

SAXMUNDHAM

# voice

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

> December 2018 Edition

> Lille Trip

> House of Lords

> Student Success

> Sporting Success

> Kidzania



SAXMUNDHAM  
FREE SCHOOL



**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**

Wednesday 2 January 2019

Lent Term Starts

Wednesday 2 January 2019

Staff Professional Development Day

Thursday 3 January 2010

Students Return to School

Thursday 10 January 2019

Y9 Progress Evening 4.15 - 6.15pm

Tuesday 29 January 2019

Parents Open Forum (9.30 - 10.30am)

Tuesday 29 January 2019

Kitchens of the Globe

Tuesday 29 January 2019

Harry Potter Book Night for Y4, 5 and 6  
students - 4.15 - 5.30pm

Tuesday 12 February 2019

Transition Afternoon - Science - Y4 and 5  
students - 4.15 - 5.30pm

Monday 18 - Friday 22 February 2019

Half Term

## Safeguarding Update:

Should you have any safeguarding concerns, please contact Miss Marsden, Designated Safeguarding Lead, Miss Howes, Assistant Safeguarding Lead (Upper School) or Ms Coles, Assistant Designated Safeguarding Lead (Lower School) on 01728 633910 or for more information, please visit [www.saxmundhamfreeschool.org.uk](http://www.saxmundhamfreeschool.org.uk). Saxmundham Free School's named Local Advisory Body Member is Mrs Chenery-Morris.

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## Headteacher's Welcome

It has been another busy term at Saxmundham Free School. I am delighted that the Y7 students have all settled so well and have thrown themselves in to their learning with such enthusiasm.

Y11 have completed their first set of Mocks in preparation for their GCSEs in May and their continued hard work and dedication to achieving their best will stand them in good stead for the Summer exams. Please help students to maintain their momentum by encouraging them to revise over the Christmas break.

It has been a fantastic start to the year with lots of exciting trips and enrichment activities. I would like to take this opportunity to thank my staff for always delivering such varied and exciting opportunities for the students to enhance their learning. For me, the Christmas season always starts with our Christingle Service at St John's Church in Saxmundham. This is a delightful service which showcases some of the wonderful musical talent we have in the School. It was a pleasure to welcome so many parents / carers and members of the community to this event and I would like to thank the Revd Andy Walton for allowing us to hold the service in his beautiful church.

A huge thank you to the Friends of Saxmundham Free School for their continued support and for organising our festive Christmas Fayre and School Disco. I would like to wish all our students, staff, parents / carers, LAB members, Trustees and members of the local community a happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

Mr Lees, Headteacher



**Mr Lees**  
**Headteacher**

To keep up to date with the latest news and events from the school, please remember that you can follow Saxmundham Free School on twitter:  
**@SaxmundhamFS.**

Please also check our webpage for regular updates, and our Facebook page, just search for Saxmundham Free School on Facebook.

# Christingle Service



# Lille Christmas Market Trip

On 5 December students in Years 9 to 11 had the chance to visit the Christmas Market in Lille, France. This was an excellent opportunity to experience French culture and to practice speaking French. Students visited the Christmas Market where they were able to buy gifts for Christmas, including traditional French Christmas confectionery such as chocolat guimauve as well as sample local delicacies such as waffles, crepes and raclette. Students could also take the opportunity to soar about the rooftops of Lille on the big wheel erected in the main square. There was also a chance for students to visit a large French department store as well as traditional French shops including the oldest patisserie in France and one of the top three best chocolate shops in Europe.



# House of Lords

On Friday 16 November 15 girls from Year 10 had a chance to visit the House of Lords and conduct a debate about barriers they face.

It was a very long day, starting off at 6am and not returning back until 9pm. The day at the House of Lords started with plenty of photos in the only room where you could have photos, alongside a Lego Suffragette and free t-shirts. After this, we were given a tour of the historic building, shown the statue Queen Victoria was embarrassed of, the paintings of Henry VIII and his six wives and his children. The girls were informed of how the normal day in the House of Lords were run.



One of the best parts about the day were the conversations with inspirational women. The women stand as good role models in education, medicine and politics including the inspirational Doreen Lawrence. The girls came away feeling inspired and were reminded of how their attitude and their own actions can help them side step any barriers that may face them. With that added inspiration, and with a full stomach after lunch, the girls made their speech. Natasha Brando-Esteves, Alice Cosgrove, Florence Maynard, Molly Bennett and Emi Allsopp all had important roles in the debate prepared and did the School proud. Florence in particular had to change her speech minutes before she was to enter the debate and rose to the challenge in speaking in front of cameras and hundreds of other students. Naledi Mkontwana also took her chance to add her thoughts with an unprepared comment to link to the role of education in schools.

The other girls were also supportive in helping these students battle nerves, Emma Spicer, Nastya Vakhrusheva, Abigail Rowdon, Abigail Cairns, Jessica Girling, Jessica Wood, Mary Watts and Etholle Dunachie. It was a brilliant day and I hope the girls left with a feeling that they have the power to lead their lives!

## Student Report

### Kidzania

‘A great day out at Kidzania - London’  
‘I enjoyed doing the activities’

‘A wonderful experience’  
‘Having freedom and fun’

That was the feedback from many of the students that had the opportunity to visit Kidzania recently.

48 excited students, and staff, boarded the coach early one Thursday morning in November en route to London to have the opportunity to take part in ‘Learning through doing’ at Kidzania’s indoor city. Students were able to take part in exciting real-life activities for example: courier service, fashion, window cleaning, radio and TV presenting, fire fighting and even being able to gain a university degree. These activities also helped to inspire the development of important skills such as: entrepreneurship, problem solving, team work and budgeting.

A long but successful day and we were very proud of all of our students.

Mrs Macdonald-Fawcett, Ms Gilardi, Mrs Page and Mrs Costello

## Student Focus - Isabella Rodrigues

Isabella recently performed  
in the Jubilee Opera  
production, The Happy  
Prince. Well done Isabella.

## Music Trip to Aldeburgh

Our SFS students (a mix of years 8-11) visited Benjamin Britten's 'Red House' in Aldeburgh; learning about the seasonal music and poetry of Britten, Copland, Hardy and Dickenson. What a joy and a privilege to hear performances from singer Marta Fontanals and pianist Lana Bode and to discuss these pieces with them...



## Trip to the Opera

Sixteen students with from Years 7-11 with a passion for music went to Snape Maltings on Friday 30 November. We'd been invited to be the very first to hear a new opera written especially for young people, called 'Unquiet'. After the incredible, powerful and moving performance students gave their feedback to composer John Barber and director Hazel Gould. We also had the chance to ask questions of the singers - including to Victoria Simmonds, who sings at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden. What surprised us the most? How quickly the singers had to learn their roles - only a few weeks! - and that Lucy Knight can sing a top F - the one 3 leger lines above the staff. It was an absolute pleasure and a privilege to get the chance to take part in this afternoon at Snape Maltings, one of the best arts venues in the whole country.

## Student Focus- Stevie Chenery

Stevie Chenery and others performed in the 2018 High Tide Festival as part of their Youth Theatre Connect group.

HighTide is a "theatre company and charity based in East Anglia that has an unparalleled 11 year history of successfully launching the careers of emerging British playwrights", and boasts alumni such as grandson of the Second Doctor and Harry Potter film actor Harry Melling. It was the result of months of hard work for their whole group.

Alongside this, Stevie has filmed for a World War One documentary film which could result in her own acting credit on IMDB – Well done Stevie!

## Top 5 Tips

1. You want to always bring a notebook into school with you. Sometimes you need to write notes your teacher has told you to do. If you've finished everything in that lesson and you can't do anything else you can sometimes doodle but ask a teacher first. You can also do your homework in it.

2. On the first day you want to bring a pen, a pencil, a ruler, a calculator and a protractor. The main things are a pen, a pencil and a ruler but the other stuff is helpful too.

3. On the first week if you get lost in school or you don't know where you're going there is normally a teacher around, if not you can ask an older student or the office. Don't worry if you're late because you got

lost in the first week as the teachers know you might not know where you're going. If you're late to class but you know where you're going, you'll get a late mark.

4. If you're in anyway misbehaving you will get a red card, if you get three you'll get a BI. A BI is when you stay in for lunch for 15 minutes and write or talk about what you did wrong but most importantly, understand. I recommend not getting any red cards or BIs.

5. If you have any problems whether they're at school or home you can go to pastoral support. It is downstairs right next to where you go out for break and lunch. Don't be worried they will listen to you if you've done something wrong or something has happened to you. Pastoral is the perfect place to go if you're getting bullied, they'll sort it out as quick as possible.

**Freddie Turpin (Year 7)**

# Y9 Coasters and Paperweights

Year 9 pupils have been introduced to the new Design and Technology syllabus, and this term they have studied the 'plastic' module.

A combination of theoretical and practical lessons have developed their knowledge and understanding of where crude oil comes from, how plastic is produced, what products can be manufactured from plastic and where plastic is disposed of.

Pupils have had the opportunity to put theory into practice and work with epoxy resin. Pupils selected a variety of different materials and media, to create exciting coasters and paperweights.



## Student Focus - Lydia Comber

During the half term holiday, Lydia completed all specialty missions and is now a PADI Master Seal. She has worked her way up from being a PADI Seal team member to Master Seal by carrying out and being able to show mastery of the necessary skills.

She has had to complete various modules, both the theory and practice, such as, inner space specialist, navigation specialist, wreck specialist and search and recovery specialist.

Lydia's first scuba dive was on 24 September 2017 and she has shown great commitment, attending monthly sessions at Diveline in Ipswich. Well done Lydia!



## British Schools Judo Qualifier

On Sunday 21 October, Phoebe Ling, Annabelle Dye, Hannah Lumb and Charlotte Owen represented Saxmundham Free School at the British Schools Judo Area qualifier in Littleport Cambridgeshire.

They acquitted themselves really well and were a credit to the School. This being the first competitive tournament for most of them, Hannah was awarded gold, Pheobe and Annabelle silver with Charlotte a bronze. This is an outstanding achievement considering only being at Saxmundham Judo Club for one year; they have stuck at it and really enjoy their competitive friendship, unfortunately Lilijana Ruffles couldn't make it on the day but is also part of this girls power team!



# Student Focus - Fred “Flying Fox” McMullan

I am an 11yr old boy with a passion for motorcycles and everything to do with them.

I currently race in the standard class of minigp 140 within British mini bikes. I started riding motorcycles when I was 6yrs old at the local motorcross track on a 40cc automatic which I broke the forks on after attempting a jump!

When I was old enough, at the age of 9yrs I started riding in minigpuk on a manual 140cc motorcycle, but I was lacking racecraft which Dad could not teach me as he had not raced.

I had then had some training from Racecraft rider development, and it all then started to come together and I got 2nd in my class for the winter series 2017/2018.

Since then I have had more training from Charlie and the improvement carries on. Even though during the summer series I didn't have a podium higher than 3rd I have had some very good battles with other riders, where on many occasions there has only been 0.03 sec between three of us.

I ended the summer series 2018 4th in class despite missing 3 rounds. I get a lot of coverage on race day on the live feed on Facebook and on YouTube.

I am looking at getting his ACU next March so I'm able to start riding in the Superteens on an Aprilia 125 that Grandad has just bought me.

I want to be a professional motorcycle rider when I'm older, but failing that I want to train as a motorbike mechanic so I'm still able to stay within the biking environment.



## Year 10 Boys Rugby



On Thursday 29 November, the Year 10 Boys Rugby Team attended a Tournament at Yarmouth Rugby Club. They were placed in a pool with some hard competitors. Their first match against Pakefield High School saw some excellent play from Saxmundham, with the team dominating the attack to win 18-10. Their second match, against Bungay High School proved harder still, with victory taken in the last play, with Bungay beating Saxmundham by one try. Their final match against Alde Valley Academy proved the team's resilience to keep pushing and win the game 12-5. Captain Finley Stack motivated the team continuously, with some fantastic play from all including Malo Main-Vincent and Bradley Pinion.

# Netball

## Year 9 and 10

On Thursday 1 November, the Year 9 and 10 Girls Netball Team travelled to Bungay High School. Both teams played well with the year 10's showing their motivation to keep pushing as they played a hard game that included GCSE students from Bungay. Fantastic play from Millie Perkins and Nastya Vakhrusheva. The Year 9 team had a very close game against Bungay. The fantastic defending from Ciara Ward and Isabella Rodrigues kept Bungay from scoring several times, and kept the team motivated to keep pushing until the final whistle. Brilliant play from all.



## Year 8

On Monday 29 October, the Year 8 Netball Team played their first home game against Alde Valley Academy. It proved to be a wet game, with weather conditions contributing to an already tough game. The team showed their resilience however, as they kept each other motivated until the end. Some fantastic play in defence, particularly from Darcie Mudd and Abby Swain, kept their spirits high in some very heavy rain. Wonderful play from all the girls.

# Sports Leaders

This term, the Year 9 and 10 Sports Leaders have been working towards achieving their Level 1 in Sports Leadership. They have been studying the skills and behaviours needed for effective leadership and demonstrating these through leading sessions, which they themselves have planned, for the younger year groups. They have lead sessions for many sports including netball, rugby and basketball.

It has been fantastic to watch the Sport Leaders take on these different leadership roles and also interesting to see the younger pupils' progress under the Leaders Guidance. It is a new and exciting opportunity for all involved; for the Year 9 and 10's to receive a highly regarded qualification and for the Year 7 and 8's to see what they themselves could achieve in a couple of years' time.



## Contact us...

We welcome your feedback, news and comments.

Email us: [enquiries@saxmundhamfreeschool.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@saxmundhamfreeschool.org.uk)



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