

Edition: April 2019

The Next Generation of Teachers

Five students in Year 9 are considering a career in teaching. In order to give them a real insight into the profession, we arranged a mini project with Junction Farm Primary School for the students to become involved in.

Over six weeks, the students visited the school and shadowed a teacher during a full morning of activities. Following on from this, the students planned and delivered their own lessons to a number of different classes from Year 1 to Year 5. The students then evaluated their lessons with the classroom teacher.

It was an amazing opportunity where they began to appreciate the process of planning and delivering a lesson to students and they really did get a lot from it which was very pleasing.

“The only person preventing you from achieving your dream is... YOU!”

Former Ferrari Formula One Chief Racing Engineer, Rob Smedley came to school recently and delivered a wonderful talk to the students where he gave the above message.

Rob was born and raised in South Bank in Middlesbrough and during his time at Eggescliffe he took the students on a journey from his humble beginnings through to his master successes - proving that if you want something badly enough, you are capable of succeeding.

The talk went down really well with the students, many taking the time to speak directly to Rob after the event to find out further details and advice for a career within Formula One.

Cummins Engines of Darlington

Ten students from Eggescliffe are currently taking part in the F24 Greenpower Challenge in conjunction with Cummins Engines of Darlington. This requires the students to build an electric single seated racing car from a kit, design and manufacture the body and then race the car at Croft racing circuit in July.

So far, the car is built and the students are getting on with the design of the body. Watch this space as the next Lewis Hamilton could be right here in school!

As part of the fantastic partnership which the school has with Cummins Engines of Darlington, the most recent module has been for the children to take part in a 'Pinewood Derby' style activity.

The students had to design their own miniature Lego car and send it hurtling down a 17m track. They were encouraged to consider weight distribution and aerodynamics within the design of their car.

The next module will be in June when we will travel over to Darlington to take part in the Engineering in Schools Day.

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Lego

Five students from Eggescliffe took part in the International First Lego League in Sunderland recently which was backed and supported by Nissan.

The students were required to design, build and program their own EVO3 Mindstorm Lego Robot to take part in a number of missions on the day against other schools from around the region. Large mats with a number of Lego items on them were placed in particular zones, with the students needing to move these items around throughout the programming of the robot.

The students also had to create a presentation of what challenges humans face in space. This presentation was delivered expertly by all of the boys.

Finishing runners up on the day, the boys did themselves proud and had a really enjoyable experience. Well done boys!

Year 12 Teesside Magistrates' Court Visit

Year 12 law students attended Teesside Magistrates' Court recently whereby they observed several criminal cases and learned about the role of lay magistrates who volunteer at the court. They were given a presentation by two experienced magistrates and given the opportunity to ask questions about their responsibilities and the cases they had observed.



Ghunsa Update: Expedition Preparations

A new team has spent the last year preparing and fundraising towards their expedition to Nepal in October. Eggescliffe has been sponsoring Ghunsa School in Solukhumbu, Eastern Nepal since it was partially destroyed in the 6.8 magnitude earthquake in 2015.

Two years ago, our first team of students visited the school to deliver science and computer equipment whilst also taking the opportunity to meet with students and staff and immerse themselves in the local culture, including a lot of dancing. The visit was the culmination of nearly two years work which saw almost £20,000 heading to Nepal from the Eggescliffe community. It was that team who had the pleasure to host Bhai Tamang, former Ghunsa student turned Nepalese tour guide, as he visited Teesside in July.

Now, a new team of 15 students along with Mr Mac and Mr Wilkinson will visit the school again, this time delivering text books and stationery along with a significant cash boost through our charity partner Community Action Nepal. Whilst at Ghunsa our students will contribute to the school's work by teaching a series of lessons and exchanging ideas with their Nepalese peers. Our students will also get the opportunity to ascend Pikey Peak which stands at 4067 metres.

Ghunsa village sits just about within sight of Mount Everest and is in one of the more remote parts of the world, a day's walk from the nearest road. There are around 250 pupils from age 4 up to 18 years old. Their curriculum is very similar to our own and science is a particular interest of one of the teachers. Solar panels bring a small amount of electricity to one of the school buildings and this allows them the use of three old PCs to teach computer skills. The Internet has yet to reach Ghunsa and so Instagram and Snapchat are not words they know!

In order to go on the expedition, our team needs to raise money for their own flights and fund an additional £1300 each for the charity. This means, collectively, the team needs to raise £32,000. Since June, over £19,000 has been raised. This huge amount is due to the hard work of both parents and students on the team through sponsored events, a ceilidh, car boot sales, raffles and many more. Just last week, you could find us on the checkouts at Morrison's Teesside Park, where customers generously donated nearly £700.

In a significant setback, the airline we were booked to fly with collapsed in April leaving us with a notable additional bill and losses as we aim to rebook. This has left us about £3500 behind our target.

Our next events include a sponsored endurance challenge on Roseberry Topping where students will attempt to scale our local 'peak' six times to cover the altitude similar to Pikey. Additionally, on Saturday, July 13th we will be hosting a race night at school which in previous years has raised over £2000.

We encourage you to visit the school's YouTube channel to watch videos of our first expedition and if you wish to sponsor any of the team members to complete the Roseberry Topping challenge you can visit www.gofundme.com/ghunsa. Our race night tickets will be on sale in the near future.

The team fly to Nepal on October 23rd 2019 and we wish them luck in their final preparations. Namaste!



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Rebuild Mexico 2019

Fifteen Year 10 students, Miss Fleetham, Mr Small and Miss Crook, travelled to Tijuana in Mexico over Easter to build a community centre for an amazing lady called Dora who was trying to help her community.

The trip lasted ten days during the Easter holidays and the students camped in a purpose built campsite and travelled by bus every day to a building site where Dora's community centre would eventually be built.

The group worked for up to 8 hours day in hot conditions that would frequently take them over 30C. The long days included hard labour such as mixing cement and lifting roof structures into place, both by hand.

The students got to experience Mexican life, seeing poverty first hand and socialising with the close-knit Mexican communities and running activities for the local children who couldn't attend school, such as playing football with them.

Whilst building, we learnt that Dora, who was being gifted the community centre, planned on using it to teach the local children literacy and help the elderly with their fitness. On top of this, Dora would also like to use the community centre as a food bank and women's refuge.

It was a humbling and life changing experience for us all whilst in Mexico and since we've been home in the UK too. Our lives will never be the same again and we were left with a lasting quote from Gaynor Congdon, founder of Amor ministries who run the Rebuild Mexico trips and spoke to us in the camp, saying "*One week of your lives has changed their lives forever.*"

The Year 10 students had this to say about the trip:

"Building a community centre was one of the best experiences of my life because it made a huge and massive difference and helps people live in a better community, which was just amazing."

"Handing the keys over was my highlight because it really hit me how much the house/centre meant to Dora. The hardest part was leaving all the people I had met."

"This experience has changed me forever. It was a trip like no other and attempting to sum it up is too difficult as it was all amazing! I feel that everyone needs to experience a trip like Rebuild Mexico to appreciate how lucky we are and how privileged it was to get to spend 10 days with truly humble, kind and caring people both in the build teams and with the Mexican families."

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Chemistry Weekend

At the start of April, Year 13 went on a chemistry revision weekend to Carlton Lodge, Thirsk. The weekend was an enjoyable as well as enlightening experience. It helped to highlight areas of weaker topics for students, whilst also helping them to tackle difficult concepts. It was three days of teaching, trying new things and team-building; a perfect combination of learning and laughter to kick off the run up to exams.

All who attended had great fun and were especially grateful for the extensive revision resources and the hot chocolate and biscuits after an unplanned dip in the lake!



Written by: K. Mowbray and M. Duffy

Important Dates

DofE Bronze Practice Expedition

Sat 4th May – Sun 5th May

Bank Holiday Monday

Monday, 6th May

Year 1- Work Experience

Tues 7th May – Fri 10th May

GCSE Exams Begin

Monday, 13th May

DofE Silver Assessed Expedition

Thurs 16th May – Sat 18th May

A Level Exams Begin

Monday, 20th May

Year 12 Mock Exams

Tues 21st May – Fri 7th June

Half Term Dates

Mon 27th May – Fri 31st May

The complete school calendar is available on the school website [located here.](#)