



Edition No. 85

WORKS

Wisdom - Optimism - Resilience - Kindness - Service

April/May 2025



“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as though you were working for the Lord.”
Colossians 3:23.

04. CAKE & QUESTIONS

Information about our recent 'Cake & Questions' event.

05. GEOGRAPHY TRIP

Find out more about our recent Geography trip to Snowdonia.

06. PE UPDATES

Information and images highlighting recent sporting successes.

07. LIBRARY COMPETITION

Entries from our recent bookmark competition.

08. MUSIC UPDATES

Information and images from a selection of recent concerts, events and class activities.





UPCOMING EVENTS

Further information is available on our website

SUMMER EXAM SEASON BEGINS

Thursday 8th May 2025

YEAR 12 PROGRESSION DAY LAUNCH

Friday 9th May 2025

MUSICAL THEATRE CABARET

Thursday 22nd May 2025

YEAR 11 & 13 STUDY LEAVE BEGINS

Friday 23rd May 2025

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

Monday 26th May 2025

YEAR 7 HUMANITIES VISITS

Tuesday 10th June & Thursday 12th June 2025

ABRSM EXAMS

Tuesday 10th & Wednesday 11th June 2025

YEAR 12 PROGRESSION DAY

Friday 13th June 2025

YEAR 8 YORKSHIRE WILDLIFE PARK VISIT (T/W)

Thursday 19th June 2025

YEAR 8 YORKSHIRE WILDLIFE PARK VISIT (C/R)

Friday 20th June 2025

YEAR 13 LEAVERS DAY

Friday 20th June 2025

YEAR 10 PROGRESSION DAY

Wednesday 25th June 2025

CURRENT VACANCIES

Reprographics Technician

Deadline 14th May 2025

To keep up to date with our current vacancies please visit our TES page here:



Cake & Questions

Article: MRS BALDRY

Date: 20TH MARCH 2025

Eugene Ionesco once said that “it is not [always] the answer that enlightens, but the question.”

I think we could all call to mind a question that we would love to know the answer to; something that we have always been curious about but have never managed to find an answer to:

Is a Jaffa Cake a cake or a biscuit, to give a controversial example.

This was the premise behind our Cake and Questions event that we put on in our Sixth Form study room towards the end of March. Students were invited to come along and think of a question that they would love to know the answer to. They were given a pen and a note card and asked to write down their contemplations so that we could put them on display. In return, they were given a piece of cake. As other students came along, they were then able to take a look at some of the questions and, either, ask their own or jot down a response to someone else's question.

It was wonderful to listen to some of the conversations that were happening as a result of reading someone's question; discussions that took them to some really deep and philosophical levels. One particular example



of this was listening to two students who may not have otherwise ever had reason to talk to each other, having a conversation about how religion impacts society.

Above all, Cake and Questions, meant that students had a reason to gather and an opportunity to develop relationships with each other but also with members of staff as they engaged with the activity.

There were a lot of students; a lot of cake; and a whole lot of questions. We look forward to being able to develop this kind of event and see how we can expand on some of the ideas that students brought forward.



Year 12 Residential

‘Snowdonia - A Geography Adventure’

Article: MRS SUMMERS

Date: 5TH MARCH 2025

From the 5th to the 7th of March, our Year 12 A-Level Geography students embarked on an unforgettable residential trip to North Wales as part of their OCR Geography Course. This exciting adventure provided an invaluable opportunity for students to develop their fieldwork skills and gain first-hand experience in investigating key geographical processes.

Upon arrival at the field centre, students settled into their accommodation before diving straight into their first area of study: the Water and Carbon Cycle. They conducted fieldwork in the Conwy Valley, measuring infiltration rates, runoff levels, and carbon sequestration rates in the local woodland. Using advanced data analysis techniques such as Mann Whitney U, students explored the

impact of soil and vegetation on the water balance and carbon storage.

The second day saw students tackling the Glacial Systems and Landscapes of Snowdonia’s stunning Cwm Idwal National Nature Reserve. Braving the elements, they examined post-glacial landforms, including corries, U-shaped valleys, and moraines. Students applied geographical enquiry methods to investigate ice flow direction during the last glacial period, gathering data using iPads and GIS software to map striation orientation. The day concluded with statistical data analysis, using techniques such as radial diagrams and chi-squared to interpret their findings.

On the final morning, students explored the charming village

of Betws-y-Coed, delving into the concept of place. Through qualitative research methods, they analysed representations of the village, comparing direct experiences with secondary sources such as tourism materials. This hands-on approach enabled students to appreciate how places are shaped by both reality and perception.

The trip was a fantastic success, providing students with essential skills and insights for their A-Level NEA (non-examined assessment) and beyond. A huge thank you to our staff and the tutors at the field centre for their support and guidance. Well done to all our Year 12 geographers for their enthusiasm and hard work throughout the trip!

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PE Updates

Article: MRS GRATTON

It's been a busy few weeks in the PE Department and for our school teams, which has seen a number of sporting successes.

- Year 7 Netball Team were silver medalists in the West Notts Tournament
- Year 8 Rugby Team played in the County Finals
- Year 7 Rugby Team were 3rd in the County Finals
- Year 10 Rugby Team were runners up in the County Cup
- KS3 Handball Team were undefeated in their recent tournament
- Year 10 Football Team were 4-2 winners in their South Notts Cup match
- Sixth Form Football Team won 7-1 in their recent match
- Year 11 Football Team won 3-1 in their recent match
- Year 10 Netball Team were bronze medalists
- Year 8 Netball Team had two tournaments in two days!
- Our Year 8 Athletics Team took part in the Nottinghamshire Indoor Athletics County Finals



Library Bookmark Competition

Article: MRS WILLIAMS

During March, to celebrate World Book Day, the whole school was invited to take part in a competition to design a bookmark for the library. We had over 50 entries and it was a difficult decision to choose the winners. The winning students were presented with an Easter egg and certificate. Their bookmarks will be printed and available for all students in the library soon. Well done to Douglas, Walter, Polly, Ophelia, Elem, Poppy, Marni, Rada, Ivy, Emily, Scarlett, Henry and Freddie.



Year 7 Orchestra

Article: MS BILODEAU

Year 7 students have been given a fantastic opportunity to learn an orchestral instrument this term. Thanks to the generosity of Nottinghamshire's Music Hub Inspire, instruments have been provided so that every Year 7 student can develop a new skill, while deepening their understanding of orchestras and the range of sounds they produce.

Some of our students have even taken on teaching roles, sharing their knowledge and helping their peers explore different instruments.

It's been wonderful to see so many students borrowing instruments to practise at home, showing enthusiasm, determination, and resilience in the classroom.



If you would like to sign your child up for instrumental lessons, please follow this link:



[The Minster School - Instrumental & Vocal Tuition](#)

Plugged Concert

Article: MS BILODEAU

A huge congratulations to everyone involved in the Plugged concert! The show was a powerhouse of energy, talent, and crowd-pleasing rock anthems. With hits from Queen, Paramore, Red Hot Chili Peppers, Bullet for My Valentine, The Darkness, Avenged Sevenfold, Avril Lavigne, and more, the audience was treated to a night of unforgettable performances.

Every act brought polished musicianship and electric stage presence, creating an atmosphere that truly celebrated the spirit of live music. Thank you to all who performed, helped behind the scenes, and came out to support—you made the night a roaring success!



Easter Concert

Article: MRS WALLIS-WINDLE

Date: MARCH 2025

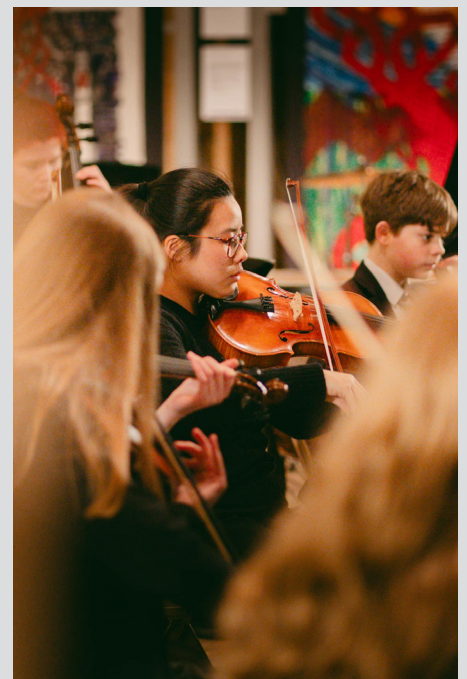
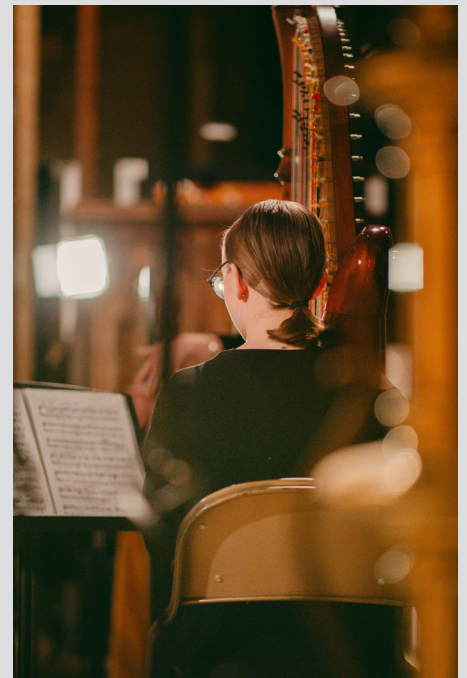
‘Wow, just wow! I have been to these concerts for almost 18 years now and I honestly think it was the best ever’ from an audience member.

The Minster School students continue to go from strength to strength musically and this was shown in every way at our concert this week. Orchestra opened the concert with a lively (and tight!) performance of Dvorak’s Slavonic Dance No. 8 and Saint-Saens’ Bacchanale. The first half continued with fabulous music from the our Junior and Full Flute Ensemble and String Ensemble who played brilliantly, along with the debut of our Harp Ensemble which sounded stunning in the acoustics of Minster. This was followed by the beautiful voices of the Junior School Choir with our Year 3-6 students. They sang in 2 parts wonderfully, bringing character to Skye Boat Song and lyricism to Homeward Bound. Concert Band took to the stage to close the first half with a rousing performance of extracts from Wicked and finished with fanfares and percussion galore in Procession of the Nobles. During the interval the fabulous MSPTA served refreshments while the harps continued to play.

Over 120 students in Full Choir opened the second half and what a sound! With performances of City of Stars and Tears in Heaven, the choir filled the space wonderfully. During the second half both Senior Flutes and Brass Ensembles entertained the audience, making their challenging repertoire sound easy! Chamber Choir has grown in size and sound, giving memorable performances of Ticheli’s Earth Song and Shenandoah, greatly enjoyed by the audience. The concert ended with rousing performances Jazz Band, including super instrumental solos and Year 13 singer Esme. A fantastic way to end the evening!

The Easter Concert is our opportunity to say goodbye to some of our Year 13 leavers who we will miss hugely and who have contributed so much to our department and school. Huge well done to everyone who performed in the concert. As always, you did us proud!

Thanks also to the music department staff and instrumental teachers who prepared for and supported the concert! One to remember!!



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