



John Mann Summer School 2016



Somme 100 Trees for 100 Schools

Budding Elizabethan History students have taken part in the “100 trees for 100 schools” competition organised by the National Memorial Arboretum to commemorate the centenary of the Battle of the Somme.

The Battle of Delville Wood (part of the larger battle of the Somme) saw the area devastated by artillery and warfare, leaving only one hornbeam tree still standing.

In commemoration of the battle, the National Memorial Arboretum launched a national competition to give schools the chance to win a hornbeam sapling, to remember those who had fought in the battle and to give hope to future generations.

The Elizabethan held its own internal competition to select two poems to put forward. After much deliberation, History teacher, Miss Swift, and Principal, Christine Horrocks, chose Jake Caudwell’s

“The Eternal Tree” and Daisie Ellis’ “Memories of a Delville Warrior” to submit.

Both poems were praised by the NMA, with thirteen-year-old Daisie announced as one of the winners this week.

Miss Swift said “Both Jake and Daisie have worked so hard to capture the significance and importance of remembering the Battle of the Somme in this centenary year.”

Mrs Horrocks said she was incredibly proud of the talented youngsters. “The competition was open to schools across the country, and the Elizabethan was one of only forty Secondary Schools to receive a prize. We have a wealth of artistic and creative talent in our school, and I am delighted that Daisie has won.”

Year 11 prom

Our Year 11 students turned out in style for the Class of 2016 Prom at the ‘Ye Olde Bell’. They arrived in various forms of transport, from classic and vintage sports cars to a vintage bus, and some of the boys arrived on a tractor and trailer.

Vice Principal, Jason White, said of the Class of 2016: “We have seen them

grow and mature during their time with us at the Elizabethan... some have certainly grown in height, but all have grown in confidence. We are glad that so many of them are staying on with us next year, and we look forward to working with them again at Retford Post 16.”

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Year 11 Prom



John Mann Summer School



Sports Day



John Mann Summer School in London

Eight lucky Elizabethan Academy students were guests of local MP John Mann at the start of July at his Citizenship Summer School, which is held every year for the Bassetlaw schools.

The event is one of the highlights of the Year 11 calendar, with students applying for the opportunity via a presentation and interview process. This year the successful students were Dulcie Hall, Will Speirs, Holly Harthill, Hannah Richardson, Lily Brown, Jerome Bell, Jack Stanley and Callum McCarthy. Each one of them had to research well and prepare themselves beforehand in order to access the high level of events scheduled for the visit.

The itinerary was immense, which included participating in a Parliamentary Select Committee on the topic of Drugs in Sport. Those questioned were Tracey Crouch MP, Minister for Sport Dame Tanni Grey-Thompson and Sir Hugh Robertson – Vice Chairman of the British Olympic Association.

Will Speirs said “My best moment was without a doubt the Select Committee: after hours of research, trawling through interviews and government records, I had the opportunity to retrieve specialised information from three iconic witnesses, including the Minister for Sport herself, and felt so humbled and honoured to be a part of such a once in a lifetime event.”

This was followed by a tour of the Houses of Parliament and a session with John Bercow MP, Speaker of the House of Commons.

Other events included a trip to the American Embassy and BBC Broadcasting House where the students engaged with key leaders and presenters.



A Gala Dinner at Churchill’s Restaurant in Parliament was an amazing experience for them all. A day at Pentland Group PLC saw all eight schools take part in a marketing challenge. Each had to create a digital marketing strategy for Kickers and the Elizabethan students were triumphant, winning the Best Overall Concept Award on the day. Through this process, Dulcie Hall won a week’s work experience at Speedo UK’s head office in Nottingham.



Their final day was a visit to Lloyds of London, the Bank of England and to see the city at their feet from the top floor of Clifford Chance, Global Law Firm building. The students said they had had an awesome week which left them inspired, enthused and just a little exhausted. They were so grateful to John Mann for the opportunities he had given them and were looking forward to working with him and supporting his celebrations to mark the 400 Year anniversary of the Pilgrim Fathers.

Sports Day

The Academy celebrated another successful Sports Day, a whole day event starting with the team banner parade, which of course highlighted this year’s Olympic games in Rio. Many of the teams honoured famous Olympians past and present, such as the late great Muhammad Ali.

All students took part in field and track events and although there were no records broken this year there were some excellent performances especially in the Shot Putt, with Jack Griffiths throwing an amazing 9.74m.

It was a close finish, but Team Winston were the overall winners on the day.

A fabulous day was had by all and we managed to finish all the events before ‘rain stopped play’.

The Victor and Victrix Lorum winners below won each of their events:

Victor Lorum

Dillan Bills
James Mallender
Irfan Marokhail
Hadi Hammoud
Will Godbehere
Lewis Evans
Lawrence Narancic

Victrix Lorum

Ella Eger
Macy Shelley
Adele Sismey
Grace Bradley



Transition Week

The largest group of Year 6 students for four years joined us for Transition Week at the start of July. The students come from thirty different primary schools, and we are delighted that parents from across Bassetlaw are choosing to entrust their children’s future to us.

Mr White, who leads on transition, said he was “incredibly proud” of how the new students had all risen to the challenge of settling into life in their new school.

We would like to wish everyone a wonderful summer.

We look forward to welcoming our new Year 7s on Tuesday 6 September