

---

---

# SIXTH FORM NEWS

---

---

Volume 1, Issue 1

---

---

## Auschwitz

'Lessons from Auschwitz' is a programme established by the Holocaust Educational Trust, it gives two students from each school participating the opportunity to be a part of their programme. The programme consists of two seminars and a trip to Poland to visit Auschwitz. The first seminar is where you meet your Educator and your group; it is where discussions can be made about opinions and views on the Holocaust. We were fortunate enough to also be able to meet and talk to a Holocaust survivor, Steve Frank and listen to what it was like for him as a 10 year old to live in Auschwitz and be one of 73 children to survive. Steve Frank mentioned something that hit many of the students, **'Each day the amount of children were getting less and less until you could count them all on your hands.'**

The visit to Auschwitz 1 and Auschwitz-Birkenau gave all the students the opportunity to be present in the grounds where it all occurred. This gave a real life perspective on what the people went through. As we approached the end of Auschwitz-Birkenau the guides left us in a room where thousands of photographs hung on walls (as pictured); photos of which were brought by the people as keepsakes of themselves and their families. These photos were a way of showing the human side to these victims rather than a number on a graph, on a map, in a textbook, on a shelf, left to gather dust.

Many years later, a poem was found within the soil of Auschwitz-Birkenau from one of the Nazi Guard, to which read 'I only had one job, it had to be fulfilled.' Later on, investigators also discovered many letters and poems also from the Jews who wrote in hopes they will be found and read one day.

Any thoughts people have about Auschwitz are completely different to the reality of it. When you first step into Auschwitz you know immediately what you thought to expect was wrong. No one could imagine what it could be like and the scenery surrounding the camp explains it all; eerie and inhibited.

Being open minded helped when processing all of the information we were being told throughout the day. We knew very little about the Holocaust and we wanted to hear as much as possible in the little time we were there. But it turned out the words were not what affected us the most, it was what we saw. The thoughts we had before walking into Auschwitz were gone and by the time we left we felt nothing but shell shocked.

Rabbi Garson spoke to everyone at the end of the day and he couldn't have been more inspirational. He spoke about three words; fear, hunger and evil. Do we really understand what those words mean because for the Jews they learnt a new definition? The fear that we feel is nothing compared to the fear they felt, the idea of starving to us doesn't come close to what they were going through and our view of evil doesn't equate to the true evil that they experienced. Realisation hit at that point that not only were they tortured and killed but they were in-humanised.

The atmosphere travelling back was the complete reverse of travelling there. Small conversations were heard between new friends all processing the day and sharing their thoughts. The groups went from chatty and humorous to quiet and sensible; no one could immediately process what they had seen and to be honest nobody really wanted to believe it.

Written by: Georgina Mitchell and Lauren Best



# Revision tips

‘How to never revise again.’

Hard to believe, that you could ever ‘never revise again.’ Exactly how I felt when I received the email informing me of a London session titled with this empty promise. Nonetheless, I attended with a doubtful mind and was surprised (to say the least) about the outcome.

Most –if not all- of us have already acknowledged the strain upon our memories that exams place. The question nobody asks; why don’t we play this to our advantage? Simple memory techniques do wonders for recalling exam information, no matter what the topic. All this leaves to you is to nail your essay application.

This all sounds great, but HOW? I hear you cry. Well, I won’t reveal everything to you now, but what I will say is that a good memory occurs when an emotion is linked to a piece of information. –the easiest to use here is humour. In addition to this, you may have been told you are a ‘visual’, ‘kinaesthetic’, ‘verbal’ or ‘audial’ learner. Forget that. The best way to memorise: use all 5 senses to maximise your chances. I promise you it works –guaranteed, and I can demonstrate how to you.

I will be holding a session on how to ‘never revise again’ using these techniques, but also more interesting and interactive ones. Details are to follow.

Written By: Jess Bonfield



## Sixth Form Newspaper

If you would like to be a part of the newspaper team or have something you would like to be put in the newspaper, please contact:

Louise McLatchie  
10McLatchieL@North.Kent.Sch.Uk

## Debate Club

Every Wednesday in AG3 at 3pm – 4pm

For more information please contact:

Lizzy Brereton  
10BreretonE@North.Kent.Sch.Uk

## Reading and Creative Writing Club

To be held in the library every Monday lunch time.

We have a variety of books for the Y7-8s to read and write reviews on plus develop their creative writing skills and would love some Y12s to join us so they can carry on the club next year.

This club is suited to English Literature students but anyone interested is welcome to join.

## Calendar events

END OF TERM 2

TUESDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER

CHRISTMAS SHOEBOX COLLECTION DATES

ALL DONATIONS TO BE MADE BY TUESDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER

For more information please speak to Grace Diddams or Benn Hirst.

10DiddamsG@North.kent.sch.uk

10HirstB@North.kent.sch.uk

## Message from Mrs Matthews

I am delighted to be writing my first message for the sixth form newsletter. It has been a busy first term and a half and I hope you are all feeling settled into your courses and suitably challenged to stretch yourself to meet or even exceed your targets.

At this point in the term you should all be discussing your targets with your teachers and ensuring you understand what is required of you to close the gap between your term 1 predicted grade and your target grade. In addition to this, you should all be preparing for your mock exams which will commence after Christmas. Timetables will be published shortly.

I would also like to congratulate those students who have sent their UCAS applications and are now receiving their offers. For those of you yet to complete yours, HURRY UP!!

This time of the academic year is difficult and many of you will be feeling like you are struggling to keep your head above water – this is normal! Please remember that all of the sixth form team, including your tutors, are here to support you so come and speak to us if you need to.

Well done on a really positive start to the year, I am proud to be your Head of Sixth Form.

Mrs Matthews.

## Miss Anonymous

Are you in need to talk to someone?

If you feel like you need to speak to a peer about anything from exam stress to friendships struggles, please contact Miss Anonymous at any time to get friendly advice.

To contact, please email:  
SixthFormAnonymous@Gmail.com



## CHRISTMAS SHOEBOXES

This Christmas we are looking to donate items for shoeboxes which will be sent to children in Africa as a Christmas surprise. These children cannot afford the things you can provide for them so all donations will be cherished!



Please only donate non-perishable items such as; pens, books, rubbers, hair ties and much more.

## POLITICS

### LET'S TALK ABOUT TRUMP.

So, Trump won, what happens next? A business man and reality-TV star has become the next President of the “free world” with absolutely no experience in politics yet the American people have put their faith into him, their faith into an orange Wotsit with fake hair and real legs (at least something is real about him). Jokes aside Donald J Trump is to lead a new era in American history with a country that has never been so divided (bar the civil war and racism). The question is will his charisma and crazy ideas actually lead America to a better world? Since he has become President-elect there has been a swarm of reports of violence towards ethnic minorities and LGBT people, so by saying he is going to “make America great again” he means that division and violence is the way forward, we will have to wait and see. His non-responsive attitude to this violence seems to be a stand-point of his presidency along with his negative attitudes to anyone that isn't a WHITE, STRAIGHT MALE. The riots of Hillary supporters show that America does have a vision for the future with 18-25 year old votes only giving Trump 32 seats compared to Hillary's 473, reflecting that a time for change in America may not occur until a few years down the line. (America has clearly learnt a thing or two from Brexit) - The moment you think they can't win is the moment they do.

As much as we may all agree with Grace, we should try to see the positive outcomes of this election (if there are any). He said he was going to get rid of Obamacare however, he's basically reinstated it and just changed the name which is unconfirmed at the moment (our guesses are Trumpcare, because he's so original).



This is about the only semi-positive thing that we can say about Trump, his other obscure promises include: building a wall to stop illegal immigrants from coming into ‘his swamp’, he plans on doing this by forcing Mexico to pay for the wall itself... Trump also spoke out against Planned Parenthood but Obama in amazing ways has signed important papers protecting it from complete defunding. It is clear that Trump can't carry out all the things he has promised however, we hope that he will focus on the more positive ones. We have to consider, if we as British people are this angry about Trumps presidency, then maybe we should have more sympathy towards those in America.

Written by: Nikita Mistry and Grace Diddams

## MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD BOY AND HEAD GIRL

Hello!

This section will be where members of the prefect team as well as the Head and Deputy Head Boy and Girl will provide information on our plans and any upcoming events organised by us. With this we also intend to be brief as well as conveying the relevant information to you, the Sixth Formers. At least once every week the members of the student leadership team meet to share ideas and establish plans to be carried out through the following week(s). These can include organising charity events to planning trips for the sixth form. Whatever it is we discuss we return a summary to the relevant people, be it teachers, members of the Senior Leadership Team or students.

So with that established, here is what the student leadership team has been getting up to so far:

- We have previously been getting involved with setting up a bake sale for MacMillan cancer support, as well as the Royal British Legion poppy sales and more recently the Children in Need fundraising. We have had support from staff regarding these events, but we wish to go further and do more for charities that are of significance to the students and staff. In the future we will inform everyone of when the next event takes place and what it is for. Before we do that though, we would like to know which charities you, the students, would be willing to support. In addition, we would also greatly appreciate help from people who are not members of the student leadership team – these events are important and unfortunately not all of the prefects are available all the time.

-Establishment of lunch and break time duties. This may not seem significant to many, but it is something we recommend as many sixth formers as possible would be willing to get involved with. This duty is also rather easy, involving you patrolling an area of the school during the break or lunchtime periods at least once a week to help support the staff already out there. Members of the student leadership team are already partaking, and we recommend you do to! It will also look good on your CV as well.

-This next bit is really only relevant to the current Year 13s, regarding the Sixth Form leavers event. I am sure by now many of you would have heard rumours floating around about a leaver's prom or a trip to a theme-park.

While the SLT does have a say in a lot of things, we are too few to decide for the whole of Year 13 what we will do at the end of the year. As such, members of the prefect team will go around during lunches and study periods asking you what you would like to do. Once we have compiled a list we will set up a poster with the best two – four ideas for you to vote for.

While on the subject of a leaver's event, we are also thinking about getting a year book and a 2016/17 leaver's hoodie for the Year 13s, as an option for students to purchase at the end of the year. Please let us know what you think of these ideas, as we want to have this idea set into action by the end of term two.

There are more activities we have planned and ideas floating around, but by now I have taken up a lot of space in this paper, so I will finish with this - We are here for the students benefit, and so we ask that if you have any issues or ideas you wish to discuss, please speak to a prefect or one of the Heads/Deputy Heads. These will be brought up in our sessions and we can work with the staff to see about resolving or implementing your ideas.

Kind regards,

Student Leadership Team



Head Boy  
Brett Wade



Head Girl  
Emilie Hagan

## Survey

1. Did you like what you read in this newsletter?
2. Is there anything else that you think is important and should be in the newsletter?
3. Any suggestions for future articles?
4. What would you like to see?
5. What would you like to name the newspaper?

Feel free to fill this out and email it to [10mclatchiel@north.kent.sch.uk](mailto:10mclatchiel@north.kent.sch.uk) or hand it in to Louise Mclatchie.

Thank you 😊