

Fundraising Success

A huge well done to one of our parents, Joanne Foster, who completed the Great North Run on Sunday 11th September to help Breckenbrough School fundraise for the refurbishment of our middle floor kitchen.

Joanne finished in 2 hours 39 minutes and through sponsorships and donations she managed to raise £1744.67 for the school. Well done Joanne—A fantastic achievement and a huge thank you from us all!

On Fete Day this year we managed to raise a brilliant £250 through stalls, raffle and many other activities. Another big thank you goes to parent Gary Marshall, who kindly arranged a fund matching from Fete Day bringing our total to £1500.



Beyond Breckenbrough (Formerly Aftercare)

A busy term for Beyond Breckenbrough and lots to celebrate.

Huge congratulations go to a past student for achieving a 1st class honours degree in Aircraft Engineering at Newcastle Aviation/Kingston University. He is now working for Monarch airline as an Aircraft Engineer.

Beyond Breckenbrough has strengthened links with more Colleges. This year we have a member of Breckenbrough staff at Middlesbrough College supporting the transition of a summer 2016 leaver as he begins his welding course. We have a former student at Gateshead College doing extremely well with his Level 3 Music Technology Course, with another student at Barnsfield College working towards a Level 2 in Music Technology.

ESPA in Sunderland continue to provide regular updates on students and many of the boys contact their keyworkers/mentors to share successes or ask for advice or assistance. The 3 leavers who moved onto Univeristy this summer are now approaching the end of their first term and all have been in touch to share their early experiences.

We continue to offer support to those students who require additional mentoring/advocacy work/ signposting/alternative input and also provide advice and support to parents of former students. Contact can be made through our normal email address.

Staff...

This term we say a big hello-

Katharine Barlow—Senco

Kirsty McGhie-Fraser—TA

Tracey Marwood—Behaviour Support

And goodbye to both Melanie Jones and Peter Miller.

Children in Need

Friday 18th November was Children in Need and as always Breckenbrough got involved by doing a cake sale.

Boys and staff spent the evening previous baking cakes and lovely treats to sell at break time. It wasn't long before the tasty cakes were all sold and we managed to raise a brilliant **£72!**

Well done everyone!



New Term

School opens for pupils on **Wednesday 4th January at 10:30am.**

We hope you have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Newsletter

Autumn Term 2016



www.facebook.com/BreckenbroughSchool

Twitter: @BreckUpdates

www.Breckenbrough.org.uk



BBC Comedy Classroom



We are delighted to announce that Breckenbrough pupil Louis Polwarth has won Highly Commended in the BBC Comedy Classroom Competition 2016. Open to 13-15-year-olds students across the UK, the competition – a collaboration between BBC Learning, BBC Comedy and the National Literacy Trust - called on secondary school students to become classroom jokers and was given backing by some of the UK's top comedy talent, including Charlie Higson, Kerry Howard, Marcus Brigstocke and David Walliams.

Louis, Year 10, independently wrote a short sketch which was entered into the 'Class Act - The Sketch' category. Students were encouraged to write their own unique sketch and bring to life funny ideas and characters. Louis' script centres around John and Wendy, a couple attempting to check into a hotel who get more than they bargained for from the automated check in assistant S.T.A.N. BBC comedian and writer Tiernan Douieb said *'The sketch made me laugh a lot. I'm really impressed with how much character Louis gave to a robot. Well done on a great sketch and impressive writing, I really did laugh throughout!'* Louis' entry was chosen from thousands first making the short list of fifteen before being announced as one of the final ten entries. Louis was awarded a Highly Commended Certificate, provided written feedback on his entry and his name displayed in the winners section of the BBC website. Well done Louis! You can find out more about the BBC Comedy Classroom Competition at www.bbc.com/comedyclassroom

STEM & links with Merchant Adventurers

Breckenbrough won the NYBEP STEM competition 2016 in York earlier this year, huge credit going to the boys. We have now been put forward to the 2017 NEC country wide BIG BANG in Birmingham.

The Lord-Lieutenant of North Yorkshire who had seen our entry on his visit to school, hosted a dinner for past and present Lord-Lieutenants and Deputy Lord-Lieutenants, invited us to display our project at the Merchant Adventures Hall in York.

This was a formal occasion and prestigious to be able to show our project to captains of industry and commerce, Breck student Freddy represented the boys and was a credit to the school. It was great fun to watch very formally dressed people trying out the Rider. The feed back was all positive and put the school on the map. An excellent evening was had by all.



Staff Profile—Katharine Barlow

My name is Katharine and I started at Breckenbrough in September 2016. I have been a teacher for over 17 years, teaching geography and ICT. I am a qualified Senco and am currently training to become a specialist dyslexia teacher. Being at Breckenbrough offers me a fantastic opportunity to bring together my SEN and curriculum knowledge, through my role as SENCO and teaching A-level Geography and also Key skills.

I love working at Breckenbrough. It is a pleasure to see the boys enjoying the activities and opportunities they have available to them and to be part of an amazing team of both staff and students.

When I am not at work, I am a mum of 2 children and am often out and about, being walked by my dog 'Tigger'



Breckenbrough Time Capsule

Friday 22nd July was Fete day at Breckenbrough and this year time was set a side to bury a Time Capsule that Frances, a member of staff and twelve of our boys had been working on. The boys chose items of interest to go into the capsule which included a mobile phone donated by Carphone Warehouse, a first class stamp, a magazine of the Queens 90th birthday, a video of the school and a newspaper on the day it was buried. The boys buried the capsule in the grounds of Breckenbrough, watched by staff, pupils and parents and will be opened in 2031.

A big thank you goes to Response CNC Doncaster for donating the plaque and capsule. Special thanks to all the boys on a great achievement and working so effectively as a team. Well done everyone!



Unwanted Items Please

The school garden project is in full swing at the moment and as always we would appreciate any unwanted gardening gear to help us. If you are having a clear out, anything such as gardening tools, plant pots, seed trays, watering cans and gardening gloves will really help.

Art & Textiles would also greatly appreciate any items such as buttons, materials, crafty items, plastic 2L drink bottles, newspapers and haberdashery bits and bobs. Thank you.

Follow us...

Don't forget our new school website is up and running and looking fantastic www.breckenbrough.org.uk

You can also follow us on Twitter <https://twitter.com/BreckenbroughSc?lang=en>

And keep up with us on Facebook at

<https://www.facebook.com/Breckenbrough-School-1286951927998791/?fref=ts>

Residential Update

The term has got off to a great start for the boys during residential time. The first half term was enjoyed by spending a lot of time outside. Dog walking, football, wide games, climbing, mountain biking, geocaching and Pokémon hunting. As the dark nights have drawn in the boys are able to grab a torch and continue to enjoy the outside games, just makes it more exciting for them in the dark. Although mountain biking is now not available and climbing is now enjoyed inside at Harrogate Climbing Wall.

All of the boys continue to enjoy the activities on offer, Swimming at the Dolphin Centre in Darlington on a Monday and Wednesday, Tuesday tends to be a quiet night in. The boys have the opportunity to spend time in the kitchen, whether it be baking or cooking. developing their Independent Living Skills (ILSA). The produce the boys make is outstanding. They have made jams and chutney which have been made with the produce from our garden. They can play games in the hall, walking, shopping. DVD and popcorn in front of the TV. Wednesday the boys have thoroughly enjoyed their time playing Dungeons & Dragons, climbing-during the light nights at Brimham Rocks and now at Harrogate and Leeds Climbing Wall. They also continue to enjoy motocross with Stu. Thursdays the boys enjoy time out at the Cinema.



Dom showing us how its done!



Connors great attempt at pottery



Roberts extra-large sausage roll!



Connors first attempt at motor cross...
With a little help from Zenon

As well as the activities being fun for the students they incorporate their ILSA targets whether it be communication, financial planning, behaviour, personal safety, personal hygiene, transport management, dietary, hobbies and interests, time management and self-organisation.

The 6th formers visit the local gym and follow a fitness routine. They all visit the local shops using a weekly budget and cook a wide variety of healthy and nutritious meals.

We would like to congratulate Michael and Jackson on passing their driving test, a significant achievement. Well Done to them both!



Another 2 of our students Elliott & Dom are taking driving lessons at the moment, we wish them all the best.

Christmas Card Design Success

Following a visit to school from the Lord Lieutenant of North Yorkshire in May of this year. We were asked if any of our pupils would like to design a Christmas card to be his official card for the year. We held a competition and all pupils were invited to submit a design. These were judged by Mr Dodd in October and the winning design was done by Rory Foster, one of our current year 9 pupils. Mr Dodd is delighted with the finished product and says 'I think the cards are really lovely. Such a vibrant design. I'm looking forward to sending them out.' We were also invited to insert a small piece about school and the work we do. Congratulations to Rory and the other pupils who entered, the card will be seen on many a mantel piece this Christmas.

