



Edition No. 67

WORKS

November 2021



THE MINSTER SCHOOL
SOUTHWELL

INTRODUCTION



Welcome to our Advent Newsletter. Advent is always a lovely time of year in school as we look forward to Christmas but also take the opportunity to reflect back on the term so far. Despite the continued challenges of COVID it has been amazing to see the school return to as close to normal as possible, with extracurricular visits, such as Year 7's trips to Walesby, sporting fixtures returning, clubs and groups starting to meet once more and the sound of singing echoing through the building as students rehearse for Les Misérables. Added to that is the hard work of students continuing to develop a love of learning and Year 11s preparing for mock exams. It is a real privilege to be able to watch students engage in school life and to thrive in what they do and I wish all members of our school community a great Advent and a Merry Christmas when we get there.

Andy Wall
Deputy Headteacher

UPCOMING KEY DATES

Music Sixth Form Concert - Thursday 2nd December 2021

House Week - Monday 6th to Friday 10th December 2021

Junior School Pantomime Visit - Wednesday 8th December 2021

Year 10 Parents Evening (Virtual) - Thursday 9th December 2021

Year 11 Mock Interviews - Friday 10th December 2021

Christmas Lunch - Wednesday 15th December 2021

Christmas Concert (Southwell Minster) - Wednesday 15th December 2021

End of Term Services (Southwell Minster) - Thursday 16th to Friday 17th December 2021

PRIZEGIVING

16/09/2021

After a year absence due to the pandemic, The Minster School held its annual prizegiving evening on Thursday 16th September 2021. Students, parents, families, and governors joined in celebrating fantastic achievements in what has been the most difficult of times.



The annual prizes awarded by The Minster School represent its long and illustrious heritage with many bequests dating back to the early part of the 20th century. Some of the most historic prizes are awarded by the Old Southwellians, an organisation representing ex-pupils of the school. These include prizes for the Head Boy and Head Girl and those demonstrating musical and sporting prowess.

During the evening Ben Chaloner, Head Teacher, addressed the assembled students and guests. He reflected upon what has been such a turbulent year for students, and society, up and down the country and across the world. "We are so proud to celebrate some of our student's great achievements. This evening we are able to recognise some of our school's students from across the year groups – from juniors through to departing year 13s. Prizes were awarded to students who had achieved excellent results in public examinations, sporting and music success, and also those that have demonstrated our key virtues – Wisdom, Optimism, Resilience, Kindness and Service. I am so proud of each and every prizewinner – but am aware that this is just the tip of the iceberg and that there are many other students who should be proud of how they have handled themselves over the past 18 months and whom we've not been able to recognise this evening."

The guest speaker at the event was international speaker, mental resilience expert and published author John Dabrowski. John has travelled the world and his clients include Rolls Royce, Deloitte, Aviva, Hilton, Cunard and NatWest bank. He was able to deliver his life story and three key lessons that he has learned in his life.

Congratulations to all prize winners and their families and particular good wishes for the future to those students leaving The Minster School at the end of year 13 to as they embark upon further study at university, conservatoires, or college, begin apprenticeships or start employment in the workplace.

CO-OP COMMUNITY FUND SUPPORTS OUR YOUNG MUSICIANS

Our Junior School was selected to benefit from a percentage of all Co-op branded products after it was chosen as a local cause. The money raised will be used to further equip the music department with resources for Junior students to use, such as instruments and sheet music.



HALLE ORCHESTRA - MANCHESTER

05/10/2021



On the 5th of October, approximately 30 of our young GCSE and A-Level musicians went on a trip to Manchester to see the Hallé orchestra perform at Bridgewater Hall. The Hallé's dedicated set works concert, 'The Orchestra Through the Ages', has been created in collaboration with teachers and music educators across the country to provide a unique resource for pupils studying GCSE and A-level music. The orchestra played beautifully, inspiring our musicians with repertoire from across the centuries, from Bach & Gabrieli to Riley & Zimmer.

LES MISERABLES CABARET EVENING

On Thursday 14th October, 30 members of the cast from the upcoming production of Les Misérables put on a Cabaret night. Performances included a wide variety of styles and genres including musical theatre numbers and a dance performance. It was a successful evening with an enthusiastic audience and an enjoyable evening for all.

Les Misérables will be running from 1st -5th Feb 2022. Information for tickets for Les Misérables will be coming out soon.

PRO CORDA MUSIC SCHOOL

This summer, after a successful audition, I was delighted to earn a place at the Pro Corda Summer Academy. Pro Corda is the UK's leading chamber music school. The course took place at Ampleforth College over eight days in my summer holidays. I was one of thirty string players aged from 10-20 years old. This was the first time I had spent so long away from my family on my own!

I was part of several different chamber music groups including 3 string quartets, a string orchestra and a choir. We rehearsed together every day and had 1:1 professional training. I played my violin, cello, and sang. At the end of the week, I loved the concert as I got to see what everybody else had been working on.

I had loads of fun and learnt how to be a better performer. My favourite thing, when we weren't playing music, was making new friends and spending time with them doing fun activities like swimming and rounders!

Scarlett (Year 6) - Junior School



NOTTINGHAM YOUNG MUSICIAN OF THE YEAR - TWO FINALISTS!

Talented Year 13 musicians Alexander (piano) and Danielle (flute) performed solo recitals with superb musicality and professionalism at the Nottingham Young Musician of the Year final last Sunday. The NYMY is a high quality regional competition which pulls in musicians from not only Nottinghamshire but also surrounding counties. Both musicians won their categories in the competition and have now been offered performance opportunities in the county. Alexander will be giving a piano performance at the Royal Concert Hall in Nottingham and Danielle will be performing a flute solo with the Nottingham Symphonic Winds Ensemble. We understand this to be the first year that two finalists have come from the same school and the performances they gave were outstanding. The feedback both Alexander and Danielle received from the adjudicator Stephen Threlfall (former Director of Music at Chetham's School of Music) was fantastic and richly deserved. Very well done to both students who are so talented and committed to their musical progress. We wish them all the best in their current conservatoire auditions.

SPORTS TEAMS - AUTUMN TERM 2021





SPORTING EXCELLENCE

Huge congratulations to Noah in Year 9 who recently represented Wales in a national competition! We are so proud of you Noah!



YEAR 9/10 MINSTER GIRLS FOOTBALL

17/11/2021



Our Y9/10 girls took on Outwood Academy Valley in the second round of the County Cup this week. Their skillful and courageous play was rewarded by two goals in the first half. In the second half they continued to press and the game ended 7-0. Seren (3), Freya (2), Lois and Hope all scored, but Millie, Emilia, Emily, Eve, Edie, Lydia, Georgina and Alana also deserve a special mention for a tremendous team effort. Well done girls!

SPORTING SUCCESS!

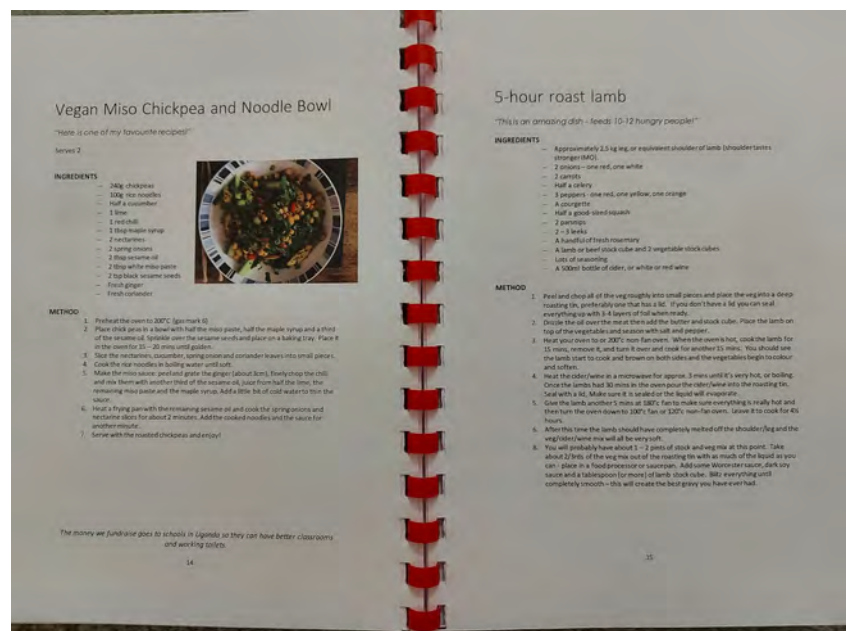
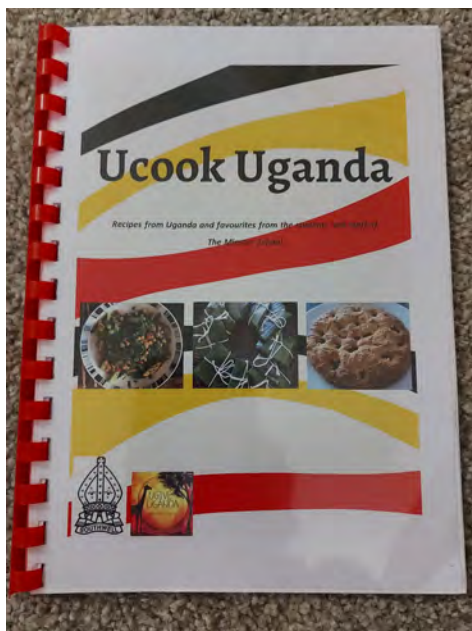
What a fantastic term our students have had representing The Minster School in lots of sport fixtures. This term there have been over 30 fixtures with lots of success stories. Follow us on twitter to get the latest results and updates @Minster_PE
#dreambelieveachieve

UGIVE UGANDA CRAFT FAIR

The Minster School's Ugive Uganda group, which raises money to support our link schools in Uganda, had a successful evening with its stall at the recent craft fair, selling products made by the students including Lavendar bags, Candles, Light up bottles, Pet food stockings and more. The group successfully raised over £200.

Alongside this the students were also selling their recently put together cook book. The book contains over 35 family favourite recipes from students and staff as well as some Ugandan recipes. The recipes have been tried and tested and make for highly enjoyable meals.

If you would like to support the work of Ugive Uganda and buy a cookbook they cost £3.50 and can be ordered by emailing ugiveuganda@minster.notts.sch.uk. The books will make an excellent stocking filler and every book ordered will help us to equip our link schools, and support the education of children in Uganda.



ADVENT WORSHIP & COMMUNION

As we prepare for Christmas we will be offering students an advent communion service which they can choose to opt into. This will be held during week commencing 6th December and will be the first in person, optional student worship this year. I am really looking forward to welcoming those who would like to be there.



REMEMBRANCE

11/11/2021

As a school we paused for an act of Remembrance. Thank you to Jono who led us in the last post, and to Dan for reading. Thank you also to Tom for playing the last post at the Minster's act of Remembrance representing our school alongside the Head Team. Our display in the Heartspace included poppies each with different prayers and hopes for peace written by students.

GUEST SPEAKER - JOHN DABROWSKI

05/11/2021

Earlier this month students in Years 11 and 13 took part in a Mental Resilience Masterclass, delivered by International Speaker, Author and Mental Resilience Expert John Dabrowski. Students learnt to develop some confidence techniques to help them during their examinations.

KS3 FRENCH CLUB

Bonjour ! We had the pleasure this term to host a wonderful French club for Y8 and 9 every Thursday. The students enjoyed learning about French music and regions, and loved visiting Paris virtually! They also had the chance to eat traditional French food, including macaroons, crepes and snails. C'est formidable !

YEAR 12 DRAMA WORKSHOP

01/10/2021

On Friday 1st October our year 12 drama class took a trip to the Nottingham Boys High School to partake in a drama workshop. The company that ran it was called Gecko, a theatre that focus on physical theatre and they don't primarily use words to impart narrative or understanding. This is a style that is both athletic and emotionally honest. Kenny, (the man leading our workshop) taught us the importance of breath, as it was the anchor for exploring all movements and emotions. We were instructed to not verbalise out loud, only through our breath and body language, as the choral breath incites a societal sensation and allows the ensemble to connect on a deeper level. Kenny gave us both partner exercises and group exercises that were designed to push us out of our comfort zones and allow us to further comprehend the methods that they use at Gecko. We had to utilise our improvisational skills as performers, when creating short scenes, as he said the best moments are often created by a spark or spontaneity. We are going to be able to see these skills put into action when we take our group trip to see 'The Wedding' (a production by Gecko.)

VISIT TO THE NATIONAL HOLOCAUST CENTRE AND MUSEUM

18/01/2022

On 18th January 2022, the History Department will be taking year 11 History students to the National Holocaust Centre and Museum in order to support them in their GCSE studies. As part of this visit, students will be able to understand the stages of persecution in Nazi Germany when exploring the museum and consider challenging moral and ethical issues facing German society at the time through an educational workshop. Alongside this, students will have the unique opportunity to listen to the testimony of a Holocaust survivor and ask them questions.

All information for this visit has been published on ParentMail for students eligible to attend.

