

April 2026 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

Orla's World Championship Silver!

Year 10 student, Orla W earlier this month competed at the Irish Dance World Championships in Schaumburg, Illinois, just outside Chicago in the USA. She competed against almost 200 world qualifiers and came second, only seven points away from winning the World title out of a possible 900 points.

Orla has worked very hard for this, as she came sixth last year, and was determined to improve. After a very committed and rigorous training programme, she's managed to push through and achieve her dream of being back on the World's podium. She is on cloud nine! Congratulations Orla, your school is very proud of you. Thank you to your mum for sharing your amazing achievement.





Golfing Greats

Two Beverley High School sisters represented the school at the East Yorkshire Schools' Golf Championships 2026 at the end of last month. Georgiana, in Year 8, won the U16 division and sister Darcy, in Year 10, was runner up at the event which took place at Hull Golf Club. Well done to you both, your school is very proud of you. Thanks also to your proud mum for sharing your successes with us.





Update on Ice Hockey Ace

Year 8 student, Esmé G, has had an eventful few months in the sporting arena, culminating with being selected to play for both the England National Team (Under 13s) and Team GB (Under 16s). In April, Esmé donned the England jersey for the first time, competing against the best teams from Czechia and Norway at the 2026 Lions Cup in Prague. The team navigated through the preliminary round, with Esmé being named Hardest Worker, and then secured a place in the Gold Medal game against Czechia, with Esmé setting up the winning goal. In the Gold Medal game, Esmé scored a spectacular goal against Czechia and the team battled to the very end, but lost a heart-breaker, 2-1. This was the first time the England National Team (Under 13) competed at this level, so the Silver Medal was an incredible result. Her leadership ability, built through being named Assistant Captain of the Leeds Junior Knights Under 16 Team, was evident throughout (including rallying the Norwegian team to support England, due to her spending much of the off-season in Norway), and led to her being named “Treasure of the Team” by management of the England Team. In parallel, Esmé has been the leading scorer for the Leeds Junior Knights which is now near the top of the league standings.

In Summer 2026, Esmé will be the sole Europe-based player invited to take part in two professional Womens’ Hockey League training camps in Canada (an opportunity to train with the best professional women players in the world, several of whom she knows and attended the Olympics in Milan to support).

Esmé has been named to represent Team GB in the 2026 Ball Hockey World Championships, being held in June, competing against both the Canada and USA National Teams.

What incredible achievements Esmé, we can’t wait to see what you do next! Your school is very proud of you. Thanks to your dad for keeping us updated.



Ballet Brilliance

Congratulations to Year 8 student, Sophia B who after auditioning late last year has become a Royal Ballet Mid Associate. She has been offered a place to train weekly in Leeds with the Royal Ballet School. The programme is for students aged 11-14 and helps them to develop an understanding of The Royal Ballet School system of training with the view to full-time vocational education and is for students who have a passion for ballet and aspire to a career in dance. Associate students are invited to attend a pre-general rehearsal at the Royal Opera House in Covent Garden. They are also invited to attend a workshop held at the Royal Ballet Upper School to enhance their training and Associates can be asked to take part in productions by The Royal Ballet, Birmingham Royal Ballet and visiting ballet companies. Congratulations Sophia, your school is very proud of you. Thank you to your proud mum for sharing your success with us.



Gold Duke of Edinburgh Expedition

Sixteen of our Year 12 students successfully completed their Gold DofE Practice expedition in the Yorkshire Dales at the end of April. The sun shone throughout the three day expedition and the students all managed to tackle both Ingleborough and Pen-y-ghent whilst perfecting their map-reading skills and showing great teamwork and resilience. Well done to them all and thank you to the staff and volunteers who supported the expedition.







Silver Duke of Edinburgh Expedition

This month's Silver Duke of Edinburgh practice expedition, undertaken jointly with Beverley Grammar School was unforgettable, thanks to frost in the mornings followed by blazing sunshine in the afternoons. Day 2 became especially memorable when navigational mix-ups, from lack of sleep, meant most groups got lost (not all), turning the walk into a surprise adventure, particularly for staff using trackers to hunt down and correct the courses of lost groups! Despite sore feet and a few (lots of) wrong turns, everyone kept their spirits high, worked as a team and proved we could handle whatever the expedition threw at us. Congratulations to all of the Year 10 students who participated.

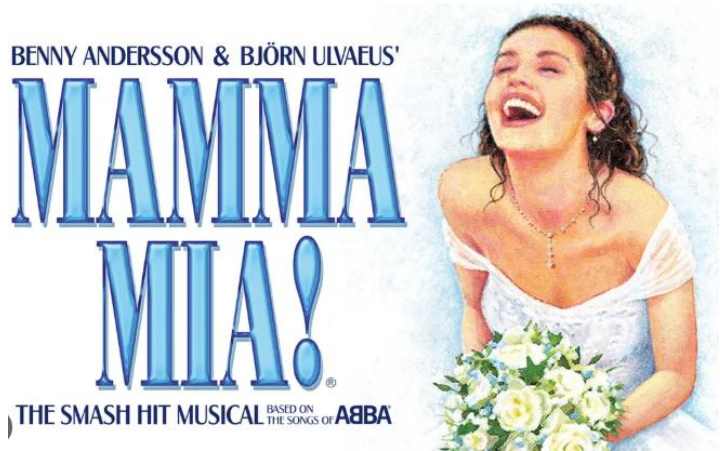
Sheffield Hallam University Cyber Careers Trip

A group of Computing students had a fantastic day at Sheffield Hallam University this month, with talks from industry experts who were truly passionate about the growth of the cyber security industry. They participated in two workshops led by students from the University who provided thought provoking challenges in the form of team research, encryption and security methods used to protect our data online. All our pupils agreed how good it was to hear the pathways the students had followed to get them to where they are now. The next challenge is for our pupils to produce an exciting digital treasure hunt for next year's Year 8 as they prepare for the Cyberfirst girls' competition in the Autumn term. What an inspiring day.

Drama Trip to Hull New Theatre

On Thursday 16 April, 25 students from across Years 8 to 11 attended a performance of *Mamma Mia: The Musical* at Hull New Theatre. The trip was a fantastic opportunity for students to experience excellent quality live theatre and of course to be able to sing along to some Abba classics!

The performance was absolutely stunning and we had an excellent view- with only being a few rows from the front of the theatre! The students enjoyed the vibrant costumes, jam-packed dance routines and excellent comedic acting. The highlight had to be the encore at the end with all 25 students (and staff) on their feet singing along to 'Waterloo'.



The students carried themselves absolutely brilliantly throughout the evening and were an absolute joy to take on the trip. We look forward to more theatre trips in the future.

Hull University History Lecture

Students from Years 12 and 13 recently had the opportunity to attend an engaging and thought-provoking lecture at the University of Hull, delivered by historian Dr Jenny McLeod. The lecture, titled *Post-War Immigration*, offered valuable insight into a key topic within the A-level History *Making of Modern Britain* course.

Dr McLeod explored the complex patterns of immigration to Britain following the Second World War, focusing on the social, political, and economic factors that shaped migration. She highlighted how labour shortages in post-war Britain encouraged migration from across the Commonwealth, particularly from the Caribbean, South Asia, and Africa. The lecture also examined the experiences of these communities, including the challenges of discrimination and the gradual development of multicultural Britain. Students left with a clearer understanding of post-war immigration and its significance, as well as a greater appreciation for the relevance of history in understanding the world today. Thank you to Dr McLeod for her time and professional generosity.

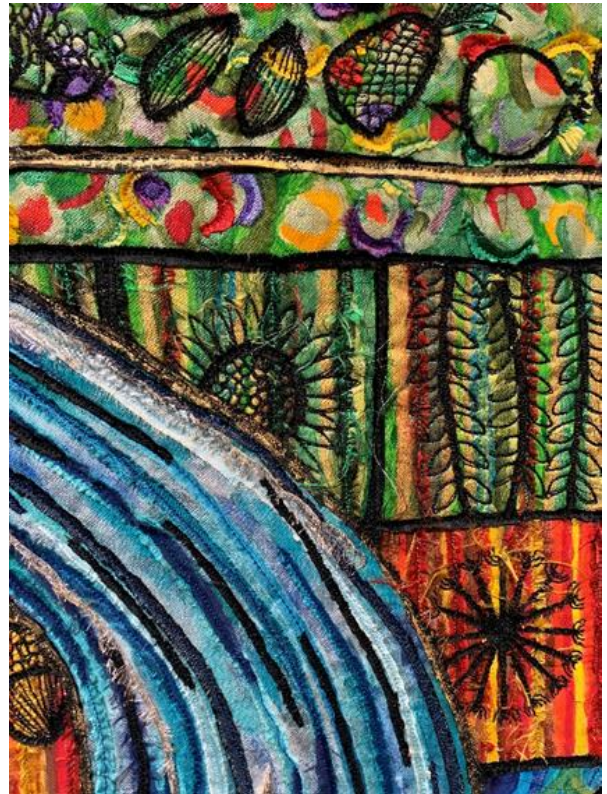


Textiles Trip

On Thursday 16 April, our Year 10 GCSE Textiles students visited the 'Threads' exhibition at Beverley Minster. The exhibition featured a series of striking large-scale wall hangings created by Jacqui Parkinson over a ten-year period.

The work on display closely linked to the textile techniques studied as part of the GCSE course, providing students with valuable insight and inspiration. Many left feeling excited to incorporate elements of Parkinson's style and methods into their own projects, as well as gaining a rich source of primary research.

The students were a credit to the school throughout the visit, demonstrating excellent behaviour and engagement. Both students and staff thoroughly enjoyed the experience.



Year 7 Maths Trips to St Mary's Church

This half term the maths department took all Year 7 students to St Mary's Church in Beverley to complete a maths trail. This was to allow students to spot the links between the maths they have learnt in lessons and the history of Beverley and the church. For example, one of the tasks involved the students calculating the difference in dates between the succession of two vicars at the church. They were quick to spot that there was a very short succession due to the plague! They were also introduced to some new topics, such as rotational and reflective symmetry when looking at the design on the pulpit.

Pond Renovation Project

Our Eco Council are at the heart of our exciting pond renovation project, which has seen great progress this month. The area has now been fully cleared, transforming the space into a safe and ready-to-develop environment. Students have already begun getting involved, helping with laying the pond liner and washing the gravel—an important step in preparing the pond for water and wildlife. With the support of our dedicated site team Mr Overton, science technician, Mr Gill and science teacher, Mrs Jaradat, this key stage has been successfully completed.

We've also purchased a range of plants, ready for the next phase of the project. Students will soon take part in planting and help to establish a thriving ecosystem, gaining valuable hands-on experience in environmental science and sustainability. We can't wait to see the pond develop into a vibrant habitat for wildlife and a fantastic outdoor learning space. Watch this space for the next phase of this exciting project.

Before



Current progress



Earth Day Assembly

This month, members of the Eco Council PR team shared an assembly on Earth Day with the focus on this year's theme, sustainable energy. Top tips from our students include turning off the light switch when a room is empty and wearing a jumper if you're chilly rather than turning on the heating.



UKMT Junior Challenge

On Wednesday 29 April 31 Year 8 and 29 Year 7 pupils sat the UKMT Junior Challenge. The Challenge is 60 minutes long and consists of 25 multiple choice questions. The Challenge encourages mathematical reasoning, precision of thought and fluency. The problems on the Maths Challenge are designed to make students think, most are accessible yet still challenge those with more experience. There are approximately 270,000 participants from schools across the UK and British International Schools. We are looking forward to receiving the results in the coming weeks.



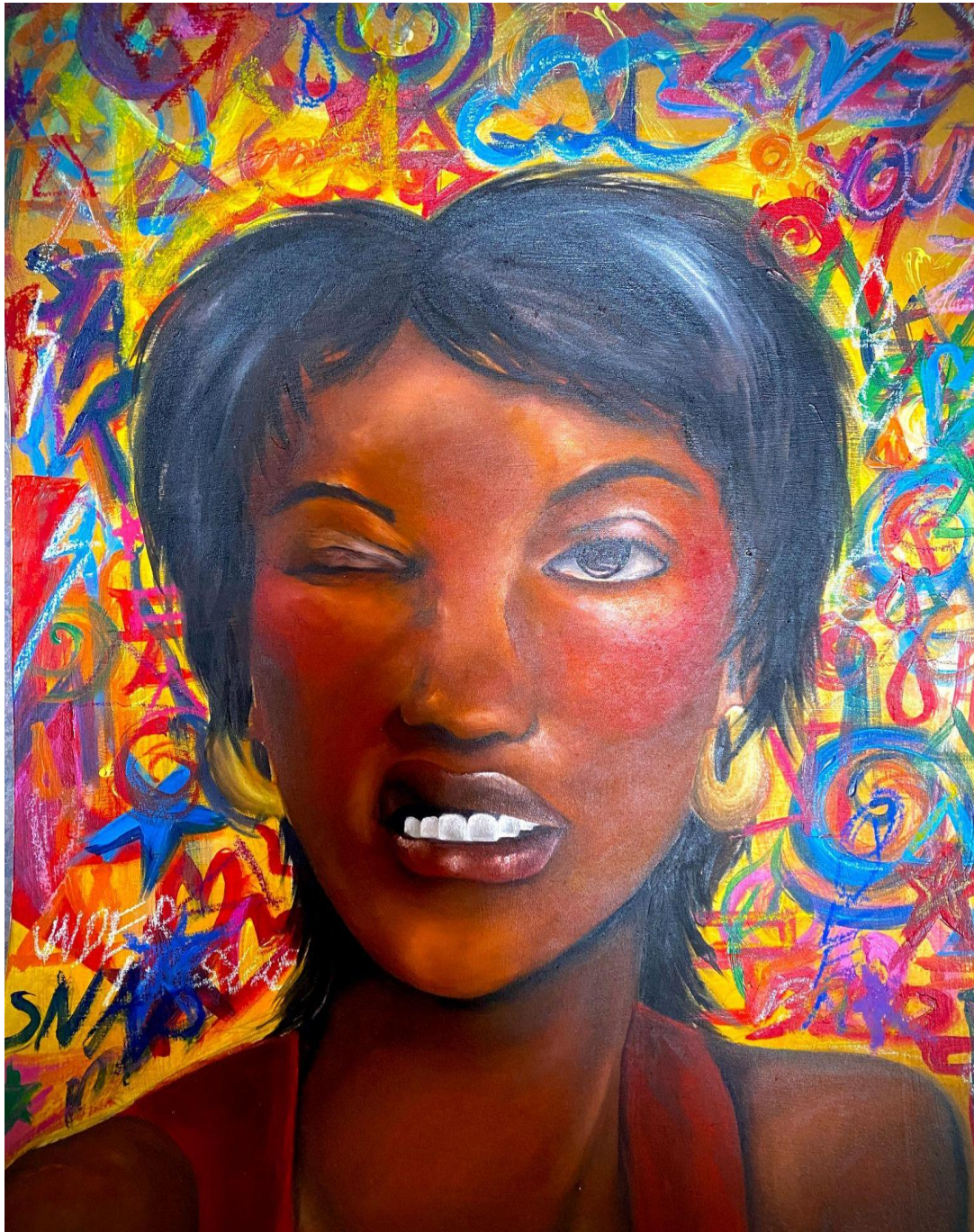
KS3 Art Homework Opportunity

The Art Department set an optional homework for all KS3 students with the aim being to allow students the opportunity to produce anything they wanted. We have had some amazing pieces produced so far and there is still time as the deadline is **Monday 11 May**.

The work will be displayed as part of our upcoming **Exhibition on Wednesday 10th June** and can also be submitted for the Ferens Open if it meets their entry criteria. The link below will take you to the full entry details.

[Ferens Open H W.pdf](#)

Here are some examples of the entries that we have received so far:





GCSE Art Clay Pots

Year 10 GCSE Art students have had the chance to develop their natural forms work into ceramic pots. All of the students have experimented with clay and then they had a choice of continuing to work with clay or to produce a 2D outcome, also based on the theme of natural forms. You can see some examples of the pots that have been produced below, they are all excellent and testament to the students' hard work and dedication.





Year 6 Transition: Cards to Welcome our New Pupils

It's that time of year again when the Year 6 Transition team either visit or virtually meets with over 20 primary schools. And who can give advice and encouragement to Year 6 better than our current Year 7s?

Each form group used their empathy skills to write reassuring and enthusiastic cards to the new cohort. Popular themes ranged from the variety of subjects taught and the wide range of extra-curricular clubs on offer, to the friendliness and approachability of staff. And of course, the delicious canteen food! Congratulations to Arsheen A, Charlotte M-M and Mikayla W all in 7MB, who created this year's winning card designs.



Preparing for Oxbridge Conference

On Wednesday 29 April Year 12 students attended an application conference at Wyke College run by Mansfield College, Oxford. It was an opportunity for students to find out more about the application process to Oxford and Cambridge and to begin to think about putting together a personal statement as well as to consider the steps needed in order to submit an application to Oxford or Cambridge Universities.

Sports Report

As we are only three weeks into the Summer term, there have been no fixtures as yet. Please see below for the club timetable. We hope to get lots of sunny days to play tennis on the courts and cricket, rounders and athletics on the field.

Extra Curricular PE

Summer Term - Starts 13th April

	LUNCHTIME Bring a pack-up & trainers.		AFTER SCHOOL (FINISH 4.15PM) Bring full PE kit.	
Monday	Yr9 & 10 Rounders Field			Fixtures
Tuesday	Yr8 Tennis Tennis Courts			Fixtures
Wednesday	Yr9 & 10Tennis Tennis Courts		Yr7 & 8 Rounders Field	Fixtures
Thursday	Yr7 & 8 Cricket Field			Yr7-11 Athletics Club Fixtures
Friday	Yr7 Tennis Tennis Courts			



Please be prompt for a lunchtime club – Early lunch passes can be collected from the PE office.

Year 8 Parents’ Evening

Thank you to all of the Year 8 parents/carers who logged on for Parents’ Evening this month. Teachers enjoyed feeding back to you on your child’s progress and are grateful for all the lovely feedback that they received from you.

Year 11 Exam Season

We wish all our wonderful Year 11 students well with their GCSEs, the exam season has already started with MFL orals and practical exams and written papers start in the first full week of May. We know that you have been revising really hard. We wish you every success, you certainly deserve it.

Careers Qualification Congratulations

Congratulations to, Science Teacher and Careers Assistant, Mr Harriott who, this month, achieved his Level 6 Certificate in Careers Leadership qualification.

He completed modules in areas such as the role of careers development work and careers leaders; national initiatives and frameworks; career theory and research; sourcing, negotiating and reviewing partnerships; and review of careers programmes (progressions routes and pathways). It has taken months of hard work and assessments, the final one completed on a TEAMS call whilst he was staffing a Duke of Edinburgh checkpoint last week! A perfect example of multi-tasking.

Mr Harriott says, "I look forward to using what I have learnt to support our students in making decisions about their future careers."



Poetry By Heart Congratulations

Congratulations to English teacher and Year 7 Year Leader Ms Watkins who has been selected as a finalist in this year's national Poetry By Heart competition in the 'all school staff freestyle category' of the competition. She will take part in the Grand Finale at Shakespeare's Globe theatre in London in early July. Good luck Ms Watkins!



Wedding Congratulations

Congratulations to maths teacher and Year Leader for Years 8 & 9, Miss Atkinson, who was married last weekend. She will now be known in school as Mrs Wilson.