

SAXMUNDHAM

# voice

The newsletter for Saxmundham Free School | *"Providing a foundation for life"*

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SAXMUNDHAM  
FREE SCHOOL

*"Providing a foundation for life"*

School Production 2017  
'A Midsummer Night's Dream'



**SAXMUNDHAM  
FREE SCHOOL**

"Providing a foundation for life"

[www.saxmundhamfreeschool.org.uk](http://www.saxmundhamfreeschool.org.uk)

Saxmundham Free School,  
Seaman Avenue, Saxmundham, IP17 1DZ

Dates for your

**Diary**

Friday 31 March 2017

Enrichment Day / End of Term

Wednesday 19 April 2017

Professional Development Day (Staff)

Thursday 20 April 2017

Students Begin Term

Tuesday 25 April 2017

English Reading Transition Event

Wednesday 26 April 2017

Year 8 Progress Evening

Thursday 27 April 2017

UK Maths Challenge Y7/8

Monday 1 May 2017

May Day Bank Holiday

Thursday 4 - Friday 5 May 2017

DofE Bronze Qualifying Expedition

Thursday 11 May 2017

Year 10 Progress Evening

Monday 15 May 2017

GCSE Exams Start

Tuesday 16 May 2017

Kitchens of the Globe - Malaysia

Monday 29 May - Friday 3 June 2017

Half Term

Monday 5 - Friday 9 June 2017

Year 9 Examinations Week

Monday 12 - Friday 16 June 2017

Year 10 Examinations Week

Monday 21 June 2017

CCF Field Day / Y7 Beach Clean / Y8 Coast Trip

Monday 21 June 2017

Y9 History Memorial Trip

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**voice**



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## Headteacher's Welcome



**Mr Lees**  
**Headteacher**

Welcome to our March edition of the Saxmundham Voice. It has been a wonderful Lent Term so far, with a real sense of purpose and urgency in the school as students in Year 11 enter the final phase of their preparation for their 2017 GCSE examinations that start on Tuesday 16 May.

We have also just held our annual school production, which saw over 30 students from Y7 – Y11 performing 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' to over 400 people over the 4 performances. This was again a great success, but also a fantastic learning opportunity as students embraced the 6Cs to Success and overcame the challenge of the language spoken and became more and more confident as the performances went on. Well done to everyone involved, but particularly to Mrs MacDonald-Fawcett the Director, Mr Day the Assistant Director, Mrs Kirk for performing live music at each performance and to Mr Jones for his Technical Support and Miss Nice for the excellent set.

I am also delighted to share with you that we now have over 77 students joining us in Year 7 next year, over double the number of those that are leaving in Year 11. These students will join us from 20 different primary schools and will take our student numbers to 430+ from September 2017. This is fantastic news and clearly demonstrates that the school is going from strength to strength.

I am delighted to tell you that this edition of the Saxmundham Voice has been written and edited by Scarlett Pastor in Year 9. Scarlett has used her talent in journalism to interview staff, students and parents, as well as to take the photographs! I do hope that you enjoy reading this latest edition of the Voice, as we celebrate student achievements both in and outside of school. It truly is remarkable to see all the opportunities that students get and take full advantage of at Saxmundham Free School.

I look forward to speaking to you further at our regular Parents Open Forum or at our Progress Evenings for Year 8 and 10 that are being held within the next few weeks.

May I take this opportunity to wish you an enjoyable and restful Easter break. Students return to school on Thursday 20 April 2017.

Mr Lees, Headteacher

Twitter – Please remember that you can follow Saxmundham Free School on twitter: @SamundhamFS. Please also check our webpage for regular news and events updates.

### Safeguarding Update:

Should you have any safeguarding concerns, please contact Mrs Swan, Designated Safeguarding Lead, or Mrs Gibson, Assistant Safeguarding Lead on 01728 633910 or for more information, please visit [www.saxmundhamfreeschool.org.uk](http://www.saxmundhamfreeschool.org.uk). Saxmundham Free School's named safeguarding governor is Mrs Pastor.

# STEM

## With BT at Martlesham Heath

On the 14th and 15th of March, Miss Moe took students from Y7 to Y10 on a STEM trip to Martlesham, hosted by BT. These events happen all over the country to help encourage students to take part in STEM (science, technology, engineering and maths) activities and maybe explore careers in the subjects.

The students had the opportunity to test out new gadgets, such as the latest Samsung VR technology. They were also given the task to use Morse code machines and de-code messages that were laid out ready for them. The morning was fun and entertaining, and all students came back bursting with knowledge about STEM.



# Politics Exhibition For Y9



On the first of March, some of Y9 were lucky enough to visit Sam's Cafe in Lowestoft, for a youth politics exhibition to gain knowledge about the country's government and the issues the parties face.

There was a range of campaigns and 'pressure groups' in attendance such as Labour, Lib Dems, Youth Parliament and Amnesty International. 9a were given time to walk around the building and talk to the representatives from each stand about their Party or Pressure Group and the things that they stand for.



All the students came away from the trip with leaflets, posters, badges and other resources from each stand that they went to. Every student said they found the time there, fun, educational, beneficial and everyone gained knowledge about Politics.



# World Book Day

Every year, on the second of March, the world dedicates a whole day to celebrate one of the most amazing things on the planet - books. Students at Saxmundham Free School were invited to come to school dressed as an age-appropriate book character to celebrate the art of reading. As well as a costume, the students brought in a second hand book to donate to the ever-growing school library. With costumes from books of all genres, everyone looked amazing, and it was so nice to see the school community come together to celebrate something so great!



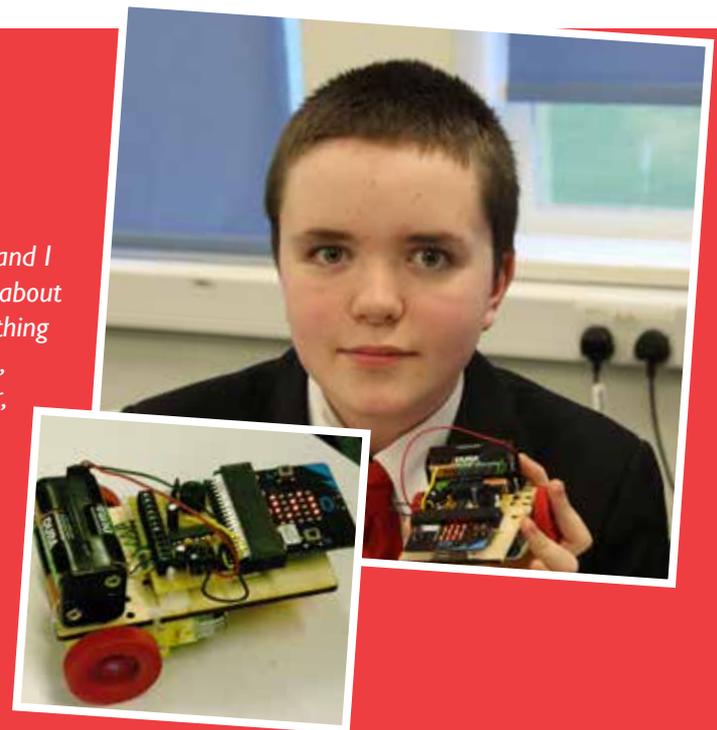


# School Production 2017

Every year, the school's extremely talented students work really hard towards putting on a production. This year it was William Shakespeare's 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'. To do something as big and as challenging as Shakespeare was a first for Mrs Macdonald-Fawcett and her all-star cast, but they managed to pull off an outstanding performance of one of the playwright's most famous pieces. Well done to all the students who took part.

## How I Coded the Chickbot By Roan

Who knew code could create a masterpiece? I'm Roan Hemmings and I will share my story to the world! (Or if you were being serious then about 400 students of Y7-11s). It all began one day when I heard of this thing called a Chickbot which could move around like remote control cars, except it was 600 times slower than the average remote control car, but I digress. Then I came up with a fantastic idea! I would take on the challenge of coding for the Chickbot which wasn't that hard until I learnt the truth... I had only completed the coding for the movement registration and then to make things worse I lost the code so I had start all over again! When I finished my masterpiece, Mr Bradley and Mr Spicer were very impressed. I would like to thank Mr Bradley, Mr Spicer and my friends. I really enjoy life at Saxmundham Free School and already have 5 hero badges.



## Y11 Leavers Timeline

- GCSE Examinations** start on Tuesday 16 May 2017
- GCSE Examinations finish** on Monday 26 June 2017
- Y11 Leavers Assembly** on Monday 26 June 2017 at 2pm in Daley
- Y11 Leavers Ball** on Friday 30 June 2017
- Y11 Results Day** on Thursday 24 August 2017 9am – 12pm
- Y11 Celebration and Prize giving evening** – Friday 15 September 2017



# Bradley's Trip to Twickenham

As you may or may not know, three Y8 boys got the opportunity to design the school's very own rugby kit to be worn during games. A few months later, the school was given the news that one of the students that helped create the kit was invited to Twickenham to sing the National Anthem in their designer kit on the pitch at the England v Italy game. The names of the boys - Malin Kono, Bradley Pinion and Alex Gittens - were put in a hat and picked out at random. Bradley was lucky enough to have his name selected and be taken to Twickenham by Mr Lees and Mr Baillie on the 26th February.



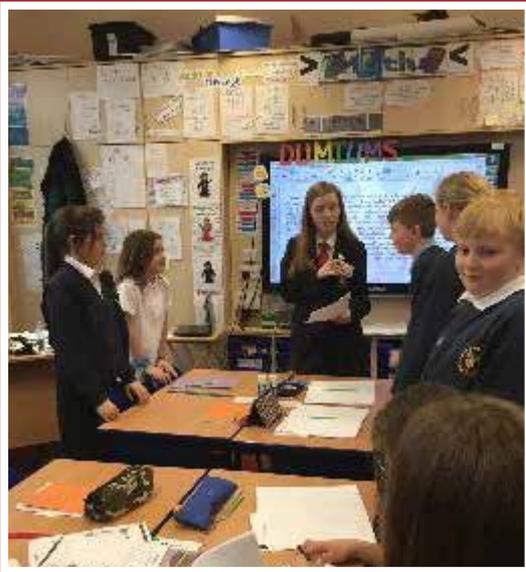
Once he arrived at the stadium, Bradley had the opportunity to meet the rugby player Billy Vunipola and get his picture taken representing our school. After, he got to sing along with the National Anthem before the match started- an amazing opportunity for Bradley. Well done for doing an excellent job at representing our school



# Interhouse Competition

As a part of the inter-house activities that take place weekly at school, every year Mr Renwick hosts a badminton doubles tournament for both students and staff from each sports house (Wembley, Wimbledon, Lords and Twickenham) to take part in. Every lunch time for around two weeks, the partners play each other until only two pairs are remaining. Congratulations to Dale Pearse and Mr Battle who were this year's winners and a further congratulation for having won the tournament for three years running!

# Language Enrichment Visit Kelsale Primary



Language Leaders- one of the great enrichment choices for Wednesday afternoons- have been visiting Kelsale primary school to help encourage the learning of basic French vocabulary and numbers at an early age. Students from a range of different years went to the school with props and worksheets to make the activities more fun for years two, three, four, five and six.

Teagan, a year four student at Kelsale, told me that she liked to learn French because of Wednesday afternoons. It's a great thing to see that students of different ages are enjoying being taught, and teaching French. A big well done for the Saxmundham students who did a superb job at being teachers: Jessica Wood, Florey Bone, Ethan Reade, Pollyanna Smith, Abbie Barker, Cameron Halfman, Lauren Child, Sophie Appleton and Jack Heffer.



## Holocaust Survivors talk to Y9

On Friday the 16th of December, Y9 had the privilege to hear a holocaust survivor tell them her story of WWII. Joan Salter came into school to tell year nine (who were studying the Holocaust) the story of how she escaped the clutches of Nazi invaded Poland and was shipped across to America to live safely with a new family.

She was an inspirational, brave woman who Y9 were lucky enough to meet. As well as a live talk, 9a had an opportunity to watch a livestream that happened on the 27th January. Mala Tribich gave a livestream from a school in London that people from all over the world could watch. She also told her story of how she lost her family during her fight to be free. Her story was heart-breaking, but incredibly inspiring for 9a to hear.

# Park Run For Comic Relief



# COMIC RELIEF

On Friday the 17th of March, all students part in a charity run to raise money and awareness for Comic Relief. They were allowed the opportunity to run around the field in fancy dress, competitively, or as a three-legged race with a partner after a donation of 50p or more. It was an afternoon of fun and we are proud to say we have raised over £280 for such an amazing Charity.

## Sports Fixtures

For our budding sportsmen and women, a new year brings a new season and new fixtures to participate in. Recently, Saxmundham have taken part and hosted many sports matches for Y8, Y9 and Y10, of which many have resulted in success for our school.



The Y8 boys have drawn 3-3 and 1-1 away to St Felix and Hartismere, but did beat Stradbroke High School at rugby. The Y9 and Y10 football team have had questionable success during the first half of the season, but have won their two most recent fixtures against Saint Felix (3-2) and Alde Valley (2-1). Congratulations to the Y9 boys who also beat Alde Valley at rugby! For the first time ever, Y7, Y8, Y9 and Y10 took part in a girl's rugby tournament at Ipswich rugby club and finished in third position after playing against schools like Debenham and Hartismere. Well done in all of your sporting success!