

## Comparing Religious Beliefs between staff members

As part of the Beliefs and Values module of my ASDAN course, I interviewed 2 members of staff; a religious person and a non-religious person. I asked them a series of questions about their views on items connected to the world. This is what I found:

The religious person talked about how they believe in an afterlife and a deity but also how they believe in science. They said that science and religion go hand in hand. They also believed in One God and this belief affects their day to day life with things such as diet, etiquette and health.

The non-religious person had very similar ideals to the religious person. They see religious texts as good moral tales. They did not see how science and religion can work together. However, they did believe that there is a creator out there. They also believe that religion is good for community and a good moral compass.

I was surprised that their views were slightly similar despite having very different upbringings.

Jack, Year 11



## Careers

It's been a busy and productive term within the careers department after achieving The Quality in Careers Standard at the end of the Summer term. Sally Leck, the onsite school Careers Adviser, has taken the position of Careers Lead to ensure quality careers information, advice and guidance is delivered throughout the school, in line with government recommendations.

Careers talks have been well attended this term, and have been delivered by:

- The Blue Cross, with the help of Jess the Black Labrador.
- Labman, our local robotics company based near Stokesley. Matthew Brown who was a Breckenbrough Student back in the 1980's is now working at Labman as an Electrical Robotics Engineer and kindly came into school and talked to 6 students interested in computing, scientific and engineering based careers
- Harrowell's Solicitors – Paul Burkinshaw came into school and spoke to students ranging from Year 10 to Year 13 about all aspects of Law

We've also had visits out of school. Year 11 students attended The National Apprenticeship Show at the Great Yorkshire Show Ground back in September and learnt about the range of apprenticeships, including the relatively new Degree Apprenticeships. Bespoke visits for Year 11 students have also been taking place and have included visits to FE Colleges and Higher Education – including Cambridge University, Leeds Beckett and Salford University.

We have students undertaking work experience and completing voluntary work placements both in county and out of county.

Students in Year 11 are working with Emma Thomas from NYBEP (North Yorkshire Business and Enterprise Partnership) during their careers lesson to achieve the NCFE Level 1 Employability Skills Award.

## Staff

This term we say a big hello to new staff members

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| - Olivia Pierotti, Outreach Support          | - Karley Thompson, Primary Coordinator |
| - Joy Carter, Outreach Teacher               | - Heather Hodgson, Outreach Worker     |
| - Ailwen Ilett, Outreach Teacher             | - Dharam Bahra, Maths Teacher          |
| - Simon Gibson, Evening Support Worker       | - Becca Lumsdon, Learning Support      |
| - David Sokald, Outdoor Education Instructor | - Luke Burnett, Evening Support Worker |



We sadly say goodbye to Jenny Shotton, Music Teacher, who is moving on to pastures new.

School opens for students on **Tuesday 8th January at 09:00am.**

(Monday 7th January is staff training day in school)

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

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# Newsletter

## Autumn Term 2018



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Twitter: @BreckUpdates



[www.Breckenbrough.org.uk](http://www.Breckenbrough.org.uk)



## Lille Trip October 2018

In October, our year 11 French GCSE students enjoyed the opportunity of a residential trip to Lille for two nights as part of their French GCSE course.

The journey involved catching the train from Northallerton to Kings Cross London, before heading over to St Pancras to catch the Eurostar over to Lille.

8 degrees in Northallerton turned into 24 degrees in France and the students made the most out of the opportunity. Cheese fest, croissants galore and Orangina were amongst some of the offerings that the students enjoyed.

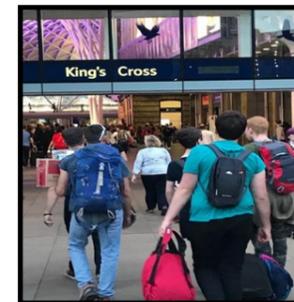
Our students were a credit to the school and made the trip a success, visiting the second largest museum in France after The Louvre, enjoying the sights from the top of the 300 feet-high city hall belfry and using the driverless metro. The shopping in the hypermarket was a fun, novel experience for all – so much choice, what to get for our French buffet?

Huge thanks to school and parents for their support in making the trip possible!

Bien joué to all involved:

Staff: Didier V, Tracy M and Ben H

Students: Nathaniel G, Noah D, Tom A, and Oliver T.



## Children in Need

Friday 16th November was Children in Need day and this year Breckenbrough students and staff got involved by dressing up in their favourite onesie or spots. We also had a cake sale at break time in the dining room with some fantastic cakes made by parents, staff members and the kitchen.

It was a very busy morning in school as we also had Tempest Photography in taking student, staff and governor photographs, with the onesie wearers not forgetting a change of clothes for their picture.

The last few cakes were bought and enjoyed by the taxi drivers waiting to take students home for the weekend. In total we managed to raise a fantastic £82.70 for Children in Need.

The school also got involved in Christmas Jumper Day on Friday 14th December, raising a brilliant £49.60 for Save the Children. Well done everyone.



## Where are they now? Simon Cramer

I owe almost everything I have to the time I spent at Breck. At the age of 10 I was labelled as violent, foul-mouthed and abusive, I was maladjusted, emotionally disturbed: all being labels I learned not to use in polite company as an adult. At the age of 10 my mum was told that taking O levels would not be fair to me. I felt inferior, defective and bad.

So I came to Breck and whilst my underlying Autism, ADHD, Anxiety etc were not diagnosed, and therefore could not be treated, I managed to get 4 O levels and that led, in time, to a 2:1 Honours Degree and first time qualification as a Chartered Accountant. At the age of 50 I was able to pack work in, which is just as well because I had to – I could not carry on due to the strains of striving to be someone I cannot be. Without Breck, I have no idea where I'd be, or if I would even be alive now.

So returning to Breck is a very poignant experience for me. Just being in the Great Hall again, the Dining Room, walking along the long extension or out to the football pitch, or through the Annex I was struck by many memories, mostly good ones. How simple but, above all, safe life was back then, in the warm bosom of Mother Breckenbrough!

And changes- I saw enough in my time: the new classrooms on the Long Extension being built in 1977 and Headmaster's House being built in the 1970s. I saw a great big tree chopped down behind the Art Room, and smelt the sap for days afterwards. Since then however the use of almost every room on the ground floor seems changed, and there seem to be more staff now than there were boys (about 50 at a time) in my day.

And the Ghosts – of the Four Trees – now one Tree and four saplings, or the ghost of Grey Neck with his ganders over by the pool, of Sophie sweeping the stairs and singing a sad song in a language I never understood, Connie with her booming laugh, Kelvin Gott saying "Right, we'll start again" as we kept talking in his assemblies, and teachers some of whom were stranger than the boys they taught...

There's more than one way to return to Breckenbrough, and I'm glad that I can do both.

## My Genderation

This term, we were pleased to have a visit from Brighton based equality organisation My Genderation.

This young dynamic group use film and social media to share messages which seek to promote inclusion and diversity. The visit was targeted at supporting the facilitation of the school PSHE curriculum.

The group spent the day with us and delivered two PSHE presentations, which included showing some of their films. The presentation explored how and why the group use film and social media as a platform to share their stories and messages. The presentations were then discussed the following weeks as part of the students PSHE lessons. We know that due to their unique needs, our students are often socially isolated. This was a really exciting opportunity for the school to support our students effectively and proactively to meet some of the diversity in the world outside of Breckenbrough in a safe and constructive way.

Many of the students reported that they found the session informative. You can find out more about My Genderation and their work by visiting their website. [www.mygenderation.com](http://www.mygenderation.com)



## Centenary Remembrance Day

This year to mark the centenary since the end of WW1, we had a special assembly in remembrance of the fallen soldiers. The assembly was based around the people behind the uniforms and we heard some of the diary entries written during the war by frontline soldiers. The students learnt about the 'Forgotten heroes' like the 3 million soldiers who were involved from the commonwealth, 1.3 million soldiers from India, female soldiers and stretcher bearers – many of whom were Quakers.

We then had a demonstration by 2 of our students and a staff member, as we heard a letter penned by John Macadem to his father as he was left wounded and dying on the battlefield. Staff and students then observed the 2 minutes silence.



## Fundraising Success

On September 9th 2018, I ran the Great North Run and wanted to donate all the money I raised to Breckenbrough School. I picked Breckenbrough as my charity because it's a place that is so close to my heart. Breckenbrough has taught me so much in the 5 years I've worked here. I wanted to raise money to help buy the new camera equipment for photography lessons. I think photography is a wonderful platform for the boys to express themselves.

My personal target was £500 so I was over the moon to raise £555.

Breckenbrough is a school for second chances and that's for staff and students. I feel so humble to work in such an amazing place, have some of the most supportive people around me and I'm glad I made them proud by running for them.

Samantha Hanley, Learning Support, Breckenbrough School



## CEOP

Breckenbrough are pleased to announce that Graham Easterlow has been appointed as the new CEOP Ambassador for the school. CEOP is the Child Exploitation and Online Protection command of the National Crime Agency and is committed to tackling the sexual exploitation and abuse of children both online and offline. Ambassadors for CEOP are able to deliver workshops to parents, carers, children and young people and train other professionals to do the same through the Thinkuknow programme.

Thinkuknow is an education programme from the National Crime Agency's CEOP Command. Since 2006, Thinkuknow has been keeping children and young people safe by providing education about sexual abuse and sexual exploitation. Thinkuknow is unique. It is underpinned by the latest intelligence about child sex offending from CEOP Command. Thinkuknow aims to ensure that everyone has access to this practical information – children, young people, their parents and carers and the professionals who work with them. Alongside the Thinkuknow website the programme provides educational resources, including films, cartoons and lesson plans, to help professionals raise young people's awareness.

Thinkuknow is full of useful guidance and resources for use at school and home that can help keep children safe online. You can find out about the resources available by visiting their website.

[www.thinkuknow.co.uk](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk)

If you or a child are worried about online sexual abuse or the way someone has been communicating with you online then a report can be made directly to CEOP via their website [www.ceop.police.uk](http://www.ceop.police.uk)

If you are a child it is possible to call ChildLine on 0800 1111 or if you are over 18 the NSPCC on 0808 800 5000 to discuss any concerns.



## Books2Africa

As part of our ongoing effort to reuse and recycle items we no longer need, we came across a fantastic use for some of our old textbooks and resource books. Books2Africa is a registered charity that is committed to reducing environmental waste in the UK and improving the quality of Education in Africa through the collection of books. It was founded in 2012 by African students who were studying in the UK.

Did you know?

In Africa, 90% (202 million) of children cannot read or write after finishing school, partly because of lack of books. 13 Million books, mostly in perfect or useable condition are sent to landfill every year. The UK donates 20million books every month to Books2Africa.

It's great to know that our preloved books are going to be put to great use. They also accept children's storybooks, electrical goods, DVD's, toys, sports gear and shoes.

If you would like to know more or want to get your community involved, take a look at the website: [www.books2africa.org/donate](http://www.books2africa.org/donate)



We had 4 large boxes of books sent off to Africa