

February 2025 Edition

Welcome to this month's edition of **Beverley Highlife**. I hope that you will enjoy reading about what has been happening this month at Beverley High School.

Sharon Japp, Headteacher

Astronomers Visit Jodrell Bank

Our Joint Sixth A-level Physics students, together with GCSE Astronomy students recently visited Jodrell Bank in Cheshire. They learned more about space and how Astronomers can use radio telescopes to investigate the motion of distant galaxies. They watched a demonstration on how the Lovell telescope works and also watched a show in a planetarium that explained the nuclear fusion processes that take place during star formation and learned what happens to stars when they reach the end of their lives.





GCSE English Theatre Trip

Before half-term, the English Department took over 150 Year 10 and 11 students to Hull New Theatre to watch J.B. Priestley's *An Inspector Calls*.

Our students kick off their GCSE English Literature course with this modern classic about a mysterious police inspector who visits a wealthy family following the death of a working-class woman whom they have all encountered in their fictional industrial town of Brumley. In studying this text, students develop their understanding of social responsibility, socialism and capitalism, as well as the ways Priestley uses dramatic techniques to convey his message. They explore themes of guilt, class divisions and moral accountability, gaining a deeper appreciation of how literature reflects and critiques society.

Stephen Daldry's revival of *An Inspector Calls* takes the original script and reimagines it with bold, expressionistic staging. The production famously uses a towering, dollhouse-like structure to symbolise the wealthy family's isolation from the working class, whose presence is conspicuous throughout. Daldry's interpretation emphasises the play's political message by hinting at the impending catastrophes which are about to hit society in the form of two world wars and years of social upheaval. The Birling family is quite literally brought down from their ivory tower on to the streets to face the consequences of their actions.

Our students responded enthusiastically to this production, enjoying the humour and absurdity of the over-egged Birlings and the surprising departures from Priestley's original staging. They even erupted into cheers when the Inspector declared that he doesn't play golf. Apparently, it's a TikTok thing! Their knowledge and appreciation of the play was evident throughout the performance and deepened by the end of it.





Mary and the Hyenas Theatre Trip

Students from Years 8 and 9 had the opportunity to visit Hull Truck Theatre one evening this month to see the brand new play *Mary and the Hyenas* about the life of one of our House Heroes, Mary Wollstonecraft, who was described as “A woman centuries ahead of her time: trailblazer, feminist and literary pioneer.”

It was a witty, fast-paced biography which tackled plenty of gritty issues with loud music and energetic dancing. A real feminist anthem. Many students expressed how much they had enjoyed the show.

The run in Hull ended on Saturday and during March is being performed in London.





German Theatre in Education Prize



In the last week of the half term an Austrian theatre company Onatti Productions Ltd came into school to perform a play to our Year 9 German students. Students stepped out of their German lessons onto a campsite “Auf dem Campingplatz” with two very talented actors from Vienna, Austria who performed a very entertaining play which was perfect for teenagers learning German. The play was performed completely in German for a full 45 minutes. The play took students on a camping trip with two friends who were completely unprepared for camping, with no mobile reception and no food which then resulted in the friends becoming enemies when one discovered a packet of crisps which she then hid from her friend and things quickly escalated out of control!

The play was a prize that students were awarded last year by winning the East Riding German Translation Competition.

Year 9 Wollstonecraft Day

On 27th February, all of Year 9 were fortunate to be involved in workshops delivered by The Mary Wollstonecraft Society, including those by a media company, Hull Maritime Museum, a theatre company and East Riding Archives. These workshops included:

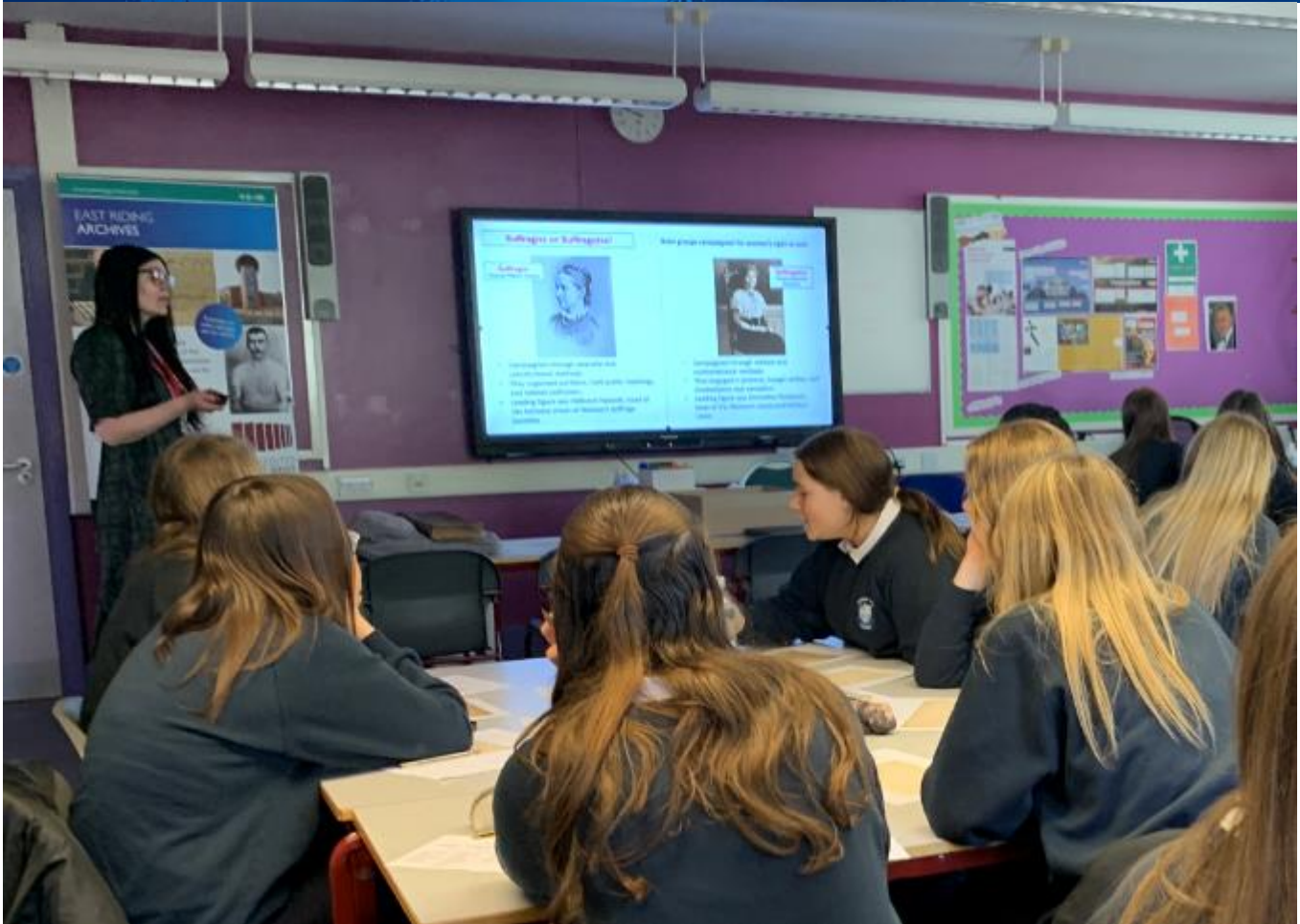
- Exploring historical documents from when Mary Wollstonecraft lived in Beverley, including maps of the town as it was
- Exploring the history of the Suffragette and Suffragist movements
- Creating clay models representing Mary Wollstonecraft and her message
- Creating artwork demonstrating students’ own hopes and dreams
- Using imagination and creativity to write a letter home as Mary Wollstonecraft
- Creating still frames of Mary Wollstonecraft’s life and message through drama

The creativity of students was evident through the work they produced and those delivering the sessions commented on how creative, attentive and enthusiastic they were throughout the day.

Thank you to the Mary Wollstonecraft Society for choosing our school for this amazing day.







Magistrates' Court Mock Trial Competition

Over the past weeks, 14 students from Years 8 and 9 have been busy preparing to take part in the Magistrates' Mock Trial. As with the KS4 Bar Mock Trial competition which was run earlier in the year, the competition involves the students fighting a hypothetical criminal case against other schools, and taking on the roles of key figures in court, such as lawyers and witnesses.

To help with their preparation, a magistrate, Dr Frances McGregor JP, came into school on Wednesday 5th February to work with the group and to share her expertise. The team gained valuable knowledge and ideas from hearing her talk both about the law system generally and about her own experiences of being a magistrate. She also watched the group rehearse and was impressed by their preparation and confidence, and with the quality of the questions that they asked during the session.

The team is now looking forward to visiting Beverley Magistrates' Court on Monday 3rd March for a guided tour, talk and the chance to rehearse in a real courtroom ahead of taking part in the competition in Bradford on Saturday 15th March.



Celebrating Children's Mental Health Week

To celebrate Children's Mental Health Week 2025 on 3rd-7th February our local East Riding Mental Health team decided they would like to raise some money for Health Stars by completing a 7-mile sponsored walk around the schools in Beverley whilst delivering some promotional material. Health Stars is the charity of Humber Teaching NHS Foundation Trust whereby 'together they create better healthcare and brighter futures for people across East Yorkshire, Hull and North Yorkshire. Donations help enhance the healthcare and experiences of thousands of people using mental health, neurodiversity, learning disability, children's and young people and local NHS services every day.'

They planned to arrive at Beverley High School on 7th February at 12.40pm and some of our students were there to cheer them on and celebrate the successful completion of their walk, with some motivational posters and banners they had created in their own time.

The feedback from the team that we received on Monday says it all:

"Firstly, wow!!!! What amazing support we received from your school on Friday. We were absolutely overwhelmed with the effort your pupils and the school put into supporting our Miles for Smiles walk. The artwork that had been created was very impressive and we really appreciated the pupils spending their lunchtime sharing their support. Our target was £500, and we went over this late Friday evening!!

Again, thank you so much to those students who helped to make the whole walk worth it.

As stated, they were raising money, here is the link should anyone still like to donate:

https://www.justgiving.com/page/east-riding-mhst-1735830301892?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=CL



Inter-House Debating Competition

On the final day of the half term, students from across the school came together to take part in this year's debates. It was wonderful to see their enthusiasm. The room buzzed with activity as students got to know each other and embraced the challenge of preparing for the tricky motions in the first round (see below!)

Special thanks go to our Key Stage 4 Debate Club members, Kitty A, Daisy B and Jamie L for their support throughout the day. They led team-building activities, supported the groups' preparation and helped to run the debates themselves, including on the judging panel.

Round 1 Motion 1

In 2024, women represented only 30% of the STEM workforce in the UK.

Motion: We believe that schools and colleges need to prioritise STEM over other subjects in their curriculum

Winners - Proposition team (Random House)

Round 1 Motion 2

In today's House of Commons, 40% of MPs are women.

Motion: We believe that in the next election, all-women shortlists should be used to help increase female representation in the Commons

Winners - Proposition team (PA)

Round 1 Motion 3

The first International Women's Day took place in 1911. The first International Men's Day took place in 1999, and unlike IWD is not officially recognised by the United Nations.

Motion: We believe that International Men's Day should have equal status and media coverage to IWD.

Winners - Proposition team (MB)

Our semi-finals saw the teams propose an inspirational woman to be the figurehead for a new (fictional) sixth House, including Victorian poet Elizabeth Barrett Browning, actor and singer Jane Birkin and education activist Malala Yousafzai. The winner was Random House (a group of students drawn from different houses), who championed the Jamaican journalist, editor, writer and activist Una Marson.

Congratulations to our participants, who received certificates and team prizes for their hard work. You were all a credit to your Houses and the school.

Pat Albeck House (PA) - semi-finalists

Y7 - Edee S, Y8 - Ava C (individual speaker award), Y9 - Elizabeth R, Y10 - Belle R

Mary Braddon House (MB) - finalists

Y7 - Pippa M-B, Y8 - Eloise O (individual speaker award), Y9 - Darcey E, Y10 - Nina P (individual speaker award)

Hilda Lyon House (HL)

Y7 - Mollie G, Y8 - Eliza M, Y9 - Gabby G, Y10 - Lorna J

Margaret Powell House (MP) - semi-finalists

Y7 - Esmee A, Y8 - Grace S, Y9 - Olivia M (individual speaker award), Y10 - Lucy S

Mary Wollstonecraft House (MW)

Y7 - Hollie-Mai R, Y8 - Jessica M, Y9 - Jess D, Y9 - Emily B (HL)

Random House - finalists and overall winners

Y7 - Kasia L (MP), Y8 - Aimee B (MW) (individual speaker award), Y9 - Asha L (HL), Y10 - Ava A (HL) (individual speaker award)



Sports Report

Humber Schools' Badminton Final

On Tuesday 6th February our Key Stage 3 team competed in the Humber Schools' finals after qualifying as one of the top two teams in the East Riding. Matches consisted of both singles and doubles games. The students played amazingly well and there was some tough competition, playing against students at Yorkshire level. The attitude and perseverance shown by all players was outstanding.



We came 3rd in Humberside overall!

KS3 Badminton Team



Inter-House Badminton Competition

Before half term, Year 9 and Year 10 students from every house gave up their time at lunch to compete and score in the Inter-House Badminton Doubles Competition. Everyone had a great time competing and there were some fantastic rallies and skills on display. It was lovely to see teams supporting each other. We are looking forward to the Year 7 & 8 students competing in the same event soon. The results from the Year 9 & 10 competitions are below:

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th
Badminton Year 9	MP	PA & HL	-	MW	MB
Badminton Year 10	PA	MW	MP	HL	MB

Year 11 End of Season Netball Tournament

Well played to our Year 11 Netball team who were overall winners of the East Riding Schools' End of Season Tournament on the 26th February. They managed to win every game, playing against: Longcroft, South Hunsley, Snaith and the Market Weighton schools. Coaches' players were Poppy J for amazing shooting and Katilin H for fantastic passing.



This was the last school match for our Year 11 before they head off to future studies next year. They have been a fantastic team who have had amazing success in their five years at Beverley High School being unbeaten from Year 7-10 in the East Riding and reaching the Regional Yorkshire finals as an U14 team. Congratulations to you all, your school is very proud of you.



Years 7 & 8 Netball Matches

On Thursday 30th Jan we played Driffield School in another league match. Both teams had amazing results, with the Year 7 team winning 20-2 and the Year 8 team 20-5.

Both year groups are really playing well as a team and passing the ball through the court fluently now.

Year 8 Team



Year 7 Team



On Monday 10th February we then went to South Hunsley for another league game. The standard of netball was very high and Year 7 were leading after the first quarter, drawing after the second and just 2 down in the third. Unfortunately, then South Hunsley ran away with it in the last quarter to win 15-8 in the end. The Year 8 team managed to keep their lead throughout the whole game and finished with a winning score of 14-8.

Year 7 Team



PE in lessons

Here is what we are studying up until Easter with all our year groups:

Year 7	Short Tennis & Netball
Year 8	Gymnastics & Netball
Year 9	Basketball, Fitness & Netball
Year 10	Basketball & Table Tennis
Year 11	Indoor Cricket & Table tennis

Sporting Success for Roxie

Congratulations to Roxie T in Year 11 who competed at the Yorkshire Swimming Championships recently in Sheffield. After coming third in the heats, Roxie went on to win Gold in the final of the 50m Butterfly race. Well done Roxie, your school is really proud of you!

Roxie – 50m Yorkshire Butterfly Champion!



Roxie has also been selected to represent the Humberside Schools' Cross-Country team at the English Schools Cross Country competition in March, again a phenomenal achievement! Well done, Roxie.

Things we have been asked to mention:

How often do you feel lonely or isolated?

We want to hear from you

Imperial College London is investigating the prevalence of social isolation and loneliness in the general population. You can help take part by completing the brief [survey](#) which is available in several languages



[@LonelinessStudy](#)



[Measuring Loneliness \(INTERACT\) Website](#)

You can access the [survey](#) using the QR code above, or by opening the weblink below on your smartphone, tablet or personal computer. The [short \(<10min\) anonymized survey](#) is available in several languages and can be accessed by following this link: https://imperial.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_8xqfiwzenpsjstU