior Students and the Student Council, activities have included a Christmas movie event, an Easter tombola, a staff versus Sixth Form quiz and second-hand book stalls at parents' evenings. Year 7 students have also organised form group activities, bringing the total raised so far to over £5,100!

Sam Petrie, Head Student.

A stage sensation

Patrick Hardin and James Allwood.

THIS year's school production of *Les Misérables* was spectacular and has drawn plaudits from across the community. Every member of the company gave their all in one of the most challenging shows there is. Students were involved in every element, including lighting and sound design, set design and everything in between. Performing Arts Faculty Leader Mr Condry said, "The students involved were both inspired and inspiring, and everyone is looking forward to next year's show already!"

Connections through music

OUR jazz band was delighted to be asked to perform for members of our local community at the Wharfeside Care Home. Residents were treated to a 40-minute set of tunes specially selected for the occasion, covering a 50-year time period! The residents were so impressed that they have now established regular visits from two of our members – Robin Marsh (Year 13) and Toby Rollinson (Year 10). They have even booked the whole band for a return visit.

A powerful performance

KEY Stage 4 and 5 students performed to two sell-out audiences in the autumn term, when Prince Henry's staged its first original play, written by MFL teacher Mrs Burton and directed by Drama teacher Mr Weston. *Future Endings* is a powerful short play about four interconnected friends and one life-changing diagnosis and was inspired by the lives and experiences of young people.

Grace Clayborough, Amelie Pease, Hannah Young and Isabelle Corke.

Brilliant Biologists

YEAR 13 Biology students took part in the British Biology Olympiad (BBO) Challenge for the first time in February. The BBO challenges and stimulates students with an interest in Biology to extend their talents. Eleanor Davidson, Ethan Nila and Rhys Coulthurst did exceptionally well and were awarded 'Highly Commended' certificates.

Medical minds

THIS half term, a small group of Year 10 boys are spending a day at the University of Leeds on a 'Boys into Healthcare' programme. The dynamic taster day, led by experienced professionals and students, is designed to help our students learn about nursing, cardiac physiology and medical ultrasound.

Around the world with Prince Henry's...

Our students have been learning, competing and sightseeing in countries all over the world

An Icelandic adventure

OVER 90 Year 11 Geography students visited Iceland across two trips in March. They took in many important geographical sites, including the rift valley and the world's oldest parliament at Thingvellir National Park, and the striking waterfalls of Gullfoss and Skógafoss. Students also enjoyed a dip in the Secret Lagoon natural hot pools. This year, both groups were even lucky enough to see the northern lights.

Artistic inspiration in Amsterdam

IN March, A-Level Art, Photography and Textiles students visited Amsterdam's Architecture Centre and Royal Palace, along with galleries including the Van Gogh, Stedelijk and Rijksmuseum. They took in the stunning architecture, had a guided tour of Amsterdam's graffiti art and photographed their surroundings as inspiration for their portfolios. Area Leader for Art, Mrs Prince, said, "Students have all returned to class buzzing with ideas for their own projects."

A trip through history

STUDENT Eve Williams visited Berlin as part of October's Year 11 history trip. Eve said, "Guided by Wolfgang, our German Language Assistant, highlights included the 1936 Olympic Stadium and poignant landmarks like the Stasi Museum and remains of the Berlin Wall, which provided valuable context for our studies. We also went to the top of the iconic television tower in Alexanderplatz."

Year 9 students on safari.

Making memories in South Africa

OVER Easter, 87 Year 9 and 10 students went on a sports tour to South Africa, giving them an opportunity to engage in competitive sports while experiencing the country's cultural diversity. The programme included matches against local schools in Cape Town, a safari tour and sight-seeing in iconic locations like Table Mountain and Robben Island. Tour leader Mr Hyam said, "Students honed their rugby and netball skills whilst building lasting friendships and memories."

Year 12 students sample 'churros con chocolate'.

Studies in Spain

IN February, Year 12 and 13 Spanish students headed to Madrid, where they took in the Las Ventas bullring and Rastro flea market among other sights. They also sampled tapas, watched a flamenco show and spent time in our partner school practising their spoken language with their Spanish peers.

In March, 30 Key Stage 4 Spanish students travelled to Cordoba to learn about the culture and history of southern Spain. Highlights included a visit to the historic city of Seville and Cordoba's famous Mosque-Cathedral. Plus, they went to a traditional ceramic-making workshop and an Andalusian equestrian show.

Ethan Lee learns to make a traditional vase.

A further 400 students will also be travelling far and wide this term:

- Year 7 French trip to the Opal Coast
- Year 7 Spanish trip to Barcelona
- Year 8 German trips to Cologne
- Year 9 History trip to the French/Belgian Battlefields
- Year 7-13 Music Tour to Catalonia
- Year 12/13 Volunteering Expedition to The Gambia

Design & Technology triumph

IT'S been busy in the Design & Technology Faculty! Food students visited the School of Food and Nutrition at Leeds University and the Olianas Cheese Dairy in Otley, and Textiles students gained valuable research by visiting Sunnybank Mills. Meanwhile, Year 10 students were successful in the Rotary Club Technology Tournament in Gargrave, with Casimir Bremont-Mitchinson, Lottie Smith, Nyah Young and Toby Rollinson coming away with a prize. Well done to all the teams that participated.

Casimir Bremont-Mitchinson, Lottie Smith and Nyah Young.

Hitting the books

LEEDS author Anthony McGowan recently visited the school to speak to Year 7 students. They enjoyed hearing stories of his adventures and a dramatic reading of his latest book, *The Beck*. Year 7 and 8 students also marked Leeds Book Awards 2025 by voting on shortlisted books and meeting authors at May's Awards Ceremony.

Bands' night brilliance

THIS year's annual PHGS bands' night saw a record 12 bands playing to a sell-out audience at Otley Courthouse. Ten student bands, our jazz band (featuring 12 members and a brass section) and staff band, the Manic Creep Teachers, took part. It was a superb evening with all profits donated to Martin House Children's Hospice.

Emma Walters and Sasha Woodhead.

Art for all ages

YEAR 9 students have been working on a mural in Henry's Diner to promote our school vision of Respect, Flourish and Achieve. The project has helped to improve their artistic skills and build teamwork and responsibility.

Year 7 students worked with pupils from across the Collaborative Learning Trust on a project at Leeds Art Gallery, based on the work of Curtis Holder. Our pupils come from a wide range of cultural backgrounds and explored how art can be used to celebrate diversity.

Meanwhile, Year 11 Art students spent two days in London exploring the Tate Modern and National Portrait Gallery, amongst others.

Imogen Carruthers and Maisie Walker.

Layla Atkinson and Christian Dube.

Cycling smarter

THIS term, nearly 50 Year 7 and 8 students took part in Bikeability training with Cycle North to become safer on the roads. Most students passed Level 3 training, which focused on advanced road positioning, hazard perception and route planning, giving them the skills to confidently navigate busier roads. "It's great to see more students choosing healthy, sustainable travel by using their bicycles to travel to school after the training," said Pippa McPherson, Admin Manager: Community.

Sixth Formers mean business

SIXTH Form students travelled to London to see how business and economics concepts relate to real life. They visited Stamford Bridge to gain insights into operations at the Premier League club, enjoyed a nostalgic trip to the Museum of Brands and concluded with a tour of the financial district and Bank of England.

Eco-agogo!

OUR Eco-mmittee continues to flourish, achieving both the Eco School Award with Distinction and the Modeshift Stars Award for Best Secondary School Active Travel Plan in Leeds! Last term, they also met Katie White MP to discuss their leadership of sustainability and more recently, participated in the Leeds Climate Schools Youth Summit.

Awards season

AN incredible 17 Year 13 students will soon be heading to Buckingham Palace to receive their Duke of Edinburgh Gold Awards. This is in addition to the 100 students enrolled on the Bronze Award, 50 working towards Silver and 21 Year 12s 'going for Gold'.

Thank you to everyone who has supported our students by acting as a section assessor or by offering volunteering opportunities. If you work with a community organisation and need some help, please contact our DofE team.

Megan Whitaker, Rishi Pugal, Naima Kimuli and Harrison Rugg.

Getting hands-on with Geography

Anya Wilkin, Sibu Manda and Ava Wardman.

GEOGRAPHY students from each year group have had the opportunity to learn outside the classroom! This includes field trips to the east coast to study landform development and consider perceptions of coastal towns. Plus, infiltration investigations have taken place around the school grounds and along the River Wharfe. Sixth Form Geographers also visited Drax Power Station and the Recycling and Energy Recovery Facility in Leeds, while Year 7 will soon investigate flood risk in York.

Making history

IN a remarkable display, we have etched our name into rugby history by securing four Yorkshire Cup victories and taking a fifth team to the final. This achievement reflects years of dedication, hard work and teamwork by the players, making Henry's rugby a formidable force locally and nationally. The cup-winning U13/U14/U16/ U18 boys' age groups and U16 girls' finalists have set a high bar for teams next year to follow!

Team captains Tyler Shuckford, Holly Bourne, Tom Kitchingman, William Owen and William Lowans.

Volleyball on the rise

THERE has been a continued rise in interest in our Volleyball Club since its launch in 2023. "It has been great to witness inclusive participation with students from all backgrounds embracing a sport that encourages both teamwork and athleticism," said club leader Mr Gasson-Hudson.

Three cheers for our netball family

THIS year, over 150 girls have taken part in extra-curricular netball each week. Standout successes include U15s and U16s winning their league tournaments, and we are equally proud of the 20 girls who volunteer to support their peers by coaching and umpiring. The hard work, dedication and positive attitude of our netball family have not gone unnoticed, and we regularly receive compliments from other schools on their sportsmanship and commitment.

On the fast-track

FOLLOWING their success in the local and regional heats, this year, our junior boys raced in the final of the English Schools Cross Country Championships. A special mention goes to Eaden Lyons (Year 8), who not only had a blistering start out of the blocks but also finished 15/163 of the fastest runners in the country.

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