



Edition No. 70

# WORKS

Wisdom - Optimism - Resilience - Kindness - Service

March 2022



THE MINSTER SCHOOL  
SOUTHWELL

"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as though you were working for the Lord."  
Colossians 3.23.

# INTRODUCTION



Welcome to our March edition of WORKS. It feels like spring has sprung and with it some of our traditional calendared events taking place. Year 10 are currently taking part in the 10X Challenge, as well as RSHE day, year 12 geographers have visited Snowdonia to complete fieldwork, Years 7 and 9 have had lunar sample visits looking at meteors and moon rock. Year 8 will be taking part in the rescheduled STEAM and humanities days.

Whilst year 11 and 13 are focusing on completing practical elements of courses and assessments (amazing work produced on NEA Food and Design and Technology days), they are also planning those traditional end of key stage prom celebrations.

There is as always lots to celebrate each week in tutor notices and house celebration assemblies. The Spring house competitions are being launched this week as well as charity events.

So far this academic year through our charitable service we have raised over £900 for both Pasic and Brain Cancer Research and a further £1,360 for We R Here. Next week we will be holding a non-uniform day for Red Nose Day, and we will also be launching our refugee appeal. Enjoy this edition, there is lots to share and celebrate.

**Angela Zannetou**  
Assistant Headteacher

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## UPCOMING KEY DATES

**Sixth Form Oxbridge Evening** - Monday 14th March 2022

**Piano Competition** - Tuesday 15th March 2022

**ABRSM Examinations** - Wednesday 16th March 2022

**Humanities & STEAM Days** - Tuesday 15th & Wednesday 16th March 2022

**Non-Uniform Day (Red Nose Day)** - Friday 18th March 2022

**Year 11/13 Photos** - Wednesday 23rd March 2022

**Unplugged Concert** - Thursday 24th March 2022

**Sixth Form Externals Information Evening** - Monday 28th March 2022

**Easter Concert** - Wednesday 30th March 2022

**Easter End of Term Services** - Monday 28th & Thursday 31st March 2022



Supported by



Our 10x Challenge begins...

# THE 10X CHALLENGE!

The year 10 students are currently in the middle of their 10X Challenge, an enterprise activity in which they are given £10 per team to provide products or services and make as much profit as possible in 4 weeks. The year group as a whole voted to donate the profits between the Children's Bereavement Centre in Newark and Reach Learning Disability in Southwell. We have already seen some fantastic ideas and can't wait to see how the projects turn out!

## CASH LOADERS IN SCHOOL

Please note, cash loaders in school do not accept £20 notes, all other notes are readily accepted.

Apologies for any inconvenience.



# IMPROVED OUTDOOR SPACE FOR ONE OF THE WORLD'S OLDEST SCHOOLS

The Minster Junior School, which was established over 1000 years ago to educate the choristers of the nearby Southwell Minster and which acted as a community hub for keyworker children for the surrounding villages of Southwell during the first Covid lockdown, is delighted to announce that its new play facility was unveiled on Tuesday 22 February at 2.15pm.

The ceremony included the Chair of Southwell Town Council, the Vice Chair of Nottinghamshire County Council, the health improvement manager of Newark & Sherwood District Council and members of the Southwell & District Lions – a charity which supports the local community. Combined, these organisations along with Staythorpe Power Station and parents of the schoolchildren have all helped to secure funds for the new play equipment.



"I appreciate that this may seem like a modest accomplishment for many other organisations, but for a school with only 40 pupils, some of which are siblings, it was a major achievement to raise over £8000 for our new trim trail during a year that was marred with Covid lockdowns and remote teaching," says Rob Burns, Head of the Junior School.

A need was identified during the first of these Covid lockdowns, when the school acted as a community hub for many keyworker children from the surrounding villages. Led by the MSPTA, the school's parent and teacher fundraising team, the parents held fundraisers where permissible, and approached local organisations for support. Although the funds were in place in Spring 2021, supplier delays as a result of source material shortages and Covid backlogs has meant that the equipment has just been installed, ready to be unveiled after the half term break.

The 19th oldest school in the World, the Minster School is renowned for being the education base of the Southwell Minster choristers, a tradition which dates back to the year 956 AD. Originally only used to educate the cathedral choristers, the state school now teaches talented musicians from around the county. It is one of only a tiny minority of state junior schools in the country which permits entry not determined by geographical catchment but instead on musical talent. Once their place is confirmed, pupils automatically continue their education into the secondary school and sixth form – a journey which may embrace 11 years of learning from year 3 to year 13 in an Ofsted “Outstanding” state school.

In the image, the adults, left to right:

Verdun Webley, Nick Parr and Peter Brooker of the Southwell & District Lions  
Andy Hardy, Health Improvement & Community Relations Manager of Newark & Sherwood District Council

Cllr Roger Jackson, Vice Chair of Nottinghamshire County Council

Cllr Sally Reynolds, Chair of Southwell Town Council

Rob Burns, Head of the Junior School

Ben Chaloner, Headteacher of the Minster School

Along with some musically gifted schoolchildren.

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## YEAR 12 GEOGRAPHY TRIP 2022

On Weds 2nd March, 38 Year 12 Geographers travelled to FSC Rhyd-Y-Creuwau in Snowdonia to embark on a 3 day residential trip. The purpose of the excursion was to gain experience of fieldwork data collection methods in preparation for their A Level NEA. On arrival, the students carried out infiltration and carbon studies in the local woodland to the FSC Centre and gained experience of using clinometers and rain gauges, along with a spot of 'tree hugging' (which according to the FSC instructor increases oxytocin levels)! On the second day they explored the magnificent Nant Ffrancon Valley, by investigating Cwm Idwal to gather evidence of glacial flow through the striation direction and landforms around the corrie; they even climbed on top of Mrs Lyon's 'second favourite roche moutonee'! On the final day students used photography to inspire a range of data collection techniques on perception of place in Betyws-Y-Coed. Numerous staff members at the FSC centre commented on how polite, focused and positive the students' attitude and efforts were in the classroom and in the canteen area, which was superb to hear. They were a pleasure to accompany and brilliant ambassadors for the school. Well done Year 12 Geographers! Mrs Summers.





# LES MISERABLES

FEBRUARY 2022



The Minster School has a reputation for producing outstanding musicals, but due to Covid-19 restrictions haven't been able to perform for over two years. Incredibly, they took the decision to ease their way back in with the sung-through epic *Les Misérables*. This was either to be an act of hubris by the Music Department, or a sign of unwavering belief in their young performers. I am delighted to say that their faith was not misplaced. The show was simply wonderful.

For anyone unfamiliar with *Les Misérables*, it is not a happy musical (as is self-evident through its title). It is about redemption, rebellion and ruin. Yet it is beautiful. It is an examination of the human condition; contradictory and complex, conveying pain, hope, humour, grief, sorrow, and love through song. The context of this is crucial in appreciating the stunning job the students at The Minster School have been able to achieve.

Zak's Jean Valjean was one of the finest performances I have ever seen in an amateur production. Not only was his voice up to the strains of such a challenging role, but he was able to portray the role of a good man shamed and haunted by his past with complexity. His rendition of *Bring Him Home* brought tears to the audience and rapturous applause upon completion. Nevertheless, a story is only as good as its villain, and Asher was certainly up to the task as the dogged and self-righteous Javert. Javert's final scenes in particular were portrayed expertly, as the unwavering inspector is plunged into an existential crisis during Javert's Soliloquy. The chemistry between the two leads was palpable, with the fight between the two halfway through the first act, feeling genuinely full of rage.

The rest of the main cast were equally good. Ellie-Jean's performance as Fantine was harrowingly delicate, with a particularly heart-breaking delivery of *I Dreamed a Dream*. The Thenardiens were hilarious, with Madame Thenardier played by Tilly getting the biggest laugh of the night during *Master of the House*, and Thenardier played by Peter predominantly as a charming Del-Boy figure, while showing us the true malevolence hiding underneath that character when he needed to. Ethan was charming as Marius, giving us a sorrowful version of *Empty Chairs at Empty Tables*. He was also alternating the role of Jean Valjean with Zak, and I am sorry I didn't get to see his take on the character. Esmee had a lovely voice as Cosette and gave the character the innocence she needs to make both Marius and Valjean's stories work. Likewise, Eponine, downtrodden by her parents and her unrequited love for Marius, was made all the more sympathetic by Cassie's performance. Ewan was very commanding as leader of the barricade Enjolras. Noah was charismatic and commanding as Gavroche, and very impressive for a Year 7. Similarly, Sofia also in Year 7, played a frightened yet hopeful Young Cosette excellently. The rest of the ensemble were superb, whether that was providing small roles, or giving it all for the chorus numbers providing a wall of sound for *At the End of the Day*, *One Day More* and *Do You Hear the People Sing?* The show was double-cast for main roles, and after seeing the quality in the ensemble, I am sure the Red Cast did as good a job as the Black Cast.

The band composed entirely of students, were immense. In Musical Theatre, the music is of course vital, but in *Les Misérables* there are no rest breaks in between songs. It was an incredible effort and to my uneducated ear, it sounded like a professional band playing. Moreover, the staging and the lighting were hugely impressive. The barricade itself was imposing, and the sound effects and lighting for the gun fights were incredibly effective. One particular flashing light effect during *The Second Attack* was shocking even for those who knew that a character was about to meet their demise.

# ELEANOR - OUTSTANDING HOCKEY ACHIEVEMENT

One of our year 11 students Eleanor has played a pivotal role in getting her team to the final of the under 16s national hockey competition. Eleanor is not only the current captain for Beeston hockey club but she has also, achieved their player of the year when she was playing for the under 15s last year. Eleanor's outstanding performances at her own age group has created a wonderful opportunity to play for Beeston ladies 3rd team consistently this year whilst, more recently being asked to train for the ladies 2nd team. A truly amazing achievement and good luck in the final Eleanor!

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## CRICKET INSPIRATION

We are very proud of our PE Ambassador Abbie! The following article is all about the fantastic work she is doing at Farnsfield Cricket Club!

#inspiration

LINK TO ARTICLE - <https://t.co/o2NAQvh3Fw>

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## YEAR 7 NETBALL SUCCESS IN THEIR FIRST TOURNAMENT!

We are very proud of the Year 7 Netball Team - They took part in their first tournament at Carlton Le Willows at the beginning of March. They won every game without conceding a goal! Big shout out to Jess and Martha in Year 10 who have been working with the team!

#succeedingtogether



# YEAR 8 RUGBY TEAM NORTHERN CHAMPIONS!

Huge congratulations to the Year 8 Rugby Team - with 3 wins and 1 draw on the final day of competitions, they won the Northern Cup! We are so proud of you boys, well done!  
#teamworkmakesthedream-work



# YEAR 9/10 FOOTBALL SUCCESS!

Huge congratulations to the Year 9/10 Football Team! 2-1 winners against Rushcliffe in the semi-final of the County Cup - Good luck in the final!

#teamworkmakesthedreamwork



# YEAR 9 RUGBY TEAM CROWNED COUNTY CHAMPIONS

Well done to the Year 9 Rugby Team who beat Arnold Hill in a very close game to become County Champions! We are very proud of you all!

#teamworkmakesthedreamwork



# 50:50 SPRING DRAW

For £10, you could be in with a chance of winning some lovely spending money. Last term, three winners shared over £800. With a first prize win of just over £400.00!

To join in, log into Parentmail (<https://pmx.parentmail.co.uk>) and go to 'Payments' then 'Shop'. The £10 entry for the 50/50 draw should appear here. Half of this fundraising goes into the prize draw, which you could win, and the remaining half benefits our pupils.

Full draw details and other ways you can support our fundraising are here:  
<https://www.minster.notts.sch.uk/mspta>



**Spring 50/50**  
**...it could be you!**

Would you like the chance to win big,  
while raising funds for children  
The Minster School?

For just £10 a term, you can get  
your name in the draw – last  
time's winner received over  
£400, with two runners-up  
getting over £200 each!

Join in via ParentMail

**Good luck!**

**MSPTA**  
Minster School Parent Teachers Association

Terms and conditions apply:  
[www.minster.notts.sch.uk/mspta](http://www.minster.notts.sch.uk/mspta)

# MSPTA COMEDY NIGHT



**SAVE THE DATE: 6 MAY 2022**

*Doors open at 6:30, and two professional acts will entertain 'til 9pm*

The Minster School Parent Teachers Association will be hosting a comedy night at the school to raise funds for our students... more details to follow soon!

# Apply now for a paid internship

## Studying for a maths, physics, computing or related degree and considering a career in teaching?

We are offering internships within secondary academies, where you will be paid £900.00 tax free for a three week placement.

Internships can be completed in any of the academies below.



Diverse Academies  
Tuxford Academy  
East Leake Academy  
Walton Academy



Minster Learning Alliance  
The Minster School  
Carlton Le Willows  
National C of E Academy



Redhill Academy Trust  
Redhill Academy  
South Notts Academy

Apply online: <https://forms.office.com/r/e6aBMbSGtC>

Deadline for applications	13th March 2022
Interview (Teams) - Diverse Academies	23rd March 2022
Interview (Teams) - Minster Learning Alliance	24th March 2022
Interview (Teams) - Redhill Academy Trust	25th March 2022
Internship starts	20th June 2022
Internship ends	8th July 2022

## Find out more, talk to our team and apply

Diverse Academies - Claire Hallam - [challam@diverse-ac.org.uk](mailto:challam@diverse-ac.org.uk)

Minster Learning Alliance - Hazel Theaker - [htheaker@nationalacademy.org.uk](mailto:htheaker@nationalacademy.org.uk)

Redhill Academy Trust - Adam Brett - [a.brett@theredhillacademytrust.org.uk](mailto:a.brett@theredhillacademytrust.org.uk)

[www.diverseassociation.org.uk/get-into-teaching/internships](http://www.diverseassociation.org.uk/get-into-teaching/internships)

