

JRS Express Summer Edition 2013

WELCOME TO THE JRS EXPRESS, YOUR SCHOOL NEWS AND INFORMATION MAGAZINE

CEILIDH



NIGHT

JRS CEILIDH CREW

The Music Department held their first Ceilidh event on July 12th. Staff and students have been rehearsing throughout the summer term and from this, the 'John Ruskin Ceilidh Crew' has been formed. The band played eleven dances as well as performing some instrumental pieces inbetween to give all those dancing a welcome break from all the leaping about.

Sophie Taylor, Eleanor Baines, Alan Moulton, Meg Narongchai and Ellie Hughes performed solos and duets which were very well received and provided a quiet contrast.



The delicious pie, peas and pickles were home made by 'Cafe 34' and drinks were on a BYO basis (Bring Your Own).

The evening was a roaring success and a fun night was had by all. We will hopefully be running this event again next summer.



Ms Cutts

DUKE OF EDINBURGH

John Ruskin School students Kathy Hadwin, Olivia Pickup, and Katy Griffiths have braved high winds, rain and long days to be successful in the final assessment expedition of their silver level Duke of Edinburgh's Award. They followed a course taking in landmarks such as the Old Man of Coniston, Seathwaite Tarn and the Duddon Valley which, in addition to the volunteering, new skills and physical activity that is required as part of the award, marked the completion of over a year of hard work.

The weekend involved camping in the wild, a stay in the Duddon Valley on a farm, and a final walk to the village of Ulpha through some of the most beautiful scenery that the Lake District has to offer. They needed to navigate independently over complex terrain carrying everything they needed for the three days. This required both great stamina and a good deal of mental toughness.



The three students were completing the award through the Lakes School. Students moving in to year 10 will soon be able to utilise the fantastic setting of John Ruskin School in working towards their bronze level award. Changes from next year mean that the Duke of Edinburgh's award will be run within the school and allow more students to take part in replicating this success.

Mr Ribchester

Dear Parents, Carers and friends of John Ruskin School,

The Jet Stream is finally in the right place after ten years of being in the wrong one; Andy Murray is Wimbledon Champion and John Ruskin School and its community have successfully navigated another academic year.

Our Year 11 have completed the summer series of exams with great support from staff. We now await results day on 22nd August and hope that we can look forward to all our students achieving their targets and reaping the benefits of their hard work. Just like Andy Murray winning Wimbledon, it takes dedication and a serious work ethic to achieve success. The present Year 10 now need to start thinking about where they want to be in twelve months' time...

As part of this process, Year 10 have undergone prefect training. They have a tough act to follow as the outgoing Year 11 were dedicated to their duties and excellent role models for our younger students. We had some excellent Head Boy and Girl speeches in a recent assembly and we now eagerly await the results of the voting.

Year 9 students have been very enthusiastic about being trained as peer mentors ready to support the new cohort of Year 7 when they arrive in September. The current Year 7 will not be the youngest in the school for too much longer and Year 8 will very soon be choosing their option subjects that they will study at GCSE level.

All of which goes to prove that no-one stands still for long at JRS; we don't let the grass grow under our feet – a bit like Andy Murray on the tennis court. You will find a plethora of information about the very busy life our students lead within this latest school magazine; I hope you enjoy it. If you have the time, take a look at our new website. You will be able to access information and news on an up-to-date basis.

I hope the sun continues to shine so that we can all enjoy a warm and fun-filled summer and I will look forward to working with you again next academic year.

With best wishes

Mrs M Bailey
Headteacher

GOODBYE FROM MRS WALTON

It's been 23 years.....

After so many years here at John Ruskin School, I would just like to say a huge **THANK YOU** to all the inspiring people I've had the pleasure of working with – students, staff, secretaries, parents, governors, trainee teachers, visiting artists and many others!

Art and Design is central to my life and I cannot stress enough how important the arts are to this frantically changing world we live in. I feel mightily privileged to have been in art education for so long and will miss it immensely, but I do have a few things lined up to keep me busy, so will not be entirely out of the system.



I have enjoyed so much and have many highlights to last me a long, long time (I won't go into detail!!!).

I chose this photo (from the 1990s – it was an advert for recruiting teachers in to the profession by the Teacher Training Agency – as you can tell by the fabulous design of my glasses) to sum up a fabulous moment in the art room (just one of thousands).

Thank you everyone.

Mrs Walton

STAFF LEAVING THIS YEAR



MRS WALTON

Mrs Walton came to John Ruskin School from London in September 1990; it must have been a culture-shock – a Brummy arriving in the Lake District via London. She has however, very firmly sculpted (!) her own role as part of the John Ruskin School community and she will be greatly missed.

Mrs Walton has always maintained her passion and enthusiasm for her subject and how she imparts it to her students. She has inspired hundreds of young people who have passed through these doors. She is always willing to give up her time to do museum and gallery visits, to be involved in art projects such as the Debris Dive, Creative Partnerships; the Art and French trip to Paris; a trip to Barcelona and more.

Many other schools have benefited from her knowledge and skill as she has, for a number of years, been an Advanced Skills Teacher; this enabled her to support schools from all over Cumbria, both primary and secondary. In this way she was able to share her expertise and her passion for her subject so that other schools could deliver the subject effectively and steer their young people towards good results.

The AQA examination board have employed Mrs Walton as a senior examiner over the years and once the exams are over at JRS, she has had to tour the north of England visiting many schools to moderate the marking of the GCSE art exam. The saying goes ... 'if you want something done, ask a busy person', and Mrs Walton has certainly lived up to that requirement.

There have been times when she has worried us, like the day when she fell off her stepladders while putting up a display, completely alone and had to drag herself to the 'phone to ask for help. There have been many occasions when her eyes have streamed with tears when she has seen the funny side of something and has had her audience in a similar state.

For all her fantastic qualities, we will miss her. I know that she will not sit still and become a sitting, knitting grandma (although she enjoys the grandma bit). She will continue with her examination work for AQA and is going to do some work at the University of Cumbria helping with the teacher training programmes. I am sure, however, that she will enjoy living at a slightly less demanding pace than 'life at the chalk face'.

We wish you all the very best for the future Mrs Walton. JRS has been fortunate to have benefited from your expertise and enthusiasm for so many years. Thank you so much.

MRS KINSELLA

Mrs Kinsella left us earlier this term as she had moved to the north of the county and the travelling was just too much. Happily for her she has secured work in Carlisle.

Mrs Kinsella had been with us for ten years, initially as a Connexions PA! However, she was talent spotted. With a passion for English and a huge capability for building relationships she soon became an outstanding teacher who inspired her students whether they were studying 'Toast' or one of Shakespeare's works.

With relentless optimism, Mrs Kinsella was always involved with everything in school and was a leading light on the PTA for many years, recruiting numerous helpers to butter sandwiches for the Coniston 14 or drawing in the punters for the Christmas bingo.



MR BURNS

Mr Burns has been at the school for 10 years, having arrived in 2003 as our resistant materials teacher, - it's true to say he is now very much part of the furniture.

He has had a varied career: he started life in the shipyard in Barrow, then decided he would like to pursue another avenue, so did his degree and qualification to become a teacher. He is also an expert in repairing guitars.



Mr Burns takes everything in his stride in a very un-flappable manner. He has always, however, been keen to see his students succeed and has steered them through the process of designing and making a whole range of products to hone the skills of his students. I think my favourite has been the cam toy that Year 9 make; it's a simple but clever mechanism that allows the students' imagination to run riot.

He is now leaving us to head north and west to share his knowledge and skills with students in Workington. We wish him every future success and hope he remembers his time at JRS with fondness as we will him.

OTHER STAFF LEAVING THIS YEAR



MR DELPH

Mr Delph has been with us for only two years. During that time he has embraced far more than just teaching in the maths department. He has co-ordinated the PHSEE curriculum, organised the Careers' Convention, Work Experience for Year 10 and Mock Interviews for Year 11. He became a not-so-ageing rocker on Rock Night in the staff band and took chocolate cake to the Expedition Group.

He too is moving to Workington – to the same school as Mr Burns – so they'll be able to look back on the old days together.

We thank him for the energy he has brought to the school and wish him every success for the future.

MADAME BECQUET

We have also been fortunate to have Mme Becquet in the French department. She has brought a different dynamic by organising a weekend of French language at Low Bank Ground to enhance students' speaking skills (a bit nearer than going all the way to France!). She also galvanised Key Stage 3 students into action when she performed 'The Fantastic Mr Fox' in French to packed audiences at the Expressive Arts performance in January. She has also done PE lessons in French as well as the odd game of boules. Her contribution at Coniston Primary School has meant that local children will already be more confident in their language skills when they join us in Year 7.

MRS WILSON

Mrs Wilson has been a steady and reliable hand in the languages department and has steered (mainly) Key Stage 4 students through their GCSE courses. Since she is also fluent in Spanish she has also supported a Year 10 student through her Spanish GCSE.

I know that Hawkshead Primary School have also appreciated her time there.

MRS LINDOW

Mrs Lindow joined us in January on the Learning Support Team to support a student who joined us.

Her quiet, competent manner and endless patience is admirable and we are very sorry to lose her. She has quickly become a valued member of the team, earning respect and regard from students and staff alike.

Unfortunately the young person she has been supporting is not staying with us and so Mrs Lindow has to move on as well. We very much hope that another school recognises her skills and talent for working with young people soon as she would be an asset to any team.

MRS JONES

Last but not least, a very big thank you to Mrs Jones who stepped in very promptly when Mrs Kinsella left us. She is another steady and reliable colleague who has helped us to ensure that our young people have had continuity and expertise to support their studies.



**EX-STUDENT HOLLY IN
LONDON RECORDING
STUDIO**

Two years ago I was part of a group of six JRS students who performed at the Royal Festival Hall in London in a play written by Ray Davies of The Kinks.

At the time Ray was interested in my music career and offered me the chance to visit his recording studio in North London.

Last week, this visit happened and I spent a fantastic week working as an intern at the studio ending with a concert in Hyde Park on Friday night.

An invaluable experience and one I wouldn't have had, had it not been for the opportunity John Ruskin School gave me.
Thank you Miss Sharp!

Holly Clarke

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Students return to school
THURSDAY 5th SEPTEMBER 2013

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS
FRIDAY 20th SEPTEMBER 2013

**DOROTHY MANDALL STRONG
TRUST FUND**

If you move on to Higher Education courses in years to come, remember to write to school applying for funding to help towards the cost of your studies. You can apply each year you are at University.

Please write a letter in September time, telling us what you are studying and where, and keep us up to date with any travels or exciting opportunities. We love to hear all your news! Your letter will go to a full meeting of JRS Governors and will hopefully result in you receiving a grant to help buy books or equipment for your course.

Address your letter of application to:

Dorothy Mandall Strong Trust Fund
John Ruskin School
Lake Road
Coniston
Cumbria
LA21 8EW

TOM USHER FUND

If you go on to an apprenticeship or similar vocational training you can apply for a small grant towards the cost of tools or equipment.

Please send a letter of application to:

The Tom Usher Fund
John Ruskin School
Lake Road
Coniston
Cumbria
LA21 8EW

Applications should be made in September.

SCIENCE

Conservation Area

Students have been developing an area at the bottom of the school grounds to incorporate a pond, a nature path and bird sanctuary.

This started with a look at how we could use the existing landscape to develop the features we required.

We have so far dug out and lined the pond ready for it to be filled and animals encouraged to live there. A path has been cleared to allow access to the best features of the area.

The group have identified the tree species within the conservation area and are in the process of establishing bird boxes.

A general litter pick of the area has also been conducted, this has coincided with the addition of new bins around the school site.

We would like to thank Alistair Irvine Contracting for supporting the group in digging the pond to a greater depth with a mini digger.

We would also like to thank Tony Brown Aggregates for providing material to line the pond.



Year 7 Science Club

Science club this year has seen a range of activities.

These have included;

Watching a stream of elephants toothpaste.
Looking into the finer points of the fermentation of leaves, producing a spring oak leaf wine.

In addition to this the group supported by three Year 9 students entered a Formula 1 competition where students got sweaty in the gym and then cooled off in the catering cold store.

All in the aim of checking when the candidates memory worked best.

A brilliant year has been had by all and the science club can't wait for the new academic year.



Revision Guides

To support the students in their studies the science department has purchased a range of guides for you to buy. They are a great support for homework and revision throughout the year. They range from £3 to £9 depending on the stage your child is studying. If you would like to purchase a guide please send in the amount required labelled science guide and child's name to the office.

All KS3 £6- this guide covers the full three years.

KS4 NON Triple £3- this guide covers either the year10 or year 11 course.

KS4 Triple £9 – these guides cover all three subjects for the full two year course.

MasterChef at JRS

Each year our Year 9 students take part in a MasterChef style competition.
This is a culmination of all the work done in Years 7, 8 and 9.

The students have to choose a celebrity who is coming to open their imaginary restaurant, they do research on that celebrity which enables them to choose dishes which would be suitable. Dishes are then designed and a plan of work drawn up; eventually the great day arrives and everyone cooks their own selections and presents it to the judges who in true MasterChef style sample all the goodies on offer giving marks for the skills used, suitability of dishes, presentation and the all-important taste and texture.

This year celebrities have included several Olympic stars, Homer Simpson, Winston Churchill, Jeremy Clarkson, Bill Gates and even Barbie to name but a few.

The range of dishes has been huge and the quality excellent and it seems particularly hard to highlight anyone person, however, special commendations need to go to Angus Hosking for his Venison Wellington, Creamed Potatoes and Green Beans, James Brewin for his Rainbow Trout au Paupiette with Julienne Vegetables, Lois Barton for her superb Chocolate Cake with summer fruits.

The overall winners which includes the written and the practical work were;

Group 1 Georgia Howard with a superb Hazelnut Torte.

Group 2 Ioanna Stergiaki with her homemade steak pasties.

Well done to all who took part.



Day 1

After a few months of waiting, meetings on Friday lunchtimes and a training day in May, the 10th of June finally arrived and the weather was nice and dry, after one of the hottest weeks of the year. Whether it was by bus or car, 14 students, 4 teachers and 2 ex-students, Jenny Hadwin and Rosie Gard – Storry arrived with arms full of heavy rucksacks ready for a week in Wasdale.

We met in the DT room with the ever energetic boys persuading Mr Rose to let them borrow a cricket ball for the trip.

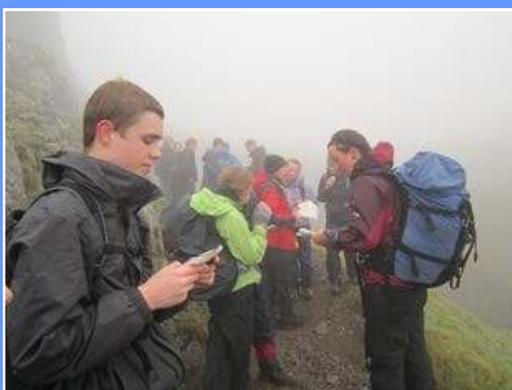
When the bus arrived we clambered on and enjoyed the journey to Wasdale campsite.

It was a lovely place with welcoming staff and good facilities. The views of mountains around us were amazing.

After pitching up, we prepared for our first walk up a nearby fell called Yewbarrow. The sun shone and we made the short trek around the side of the fell quite easily. We were greeted with a stunning view as we finished walking along first path and prepared to head upwards. We then got a great opportunity to try some scrambling with ex-student

Rosie leading the way. It was great fun for everyone and once we reached the top we headed back down in high spirits. Back at camp, everybody tucked into some tea and chatted happily before getting our heads down for a good night's rest.

JRS Expedition Group - Wasdale 2013



Day 2

After our first night of camping we woke to a dry but misty day. Most of us were wide awake and ready for the challenge that lay ahead: Scafell Pike. We were eager to start our adventure up the highest mountain in England but as we set off the weather didn't look too promising and we did get wet a few times on the ascent!

As we got ever closer to the top of Scafell Pike the view was slowly decreasing due to the heavy mist.

False summits were definitely testing our patience, certainly when we heard an overjoyed scream from the boys but sadly Mr Brew had to break the news to them that we had another 200m until we had made it to the top!

Once we had safely made it (although we sadly had no view due to the mist that hadn't cleared!) there was just the issue of getting down the scree!

Once we were safely down on easier ground we made our way back to the campsite and settled down for our second night at Wasdale.

Day 3

On Wednesday we woke early and saw a bleary eyed Miss Flanagan (a bird lover) who had been woken up at 4 in the morning by a cuckoo that was 'cuckooing' outside her tent, this may have been due to the fact that some of us had been feeding the birds the previous day! Regardless of the sleepless night we walked to Eskdale. The atmosphere in the group was like being in one big family; we all helped each other, especially with the navigation because the cloud was very low that day. When we reached the beautiful village of Boot, we went to the railway and had a hot chocolate. Once we had all finished we collectively walked back to Wasdale.

In the evening we went to the pub to celebrate the three birthdays that were happening during the week and had some real food that we had been missing: coke and chips. Mr Delph arrived and supplied us with some chocolate cake to complete the celebration; although some of us were full from the gorgeous chips (the boys ate the majority of the cake!).

Day 4

Thursday brought some better weather than the past two days and we took this opportunity for some students to be assessed for their Bronze Navigation Award, something Mr Ribchester took the chance to do with us.

Whilst the main group went ahead on their way up Great Gable, a group of five and a group of three stayed back to navigate their own way up the fell with a teacher on standby!

It was a successful walk and the groups gathered at a meeting point on the mountain with the sun finally making an appearance. As a whole group, we then headed up to the top of Great Gable where there were some lovely views to look at.

After eating some lunch we headed down the side of Great Gable to a place called 'Windy Gap.'

We then climbed Great Gable's neighbouring fell: Green Gable. It was a short steep climb but we made it up quickly and had a bit of fun with some storm shelters at the top. After coming down from there we walked back to the campsite for our last night in Wasdale.

This was where we hosted the 7th Annual John Ruskin

Expedition Cracker Eating Competition.

The aim: to eat a dry cracker with nothing else as fast as you can. The top three then make their way into the 'Munch Off.' With reigning champion Mr Stather on the scene it looked like he was a sure winner. However he just scraped through the first round to an all staff final with Miss Flanagan and visiting teacher Mr Delph, who had popped round with some bus information!

So the Munch Off went ahead and the surprise of the day was that Mr Delph won, with a time of 1 minute 25 seconds for eating three crackers!



Day 5

We all woke to realise we had just slept our last night together in Wasdale, there was almost an air of sadness because we all knew that after our walk, our mini expedition family was going to be split up. After we put the tents away which was like watching a comedy act: well just watching Ellie and Chloe try to put their 8 man pop up tent down (it turns out pop up tents, don't pop down!), we were finally ready for our last walk over to Eskdale.

For the last day the teachers decided that they would mix it up a bit and place us in groups so we could use our newly found navigation skills to get to Eskdale. We were given maps, and with groups dispatched at 5 minute intervals we all began our last journey together.

Even halfway through the day groups were making it across the fells singing, laughing and smiling - that might have been the E numbers kicking in from the Haribo's that had been supplied! Not even a heavy rain shower towards the end of the walk could get us down! After our delicious hot chocolate at the railway café,

we all discussed our highs and lows of the week; however the only lows we could think of were the biting midges!

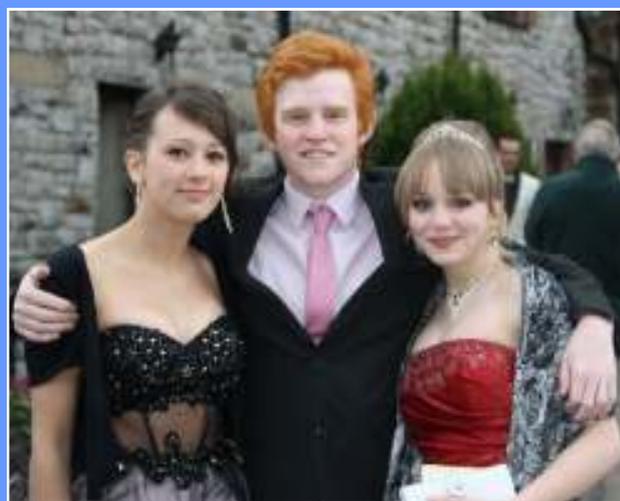
Our bus journey home was one of remembering all the great moments that had happened during the week and enjoying our last hour with the JRS Expedition Group 2013. We would like to thank Mr Brew, Miss Flanagan, Mr Ribchester, Mr Stather, Rosie and Jenny for everything they did for us. Overall an AMAZING week was had by all; there were so many great moments that will be cherished forever!



**YEAR 11 - 2013
LAST DAY AT JRS**

AND

**PROM NIGHT HELD AT
CHEQUERS
DALTON-IN-FURNESS**



HEAD BOYS AND HEAD GIRLS – 2013

Recently, we had our annual head boys' and head girls' speeches in assembly – once again, the calibre of the speeches and the confidence of our Year 10s were impressive.

Everyone who stood had could have been a potential winner and every year it gets more difficult to decide where to put the cross on the ballot paper!

Congratulations to everyone involved.

BRANTWOOD



Head boy:
Frankie Gard Storry



Head girl:
Alice Van Heeswijk



Deputy:
Chelsea Raines

THURSTON



Head boy:
Will Longmire



Head girl:
Rosie Elkington Crabtree



Deputy:
Kayleigh Hambly

GEOGRAPHY



Well, now that summer is here the geography department have been determined to make the most of the good weather and here are a few of the trips and activities which we have organised. First there was the Year 7 trip on the 1st of May to the Environment Agency offices in Penrith and then an afternoon in Keswick. At the Environment Agency we had a tour of their emergency control room where they deal with events such as the flooding in Cumbria in 2009.

Afterwards we went to Keswick to see what has been done since 2009 to try and protect the town from a similar event. I think the students will all remember being down next to the River Greta and seeing the height that the water had to reach to flow over the flood wall.



Since Easter one of the Year 8 classes has been working hard towards their John Muir Explorer award. This class have been thinking about an outside area at school that is a little bit wild and considering ways of protecting and conserving this area. The students identified a small wooded area we have at the bottom of the school field, where there used to be a pond and decided they would like to try and re-establish the pond. Since then they have been working on the woodland and pond site, as well as learning about John Muir and wider conservation issues. As part of their award the students were also involved in some community gardening in Windermere. We were invited by our local community officer to get involved in a bulb planting activity that was taking place and so on the 24th April we spent the morning in Braithwaite Gardens Windermere helping other volunteers to improve the small community garden there.

Here are the John Muir class with PC Backhouse who organised the community



Meanwhile the second year 8 class have been getting involved in the Geographical Association's 'Geography Awareness Week', which this year has the theme, 'Looking to the Future'. They have been considering the future of town centre high streets, specifically Barrow town centre. On Wednesday 19th June we went to Barrow so the students could carry out some field work of their own. In groups they did some mapping and questionnaires to help then answer questions such as; Is Barrow a clone town and what is peoples opinion of the town centre?



On top of the world in Barrow town centre.

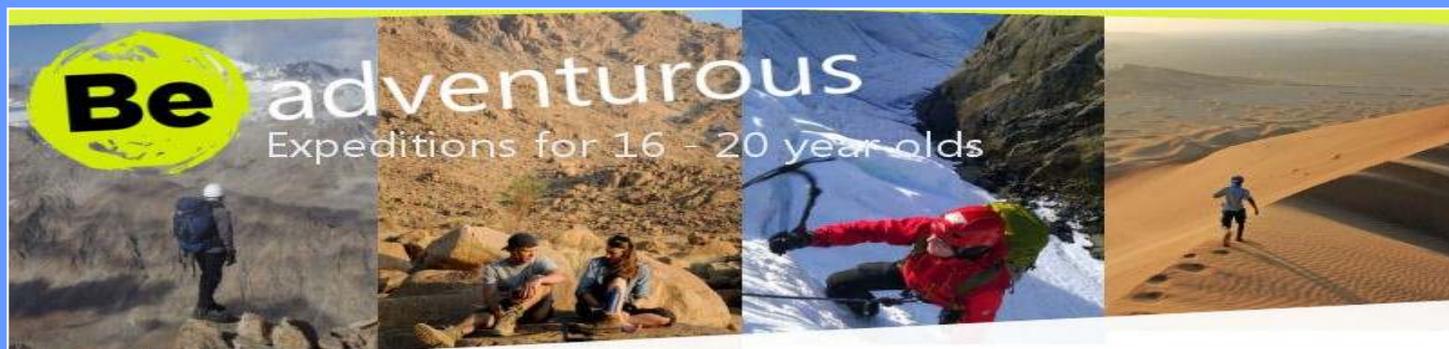


Callum Slater asking one of many questionnaires.



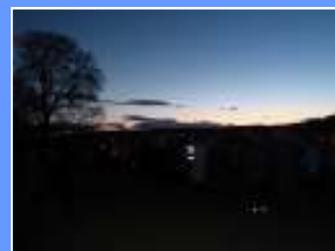
Elosie on expedition in the Himalayas.

Elosie Chambers who is currently a 6th former at Queen Elizabeth School, Kirkby Lonsdale came to speak to Year 9 and GCSE geographers in Year 10 and 11 about the British Exploring Society and her recent expedition to the Himalayas. Kathy Hadwin in Year 11 is heading to the Namibia Desert with the Society, we wish her luck and look forward to her returning to share her experiences.



More information and opportunities with the society can be found at..... www.britishexploring.org

Staff and students were invited to "Comet watch" at Kendal Castle, organised by the Royal Geographical Society, those that attended had a most informative evening with clear skies to view to the comet PANSTARRS.



Land use change over time in Lancaster next to the canal.

Year 10 Geographer had a very successful fieldtrip to collect primary data for their controlled assessment.

They asked questionnaires, land use mapped the CBD and carried out a footfall count all on a very hot day which was unusual for the Geography department!



Asking questionnaires to investigate peoples shopping habits.

A BIG THANK YOU

As we come to the end of this academic year I am reflecting on the many happy times I have spent with the peer-mentors and their mentees. Every Friday morning the year 10 mentors would meet with their year 7 mentees to offer support and guidance.

I don't think JRS mentors ever realise what a significant and positive impact they can potentially have on their mentee. Year 7's come to rely on the regular meetings where they know they will be met with a friendly face and a listening ear. Time put aside to ensure they are getting what they need, worries shared and of course lots of fun and creativity.

Those of you who have been mentors know it is not always easy; you sometimes deal with difficult situations. On behalf of all the mentees and staff I would like to thank each and every one of you for all your support given to JRS mentoring.

Ms Cocksey

JUNIOR MATHS CHALLENGE - 2013



In April, eighteen year 7 and 8 students took part in the Junior Maths Challenge.

This year the students efforts were rewarded with a return of 5 awards, three bronze, one silver and a gold.

Top marks go again to Beth Wickens in year 8, who achieved her second straight gold – a fantastic achievement. Jessica Parkinson in year 8 went one better than last year, with a silver, and Callum Slater in year 8 added to his award last year with a bronze this year. It was especially pleasing to see two year 7 students, Chloe Lafferty and Meg Narongchai, achieve bronze awards, as it is much harder to do this when up against the nation's year 8 students!

Well done to all those who took part - these results whet the appetite for the next Intermediate Challenge, in February.

Pictured above with their certificates are the five winners.

Mr Murray

SPELLBINDING BOOK AWARDS DAY 2013



On 19 June 2013 students from across Cumbria met together at the annual Spellbinding Award Day in Penrith to discuss, debate and deliberate on the Top 3 Spellbinding titles for 2013.

After a very close vote the winner was - 172 Hours on the Moon by Johan Harstad. The other shortlisted titles were Torn by David Massey and Wonder by R.J. Palacio.

The two students representing JRS were Molly Southward and Beth Wickens.

Other students taking part in Spellbinding this year were:

Danielle Adams, Robert Albion, Harry Elkington-Crabtree, Ellie Hughes, Meg Narongchai, Ben Raines, and Carrie Young.

Congratulations to all students who took part.

The day consisted of talks, discussions, a quiz, book swish, lunch and talk by poet Alec Williams

We all had a really good day and look forward to taking part again next year.



Mrs Emmett

Year 10 Resistant Materials Industrial link visit Qinetiq MOD Research and Development site, Eskmeals Cumbria

This term the Technology department ran a trip to Qinetiq as part of the development of the schools industrial link programme for the GCSE Resistant Materials students.

The objectives for the day were to provide a real life experience for the students to see manufacturing and industrial production in the real world and to develop an understanding of how the practices and processes they saw at the site linked to the subject content and knowledge and understanding that they are developing as they progress through the GCSE course.

Upon arrival at the site the students were briefed on the outline of the programme for the day and then offered refreshments before the first presentation.

The first presentation was an introduction to the company and the kind of research and testing that was carried out at the site on a daily basis. This proved to be fascinating for the students and their enthusiasm for what they were experiencing was reflected in the quality and quantity of the questions that they were keen to ask the presenter.

Part two of the days' programme was a tour around the armoury and ordinance department and the physical examples of the weaponry and machinery that the students were introduced to once again was encapsulating for the whole group.

Lunch was then provided and the students didn't need to be asked twice to help themselves to the assortment of pizzas, garlic bread and chocolate desserts that the organisers kindly provided free of charge.

The afternoon sessions were concerned with tours of the metal work assembly shop and the joiners/woodworking facilities. This is where the group were able to see in reality the kind of construction and industrial production that they had only covered in theory in the classroom. This proved to be extremely valuable for the group as it provided a real life experience for them and put the theory they had been studying into context in a real life situation.

All in all the Students had a fantastic day and were full of enthusiasm about the visit on the return bus journey.

It is a trip that we will certainly be running again next year!

Mr Burns



WRITING ABOUT THE LAKE DISTRICT

Year 7 students were given the task to write persuasively about the wonders of the Lake District to encourage visitors to come to the area. Here are some highlights from their writing!

Simone Clarke wrote:

'Not quite sure where to go on your next holiday? Then worry no longer! Why not visit the Lake District; there's a huge range of activities; the very best tourist attractions and the most amazing places to see! It really does have something for everyone...

One of the reasons why the Lake District is so famous is because of its mind-blowingly beautiful views. If you are a keen walker, why not try one of our many great hikes which can lead to a magical view that you'll never forget.'

Ben Raines wrote:

'The Lake District is packed with things to do from exploring deep lakes to high peaks, from relaxing walks in forests to strolling through green meadows.

Why not stay in Coniston? Right next to the Old Man, a mountain with truly amazing views over the village. You could go to Coniston Water and cruise with views of Brantwood, the home of John Ruskin, and of course, Coniston Water itself is famous for Donald Campbell, the pilot of the Bluebird who attempted the world record for speed on water. If you've time, call in at Brantwood museum and discover Ruskin's world. There are excellent walks through the must-see garden and stunning views of Coniston.'

Rhiannon Hatton wrote also about the joys of Brantwood:

'John Ruskin was a famous painter and he created many paintings at Brantwood. You can see of his art work on display as well as many collectables. Visitors can wander through Ruskin's own rooms and go into the garden at Brantwood, where Ruskin got most of his inspiration. From some parts of the house and garden, you can see a breath-taking view of Coniston Water.'



Jack Barton wrote:

At Haverthwaite, there is an authentic train station which takes visitors on a steam train to the shores of the lake – inside a huge building at Haverthwaite there are amazing old steam trains to enjoy.

'The Beatrix Potter attraction is a great place to spend a day out with all your family. It will entertain your children and there are models of all the famous characters in every room. Your kids will love it!'

Lucy Giles described The World of Beatrix Potter too:

'Why not go to the world famous Beatrix Potter attraction where you can meet all of her fantastic characters...Peter Rabbit and all his friends like Jemima Puddleduck and not forgetting the evil Mr McGregor. Let the magic come to life!'

Joshua Airey wrote:

'Are you looking for an interesting holiday break in the countryside? Well, look no further, the Lake District, located in the North West of England, has so much to offer. From the lovely Lake Windermere to the amazing views from Scafell Pike...the Lake District has something for everyone!'

YEAR 7 RECOMMENDED READS!

We asked Year 7 to recommend a good read for the incoming Year 6 – here are some of their suggestions...

TINS by Alex Sheared

...recommended by Charlie Kelly

'I think this book is great because it's about a boy who collects tins and he finds mysterious things inside them. I like it because it's a scary book and I like horror and mysteries!'



VAMPIRE PRINCE by Darren Shan

...recommended by Jack Barton

'You should read this book because it is an amazing Darren Shan thriller and there are some incredible moments in the book – you may never want to put it down!'



THE HUNGER GAMES: CATCHING FIRE

by Suzanne Collins



...recommended by Rhiannon Hatton

'This is a really intriguing book – it really captures your imagination. It would be a really good book for the new Year 7 because it makes you think a lot about what could happen in the distant future. I couldn't put it down once I had started reading it.'

I couldn't put it down once I had started reading it.'

MY STORY: TITANIC

...recommended by Maya Hamilton and Chloe Lafferty



'Why should the new Year 7 read it? Well, it's got lots of history in it and you don't know what's going to happen next.'

'The book is a copy of a diary someone left on the titanic and it's easy to understand. It creates great images in your mind. I loved it!'

SPOOKS SERIES by Joseph Delany

...recommended by Ben Raines

'Do you like adventure? How about horror? If you do, you'll love these books! But be warned, they're not for the faint-hearted...'



THE HOUSE OF SILK by Anthony Horowitz

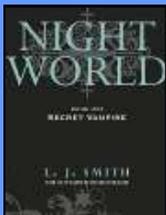
...recommended by Joshua Airey

'It is a detective book about Sherlock Holmes – I like it because it is mysterious and full of action.'



THE NIGHT WORLD by L J Smith

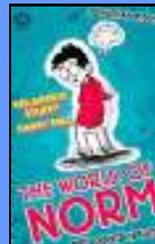
...recommended by Leah Albion



'This book is exciting and adventurous. You never know what is going to happen on the next page. Are you ready for an unpredictable read?'

THE WORLD OF NORM by Jonathan Meres

...recommended by Lucy Giles



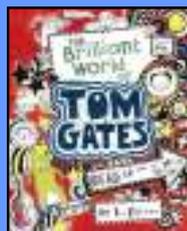
'This is a fun book about a boy called Norm who has just moved house – his best friend comes round and crashes his bike and then he has to do everything he can to buy a new one!'

THE BRILLIANT WORLD OF TOM GATES

by L Pichon

...recommended by Simone Clarke

'I absolutely love the Tom Gates books! Not only do they have funny, interesting plots but they are also full of doodles, pictures and funky writing. It's not one of those books which is discover on every page!'



TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD

by Harper Lee

...recommended by Harry Elkington Crabtree

'I think this is a very good book – it makes you feel like you are in the adventure as well and that you're experiencing all the excitement and thrills of a little girl's life in America...'



And if you're not sure about choosing a novel, Mr Walker recommends Chicken Soup for the Teenage Soul: stories of life, love and learning, which is a poetry anthology and Penguin's Poems for Life, which contains everything from Shakespeare to Carol Ann Duffy.

YEAR 8 BOYS READ ABOUT FOOTBALL



During the summer term Year 8 boys Daniel Snell, Jake Wilson, Dylan Williamson and Robert Bowman have been working hard each week with Mr Tomkins on a football themed reading scheme.

The boys have looked at many different aspects of football such as reading league tables, geography of teams, history of the FA cup and much more.

To finish off the scheme, the boys raised money by looking at various football themes. For example, food that you may find being sold at football stadiums around the country. The boys finally decided on Hot Dogs. They sourced all ingredients then cooked and sold them during one break time, much to the delight of other students.

With the £37 raised, the school has been able to buy more football themed books.

WELL DONE EVERYONE!

Mr Tomkins

THE ARTS

Expressive Arts Lessons

Year 7 have shown great style in costumes and make-up as they performed scenes from the first Harry Potter movie. Year 7 have settled well and to end the year have worked with a professional dancer Rambert Dance Company.

Year 8 have studied an article about a fairy being found and have created devised responses to the internet article. Was it a hoax or for real? Costumes and props added greatly to Year 8 work. To close the summer term many people in the year group worked with a professional dancer from Rambert Dance Company.

Year 9 have been working in GCSE style by following the skills required of the latter. Students have chosen a topic from a choice and then researched, selected ideas, refined, rehearsed and performed pieces. Topics included "Man on the Moon 1969" and "Hungry for attention" - a piece based on a victorian story of a girl who fasted and whose parents profited from this by allowing people to pay to visit her!



Congratulations to Year 10 for completing work based upon Antony Gormley's "Another Place". The students have worked solidly for a number of months completing their practical work in May and their folder work in June. They should be proud of their approach, performances, folders and grades.

Goodbye to Year 11 and I hope you achieve the grades you want. Bye to Katie, Molly, Hannah, Ellie, Kathy, Luke, David, Justin, James and Jamie.

THEATRE TRIPS

KENDAL BREWERY ARTS CENTRE

Following a successful trip to see **Carol-Ann Duffy's** theatre piece at Christmas John Ruskin School then visited Kendal to see more theatre work.

Jasmin Vardimon's Youth Group and **Yorkshire Playhouse Theatre** both provided two evenings of good quality work for us to enjoy and learn from.

Year 7 'Postcards From John Ruskin' project is currently on show at the John Ruskin Museum in Coniston.



It looks fantastic - well done Year 7.



This amazing, imaginative sea creature is just one of several sculptures that Year 7 students made from old junk. The 'rubbish' was brought up by divers from the bed of Windermere at the Debris Dive event earlier this year. The sculpture is currently on display at Wray Castle. This one was made by Molly, Ellie, Meg and Danielle from a bit of old wood, a dustpan brush, jelly shoes, a bit of old tubing and a piece of a rudder. It never ceases to amaze me how creative JRS students can be.

THE ARTS

THE PROFESSIONALS AT JRS

Rambert Dancy Company at
John Ruskin School 2013

Due to the fantastic support from
The Arts Council and John Ruskin
School, alongside the organisation
and support from Creative
Partnerships Cumbria,
students in all years have met
and worked with the
company.

*"I just generally loved it!
Especially 'the hugh' dance
because I've never done a
dance like that before".*



*"I really enjoyed getting to do pieces
Rambert have done in live performances."*

A range of different classes have
been held at JRS and Dowdales
culminating in a dance sharing
between seven cumbrian schools on
Monday 8th July 2013.



What happened:

Rambert came to JRS and did 4
dance workshops
JRS went to Dowdales 4 times
A musician from Rambert came to
JRS to work with Year 8
We visited The Lowry Manchester
to see Rambert perform

*"If we couldn't do something
we were told to try again!"*



*"I enjoyed this challenge, doing new
moves and working with friends."*

Thanks to Rambert and all parties
involved in making the arts
accessible to children.

I wish Katie Wolfendale an ex-Year
11 student well on her week with
Rambert at The Lowry Manchester
in the summer holidays, she will use
this experience to prepare her for
her 6th Form study of dance next
year!



Miss Sharp

SPORTS PAGE

Athletics season – and guess what? – it snows! Yes, snow in May...however, it did not stop us from fielding a good team at the South Lakes championships in May at Blackpool, where we took 19 Year 8 & 9 students to compete for places in the district team for the County championships in Carlisle. 9 students set personal bests on the day, with 3 of our students being selected for the district team – Niall Cameron in 200m & Discus, Angus Hosking in Javelin, & Kerensa Hanna in 100m. Below are some pics from both events:



In June, the Year 7 Athletics team went to the Lakes School to compete in the South Lakes District Athletics Trials. They performed really well, again with lots of personal bests being achieved, and Joe Edmondson was selected for the District team in the 1500m to compete in July at the Year 7 County championships at the Copeland stadium in Whitehaven.



Mr Rose

SPORTS PAGE



At the Copeland Stadium in Whitehaven, the weather again showed its ugly side with wind and rain making for difficult conditions for all the events. Joe set off well in his 1500m, keeping close to the leader on the first lap, but gradually he lost ground on the leader, but secured his second place easily by 30metres with a good, steady run. South Lakes ended up taking 2nd and 3rd places in the boys 1500m. Well done to Joe, who has already represented the County in Cross Country this year.

P.E KIT

There has been some confusion recently regarding students bringing PE kit to lessons when injured, ill, etc. If your child cannot take part in P.E for any reason, please write a note in their planner explaining the problem, but ensure they still bring their PE kit to the lesson. This allows them to still take part in some way, either umpiring, coaching, assisting in practices, etc, BUT NOT PHYSICALLY DOING THE ACTIVITY ITSELF, and also means that they stay warm and do not get their school uniform muddy/wet/dirty for the rest of the school day.

When school has Non-Uniform days, it is still vital that students bring the correct kit for their P.E lessons, so that lessons can start promptly and run safely.

Could we please ask parents to ensure that their child/children have the correct kit for the start of the new academic year in September. The kit is listed in the school planner.

Thank you for your co-operation in this matter. If there are any concerns regarding the above, please contact Mr. Rose during school hours.

RUGBY COACHING

A big thanks to Al Goodings and Gary Holmes for their input to lessons and clubs in 2012/2013.

Al has delivered Rugby League skills and Gary has delivered Rugby Union skills.

Over the year 10% of John Ruskin School boys have joined or played at local clubs which is a huge success rate for school rugby and a positive testament to the value of coaches working alongside teachers to enhance opportunities for students.

Thanks to Ms. Sharp for all her hard work and dedication over the last year for getting the swimming pool up and running.

SPORTS PAGE

John Ruskin School Pool temperature hits new heights!

Pool News 2013

New filter!
New electrics board!
New piping!
Lights which turn on and off!

Where are we you may ask? Not it's not a scene from Wallace and Grommitt but the view in the pool pump house!



Due to generous funding from:

The SIR JOHN FISHER FOUNDATION and the RAWDON SMITH TRUST BED OF THE LAKE FUND the pool fund has been supported to buy pieces of equipment which have improved the pool's efficiency and reliability. Thanks to those trusts for their significant support in adding to our fund.

Thanks too to the CONISTON 14 Committee who have provided funds to train up local lifeguards where possible.

MORE POOL HEROES

Aqua Engineering for helping to make it all happen and doing all work with such patience and professionalism.

The local Fire Brigade—Coniston Fire Service. These firemen managed to turn a routine training exercise on pumps to our school's advantage and pass on their used water. This water helped fill our pool in 2013. Ten firemen visited JRS on a wet and midge infested evening.

Eight of the ten were once students at JRS—how great to see them back at JRS. It was quite a sight seeing yellow hats and yellow legs running all over the JRS grounds on a exercise training. Thanks for your support!

Lois Barton for raising money for the pool. JRS staff—Mr Leather-Barrow, Mrs Sture, Mrs Tunnah and Mr Stather without whose daily help the pool could not operate.

Thank You

Pool Games, Skills and Galas

In the first month, the weather wasn't great but then it warmed up nicely!

JRS students have experienced a variety of skills, games, lifesaving ideas and swimming gala for each year group.

Primary students from Coniston and Hawkshead have had weekly classes to improve better confidence and stroke improvement. Forty eight students visit weekly from Coniston and Hawkshead primary schools.

Clubs have been held on Monday and Thursday evenings for students and the public.

In a week we have had between 20 and 30 people swimming out of school hours.

Well done to all students who have swam this year on sometimes slightly chilly days. It will always be an outdoor experience. Some found that harder than others.

The pool is a fabulous asset and one we have enjoyed in 2013.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE A LIFEGUARD?

John Ruskin School can fund your training!

Lifeguard course at Ulverston Leisure Centre—Tuesday 27th August to Saturday 31st August 2013.
Through Coniston 14 funding we can pay your course.

In return the school would expect you to help us to lifeguard the school swimming pool sometimes.
For further information please contact Miss Sharp on g.s@jrs.org.uk

Miss Sharp

SPORTS PAGE

JOHN RUSKIN SCHOOL SWIMMING GALA 2013 RESULTS

Year 7 Boys
Front Crawl
Overall Winners

1st Robert Albion
2nd Jack Barton
3rd Josh Airey
4th Philip Steele

Year 7 Boys
Back Crawl
Overall Winners

1st Robert Albion
2nd Jack Barton
3rd Josh Airey
4th Bradley Spencer

Year 7 Boys
Breaststroke
Overall Winners

1st Robert Albion
2nd Jack Barton
3rd Charlie Kelly

Year 7 Girls
Front Crawl
Overall Winners

1st Simone Clarke
2nd Cara Lakin
3rd Leah Albion
4th Chloe Lafferty

Year 7 Girls
Back Crawl
Overall Winners

1st Leah Albion
2nd Chloe Lafferty
3rd Simone Clarke
4th Carrie Young

Year 7 Girls
Breaststroke
Overall Winners

1st Simone Clarke
2nd Leah Albion
3rd Cara Lakin
4th Charlotte Mallett

Year 8 Boys
Front Crawl
Overall Winners

1st Harry Young
2nd John Cook
3rd Richard Wood
4th Louis Guy

Year 8 Boys
Back Crawl
Overall Winners

1st Harry Young
2nd John Cook
3rd Richard Wood

Year 8 Boys
Breaststroke
Overall Winners

1st John Cook
2nd Daniel Snell
3rd Rhys Whirity

Year 8 Girls
Front Crawl
Overall Winners

1st Molly Kennelly
2nd Evie Frost
3rd Victoria Woodbridge
4th Isla Hamilton

Year 8 Girls
Back Crawl
Overall Winners

1st Molly Kennelly
2nd Evie Frost
3rd Beth Wickens
4th Sophie Kelly

Year 8 Girls
Breaststroke
Overall Winners

1st Molly Kennelly
2nd Sophie Kelly
3rd Evie Frost

Year 9 Boys
Front Crawl
Overall Winners

1st Jack Gillies
2nd Daniel Armitstead
3rd Bradley Smith
4th James Brewin

Year 9 Boys
Back Crawl
Overall Winners

1st Joe Hadwin
2nd Ethan Silcocks
3rd Joe Edmondson
4th Bradley Smith

Year 9 Boys
Breaststroke
Overall Winners

1st John Barr
2nd Ethan Silcocks
3rd Shaun Grave
4th Bradley Smith

Year 9 Girls
Front Crawl
Overall Winners

1st Ella Clarke
2nd Lois Barton
3rd Ashleigh Booth
4th Ellie Park

Year 9 Girls
Back Crawl
Overall Winners

1st Ella Clarke
2nd Georgia Howard
3rd India Rawnsley
4th Ellie Park

Year 9 Girls
Breaststroke
Overall Winners

1st Ella Clarke
2nd Lois Barton
3rd India Rawnsley
4th Ellie Park

SWIMMING GALA RESULTS

BT Boys 124
TH Boys 118
BT Boys win by 6 points
Overall Swimming Champions for boys and girls for 2013 are

BT Girls 120
TH Girls 132
TH Girls win by 12 points
150 points to 144 points

Miss Sharp