

Team MINSTHORPE

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EDITION 5

SUMMER TERM

2021

Minsthorpe Community College | Motivation • Commitment • Care

We feel great pride as we introduce our Summer 21 Newsletter and showcase some of the amazing talent and achievements here at Minsthorpe Community College. Our vision and core values shine through in every article and demonstrate that Minsthorpe is a place where everyone plays their part in strengthening our learning community through **motivation, commitment and care**.

We cannot forget what a difficult year it has been for everyone both in our College lives and personal lives, but, despite it all, our wonderful students and staff always step up to the mark and show the commitment to achieve their best. As some of the national restrictions come to an end, we look forward to slowly getting back to normality and opening up even more opportunities for our students. Look out next year for an exciting extra-curricular programme and hopefully a full range of trips and visits that Minsthorpe is famous for.

This term has seen personal achievements for some

of our young people, both sporting and academic as well as some fantastic team work too. You will also see some of the projects that they have created which are truly breath taking. Well done to everyone who features this term; we are incredibly proud.

We said goodbye to our Year 11 and Year 13 students this term and they showed a great attitude on return from school closure to complete all their assessments. We wish them the very best this summer as they pick up their well-deserved qualifications and hope our Year 11 students decide to return to Minsthorpe after the summer break. As one group leaves, we welcome a new year group. We have been out to meet our new Year 6 students who we are extremely excited to welcome in September and we hosted our first ever virtual live event to give them the information they need to be the successes we want them to be.

After missing last year due to the lockdown, we were delighted to once again host our world-renowned Sports



Day. It was incredible to see the enjoyment on student and staff faces throughout the day. The weather was great and there were some very tired people at the end of a long sporting day. We have included many photos so you can enjoy the day with us too.

We would like to round this year off by wishing you a long, restful summer. Take the time to enjoy it with family and friends and we look forward to another fantastic year ahead at Minsthorpe Community College.

Mr Gilmore

Mrs Merritt

Year 9 Music

Year 9 Music students really did themselves proud in their final performance exam of the year! We had some excellent performances resulting top grades given! The level of skill developed is due to hard work and determination to do well. We look forward to working with these students in Year 10.

Well done Year 9!



Oak Forest School

Two of our Year 11 students, Archie and Thomas, have spent a productive period working with Oak Forest School at Howell Wood in South Kirkby. They have undertaken a whole range of conservation and wilderness activities which has led to them gaining their Woodland Management and Conservation Certificate. Pictured here with course leader, Melv Mills.

Year 12 Go Outdoors

Year 12 Ctec Sport students have carried out an outdoor adventurous activity, orienteering for their practical unit. This took place at New Miller dam on Wednesday 9th June. The weather was amazing and the students were a credit to themselves and the college. They all completed different orienteering courses and recorded themselves using a compass, map and navigation skills to get around the course. A great morning of learning.



Hayden Pickard Is A Red!

Congratulations to Hayden Pickard Year 11, who was named Barnsley FC Academy Player of the Year. Hayden has been playing up an age group this year at Barnsley and regularly turning out for the Under 18 team. Hayden was a key player in the Minsthorpe Football Team that has regularly won Wakefield League and Wakefield Cup Titles, as well as reaching the West Yorkshire Cup Final in Year 9 and having good runs in the National Cups. We also have ex-student Kieran Flavell representing Barnsley FC Academy at under 18 level. Furthermore Kieran Phillips has recently signed a professional contract at Huddersfield Town. We wish all these boys all the best and we will be following their careers closely.

For the boys in the present Year 7,8,9,10 and 11 football teams, this is clearly something to aspire to. We look forward to returning to extracurricular football and fixtures next year.



Post 16 Update

The students in P12.3 have been completing activities that will help them plan towards their future. All the students have been involved in either the Apprenticeship/Employment pathway or the University (UCAS) pathway and as part of their preparation have taken part in a Leeds City Region Future Goals Work Experience task where they have developed key skills needed within the 3 sectors of Manufacturing & Engineering, Construction and Creative & Digital. It has been a pleasure to work with them as they have shown great maturity in their plans and it is clear that we will have a talented and successful generation for the future.



Young Chefs in the Making

Year 12 Food Science and Nutrition students completed an amazing practical during the last week of term for their Unit 1 assessment. The brief was to make a 3 course meal suitable for a Spa client. The students involved were Luke Davies, Beth Serella, Sydney Dootson, Korben Ashton and Rebecca Wright

Mrs Wainwright is incredibly proud of all the students and their achievements.



Young Writers Competition

All three students who entered the Young Writers competition (Unsolved- Every Sentence Counts) have been selected to be published. This is an outstanding achievement as only around 300 short stories are published and for this competition Young Writers received over 6000 thousand entrants. It is amazing to see students continue to be successful and continue our tradition with the competition. The three published students are Tegan Patton, Neve Simmons and Ava Terry.

Girls lead the way...

It has been a long 16 months for the PE department but this term we finally played our first fixture since the pandemic began. The Year 7 girls football team travelled to Penistone Grammar School for their first ever fixture. They played a strong and experienced Penistone side, however this did not affect their determination and performance. In the first few minutes of the game we scored the opening goal and were off to a flying start. The final score line did not reflect how well each one of you played! You represented the school and should be so proud to be a part of Team Minsthorpe, we are very proud of you!

Well done girls, bring on September!!

#Girlsfootball

#TeamMinsthorpe



Safer Internet Day

On the 9th of February we saw the 18th edition of the annual Safer Internet day. This is a worldwide event that tries to look at small changes that can be made to peoples mindset to make the internet a safer place for everyone to use, especially young people. This year the event fell in the middle of a lockdown making it much harder to get the message out to students, who were working at home at the time. Mr Benson (eSafety Coordinator) created an assembly and asked students to watch this as part of their weekly routine. The theme of this years Safer Internet Day was "Together for a better internet". There was a quiz at the end of the assembly sent out on Satchel One and this allowed students to take part and demonstrate their knowledge of how to stay safe online. The results were checked and verified and the winner was Eden 8.7.

Her results showed that she knows how to stay safe online and that she knows how to be a good online friend. For her efforts Eden was given an early Easter egg. Well done Eden, Stay safe, surf safe.



Better Late Than Never!

The pandemic stopped us from holding our Annual Presentation Evening in December when we mark the achievements of our Year 11 students with parents, staff and local dignitaries present. Instead, we celebrated these amazing young people with a presentation assembly in College this month. Pictured are some of the prize winners who are now excelling in their Post 16 studies. We are proud of you all!



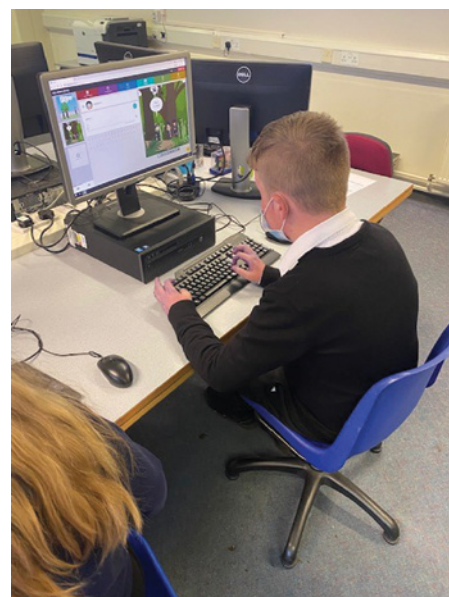
GCSE Art Showcase

This portrait by Mia Plews was set as a BTEC Art home learning challenge for Yr11 during lock down. Mia produced this amazingly detailed and realistic lead pencil portrait! Well done Mia!

Year 7 Create Comics

During the summer term, Year 7 have been getting to grips with new comic book software for their CDM lessons. Students were able to allow their imaginations to come alive in the form of illustrations, words and characters. No formal training was given to this software, we used a trial and error method and students took to it straight away, creating vivid stories from scratch. Check out this comic from Jabe Sumerfield in Year 7 about meeting an Alien whilst out with his friends.

We encourage students to continue learning Pixton from home. They simply need to login to <https://www.pixton.com/> and remember to "Sign in with Microsoft".





SPORTS DAY 2021





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Reading raises cash for children's hospitals!

Years 7, 8 & 9 students were invited to take part in the Read for Good Readathon this term. The sponsored read began on Monday 14th June and ended on Sunday 27th June. All students received a Sponsor Card and were able to choose their own reading material for the two week challenge, asking friends, family and neighbours to donate online at readforgood.org/sponsor, or paying by cheque. Every penny raised contributes towards funding a resident storyteller to every major children's hospital in the UK as well as a supply of brand new books for the college library.

It's been proven that children who read for pleasure are more likely to be successful and happy throughout their lives (OECD). The charity Read for Good encourages children to read through its unique



motivational approach inspiring reluctant readers to give reading a go, and keen readers to read more widely. Pupils can choose whatever they want to read - from comics to classics and audio books to blogs - they are not being assessed, it's all about reading for fun.

Students now need to return their sponsor forms to their English teacher. The current

balance raised stands at £353.00, and there's still time to donate online at readforgood.org/sponsor, so hopefully that amount can continue to climb! Congratulations to Olivia Begg in Year 7 for raising the highest sponsorship, a whopping £120! What a fantastic individual effort.

Well done Readers!



KS4 Bubble Get Green Fingers

This term students in the KS4 Bubble have focused on the environment, they considered how they could reduce their carbon footprints and what they could do to help protect endangered species in our local area. Students decided to create a wildlife garden at school, we watched some gardening programmes to guide us and then designed Bug hotels and picked out the perfect seeds to attract bees and butterflies. Then we got started down at the greenhouse, students have sowed a number of seeds, Corn Flowers, Cosmos, Oregano and Sunflowers and over the last couple of weeks students have been working hard, potting seedlings on and planting them out. Last week all their hard work paid off, and we were all delighted to see our first flowers blooming. We now hope to see lots of bees and butterflies visiting the garden in the weeks and months to come.

Year 10 Climb High

Mr Abbott spent six days at The Foundry indoor climbing centre over the past two weeks where over 40 students have attended the trip and all have performed at a level above our expectation and produced some excellent GCSE practical grades.



Students have learnt how to correctly put on a harness, tie a knot into a harness along with a number of other knots. Students have belayed one another and carried out some bouldering. Some students even got to the top of the big overhanging wall. The behaviour has been outstanding from all the Year 10's in attendance and staff



have been supportive and professional. Mr Truelove even had a go on the wall in his lunch break on one of the days!!!

The highlight other than the students getting exceptional grades was the three legged climb where two students managed to complete during a bit of off time.

Pride!

In many places across the globe June is known as Pride Month which shows support for member of the LGBTQIA+ community. For the last 18 months, SESKU Pride have been working tirelessly to create Pride events for the local community. We have two events already planned for 2021, our Pride Warm-up event on July 25th and our Main Pride event on August 29th, both held at South Kirkby Miners Welfare Club, WF9 3DP.

We donated a Pride Flag to Minsthorpe Community College for them to fly on their flagpole and they were given a certificate at our Awards Evening in June in recognition of the fact that they are a safe place for students.

Pride is important as it highlights the impact that LGBTQIA+ people have had in the world and, as SESKU Pride's motto says, "We should be proud in our small towns and villages too!"





Goodbye and Good Luck Year 11!

It is always a day of high emotion when our Year 11 students leave us, and this year was no exception. This year's Year 11 students had to face unprecedented challenges, including two lockdowns, isolations due to COVID and teacher assessments in May (rather than the usual GCSE exams). As we expected, the students did themselves proud and showed the Team Minsthorpe spirit of Motivation, Commitment and Care through it all. Their smiling faces on their final day say it all.

We weren't able to celebrate with a Year 11 Prom, so instead the students took part in an outdoor event – a day of It's a Knockout in July. The sun shone brightly for them and they enjoyed this fun time together with friends and teachers.

Miss Bigland and Mr Harnell have been with the year group throughout their five years at Minsthorpe and feel incredibly proud of the young people they have become. Good luck Year 11!



Ava's Amazing Poetry is Published!

Every term Mr Ruston and the English team encourage students to write creatively for their own pleasure, and a large number of entries to the Young Writer's competition are received from Key Stage 3 students. This spring, Ava Terry in Year 7 composed her own poem, 'Imagine a World Full of Peace', which was so inspirational that it was selected to be published. Her powerful poem beautifully reflects Minsthorpe's ethos of Motivation, Commitment and Care:

Imagine A World Full Of Peace

I awake to a cold morning,
The trees swaying and leaves losing their fight for life as they fall to the floor.
Birds flying high in the sky like angels protecting their loved ones
Bees buzzing excitedly in their happy hives
Caring, respectful, joyful people taking stills
Buttercups and bluebells lay calmly in the prickling grass.

Imagine peace in the world
Just imagine.

A fantasy as I call it,
Simple dreams that is all it means.
Wouldn't it be nice though to live in a world with all of these nice things?
What if the monarch and the president were like me and you?
No violence, no hatred, no jealousy,
Wouldn't it be unbelievably great?

Comments are made,
Gunshots are fired,
People are feared,
Enemies are created
Believe it or not, this is happening nowadays.

Why don't we be one?
Love and care for others,
Help, listen, be there.

Imagine a world where we stand in other's shoes,
See the other side,
Imagine a world where we don't judge a book by its cover,
Imagine a world where everyone can be themselves.
Imagine a world where there is peace and tranquillity.

Just imagine..

Ava is a regular entrant to the Young Writers competitions, and she was delighted to receive a certificate from the company, the published Anthology containing her poem, as well as a celebratory video.

The current competition is called Spine-Chillers and students have been invited to write a gripping, tense, short-story in just 100 words. We can't wait to read the next set of entries that will hopefully be published.