



## S1 Kingswood Residential Trip

This week our S1 students visited the Kingswood Activity Centre for two days. This residential visit included a variety of adventurous activities and boys got to experience a high ropes course, buggy building and a zip wire. The trip was designed so that boys worked in teams and got the chance to know each other better as a year group. Whilst the inclement weather certainly added to the experience the boys duly rose to the challenge and it was great to see them encouraging and supporting each other. This was particularly evident in the problem solving tasks they were presented with, not least the night-line activity where they had to lead each other round an obstacle course whilst blindfolded!

This is the first year we have taken S1 on this trip and it is certainly something we will do again. It was a great success thanks to the attitude and enthusiasm of the boys and the support of the Lower School staff.



## STEM Showcase

Our STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) departments have been in full swing this week. On Monday our 6<sup>th</sup> form physics students visited the giant Lovell telescope at Jodrell Bank as part of their astrophysics topic. On Tuesday our engineering students produced an impressive lunchtime showcase to help raise funds for this year's school charity – the Peace Garden School in Nepal.

## Dates for your Diary

### **Saturday 5 October**

U18A, U14A, U14B Rugby v  
Bradford Grammar School (A)  
– 10.00 am

U15A Rugby v Bradford  
Grammar School (H) – 10.00  
am

U18A (Boys and Girls), U16A,  
U14A, U12A Cross Country v  
High Hazels (A) – 10.00 am

Birkdale Groups and Soloists  
perform at Dore Male Voice  
Choir Gala Concert – 7.00 pm

### **Sunday 6 October**

Peak Edges Sponsored Walk in  
aid of Senior School Charity -  
9.00 am – 6.00 pm

### **Tuesday 8 October**

A Level and GCSE Drama  
Theatre Trip ("Woman in  
Black") – 7.15 am – 10.30 pm

House Badminton 3 – 12.40  
pm

### **Wednesday 9 October**

S3 Vaccinations (TDP and  
Meningitis)



U15A Rugby v Hill House  
School (A) – 2.15 pm

Senior School Solos Concert  
(Octagon) – 7.00 pm

**Thursday 10 October**  
S3 Trip to Beth Shalom – 8.15  
am to 3.45 pm

House Badminton 4 – 12.40  
pm

**Friday 11 October**  
History Society Balloon  
Debate: “Should we judge  
historical figures by the morals  
of today?” (Birkdale round of  
the Historical Association  
Great Debate) (E23) – 12.45 –  
1.15 pm

### **Octopus entertains the President**

It was a great pleasure on Thursday evening to be invited to the Sheffield Chamber of Commerce President’s Annual Dinner. This was a great evening to hear about the recent efforts made by the Chamber to encourage youth enterprise and entrepreneurship and to support Birkdale parent Steve Manley in his role as president. Octopus, the Birkdale in-house jazz band, were invited to play for guests as they arrived and their performance was its usual high quality.

### **Diving Ahead**

We recently reported on the competitive diving success of L6 student Sephora and she has now passed her Swim England Level One Diving and Coaching course. This qualification means she can operate as an assistant diving coach passing on her skills to other budding divers.

### **Upcoming Events**

On Sunday 6 October a number of staff and students will be completing a sponsored walk to raise funds for The Peace Garden School in Nepal. Taking in nine edges across the Peak District the group will walk a total of 23 kilometres. Please do support the individuals taking on this challenge and let’s see how much we can raise!

On Wednesday 9 October the Birkdale Music Department is presenting its Autumn Solos Concert. This is a free event held in the Octagon from 7pm. It would be lovely to see you there to support our talented musicians.

*It is always a very great pleasure and privilege to tell you about the achievements of our pupils both in and outside of their involvement at Birkdale. Please do not hesitate to contact me at [prking@birkdalschool.org.uk](mailto:prking@birkdalschool.org.uk) if you ever have any news about your child that you would like to have included in the bulletin.*