



# Nuntius

WIRRAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL  
A Business and Enterprise School for Boys

Summer 2017

## Wirral Globe Schools Award: Most Enterprising School

We were thrilled to once again win the award for **Most Enterprising School on the Wirral** following the continued focus to support charity fundraising across the school.

The House Captains' teams work tirelessly to motivate and support students and staff to put on a wide array of small and large scale charity events across the year, with hardly a week going by without an event. From cake sales, to fairs, staff karaoke to the 3 Peaks Challenge, it is testament to everyone's hard work and commitment across the school which has helped to win this award for the second year running.

Christopher Murphy - Lever House Captain



## A Celebration of Art and Design

Our Annual Art Exhibition took place towards the end of the summer term.

A wide variety of work from all year groups was displayed. The main focus was the opportunity to celebrate the high standard of both GCSE and A Level work which has recently been assessed and moderated. For the first time this year, displays of Design Technology work were also on show with product display work produced by this year's GCSE Design students. The joint exhibition was an excellent demonstration of the creative talents of so many of our students.

Pictured here are some of the items on display.



## U6 Leavers' Breakfast

Friday 26th May was the last official school day for our Year 13 students ahead of their A Level exams.

During the morning they attended a leavers' breakfast, said their farewells to staff and received their Year Books and Prom tickets. For most this was the end of a seven year journey which began in September 2010. We wish them all every success and happiness for the future.





## Headteacher's Welcome

Dear All

And so another academic year draws to a close. There is an established rhythm to the school year that stands the test of time. While there are similarities between schools which are mainly driven by the external examination season, there is a uniqueness to the school year pattern at Wirral Grammar School for Boys.

Our sports fixture list is well established and it is almost possible to spot a date by the fixture. Our calendar of musical events is similar each year with our termly concerts, Music Competition and Music Society events. Alongside our highly successful and established annual events, each year brings new events and opportunities and even the same event brings fresh perspectives each year. Our Art Exhibition for example this year displayed fresh and exciting talents with work on show from pupils of all ages. Our House Event calendar has been a full one and the positive impact on charity fundraising speaks for itself. Once again our House Captains and Vice Captains have proved themselves to be excellent student leaders alongside our Head Boy Team who have provided inspiration to pupils in lower years. Thanks to the good will of both teaching and support staff there has been a rich variety of visits and a significant number of overseas ones. During this term alone we have had an English visit to London for Year 8, the Year 10 Field Trip to the Goyt Valley, Bronze, Silver and Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award Expeditions and overseas visits to Melilla in Spain, Barcelona and at the end of term the Music Society Concert Tour to Belgium and Holland.

During the Summer Term, our new student leaders have been appointed and elected and once again we have a very high calibre of House Captains and Vice Captains, Prefects, Senior Prefects, Deputy Head Boys and Head Boy. I have no doubt that all students concerned will rise to the challenge and prove to be superb role models.

At the end of term we said our farewells to a number of departing staff: Mr Alan Davies, Teacher of English is retiring after 22 years of service; Mrs Janet Hughes, Teacher of Mathematics is retiring after 38 years of service; Mr Ray Humphreys, Teacher of Geology is retiring after 47 years as a teacher, having spent the last 6 years at Wirral Boys; Mr Jonas Tattersall, Teacher of Music is taking up a new post at Wirral Girls. We also say farewell to Miss Jennifer Jones, Temporary Learning Support Assistant who is leaving to start a Teacher Training Programme at Weatherhead High School and Miss Grace Baylis, Miss Grace Baylis, Temporary Learning Support Assistant who is leaving to undertake an MA in London in 'Applied Theatre'. We wish them all the very best for the future.

Finally, I wish to thank all parents for the excellent support that they have again given the school this year and I hope that all families enjoy a relaxing summer break. Our new academic year commences on Wednesday 6th September. We have a phased return to help new boys settle in and full details of this are on our school website.

Best wishes

D R Hazeldine  
Headteacher

## Welcome to our New Head Boy Team

**We are very pleased to announce the appointment of our Head Boy Team for the next academic year, 2017- 2018.**

The selection and appointment process involved student and staff nominations, followed by interviews. The following students have been appointed:

**Head Boy:** **Sam Spencer**

**Deputy Head Boys:** **Calum Heslop and Jamie Taylor**

**Senior Prefects:** **David Noble, Daniel Carter, Frank Larty and Robert Evans**

Congratulations to all seven on their successful appointment to these leadership roles. We wish our new Head Boy Team every success for their period of office in 2017-2018

Many thanks to our outgoing Head Boy Team for their excellent services to the school: Haydn Ward (Head Boy), Max Derbyshire (Deputy Head Boy), Joshua Beale (Deputy Head Boy), Matthew Bowen (Senior Prefect), Joseph Houghton (Senior Prefect) and Freddie Tedstone (Senior Prefect).



## Headboy's Introduction

**I have to start with a massive "thank you!" on behalf of myself and the rest of my Team, to Mr Hazeldine, Mr Askew and – perhaps most of all – our fellow U6, who together appointed the seven of us to our prestigious positions in the Head Boy Team.**

It is an incredible feeling to have been given this position of trust and I'm sure all seven of us will agree that our year, 2017-18, will be dedicated to repaying this. Talks have already started about our intentions for next year and, I promise you, we have some very interesting plans, not just a continuation of our school's cake sale economy!

It's daunting picking up from where Haydn Ward and his team left off. Only in the past month or so, when I have started taking up my Head Boy duties, have I realised the true scale of what goes on behind-the-scenes in everything he does – I take my hat off to him! A brilliant ambassador to the school; not easy boots to fill!

Sam Spencer – Head Boy

# Farewell from Haydn Ward (Headboy)

**With the end of this academic year now in sight, this will unfortunately be my final Nuntius update.**

Over the course of the year I have seen fantastic efforts both from students and staff regarding fundraising for Prostate Cancer UK. With great pride, I can inform you that our current charity total sits in excess of £10,000 and we still have a few weeks before the end of the term to extend that figure.

On behalf of the Student Leadership Team we urge you to raise as much as possible before the year concludes. Finally, I would like to thank the Head Boy Team and the House Captains for all their hard work this year. You have been superb! A huge thanks also to all the boys for their enthusiasm and contributions. I look forward to seeing our final total!

## House Captains 2017/2018

**We are pleased to announce the results of the House Captain elections:**

LEVER HOUSE Sam Wood (Captain), Martyn McInulty (Deputy);

DODDS HOUSE Connor Johnston (Captain), Jamie Greer (Deputy);

HODGSON HOUSE Jamie Irvine (Captain), Jonathan Beaver (Deputy);

BARBER HOUSE Nathan Simons (Captain), Kamal Ahmed (Deputy).



Congratulations to all and thanks to our outgoing House Captains for their services to their Houses and the school this year: Chris Murphy (LEVER), Matthew Dalton (BARBER), Oubai Ahmed (DODDS) and Harry Hunt (HODGSON)

## House Captains

**We stage a full election for House Captains each year: with candidate applications, interviews, hustings and a formal ballot it is a very important day in every academic year as this is the one role you are elected to by your peers and it is a huge one.**

Our school really embraced the House spirit 7 years ago and since then it has grown into the backbone of our school community. We are definitely a little bit like Hogwarts with banners and emblems and even a sorting hat! You would be hard pushed to find a day in our school calendar which isn't accompanied by a House activity. From charity events to House quizzes, we feel it is vital to get all students involved and along the way we have succeeded in making between £12,500 and £15,000 per year for local charities chosen by us. This year our PSG team have once again won the Princess Diana Award and our House team have won the Wirral Globe Schools Award for 'Most Enterprising School' for their work on charity which involved the 3 Peaks Challenge, Rowathons and many other fun and often wacky ideas.

The SSAT Leadership award has been vital in helping understand how our roles within the Student Leadership team have helped us develop communication skills, interpersonal skills, leadership skills and a voice within our wider school community which will enable us to talk with confidence in future employment or University interviews. Many of us have gained the Silver Award in Year 12 and have gone on to gain the Gold Award in Year 13.





# House Matters: Farewell from our Current House Captains



## Lever House

### House Captain: Christopher Murphy

The year is coming to a close and what a year it has been for Lever. At the start of the year Jack and I set a target to raise at least £1,000 this year for charity

– this was a conservative target and the absolute minimum that we wanted to achieve. Nine months later and you have surpassed all my expectations – we are now very close to raising £2,000 for Prostate

Cancer UK which is a remarkable achievement. It is a huge credit to all your hard work and dedication over the year and I would like to personally thank each and every one of you – staff and parents included. We have just had the results of the House

Captain Elections and I would like to welcome Sam Wood to the role as my successor and Martyn McInulty as his Deputy. I have no doubt that you both will have no problem in leading the house to another successful year come September. At this stage in the year the exams are just around the corner so I would like to wish everybody the best of luck!



## Barber House

### House Captain: Matthew Dalton

The commitment and effort from the boys in Barber has continued to impress me through my final term in this school. Despite a tight battle with Hodgson competing for that third spot, I think the contributions from a lot of the forms have been second to none and definitely something to be proud of.

Moving forward I feel like in order for Barber to get back on the top of the table they need to find themselves their own main event that is going to be a keeper for many years to come. The good reputation of the Barber name has continued to shine with a very impressive commendation total ahead of the make or break sports day. I'm sure Barber can continue to repeat their brilliant sports form and use the grand stage of sports day to prove to the rest of the school what we can do. As my time as a House Captain comes to a close, I get a great sense of pride when I think about everything we have done as a house in the whole time I have been at this school especially during the last academic year. This is why I would like to thank the staff, parents and most of all the pupils for making this a brilliant experience for me as a House Captain and for the outstanding contributions to our charity 'MenUnited'. I am looking forward to hearing about the success of the House next year when Nathan and Kamal take over. Make sure to get behind the new House Captain and Deputy House Captain because they are a huge asset to Barber house. Keep the effort up in the last term and let's finish on a high!

## Student Leadership Award

**At Wirral Grammar School  
For Boys we have many  
branches of student  
leadership which are  
integral to the development  
of our teaching, learning  
and pastoral community.**



From Head Boys teams and prefects, House Captains and Junior Captains, School Council, House Council, Peer Support Group, to ISV Group

(Our Teaching & Learning Leaders) and Year 7 mentors there are opportunities for all students to have their ideas and concerns heard, or find an avenue for support. We, as students, feel our voices are heard by the Senior Leaders in the school and we can impact upon change.

This year 13 students have been awarded their Gold Leadership Awards and 5 have been awarded their silver awards in recognition of their leadership skills which they have developed in various roles throughout their seven years in the school. Thank you to all students who have taken part in any level of student leadership this year. The Student Leadership Award is an official programme supported by the School, Students and Teachers Network.

Mrs H Davies



## Hodgson House

### House Captain: Harry Hunt

I am extremely proud to have been

Hodgson house captain this year. The contribution and hard work I have seen from a variety of students has been humbling and I can't thank them enough for their contributions to our events this year. Though Hodgson has not come first, the support I have received is immense and I am delighted with everything we have achieved so far this year as a house. In total we have raised £1,300 and succeeded in coming third overall. Thanks to my Deputy House Captain Ben Dobbins for his phenomenal support throughout the year and I wish him all the luck in the future. Acting as the House Captain has been an honour and a pleasure and I can't express my gratitude to the school enough. I would also like to wish the best of luck to next year's house captains, Joe Irvine and John Beaver.



## Dodds House

### House Captain: Oubai Ahmed

Dodds House are currently second in both charity and house commendations, but we will still fight for first place with Lever. Nevertheless, it's been amazing

to have been House Captain and to work with everyone raising almost £2,000 as a House! I have to thank D/IPT greatly however, for they raised nearly £500 alone! Regardless of position with the other houses, Alex and I have had a great time working with the other House Captains with events such as the Santa Dash and the Easter Fair. I wish the best for the future House Captains, and hopefully they can raise even more next year.

# Welcome from our New House Captains



## Lever House

### **Sam Wood – Lever House Captain**

It is truly a great honour to be elected as Lever House Captain for next year and I would like to thank all staff and students who voted. Thanks to the hard work of Chris and Jack, Lever has been the best performing house this academic year in terms of charity and commendation totals. I will endeavour to maintain and further the great success that Lever has recently enjoyed. The house community has always made school more enjoyable for me and I would like to repay Lever and create many more fun memories next year.



### **Martyn McInulty – Lever Deputy House Captain**

I feel immensely privileged being elected for the position of Deputy House Captain. This prestigious role gives the opportunity to partake in the decisions made for our school and represent Lever to the best of my ability. I am enthusiastic to start working with other deputies and heads to achieve success for the school. As once said by Dr Seuss; “you have brains in your head and feet in your shoes .... you can steer yourself in whatever direction you choose.” I intend to use these words as my inspiration to move forward and succeed together with Sam Wood. I am approachable and open to new ideas, so please feel free to contact me if my assistance is needed. It’s going to be a good year!



## Barber House

### **Nathan Simons – Barber House Captain**

I will start by saying that obviously I am honoured to be selected to be the Barber House Captain, especially by a vote of my fellow peers. For me, one of the greatest things about being the House Captain is that this is the first time that I have been able to step forward in life and seize such a magnificent opportunity. Even applying for the position for me is a big step forward, let alone being elected as the student leader of the House. Barber has a big journey ahead next academic year and I hope I have the support and trust of staff and students to support the House to grow and be the best it can be. Hopefully, under my leadership, Barber will make a return to the top or at the very least, take a step in the right direction.



### **Kamal Ahmed – Barber Deputy House Captain**

I'd like to thank the students and teachers of Barber who voted for me and I'm extremely thankful to have a leading role amongst the greatest house in the School, Barber, working alongside Nathan, to 'improve' on our Houses recent performance, raising even more money for the charity as well as gaining more commendations and a higher participation in activities through the endeavour and performance of every one lucky enough to be in Barber. I'm eager to face the challenges of what is to come whilst helping create many more charity events and other various activities to create memories within the school as well as leaving a long-lasting impact within the house and school.



## Hodgson House

### **Joe Irvine – Hodgson House Captain**

Being elected as House Captain is an honour and privilege, and I would like to thank everyone who has put their trust in me. My aim as Hodgson House Captain is to make house participation more enjoyable and encourage healthy competition between the houses. Along with my Deputy House Captain Jonny, I am confident we can achieve a successful campaign for Hodgson next year and even better than that, have a longstanding impact in Hodgson and hopefully be the catalyst to success. The true potential of Hodgson is yet to be achieved and I am certain that I can be the man to unlock this potential and start winning.



### **Jonathan Beaver – Hodgson Deputy House Captain**

thank you to everyone who voted for me to be Hodgson House Captain, and the fact that I came second overall means that I can work throughout the year alongside Joe to make Hodgson a better house. We will aim to bring more events that people will enjoy and want to participate in, and our friendship will enable Hodgson to be more competitive than previous years. The main aim will be to raise as much money for charity as possible, by bringing fun events to the house and making sure Hodgson rise higher in the leader boards than earlier years, and above the other houses.



## Dodds House

### **Connor Johnston – Dodds House Captain**

I am filled with pride and honour to have the privilege of being Dodds' House Captain this year. I am more motivated than ever to see Dodds through to its highest potential. With hard work, I know that I can secure Dodds' reputation of being a competitive house. I'd like to thank Oubai Ahmed for all his previous work and am confident that I can build upon his secure foundations of what Dodds is today. My Deputy, Jamie Greer, and I will be working closely with individual forms and other Houses, using good-spirited competition to fuel ourselves to the top of the charity and house commendation tables. I cannot think of a better way to repay my house and the school for its services to me these past five years.



### **Jamie Greer – Dodds Deputy House Captain**

It is an absolute privilege to have been elected Deputy House Captain of Dodds House. I'm excited at the prospect of working with Connor this year to get Dodds to the top of the charity and commendation tables. Outperforming the work of last year's House Captains will not be easy, but we are more than ready for the challenge. I hope that we can raise as much money for charity as well as having students engaged in our fundraising events and promoting a good image for the school. With the great support of staff and students alike, I know we will be able to do this. Let's seize this opportunity we have, and make the most of it.



## Supporting Primary School SATS

**Our Year 12 English Language class offered their expertise to Year 6 pupils at Gayton Primary School this term to help them revise for their English (SPAG) SAT.**

In teams they each created mini revision activities on each of the grammar features the students had to revise for their exam. Both Year 6 and Year 12 enjoyed the opportunity to learn from each other.

George Manger Year 12B/LEM



## Year 8 English Trip to London

**A fun-packed extravaganza was arranged by the English department for 41 Year 8 pupils.**



Highlights of the trip included 'Harry Potter World'; Shakespeare's Globe Theatre, the 'Dickens' and 'Foundling' museums and the award winning theatrical production of 'The Woman in Black' at the Fortune Theatre, Covent Garden.

Mrs K Campbell, English Department

## World Book Day

**Pupils in Years 7-10 took part in our biggest ever World Book Day celebrations in March, meeting 4 published authors.**

Staff dressed up as characters from 'The Great Gatsby' or fictional detectives and a sizeable sum was made from the book sale to facilitate the purchase of new fiction for the Library

Mrs K Campbell

## Linguistics Olympiad

**This year, members of the linguistics society performed particularly well in the Olympiad.**



Naseem Veevers 9B/

RR and Matthew Barton 9L/DW achieved bronze at foundation level. Ben Jones 9B/RR and Daniel Taylor 9H/HM achieved silver at foundation level. Owen Salem 13L/LW achieved a gold at both foundation and intermediate level. The linguistics society is open to all people.

Ben Jones 9B/RR

## Author Day

**30 pupils took part in a 'meet and greet' at Wirral Grammar School for Girls at the end of April as part of the School's involvement with the 'Wirral Paperback of the Year' competition.**

Some comments by attendees included: "Martin Griffin was the most interesting author because of his dry wit and appealing way of telling stories" (Thomas Armstrong -Year 7) and "It was rather enlightening to hear how it is to really be an author" (Hari Manohar -Year 8)

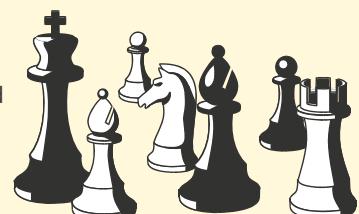
## Chess National Finals in sight

**Our chess team has qualified for the National School Championships Final with a tense win over Urmston Grammar School.**

Due to unforeseen circumstances, we were without our usual board 2, which meant that other players had to float up boards. However, we coped with this admirably, and played well. Things didn't seem to be going our way at the start of the match as, perhaps due to the tension, our players on boards 3, 5 & 6 had losing positions with other games unclear. A flurry of results saw Dave Williams on board 4 pulling off another impressive win, and our boards 3, 5 & 6 succumbing to defeat, leaving us 3-1 down with boards 1 & 2 remaining. I soon won my game on board 1, leaving James Lee needing a win to tie the encounter at 3-3. Almost an hour later (after a lot of nail biting) James got the breakthrough he needed and quickly won. Our superior board count (having won on boards 1, 2, & 4) meant that we were the winners of the North West Regional Finals and would progress to the National Finals.

The finals take place at Uppingham School (near Peterborough) early in July. It will be an enjoyable and memorable occasion for the team, as we face the best schools in the country in a 16 team, 4 round event. As the Southern teams competing are very strong (including internationally titled players), it will be a success for the team to win just one of our four matches, which I think we are very capable of doing. The squad travelling to the National Finals will be: David Williams (U6), George Hardcastle (U6), James Lee (Y11), Thomas Carroll (Y10), Seth Collinson (Y10), Shubo Deb (Y8), and James Carroll (Y7). Thank you to all who have played for the team this year in the qualifying rounds and especially to Mrs Turner for organising the matches and the trip down to Uppingham School.

Thomas Carroll 10H/GE



## Berlin Trip 2017

**I, like 60 other boys, was looking forward to the Berlin trip as soon as I received my confirmation letter and it didn't disappoint.**



## Salters' Festival of Chemistry

**Last month, four keen Year 8 Chemistry students attended Liverpool John Moores University with Mr Mountford.**

The team consisted of Andrew Marriott (8H/HM), Ellis Gaskell-Bilsborough (8B/RR), William Hedges (8B/SCS) and Shubojit Deb (8D/AJ). So, what was the Salters' Festival and what did we do? The Festival was an event to test the scientific knowledge and practical skills of each group which involved over 60 Year 7 and Year 8 pupils from across the North West. The objective was to achieve first place in the two challenges. The competition was tough as there were 13 different schools and there were two challenges: The Salters' Challenge and The University Challenge.

During the morning, we completed the Salters' Challenge and had to solve a complex murder mystery. For this we split into two groups, examined forensic evidence taken from an imaginary crime scene and used this to help identify the murderer. After lunch we were introduced to the University Challenge which tested the scientific knowledge of everyone in our group. Working together we had to create a chemical reaction to finish in exactly 30 seconds, given 10-20 minutes to prepare the reaction and the judges would time your reaction with a stopwatch to see at which time the chemical reaction occurs at. At the end of the day, there was an Award Ceremony for the prizes and we achieved second place in the University Challenge.

I enjoyed the event tremendously and learnt an incredible amount of practical skills. I also learnt the true power of teamwork. Everyone in our group knew what they were doing and put a lot of effort into the challenges and because of this, our runners up prize felt hugely honourable and well deserved. I loved every second of the Salters' Festival and I would go again.

Shubojit Deb 8D/AJ



With excellent accommodation, the trip was full of learning and laughs; this was due to the fact that the teachers were fun, with a brilliant and knowledgeable guide and provided us with lots of fun things to do.

Our trip involved visits to the former Concentration Camp at Sachsenhausen which saw evidence of the evils of Nazi Germany, the site where the Holocaust was planned at the Wannsee Villa, the world famous Berlin Zoo and Aquarium all of which were very interesting. The highlight of the trip for me was going to the Olympic Stadium, where we had a tour of the stadium, the venue of the 1936 Games and the triumph of Jesse Owens.

I would like to say thank you to all the teachers who made the trip happen, especially Mr McKibbin who took a lot of time to organise it but also to Mr Taws, Mr Walker, Mr C Hughes and Mr Metcalf. I look forward to going to Belgium and the Netherlands on next year's History trip!

James Outram 9H/GE

## River Goyt Field Study

**On Tuesday 20th June 57 Year 10 boys set off on a Geography field trip to the River Goyt in the Peak District National Park.**

The Goyt Valley is located between Macclesfield and Buxton, very close to the Cheshire-Derbyshire border. After an early start we arrived at our meeting point, England's second highest pub – 'The Cat and Fiddle' which stands at 1690 feet above sea level. From there, we split up into groups of 5 and assembled all the equipment needed throughout the day. After a short walk down Axe Edge Moor, we reached the first of 4 stops where data could be collected from a small section of the river to look at river changes down-stream as part of our GCSE Course. After all of the results had been collected, we walked the last few miles to Errwood reservoir where the coach and a very happy ice cream awaited us. The trip was productive, successful and very enjoyable, given the excellent weather and should give all pupils a better understanding of how rivers work.

Thomas Green 10D/JDH





## Spanish Trip to Melilla

**This year in Spanish, our class has formed a strong partnership and relationship with a school in Melilla, who we hope will visit England soon.**

Year 9A have made a link with our partner school in Melilla to practise our Spanish and boost our confidence. This experience has really helped our language skills improve as we get to learn more conversational and friendly Spanish and we think it's definitely becoming more of a second nature rather than a second language.

Having studied the region's culture and history we are also raising awareness about healthy eating and will teach Year 7s about healthy foods in Spanish. We will track the year 7s' eating habits and make sure they become super-healthy kids. We will also be working with the students by translating documents about healthy eating in our school, compared with Melilla which will expand our relationships with the children. An exchange is really important as it helps everyone become more confident and puts you straight into the deep end of learning a language.

Our whole class is very grateful for this experience as we have been chatting and Skyping for a couple of months now. We have made so many new friends and have learned so many new words and phrases along the way. We look forward to seeing the school soon and we thank Miss Burns and the Spanish teacher Sam, for teaming up and giving us this amazing opportunity. Thank you very much (again!) and we look forward to whatever this journey will bring us next!

Logan Wade 9/BKC



## Barcelona Visit

**On Wednesday the 24th May  
Years 9 and 10 visited Barcelona.**

Our first day involved a visit to the Science Museum where we explored for a couple of hours before lunch before heading off to see the Sagrada Familia, built by Gaudi. Day 2 consisted of a full day at Portaventura theme park where we could go anywhere we wanted whether it be the huge Shambala or the Tutuki Splash to get drenched. Back at our chalet

accommodation we still managed to squeeze in another pool session where our tour guide Michael decided it would be a good idea to have a water polo tournament. On day 3, we visited the Villanova markets to see life in Barcelona, followed by Port Vell and then a couple of hours playing football on the beach. Later during the day we visited the busy Las Ramblas and walked through the bustling market. We had dinner at The Hard Rock Café and then ended the day at Montjuic Fountain to watch the show. On Sunday, our last day, we revisited Montjuic Castle to climb the stairs to the top and see the view

of Barcelona. We then visited the Olympic Stadium, followed by a tour of the FC Barcelona Stadium. I would like to thank all the staff who organised this trip, one I will never forget. We also received great feed back from the tour company congratulating the boys on their excellent behaviour... "your pupils were excellent when it came to good manners and respect to others"... Thanks to all of the staff who accompanied the boys on this visit and for giving them such an amazing experience in such a wonderful city.

Ved Goswami 9B/JHH



## Drama Cup 2017

This year's Drama Cup has unusually been won by three actors. This is a tribute to the outstanding talent in the current Drama Society as well as the individual abilities of the winners. They have all performed in at least the last four productions and they are amongst the finest performers ever to appear on our stage.



### **Joe Wilkes**

Joe has appeared in West Side Story, as a member of the Sharks, in Evita, Our House, and finally as the Reverend Shaw Moore in this year's Footloose. Joe's was an intense portrayal of a man burdened with the grief about the death of his son. It was a deeply mature performance, in which Joe immersed himself in his character, finally becoming it.

### **Dan Carter**

Footloose was Dan's fifth acting role and his second as the lead. Dan is a highly gifted performer. He can act, dance and sing as well, if not better, than any young person I have worked with. Following his bravura performance in Our House, in which he rarely left the stage and played two characters, in Footloose he took on the iconic role of Ren, originally played by Kevin Bacon in the famous film. His was a charismatic, high energy performance in which he triumphed in every element of the part. Dan is a total professional in everything he does.

### **David Noble**

David has also appeared in five productions, and he is a consummate artist. His last two lead performances have drawn on his amazing talent for comedy acting. This reached its zenith in Footloose in which he became Willard, the eccentric but loyal friend of Ren. His performance was mesmerising, very funny, and very much his own. It threatened to bring the house down. He has a natural feeling for comic timing and this made his one of the funniest performances I have ever seen in these productions.

Mr G R Hinde MBE  
Musical Director

## Liverpool Rocks Battle of the Bands

**On Saturday 29 April 2017 Zulu, a band made up of 5 members of our Year 11 boys, won the final of the Liverpool Rocks Battle of the Bands.**



This competition had been made up of several rounds with bands from all over the North West of England. We are very proud to announce that the band (Dylan Owen, Harry Mackenzie, Harry McKenzie, Matthew McLoughlin and Daniel Langley) have overcome all opposition to take this crown – a huge congratulations to all of them. We look forward to seeing much more from Zulu in the future!

## 'Poetry by Heart' competition winner

**Congratulations to Michael Maxwell in Year 8 who has won an award from 'Poetry by Heart' for his Shakespeare Sonnet recitation.**

Judges commented that "Michael brought an impressive seriousness to his recitation of sonnet 145 and we found the pacing of the second half of the sonnet to be particularly effective. Michael conveyed a very clear understanding of a sonnet with an unusual metre." Michael is pictured here being presented with his award by Dr Warren who organised the competition for the boys. The purpose of the competition is to commemorate the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare's birth.

Internal school runners-up were Shubojit Deb and Paddy Dobbins. They faced some stern competition from other Year 8 pupils: Oliver, Jack, Louie, James, Krishna, Jacob, Nathan, Luke and Ben who were also excellent. Well done to all.

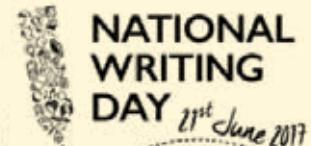
Dr Warren – English Department



**POETRY BY HEART**

## National Writing Day

**9Q participated in the National Writing Day in June, taking advantage of the beautiful weather to find inspiration in the great outdoors.**





# Music Department Update

## Wednesday 26th April saw another outstanding collection of solo performances in the summer Chamber Concert.

All 25 boys performed admirably and were well received by an appreciative audience.

**A particular mention should go to the 13 boys who performed for the first time – never an easy thing to do – including the following boys in year 7:**

**Daniel Chillingworth (clarinet)**

**Elim Myers-Shone (saxophone)**

**Daniel Warner (baritone)**

**Nicholas Lewis (piano)**

**Kresten Calvert (guitar)**

**Alfie Hunt (piano)**

Continuing the Department's visits to primary schools during the summer term, we were able to visit 4 schools on Wednesday 21 June. The Junior Brass Group, String Group, Woodwind Group, Fiddle Group, Yr7 Choir, Clarinet Sextet and Pop Choir, as well as a number of soloists performed at Raeburn, Christ the King, St Peters and Barnston primary schools throughout the day, and over 70 boys, mostly in years 7-10 were involved. 71 local primary schools have now received performances in the last 17 years, and this is now one of the Department's most important annual events.

All of these groups and more performed to the usual high standard at the Summer Concert on Thursday 6 July, whilst the Music Society Dinner proved to be its normal gastronomic success on Friday 8 July. Many thanks to our Guest of Honour Mr Jonathan Small, principal oboist of the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, for a most enjoyable speech, along with the other members of the Music Forum reporting on their ensembles.



A number of boys took music examinations this term, but with the results not yet with us, congratulations will have to wait for Autumn's Nuntius. However, the results from some of last term's exams did not make the Spring edition of Nuntius.

Congratulations therefore to the following list of successful candidates, and to the high number of merits and distinctions:

Name	Form	Instrument	Grade	Result
Anthony Marriott	7H/GWG	Violin	3	Merit
Kresten Calvert	7B/SCS	Guitar	3	Pass
Jude Diamond	8D/AJ	Guitar	2	Merit
James Binns	9B/KJ	Guitar	6	Distinction
Ted Hopkins	10B/AMC	Keyboard	1	Distinction
Ruben Holt	10L/MY	Keyboard	3	Distinction
Christopher Wood	11D/IPT	Keyboard	1	Merit
John Fleetwood	11D/NM	Keyboard	4	Distinction
Morgan Williams	11L/ELJ	Keyboard	5	Merit
Oliver Fradgley	L6H/SLJA	Trumpet	6	Pass

On Sunday 9 July, William Bracken U6D/NM played Rachmaninov's epic 3rd piano concerto in his debut performance at the Liverpool Philharmonic Hall. Joining forces with Crosby Symphony Orchestra, he gave a command performance to a delighted audience. Many thanks to all who supported the concert, and best wishes to Will as he embarks on a career as a concert soloist. If this performance is anything to go by, you will soon be hearing of Will headlining concerts up and down the country.

As you read this, 57 boys and 7 staff will be in the middle of a 7 day tour to Belgium and Holland. Performing as part of the international Ghentfest, the Concert band have much to look forward to, whilst the choir also has a prestigious concert lined up in the main Cathedral in Brussels. There are many excursions planned as well of course, and whilst the chocolate factory, canal cruise and theme park may be the highlight for some, the WWI battlefields tour followed by a moving performance by the clarinet sextet and chamber choir by the Menin gate in Ypres may live longer in the memory.

Finally - and as I always say - as the long summer months get under way with a vengeance, remember that 7 weeks without music lessons does not mean 7 weeks without practice!

Mr P Thomas  
Music Department



# Footloose 2017

**This year's joint production was 'Footloose', a musical based on the classic Kevin Bacon movie.**

It's about a single mother, Ethel McCormack (played by Naomi Beale) and her son Ren (Daniel Carter), who move from the big city of Chicago to a small Midwestern town 'Bomont'. Ren soon discovers that the Reverend (Joe Wilkes) had outlawed dancing. Determined to convince him otherwise, he seeks the help of his new friends: Willard Hewitt (David Noble), Rusty (Xanthe Cummings) and Ariel- the Reverend's daughter (Melissa Macaulay). Along the way, Ren learns some valuable lessons and changes his perspective, helping to heal the town from a tragedy that affected them all in the process.

This lively upbeat show focuses on modern social issues among teenagers, yet still entertaining for all ages. The show was a huge success and proved very popular, resulting in packed audiences every night and sell-outs accompanied by standing ovations at every performance. A lot of hard work and effort went into this production by everyone involved who grew close as a cast and brought so much happiness and value to 'Footloose'. Under the direction of Mr Hinde, musical direction of Mr Tattershall and choreography of Claire Cooper, Grace Bayliss and Jenny Jones, a unique and "professional" version of Footloose was put together. All of the rehearsals and preparation created the most uplifting, successful and loved production the Drama Society has seen, giving us all an experience we won't forget. I would highly recommend anyone interested to audition for the production next year, or you may regret missing out. I know I would have. Thank you again on behalf of myself and others to the people who provided such an opportunity.

Ava Heeney, Wirral Grammar School for Girls



## Performance Awards

**Cast members from Wirral Grammar School for Girls who took part in this year's school production 'Footloose', are awarded a certificate for their outstanding performance.**

Pictured (left to right) Naomi Beale, Megan Cox, Rebekah Brown, Melissa Macauley and Ellie Hinchliffe



**RENT  
20th – 24th  
March 2018**

**Next year's joint school production will be 'Rent' - an inspiring musical about friends and artists struggling with addiction, poverty, AIDS and most of all, love.**

Set in the East Village of New York City, Rent is about falling in love, finding your voice, living for today and a story that resonates with audiences of all ages.

**AUDITIONS for RENT will take place in September. Please collect an audition piece from the School Office. Previous experience is not required!**





## Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award Presentation Evenings

In early May, boys who had completed their Bronze qualifying expedition gave a presentation of their experiences to Mr Hazeldine (Headteacher), Miss Strand and Mr Todd (their assessors) and parents.

We did not know what to expect of the evening, as this was the first time we had tried this event. It was a great experience for the



boys, especially standing on the school stage and I was overwhelmed with their confidence and professionalism. Over 90 boys have now completed their expedition section, in what has been another successful Wirral Grammar Bronze Duke of Edinburgh year.

Mr McKinney  
WGS Duke of Edinburgh Co-Ordinator

## WGSB First Student to Complete Gold DofE



The Duke of Edinburgh Award is internationally famous and I have had the good fortune to complete all of the stages in my time at Wirral Grammar School for Boys.

I've had many experiences along the way, ranging from refreshing escapes in the countryside to trudging through knee-deep puddles, wondering if it is all worth it. I got my first taste of what was to come in Year 10 when I took part in the Bronze practice expedition. Silver Award saw us endure some of the worst weather in years from gale force winds to 33°C heat. Fortunately, the School made the great decision to allow boys in L6 to take part in the Gold Award by working with the Conway Centre. This was the first year that this became an option and I only hope it continues. As with every stage, the difficulty had increased as we were now expected to complete a gruelling four-day hike. Throughout my expeditions, I had to fight through a lot of difficulties but looking back now I realise that it was this adversity that makes the experience so memorable. In between the struggle, there were moments of joy that couldn't be replicated anywhere else. I can't encourage people to take part in the award more as though it seems difficult, it is great to look back and reflect.

Will Ashworth 13L/BDO

## Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Expedition

We completed our Duke of Edinburgh Expedition on 28th March 2017.

Surprisingly enough the weather was fine and just right for our trek. I was in group 4 and there were seven in total in our group. We were dropped off at Moel Famau car park



and had to make our way to Fron Farm via Moel Famau where we were to pitch our tent for the night before making our way back to our collection point at Moel Famau car park.

Heading off, confident with our back packs being much lighter than in our practise expedition, the first part of the walk was tough both physically and mentally. We took it in turns to map read and overall worked brilliantly as a team. Admittedly we took one wrong turn, but by working together we soon got back on track and arrived at the site after approximately six hours. We quickly pitched our tents and set about making our tea. An early night was in order as we had a big day ahead of us. By 8.30am on Day 2 we had packed up and began our walk back to our collection point. Day 2 was definitely easier as we found that most of our walking was downhill until the final part of the day. With thoughts of home and our own beds in sight we found it much easier to cope with Day 2. I have really enjoyed doing my Bronze D of E and thoroughly enjoyed being with my friends and tackling the expedition. I have no doubt I have learnt many new things and can say it is certainly character building.

Jordan Gould 10 B/JOR

## Former Student Visits School

On 17th March 2017 Andrew Connell, a former student of the school, kindly came back to speak to students and share his experiences since leaving.



Andrew studied French, Spanish and Mathematics at A level and went on to read Modern and Medieval languages at King's College, University of Cambridge from 2011-2015, specialising in French, Spanish and Catalan. Following university, having been an avid fan of the news and working for the student newspaper, Andrew decided to do a Masters in Broadcast Journalism at the University of Cardiff. During this time he had work experience at ITV News and has worked for CNN. Currently residing in London, Andrew is following in the footsteps of famous journalists such as Huw Edwards, Fiona Bruce and Reeta Chakrabarti who all studied languages for A level and subsequently at university. Many thanks to Andrew for his motivational and inspirational talk to our students.

Mr J H Hughes, Head of MFL

## £1 Challenge

**Earlier this year, a number of boys across Years 7 and 8 participated in the £1 Challenge.**

The competition has been running for a number of years now at the school and has always been a success, with this year being no exception. The boys were given £1 and had to raise as much money as possible from the initial start-up capital, collaborating in teams to form their own enterprises. An impressive £507.20 has been raised from the challenge with a number of exceptional team performances. The team that raised the most was - Harry Richards (Year 7), TJ Jones (Year 7) and Ellis Parry (Year 7), raising £155.05. All of the boys who have taken part in the £1 Challenge should be immensely proud of their achievements and no doubt the teamwork, leadership and communication skills displayed, which will prove invaluable in the future.

Jamie Taylor  
Chairman of Entrepreneurial Society



## ISV Group

**ISV (Inter-Subject Variation Group) is our teaching and learning council where ambassadors from a range of different years meet to consider the different approaches to teaching and learning across the school**



Each half term we have been given a focus from questioning in class, to marked feedback and asked to consider best practice in subjects so that we can share what we feel works with other teachers. We have to feed back to teachers after school and this has resulted in changes to the way our work is marked and the methods teachers use in class. I have been honoured to work as part of this group this year.

Daniel Carroll Year 11D/AJ

## Year 9s 'Make-It' at Anfield

**In May eight Year 9 students travelled to Anfield to take part in the Manufacturing Institute's 'Make – It' challenge against 16 schools drawn from across Merseyside and Cheshire.**

The sponsors of the event were Survitec a multi-national company specialising in survival equipment. The boys had to design, build, cost and market a multi-functional survival 'pod' that could be used in all climates and terrain as an emergency survival shelter. The team then had to present their work to a team of 'Dragons' selected from the Business community. The boys put in an excellent performance and although they did not win the team prize Will Robinson won the outstanding individual prize.

Mr P Ronayne





## LJMU Partnership Working

The school was recently presented with a plaque to celebrate the partnership which exists between Liverpool John Moores and Wirral Grammar School for Boys in recognition of the vital role the school plays in supporting the training of future teachers.



## Mountain Leaders Award

Mr McKinney and I are near the end of our Mountain Leaders Award (MLA), a scheme designed for people who want to lead groups in the mountains, hills and moorlands of the UK and Ireland.

By gaining the MLA Wirral Grammar School for Boys we can then lead independently the Gold award. Having already completed out 5 day intensive training we are currently in the consolidation phase. This requires us to gain experience in a variety of mountains, dealing with different terrains and weather conditions.

Miss H Strand, Head of Geography

## School Council

At this school we have a large number of student bodies that represent a variety of school activities.

From School Council to the Music Society, students have numerous ways to have their voices heard and to represent the views of their peers. However, it is the opinion held by many at WGSB that the School Council is the main body that allows students to suggest and implement changes to improve the experiences in the various aspects of school life.

From Year 7, members of the council can make a real difference in improving their school by being a proactive member of their sub-committees. The skills that are learnt during the process of implementing change inside school (such as communication and commitment) are ones that can be transferred to not only future employment but extra-curricular programmes such as NCS and the Duke of Edinburgh Award.

That is obviously one aspect of the council, however, the unwavering commitment from the senior management that meet with these sub-committees is integral to the council being effective. The opportunities the School Council offers students would not be possible without their help and is not something that should be taken for granted. Our School Council is not just a forum for students to air their views of the school, it is a place to find areas for improvement. Without School Council and the hard work that comes with it, Wirral Grammar would not be the school it is today.

Robert Evans 12B/JLH (School Council)

## Royal Birkdale Golf Day

In May, I was privileged to be chosen to represent the school in a DofE Corporate Golf Day at Royal Birkdale GC, hosts of the 2017 Open Championship.

There were 14 teams, each with 4 members playing in the fundraising golf day comprising of two teachers and pupils who have been involved in the D of E. The weather was

superb and the course was in excellent condition. It was a little daunting as all the stands were in place ready for the Open and each member of the team was announced by the starter on the first tee. Our team consisted of myself, Miss Strand and 2 representatives from Birkdale Boys School. The day was absolutely superb from the weather to the course and the lovely meal and speeches afterwards. I can truly say it was a day to remember.

Joseph Demetrios 13L/HS



## 'Old Boy' Awarded Harvard PhD



We were delighted to learn that Jonathan Phillips (2002 leaver) has recently graduated from Harvard University in Boston where he became a Dr of Philosophy.

Jonathan studied PPE at Oxford after leaving Wirral Grammar and went on to complete his Masters at The School of Oriental and African Studies before progressing to Harvard. He is currently living in São Paulo, Brazil and working on the quality of democracy in developing countries.

Mr M Askew, Head of Sixth Form

## Open Evenings

Parents of boys who will be in Year 5 at their Primary School in September are invited to attend one of our Open Evenings on Wednesday 27th September and Thursday 28th September 2017 at 6.30pm. Mr David Hazeldine, Headteacher, will talk to parents in the school hall. Talks will be repeated at intervals during the evening. The whole school will be open for parents to view the work and activities of all Departments and parents and pupils will be able to talk to current pupils about life at Wirral Grammar School.

## Year 9 Cricket

**The Y9 team played 5 games up to the writing of this report. As of then no victories but plenty of effort and enthusiasm was clear to see.**

In the first game against Calday GS, the old enemy put up a formidable score. Julian Nodet-Owers the pick of the bowlers. In reply Wirral reached 62/7 off 20 overs with Matt Baker and Tom Kenningham scoring runs. In the cup game away at Cheadle Hulme School, once again a big score was built up by the opposition. Kenningham took two wickets. In reply, Wirral lasted 18 overs but no one really looked like staying long enough. Against St Anselms at home, the visitors made a shaky start against good bowling and fielding, with Christian Hallinan taking 3 for 7. They did recover however. In reply, Wirral batted sensibly without really challenging their total, once more lasting 20 overs with Hallinan top scoring. Away to St Marys Crosby, Wirral once again fielded and bowled well restricting the home team to 88 off their 20 overs. Ben Francis and Jake Cartwright bowling well. Wirral's start was poor but Matt Baker stuck at it with a solid 25. Wickets fell too quickly though there was a late surge from Hallinan with 16. Wirral fell short by 15 runs in a game they could have won! At St Ambrose on a very hot day, Wirral made steady progress in their innings but once again some rash batting contributed to too many wickets being lost cheaply. It was left to Sam Donally with a blistering 27 to build Wirral's total to 78 in their 20 overs. In reply, St Ambrose batted well to get the runs before the allocated overs. Jack Kelly's catch was one of the highlights of the game! I want to thank the boys who have trained and played for the team this term. Many need to work on their technique and practice more in order to progress and this is all about hard work!

Those who played were: Christian Hallinan (Captain), Miles Hughes, Louis Baylis, Ben Francis, Jake Cartwright, Jack Fitzsimmons, Tom Kenningham, Julian Nodet-Owers, Jack Kelly, Sam Donally, Morgan Roberts, Anthony Hanton-Wise, Matt Baker, Shivaheesan Jegannathan, Jacob Body, Sam Wilkie, Tino Mbanini, Julius Ripari, George Davies and Flynn Kaye.

Mr McKibbin



## England Handball U16

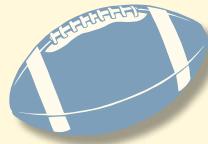
**I have been playing handball for 5 years and have now been picked to play for England's under 16's Team as part of the National Academy to go to a tournament in Viborg, Denmark later this year.**

I will be competing against teams from across the world. I have been picked for this through a regional academy tournament held at Stoke Mandeville every year and was invited to go and train with 30 other boys who had made it to the national academy. Out of these 30 boys only 16 would be able to go with the national academy to Viborg, Denmark for the tournament. I greatly appreciate the support from the school and all the staff who have helped me achieve this, as well as my coaches throughout the experience without which I would not have the opportunity to play handball.

Daniel Carroll 11 D/AJ



## Year 9 Rugby 7s Season Report



**The Y9 squad played in two tournaments towards the end of last term. The First one was the annual Wirral GS Y9 7s and the other the inaugural Cheshire 7s tournament held at Sandbach Rugby Club.**

In the first tournament at the school, Wirral won all their pool games with some convincing performances against Merchants, Bramhall and Sandbach. They proceeded to the knock out stage facing Stockport GS in the quarter finals. Wirral looked comfortable going 19-5 up in this one at half time. However, maybe complacency set in as Stockport fought back to win it 22-19 which was a bit of a disappointment to say the least!

In the second tournament, all the best teams from Cheshire were present and this would take some winning! Wirral were placed with some tough teams in the pool stages, including matches against St Ambrose and Bridgewater School. Although tough matches, Wirral's pace and better defence saw them through. All 4 pool matches were won and had to face tournament favourites Kings Macclesfield. A tough challenge, but the team showed great defence early on and then created some good tries in going ahead 21-0 by half time. This was a remarkable performance but they knew Kings would come back and they did scoring first in the second half. Wirral held out by a good possession game and stoic defence. Victory at 21-5 shows how rugby's fortunes can change around so quickly! A final against Stockport GS awaited the lads. Already beaten in the 15aside Cheshire Cup semi final and at our 7s, they knew this would be competitive but that they could do it! Once again, Stockport threw everything at Wirral but they would not pass! Wirral scored two tries of their own and were now determined not to lose. The final score 12-0 showed how close it was but Wirral were worthy winners in this match and indeed on the day. The attitude of the boys was second to none, and to win this tournament with so many good teams around is a huge credit to the boys! It was the perfect end to a good season and I wish them all well next year and beyond. They have been a pleasure to coach and to be associated with. They have shown an inner belief that was clear for all to see. Well done!

The squad was: Lucas Jackson (Captain), James Davies, Will Robinson, Sam Donally, Sam Wilkie, James Outram, Tom Devoy, Sam Fairclough, Joe Wood, Max Christian, Jack Baldwin-Brown and Theo Reddy.

Mr L McKibbin





## Visited our website recently?

Over the last two terms, our website has grown into a very important source of information about the school: news, forthcoming events, guidance materials, sporting achievements etc are all to be found on the website

**[www.wirralgrammarboys.com](http://www.wirralgrammarboys.com)**

## Admission Enquiries

Enquiries relating to admissions should be directed to our Admissions Manager, Mrs Tanya Fry on 0151 644 0908 or by visiting the school website: [www.wirralgrammarboys.com](http://www.wirralgrammarboys.com)

## Open Evenings

**Our Autumn Term Open Evenings are on Wednesday 27th September and Thursday 28th September 2017 commencing at 6.00pm.**

This will be of interest to parents of boys who are currently in Year 4 and Year 5 of Primary School. Please see our school website for full details.

## Mobile Phone Policy – Reminder

Our policy on mobile phones is very clear. Pupils are permitted to have phones available for use before and after school but during the school day they must be switched off. Staff will confiscate mobile phones that are on view/in use during the day.

## Ways to Keep In Touch...



Wirral Grammar School for Boys has a Twitter feed and we can be followed @WGSB



Those with Facebook can be kept up-to-date with achievements, developments and events through our secure, school managed Facebook page: [Wirral Grammar School for Boys \(Education\)](#).



To have our up-dates in your Newsfeed, simply 'like' this page.

## Parent Mail: Is your email address up to date?

The majority of parents with computer access have registered an e-mail address with us and 'Parent Mail' is a fast and effective means of getting letters and messages to parents.

To remain effective, parents need to keep their e-mail address information up-to-date. If you have not registered, or if your e-mail address has changed, this can be amended by logging into the Parent Mail website: [www.pmx.parentmail.co.uk](http://www.pmx.parentmail.co.uk) and following the 'parent login' link or by contacting the school Finance Office.

## Absence Requests

Parents are reminded that the rules have changed regarding parental requests to take boys out of school during term time. The regulations clearly state that "Headteachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time".

## Cashless Purchasing

Accounts are available for 'top up' at the payment station but parents are also able to 'top up' their son's allowance through our on-line service via 'PMX'. Using our on-line facility means that boys do not need to queue up at the payment station in school.

[www.wirralgrammarboys.com](http://www.wirralgrammarboys.com)

- news • achievements • events • admissions