



FULFORD SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

EASTER 2026



Headteacher's Welcome

Honesty

Empathy

Ambition

Respect

Tolerance

As we come to the end of the second term, it has been a genuine pleasure to see the breadth and quality of activity taking place across our school.

From outstanding curriculum work to enrichment opportunities, competitions, performances and celebrations, it has been a joy to watch our students embracing every challenge with curiosity, enthusiasm and ambition.

This term has offered so many moments that remind us just how special our school community is. I am delighted that we are able to share just some of the highlights in this newsletter.

They represent only a fraction of what has taken place, but they showcase the creativity, commitment and engagement of our amazing students and the dedication of the staff who support them every day.

I hope you enjoy reading about these achievements as much as we have enjoyed seeing them unfold.

Thank you for your continued support and wishing you all a very happy Easter and a restful, enjoyable holiday.

" Success is where preparation and opportunity meet"

Bobby Unser



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SPORTS FACILITY UPDATE

Mr Hennigan



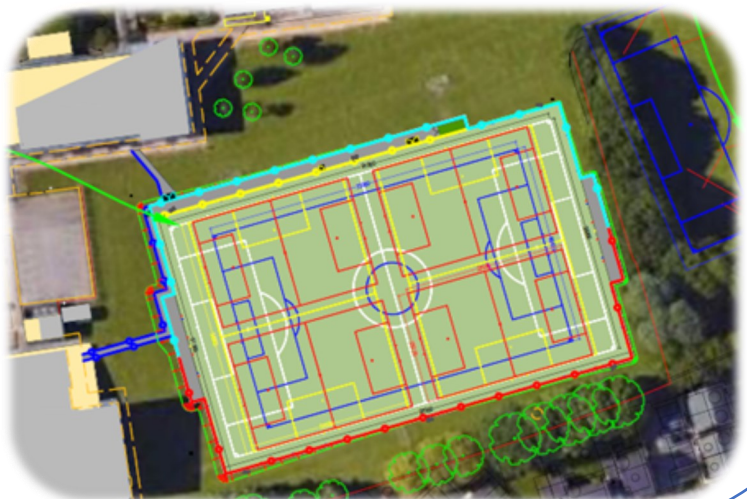
In the Autumn Newsletter, I shared the great news that planning permission had been approved for the development of a new 3G pitch at our school.

I am now pleased to confirm that construction work started on Monday 23rd March.

Between March and May, contractors will be on site preparing the ground, including excavating an area roughly the size of an Olympic swimming pool to create space for the foundations and drainage system.

Because of the historical significance of our site, an archaeologist will also be present to monitor the excavation for any important findings - something Mrs Bowen and the History team are particularly excited about.

If the project stays on schedule, we hope to open the new facility in time for the start of the 2026–2027 academic year and football season. We look forward to keeping you updated as the work progresses—watch this space!



RED NOSE DAY : FRIDAY 20TH MARCH



Fulford always aims to 'go big' when it comes to charity events! Comic relief this year was certainly no exception. Student leaders planned a series of fun activities for children during form time - including guessing the teacher from their baby photos! In a more educational sense, children learned about how the money raised by charities such as Comic relief is spent.



On the day itself we had a massive bake-sale (think 'sharks around a mackerel ball!') and a range of stalls (such as 'Guess the name of a teddy,' 'Guess how many sweets there are in a jar,' 'Guess the weight of the cake'). We also had the ever popular students against staff penalty kicks competition in the gym.

All said and done, students did superbly and we managed to raise £900 in cash on the day in addition to the ParentPay donations.

Finally, a huge well done to student leaders for organising all the above – especially to Teddy Leigh, Emily Small, Emily Bate, Sara Rawlinson and Evie Clarke, all of whom played a key part in the success of the day



THANK YOU
for supporting Red Nose Day

WORLD POETRY DAY

Mrs R Lowman

POETRY ASSEMBLY

This term we had a streamed assembly for all students in Years 7-11 looking at the power of poetry for World Poetry Day (21st March).

Mrs Lowman asked for submissions of any poems – and this one anonymously appeared in her pigeon-hole.

Isn't it beautiful!

If you are the poet, please make yourself known so that Mrs Lowman can give you a positive!

I liked Mrs Lowman's assembly

It created some space for me

To think,

To reflect,

To see more clearly.

That time matters.

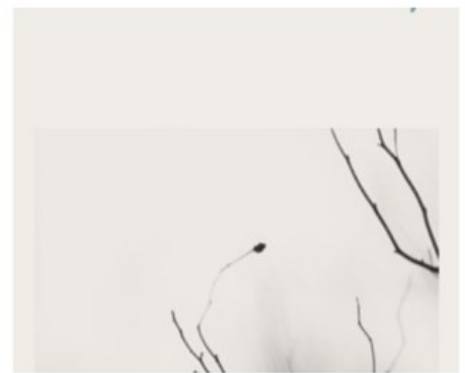
That when my world shatters,

I can find hope,

in poetry 😊

The Peace of Wild Things

by Wendell Berry



When despair for the world grows in me
and I wake in the night at the least sound
in fear of what my life and my children's lives may be,
I go and lie down where the wood drake
rests in his beauty on the water, and the great heron feeds.
I come into the peace of wild things
who do not tax their lives with forethought
of grief. I come into the presence of still water.
And I feel above me the day-blind stars
waiting with their light. For a time
I rest in the grace of the world, and am free.



Wishing you all a peaceful Easter



YEAR 7

Mr P Gatenby



YEAR 7

Year 7 have had another great term at Fulford School. They have really settled in and are performing well in lessons as can be seen by the reports sent out on 22nd March.

The year group have achieved over 40, 000 positives on Class Charts this term, that is an average of 133 per student, and there have been very few negatives issued so the average is 6 for the term.

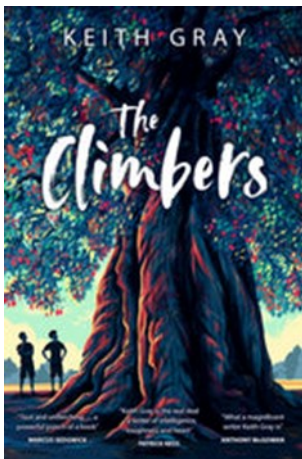
Attendance in Year 7 has been fantastic this term and there has been an attendance raffle for the run up to Easter, winners have been Jessica Orrey and Chloe Slessor.



We celebrated World Book Day in early March and had several activities in form and an evening quiz in school.

We took part in a 'treasure hunt' style activity where students collected names of staff, students and parents and which book they are reading.

Muzammil Kamal managed to collect 203 names; a phenomenal achievement. He won an Amazon voucher for his efforts!



Well-done to everyone who collected names for the hunt and remember to keep on reading.

We have just read a book called 'Song of the River' by Gill Lewis in form. A book about a young girl who moves into a new area that is prone to flooding and the re-introduction of beavers used to counter-act the effects.

The next book we are reading in form time is called 'The Climbers' by Keith Gray which tells a story of two competitive teens who climb trees .

During form this term we have taken part in a great pledge. The pledge gave the year group a chance to learn the alphabet in sign language and looked at Makaton too.

Each form performed what they have learned to other forms in the year group. All forms did an amazing job with this. The top form for empathy and respect positives is

7LCA with 145 positives in total.



YEAR 8

Miss E Bargewell



YEAR 8

As we reach the end of the Spring Term, it is a great opportunity to reflect on the excellent progress and positive contributions made by our Year 8 students.

This term has been marked by success both in and out of the classroom. Students have demonstrated a strong commitment to excellence, a positive attitude to learning, and an impressive willingness to get involved in all aspects of school life.

Collectively, Year 8 students have achieved over 40,000 positive comments this term, with every member of the year group contributing to this fantastic milestone.

Our Pledges programme this half term has focused on the themes of financial awareness and gender equality. Students explored the cost of everyday items, considered household budgeting, and worked collaboratively to develop and pitch creative ideas to Miss Bargewell.

These included suggestions such as shared equipment boxes, environmentally friendly initiatives like beehives and reusable water bottles, and even a Venus flytrap!

The winning team was awarded £10 to invest in a project aligned with our school values.

Our second pledge looked at gender equality. Students examined local and national trends, including representation in careers, leadership, and public influence. They are now preparing presentations to showcase their learning and highlight why equality is essential for everyone to succeed.

This term, the Year 8 reporting cycle has also placed a strong emphasis on student voice.



Pupils have shared valuable feedback on form time, year group ethos and potential improvements.

As a result, we have introduced more student-led social form time on Fridays and increased access to computer rooms to support homework completion.

In addition, we have introduced three core pledges that Year 8 students will carry forward throughout their time at school.



YEAR 9

Miss J Eden



YEAR 9

The Year 9 team have been very active over the past two months!

They have been making thoughtful and informed decisions about their GCSE options and are showing great ambition for themselves as they look ahead to Year 10.

It's been fantastic to see their maturity and the positive approach they are taking towards their future studies.

There continues to be excellent work across lessons and some outstanding class work across subjects below are examples from Miss Underwood's Design Technology class.

Fantastic work from students who have developed their design and practical skills.



This week, students have celebrated Science Week. They have participated in lots of exciting activities, including a treasure hunt and an engaging talk on nuclear fusion.

The events provided a fantastic opportunity for hands on learning and encouraged students to think critically and creatively.

Overall, Science Week has been an inspiring and enjoyable experience for everyone involved.



Rufus Pickering for his selection to the GB Under 17 Ultimate Frisbee team.

Jack Dillon for his participation with Leeds United Football Club.

Thomas Hitchcock for his fantastic performance in the school production of Mary Poppins.

Well done to all students who were included in the Heart Award draw. The Year 9 team achieved an impressive 191 positives.

YEAR 9

Miss J Eden



Year 9 Pledges

Our 3rd Pledge of the year is to work on our communication skills. We are learning about and working on verbal, non-verbal, written and visual communication including British Sign Language.



Year 9 Pledges



Pledge 3: I will develop my communication skills.



HONESTY, EMPATHY, AMBITION, RESPECT and T...

FULFORDSCHO

COMMUNICATION (TYPES)	
WRITTEN We see writing all around us. Walk into a shop and there will be text telling you where to line up, how much the products cost, and what ingredients they contain.	VERBAL Verbal communication is, simply, speaking. This is typically face-to-face communication, but also includes recordings such as podcasts.
NON-VERBAL Non-verbal communication refers to all the ways you can communicate without words, such as through body language, sign language and even laughter.	VISUAL Visual communication refers to all the ways we can communicate through signs. It can include through paintings, television, billboards, drawings, etc.

HELPFULPROFESSOR.COM

A huge well done to our U14 netball team, who came 3rd in the whole of York in their tournament last week an incredible achievement!

The team showed fantastic resilience and teamwork throughout.



A big shoutout as well to the U14 football girls who have played this year and attended training sessions, your dedication and commitment have been fantastic to see, and you have all contributed to the team's success.



Finally, I hope everyone has a restful and enjoyable Easter break.

We look forward to welcoming all students, along with Mr Lacy, back after the holiday refreshed and ready for the final term of Year 9.

YEAR 10

Ms J Bonsels



This term has been a highly productive and positive one for our Year 10 students.

As a year group, they have continued to demonstrate an impressive level of commitment, engagement, and effort across all areas of school life. The atmosphere within classrooms has been particularly noteworthy, with students showing clear ambition and a strong focus on their learning.

It has been a pleasure to see such a purposeful and hardworking approach developing as they move closer to the demands of their GCSE exams next year.



A key focus this term has been preparation for the upcoming Year 10 exams, which will take place in the first week back after the Easter break.

Students have approached this challenge with maturity, making the most of the support and guidance provided.

During form time, they have been introduced to a range of effective revision techniques, helping them to identify strategies that work best for their individual needs.

In addition, students have been guided through the process of creating structured revision timetables, enabling them to plan their time efficiently and cover all necessary subject content.

To further support their preparation, all students have been issued with their individual exam timetables, alongside a detailed booklet outlining the content for each subject exam. These resources are also available digitally via Class Charts, ensuring easy access at home.



Alongside this, students have been encouraged to make use of the Year 10 Resources Team on Microsoft Teams, where a wide range of subject-specific revision materials can be found, as well as additional support through the school website.

Throughout this period, we have emphasised that these exams are intended as a practice opportunity. They are designed to help students understand the exam process, identify strengths, and highlight areas for further development.

We have also reminded students that it is completely normal to feel some level of pressure, and that support is always available.

Any student who feels worried or overwhelmed is encouraged to speak to a member of the pastoral team, who are always on hand to help.

YEAR 10

Ms J Bonsels



Beyond the classroom, this term has been rich with extracurricular achievements and opportunities.



A significant number of Year 10 students successfully completed their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award, demonstrating resilience, teamwork, and determination.

In the performing arts, many students took part in the annual school production of Mary Poppins, showcasing their talent, creativity, and dedication on stage.

Our sports teams have also enjoyed considerable success, competing with enthusiasm and skill across a range of leagues and cup competitions.

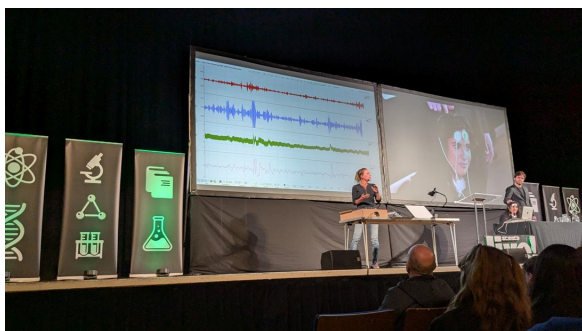
Their commitment to training and teamwork has been commendable, and they continue to represent the school with pride.

On Tuesday 3rd March, 102 x Year 10 students had the exciting opportunity to attend "Science Live" in Sheffield.

This inspiring event featured talks from five renowned scientists, including Professor Robert Winston, who shared insights into their fields of expertise.

The sessions were designed to make science engaging and relevant to GCSE students, with the aim of sparking curiosity and encouraging students to consider future careers in science-related fields.

The trip was both educational and motivating, leaving a lasting impression on many who attended.



Overall, it has been a fantastic term for Year 10. We are extremely proud of the way students have balanced their academic responsibilities with wider school involvement.

We look forward to seeing them continue this positive momentum into the next term and wish them the very best in their upcoming exams.

YEAR 11

Mr A Hayden



The Year 11 students have been working extremely hard in what is a crucial point in the year in the lead up to their GCSEs.

The intensity in lessons has increased and revision is in full flow as they prepare as fully as they can.

We have been so impressed with their commitment as evidenced by the number of students staying behind for “Revise Till 5” and “Powerhour” in the canteen to revise.

Over the next few weeks, the focus will really turn towards being exam ready.

Students will shortly be receiving their personal exam timetable which they can use to prioritise their revision. In addition, they will have received a booklet with all the details about what is on each of their exams.

It will be important for them to learn and listen to all the exam regulations in place to ensure they are fully equipped for each of their exams.

Both the Year 11 Boys and Year 11 Girls Football Teams are through to the semi-finals of the respective cup competitions.



We wish them all the very best of luck for these games



YEAR 11

Mr A Hayden



FOOD EXAM



During the week commencing 3rd March, all Year 11 students studying Food Technology took part in their final food exam.

Students had to devise and cook three courses during the day.

The level of skill and ambition shown was fantastic with some impressive dishes being produced.



SIXTH FORM

Mrs K Davies



YEAR 12 EXAMS

All Year 12 sat their internal exams this term and many have started to receive their feedback.

At this point in their studies, it is unlikely that they will achieved their estimated grade in these exams. The results of these exams will be shared on the May report but interventions will start for students earlier than this. Students who have achieved a Grade E or U will be required to resit the exams in the summer.

YEAR 12 SAFETY DAY

As part of our PSHE programme designed to get post19 ready, we ran our Safety Day which included various workshops from the police and fire service.

As well as covering online safety through work in computer rooms, students learnt about CPR, took a reaction test, saw the world through 'beer goggles' and learnt about bike and road safety.

We also learnt about car maintenance! A massive thanks goes to Mrs Jenner – the Head of Year – for organising and the police for their amazing delivery and contribution.



GOOD NEWS!

Mr S Bailey



Huge congratulations to Bertie Mittra - Year 9 who has been selected to play for the under 15 England bridge team!

He will represent his country in the European Bridge Championships in April.

Bertie is part of a thriving Bridge community at Fulford who are supported by Mrs White.

The Bridge club runs on Tuesday lunchtimes in B18.



We would also like to congratulate Charlie King - Year 10 who regularly competes at a very high level in kart racing.

This year Charlie is competing in both the British and European championship in the Senior Rotax class.

Here are some photos of Charlie in action!



CREATIVE ARTS FACULTY



CREATIVE ARTS FACULTY

SPECIALIST AREAS

DRAMA

MUSIC

FINE ART

PHOTOGRAPHY

ART

Mr T Rigg

**CREATIVE
ARTS
FACULTY**

SPECIALIST AREAS
**DRAMA
MUSIC
FINE ART
PHOTOGRAPHY**

GCSE FINAL PIECES



ART

Mr T Rigg

**CREATIVE
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SPECIALIST AREAS
DRAMA
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PHOTOGRAPHY

YEAR 9



ART

Mr T Rigg

**CREATIVE
ARTS
FACULTY**

SPECIALIST AREAS

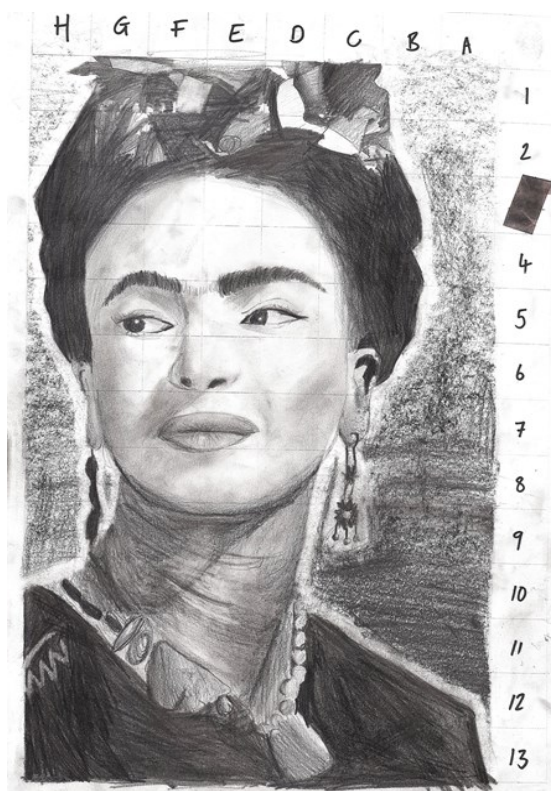
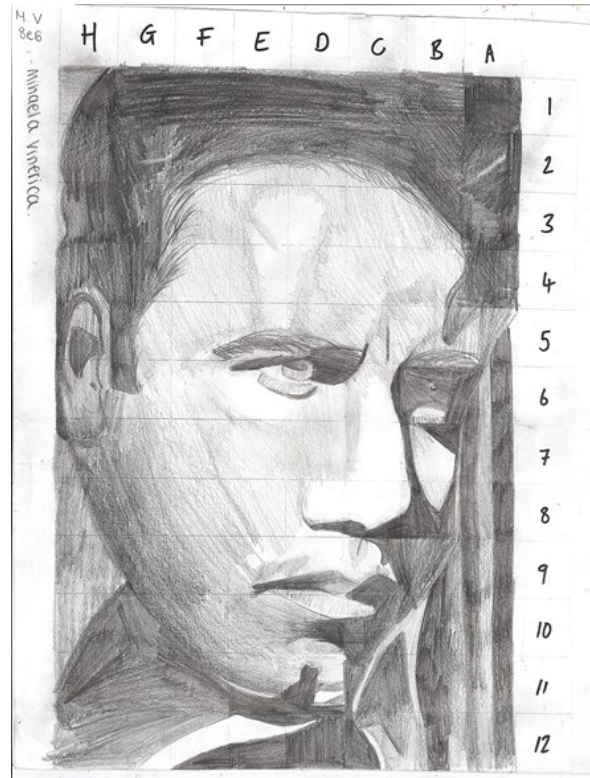
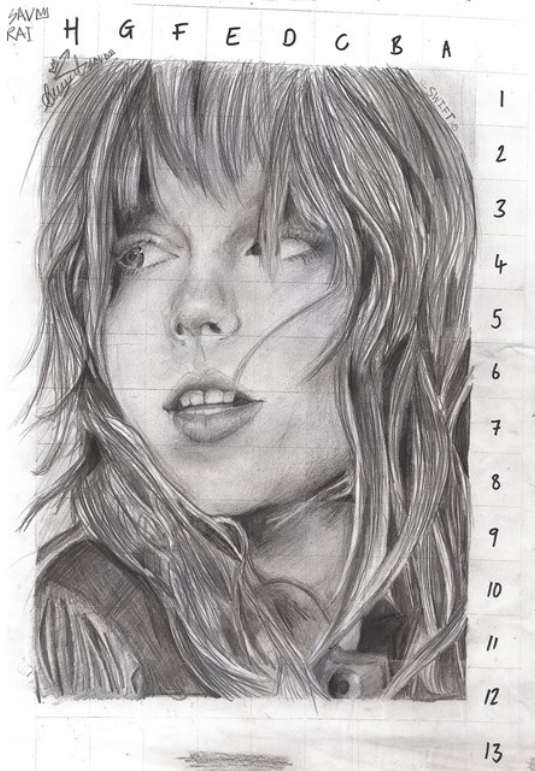
DRAMA

MUSIC

FINE ART

PHOTOGRAPHY

YEAR 8 PORTRAITS



ART

Mr T Rigg

**CREATIVE
ARTS
FACULTY**

SPECIALIST AREAS

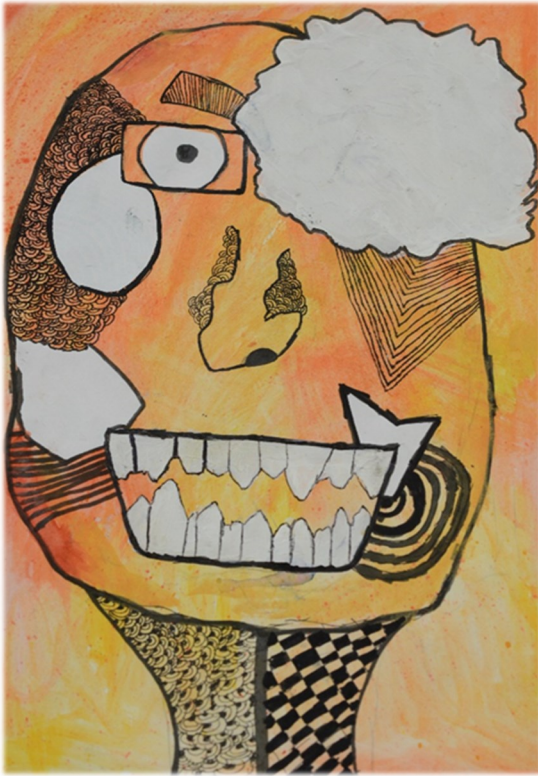
DRAMA

MUSIC

FINE ART

PHOTOGRAPHY

YEAR 7 ABSTRACT WATERCOLOURS



SCHOOL PRODUCTION

Mrs Windrum



Fulford School's production of Mary Poppins Jr. was a lively, entertaining and gloriously colourful spectacle that lit up the auditorium from start to finish.

With an impressive cast of 84 students, the stage was constantly brimming with energy, whether through sweeping ensemble numbers, joyful kite-flying scenes or the spirited routines of the chimney sweeps.

The auditorium itself was transformed into a sea of colour, immersing the audience completely in the magic of this lovely story.

Every performer gave a fantastic performance, contributing to a real sense of teamwork and celebration.



Particular praise must go to Leila Wright at Mary Poppins, in her final school production. She captured Mary Poppins' poise and warmth perfectly.

George Connell brought charm and charisma to Bert and the pair together were a joy to watch. Meanwhile Emily Anderson in Y11 delighted the audience as the wonderfully fearsome Holy Terror.

The Banks Family were brilliantly portrayed by Oscar Smith, Gilda Davies (Francesca Eyre on Friday) and Tulse Harvey and Tom Hitchcock. They really brought out the different characters of this family.

A truly magical evening and a triumph for everyone involved. This was the third of the Windrum, Fletcher, Fergie Collaboration and I think the productions go from strength to strength!

A huge thank you must also go to all the staff who get involved – we couldn't do it without them!



SCHOOL PRODUCTION

Mrs Windrum



Mary Poppins Jr - Photo Gallery



SCHOOL PRODUCTION

Mrs Windrum

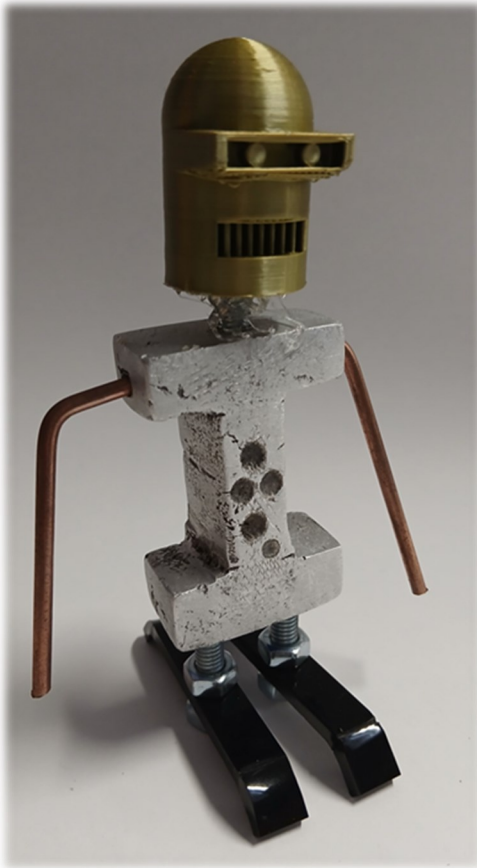


Mary Poppins Jr - Photo Gallery



DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

Mr Jobson



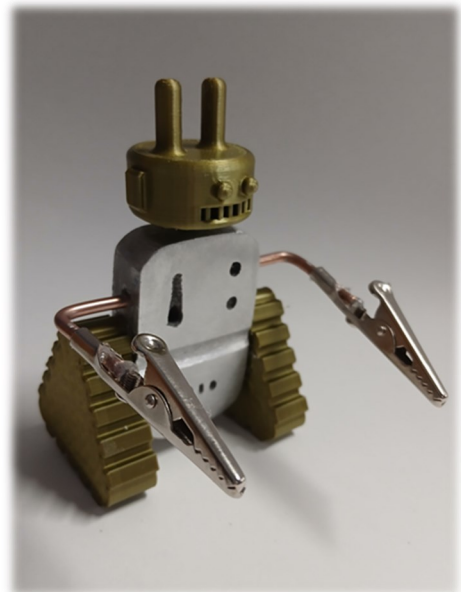
We've been busy in D&T developing CAD/CAM (Computer aided design and computer aided manufacturing) skills and combining these with traditional metalworking skills to create a range of B-movie-inspired robots.

These robots have been made by melting aluminium to make bodies from student-made formers, and the heads have been made using 3D printing skills, after they were drawn using a new piece of software called Onshape.

This software is proving to be massively beneficial by allowing us to model and animate ideas, before creating a technical orthographic drawing, all in one place.

I've been really impressed how well students have taken to the challenge of learning how to use this software, with many taking the initiative to follow tutorials at home to help the create some really unique and eye-catching designs.

Thanks to all the Year 10s for making an excellent range of outcomes.



HISTORY / POLITICS

Ms H Smith

Washington Trip



The History and Politics Department took 49 x Year 12 and 13 students to Washington, D.C. during the half-term break for a memorable four-day trip.

Students and staff enjoyed a packed itinerary, including:

- ◆ A tour of the Capitol Building
- ◆ Visit to Constitution Hall
- ◆ Visit to Arlington Cemetery to see the memorials to Abraham Lincoln, Martin Luther King Jr and those who served in the Korean and Vietnam Wars

The trip also included the chance to experience American culture first-hand by attending a college basketball game, as well as some free time for shopping and lunch in Georgetown.

Students also visited Georgetown University, giving them a valuable insight into university life in the United States.

After walking more than 50 miles over the course of the visit, everyone returned home exhausted but delighted after an unforgettable experience.



HISTORY / POLITICS

Ms H Smith

Washington Trip



HISTORY / POLITICS

Mr K Gildroy

Houses of Parliament



Year 12 Politics students recently took part in the department's annual trip to London, giving them the opportunity to see British politics in action and deepen their understanding of key political institutions.

During the visit, students toured the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom and the historic Houses of Parliament.

A highlight of the day was watching live debates in both the House of Commons and the House of Lords, allowing students to experience the workings of Parliament first-hand.

The trip concluded with an engaging Q&A session with local MP Luke Charters, where students asked questions about his role, current political issues and life as a Member of Parliament.

It was a fantastic opportunity for students to connect their classroom learning to the real world of UK politics.

HISTORY

Ms H Smith

University of York



The History Department facilitated an engaging and insightful lecture delivered by Dr Shane P. O'Rourke of the University of York.

His talk explored Bolshevik foreign policy from 1918 to 1953, offering valuable perspectives that closely aligned with our current specification topics.

Students benefited not only from deepening their subject knowledge but also from the opportunity to connect with higher education, helping to raise aspirations and provide a glimpse into university-level study.

» Department of History » People » Shane O'Rourke

Study

People

Research

Facilities

About us

Contact us

Current staff and students

SHANE O'ROURKE

SENIOR LECTURER IN MODERN HISTORY

Visit [Shane O'Rourke's profile on the York Research Database](#) to:

- See a full list of **publications**
- Browse **activities and projects**
- Explore **connections, collaborators, related work** and more

[View my profile in the York Research Database](#)



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Student hours

[Current student hours are available to view here](#)

Profile **Research** Teaching

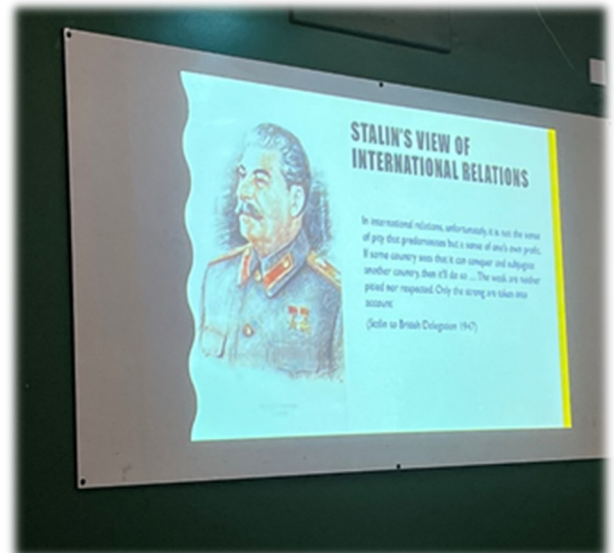
Biography

BA (East Anglia), DPhil (Oxon)

Dr Shane O'Rourke is a Senior Lecturer.

Shane O'Rourke began his career as a historian of Imperial and Soviet Russia, looking at the history of the Cossacks in particular. He has produced two books on the Cossacks and numerous articles, covering the Cossacks from Muscovite times into the post-Soviet period.

Over the past four years he has begun to develop an interest in the history of Brazil and is now engaged on a major research project comparing the emancipation of the serfs in Russia in 1861 and the slaves in Brazil in 1888. Brazil is also figuring increasingly in his teaching and Shane now offers courses on Brazilian as well as Russian history.



RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Miss Thompson



Students in the Religious Studies Full Course Year 11 group have now successfully completed their FPQ (Foundation Project Qualification), culminating in a 10-minute presentation on their chosen project.

Miss Thompson thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to learn from the students and hear about their individual passions, they were truly a pleasure to watch.



During the half term Curate Revd. Hannah Theobald has been joining GCSE classes to share the teaching of Religion & Life unit.

The unit of study explores topics such as the origins of the universe, awe, evolution, animal experimentation and biblical hermeneutics.

The students and the Department have been enriched by Revd. Hannah's theological knowledge and personal expressions of belief.



SCIENCE

Mr S Lynn

ST OSWALD'S PRIMARY SCHOOL VISIT



February the 11th was an adventure for the Year 1 & 2 pupils of St. Oswald's Primary School.

They ventured to Fulford's environmental area, Katy Haxby leading the trip from St. Oswald's said *"It was a perfect trip out for our little ones - for some of them it was their first 'school trip'!"*

The weather didn't dampen their spirits and it wasn't too cold so all very successful. They loved the mud and puddles and we saw a rabbit, a squirrel, several robins and other birds, a worm and a spider. We also spotted various plants and fungi which was all very exciting."

We were delighted to have St. Oswald's visit to explore our nature grounds, and look forward to welcoming our neighbours again soon.

YEAR 10 GCSE SCIENCE LIVE! TRIP



On the 3rd of March, Year 10 discovered the future of science at *GCSE Science Live!*

Around a hundred Fulford pupils attended Sheffield City Hall for an inspiring day trip, witnessing science in action beyond the classroom. The surprise interval ice-cream went down a treat too!

Students heard from five of Britain's leading scientists, each at the forefront of their field. Alongside the talks, students received a glossy booklet about the speakers, careers in science, with brilliant advice from a chief examiner on exam technique.

Our pupils Millie, Ella, Siri and Autumn were selected to hand out the booklets to all the visiting schools. They were handsomely rewarded by Sheffield City Hall staff!

It was a day that left everyone buzzing with questions and possibilities — proof that science doesn't just explain the world, it transforms it.

SCIENCE

Mr S Lynn

FULFORD SCIENCE WEEK



Our theme for Fulford Science Week was '*Asking Questions*'. Our staff dressed up as scientists, including dressing as Daphne, Velma, Shaggy, Fred... along with Scooby Doo of course!

The Scooby Doo gang were all great investigators and forensic scientists, using evidence to draw accurate conclusions and engineering traps to catch culprits.

As science teachers we are trying to develop more of these '*meddling kids*' attributes in our students!

DRY ICE DEMONSTRATIONS

Pupils have been delighted this week with dry ice demonstrations in class.



SCIENCE

Miss L Shaw

EXCITING TALKS



We were very grateful to three York University academics kindly giving up their time to talk to our pupils this week.

Dr Jon Agirre spoke to our Year 8 pupils about his exciting research determining the structure of viruses.

Dr Kate Lancaster spoke to our Year 9 pupils about her fascinating work in nuclear fusion. Finally, Dr Andrea

Harper spoke to our Year 10 pupils about her vital research in plant disease and how her team can save the crops the world relies on.

Six of our sixth form students volunteered to visit lower school lessons throughout Science Week to share their love of science and enthusiasm for topics they find particularly interesting.

Our thanks to Safa Rasheed, Sienna Clegg, Toby Robinson, Laurence Gibb, Meghan McAleese-Shorney & Isaac Smith. Pupils were also lucky to receive a visit from a Fulford alumnus, Max Tonkins, now studying Natural Sciences at Cambridge.

MEDSOC— Members of the Science Department have been supporting the Year 12 MedSoc Student Leaders. They have run two fantastic sessions this term. An exciting interactive ethics debate with eighty pupils across Years 10-13.

We were also delighted to welcome consultant liver transplant surgeon Mr. Arikichenin to speak with sixty of our pupils about his work at York Hospital.



ALLOTMENT APPEAL— We've been working very hard on our allotment area over the years. Working towards sustainability in providing garlic, strawberries, cabbage, chillis and much more for the various exciting practical's pupils get to experience throughout the year.

We were very grateful to receive a delivery from Tesco Community Champion, Eloise Hevicon – supplying us with gardening tools and compost bags, these will be put to good use very soon!

We are actively seeking more support and resources for the allotment. We'd be grateful for any donations of compost, wood to build more raised beds and our big dream is a plastic greenhouse!

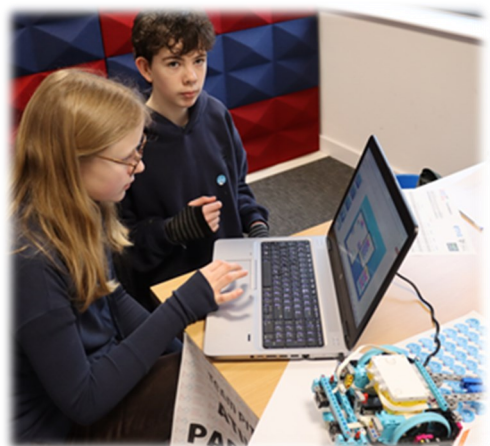
COMPUTING

Mr P Dring



Students at STEM club have been working on the First Lego League robotics challenge which has involved designing, coding and improving solutions to problems faced by archaeologists in the field.

We've had 5 excellent teams of students working on team presentations and coding challenges at STEM club and two of those teams represented Fulford at the regional competition at ETAS on 20th March.



Both teams came back with trophies for the Innovation Award and the overall Champion Award.

This will be the first time a Fulford team has been invited to the national final in Harrogate!

Huge congratulations to all the students involved and a massive thank you to the team of student ambassadors from the University of York who helped students prepare for the competition at STEM club.

To celebrate World Poetry Day on 21st March, two of our winning engineers have written some prose to encourage more students to get involved in STEM club and First Lego League next year.

An Ode to STEM Club

By Elspeth Fraser

*Robots to code and Lego galore
Come to STEM club and go on tour
To ETAS UK just down the road
From Fulford, our own humble
abode
With challenges and missions and
problems to solve
you and your team must get
involved!*



ROBOTICS

By Eloise Boddington

*I am writing a poem on robots
but have no idea what to write
So, I thought perhaps
I'll start with what it is about them I like
The smoothness of well written code
The sheer joy of solving
It feels like it's the perseverance
On Mars I've got a-roving!*

*The fascinating road of learning how
and why
machines do what they do
and how to stop them breaking
And of course, I cannot miss
learning how to do all this
being skills for life
skills that will always be by your side.*

COMPUTING

Mr P Dring



In January our Year 12 Computer Science students explored the BETT education technology exhibition then had a tour of the Accessibility Design Centre at Google's London HQ to try out a range of hardware and software designed to tackle any barrier to safe and efficient use of technology.

Two teams of students at Game Development Club have submitted entries to the Bafta Young Game Designer competition with some brilliantly creative ideas, designs and code in both Unity and Scratch. We look forward to seeing how their entries progress in the competition.

We're delighted to announce that Fulford School has been given the highest level of Gold accreditation from the National Cyber Security Centre as a Cyber First school.

It was great to welcome the Cyber Blue Line cyber van and team from Yorkshire and Humber Regional Organised Crime Unity to Cyber Security Club: we'd love to welcome more students to come along and try cyber security club: especially in the build up to the Year 8 girls Cyber First Competition in October / November 2026.

For more details about clubs, competitions and extra curricular activities, including how Year 7s can get involved in Cyber Security Club, go to <https://bit.ly/FulfordComputingClubs>

A week:
FRIDAY 12:40-13:20
Y8/Y9/Y13

B week:
Wednesday 13:40-14:20
Y10/Y11/Y12

Drop in: A13

A huge thank you and well done to every student who's invested their time and creativity in computing lessons and extra curricular opportunities this term.

ENVIRONMENT GROUP

Mr R Hearn

Meet our Year 12 Environment Leaders

Hi there. We are the Environment leaders: Fernlea, Laurence and Bella.

Our aims are to reduce single use plastics in the school canteen and rewild areas around school.

This potentially includes a wildflower meadow and hopefully helping develop the school nature reserve.

We hope you all will get involved in upcoming activities to help improve our school environment. If you'd like to be invited to future activities please email Mr Hearn, hearnr@fulford.york.sch.uk



February saw the latest in our 'Facts Forward' series, covering themes on the environment, the importance of truth and social action, we welcomed Professor Avtar Matharu and around 80 members of our wider school community.

The talk was extremely well received by parents, carers and students alike as Professor Matharu seamlessly combined his knowledge, humour and charisma.

ENVIRONMENT GROUP

Mr R Hearn

Amongst themes discussed were innovative ways that common waste streams can be reimagined as opportunities for a more sustainable future.



Take an orange for example, DID YOU KNOW...

- Researchers from IIT Hyderabad have built a prototype for recycling polystyrene using citrus extract
- Can Orange Peels Make Diapers Green? A Bio Design Challenge is turning citrus waste into disposable diapers that compost quickly.

We will be hosting our next community talk next term.

Eleven students were involved with a Fulford Environment Group collaboration with St Nicks Green Corridors Team, to provide some tree maintenance for young trees planted on our site following the construction of K-Block.



With the extra care the mixed species of trees should flourish for years to come.



If students would like to get involved with this, or similar opportunities you can email hearnr@fulford.york.sch.uk

EXTRA CURRICULAR

Miss A Holt

Netball Success



Well done to the Year 7 netball team who finished their season with a 3rd place in the York Schools Netball tournament.

We had a great Saturday morning down at St Peter's school with lots of support!

The girls worked so hard, playing 6 games in total.

We can't wait for next season and the years to come with this team!

The Year 8 netball team finished their season in style!

After topping their league group, they played a strong Joseph Rowntree school in the York and District League final.

It was an end to end game with Fulford taking the lead in the last quarter and coming out victorious with an 8-7 win.

The week after we travelled to the York Schools tournament and the team narrowly missed out on the final by two goals.



They then beat Manor in the 3rd and 4th place play off to finish 3rd behind St Peter's and Bootham school. 3rd out of the eleven schools competing just shows the strength in this team and we look forward to next year's season!



EXTRA CURRICULAR

Miss A Holt



Gymnastics Competition



A fabulous result for the Fulford gymnastics team who entered their first competition last week.

The yearly event saw schools from across York competing in various levels of floor routine.

To come away with a silver medal for Casey Wild and a Bronze medal for one of the teams was a fantastic reward for the efforts these pupils go into practising their gymnastics outside of school.

We look forward to entering more competitions in the future!



SPORTS LEADERSHIP

Mrs S Jagger



Year 7 Impress at Nerf Wars with Outstanding Support from Year 10 Leaders

Our Nerf Wars morning, delivered with Active Future, was a brilliant celebration of movement, confidence, and belonging: and our Year 7 students were superb from start to finish.

The event was designed for students who don't always feel comfortable in traditional sports, giving them a chance to experience movement in a fun, low pressure environment.

Year 7 embraced it wholeheartedly. They encouraged one another, tried new challenges, and showed real bravery stepping outside their comfort zones. Their teamwork, laughter, and growing confidence captured exactly what the morning was all about.

Supporting them throughout were our fantastic Year 10 leaders, whose calm guidance and positive energy made a huge difference. They reassured nervous students, helped explain the games, and created an atmosphere where everyone felt safe and ready to take part. Their leadership strengthened the sense of belonging that ran through the whole event.

Together, Year 7 and Year 10 made the morning a real success'; a joyful reminder that movement can be inclusive, creative, and genuinely fun. We are incredibly proud of them all.



ULTIMATE FRISBEE

Mr M Carson



Under 20s Team

This term, Fulford Ultimate sent three teams to the Frisbee Indoor National Championships. All players across each of the teams showed their class and expertise in lots of different ways. The teamwork and friendship across all Fulford players was really evident with lots of side line support and cheerleading for each other.

We had some fantastic results with the U20's and U17's becoming the National Champions and the U14's team taking home the silver trophy.



Under 20s Team – National Champions



Under 17s Team – National Champions



Under 14s Team – Silver Medallists

REDUCE : REUSE : RECYCLE

Miss Wykes

SECOND HAND UNIFORM



Sudden growth spurt? Lost a pair of PE shorts?

Did you know that we have a range of second hand uniform items available to purchase?

These are priced at about a third of the cost of new uniform.

If you require any item or more information, please contact Fiona Phillips by email on

fbphillips@googlemail.com

You can check out the current items for sale here:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1AMSYewpK6ZnsEX1CSgUaBZn2tOprca1sUErO2Vzeg_s/edit?usp=sharing

We also accept donations of uniform that have plenty of wear left in them.

These can be left at the main school reception.

