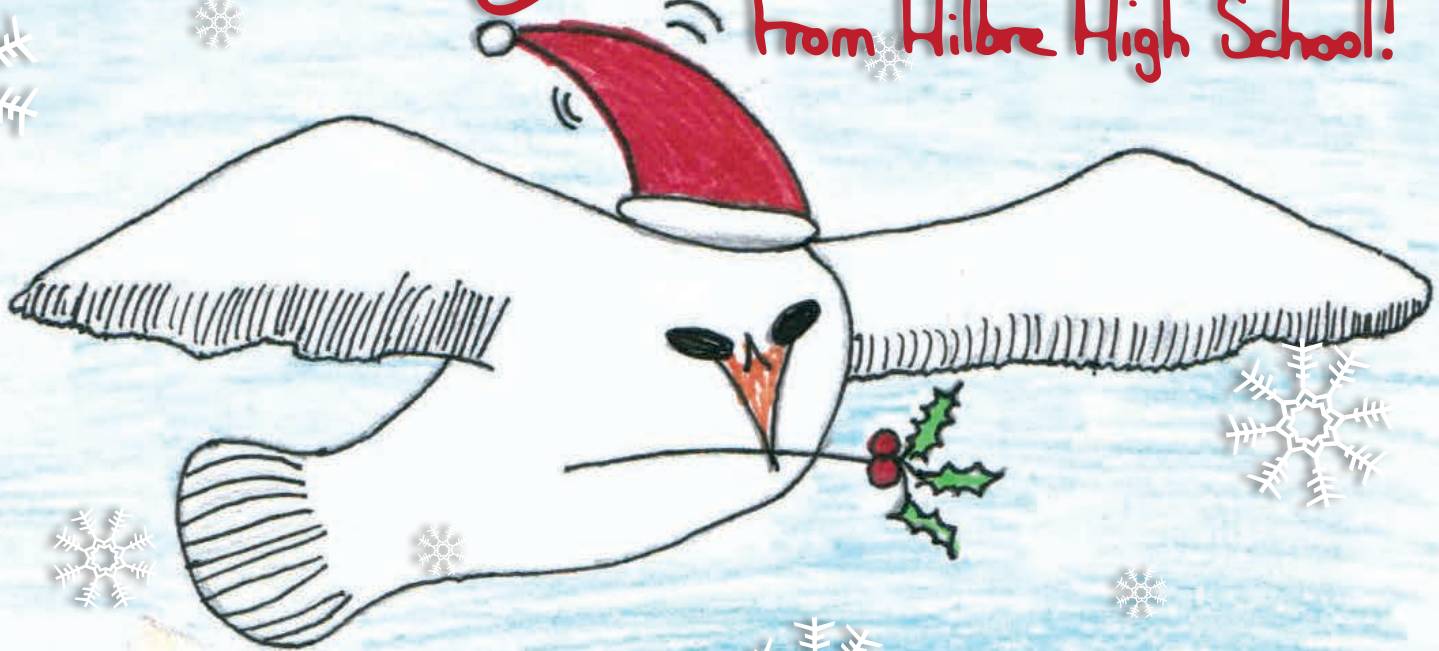




# Hilbre Endeavour

Merry Christmas!  
From Hilbre High School!



Christmas 2016 Edition

W.F.

Welcome to the Christmas edition of the Hilbre Endeavour. Ever busy and ever looking to make our school even better, we have not stopped-still as we have raced through this first period of the academic year.

Of course, our autumn term began following our positive OFSTED report from June, a stunning set of Post 16 examination results and some good departmental performances at GCSE and BTEC. Our aim now is to see uniformity in excellent performance throughout the curriculum and to ensure all processes are in-place and robust, so our students make the best progress.

I believe strongly in ensuring students are rewarded for their efforts and hard work. In November, our annual Prize Giving ceremony at the Floral Pavilion was a real delight, with show stopping performances produced by our Music, Dance and Drama Departments.

Hilbre has recently received an award for the quality of our careers service. This award is the highest accolade a school can receive in this area and was awarded to us for excellence in careers education, information, advice, guidance, work related learning and enterprise. Thank you to Mr Fran Trought for leading this aspect of work.

In our drive to provide the best education for our students, we are developing a new curriculum model and staffing structure to allow students longer to study for GCSE subjects and introduce a foundation year for some learners in the Sixth Form. We have a new assessment and monitoring system within school, resulting in a much more consistent use and analysis of data. There is a completely new school website which has now been launched. We have a new programme of academic tutoring for our Year 11 students, with plans to roll this out across all other year groups and our SEND team has worked extensively to ensure that as many students

as possible have the most suitable access arrangements in place for the next round of examinations. We are also the new home for Wirral's Home Tuition Service and continue to develop the quality of our training for colleagues, including the implementation of the 'Outstanding Teachers Initiative'.

Our students this year have been involved in lots of exciting extra-curricular enrichment opportunities. Students have been to Iceland, Christmas Markets, Big-Bang fairs, university lectures, criminology conferences, maths challenges and First World War exhibitions to name but a few. They have also been involved in lots of charity fund-raising events and took part in our very own service of Remembrance, which you can read about in this magazine.

After 22 years at Hilbre, we say goodbye to Mr Alan Fyfe, Head of Art. Alan has been a major part of the evolution of Hilbre over the years and has led the Art Department well over this period. We all wish him a very well deserved and happy retirement. I would like to thank all the staff at Hilbre for their commitment, dedication and hard work and for everything they do to benefit our students. The land of education is a tough place at the moment with curriculum changes, assessment change and financial pressures; their resilience, flexibility and team spirit is greatly appreciated.

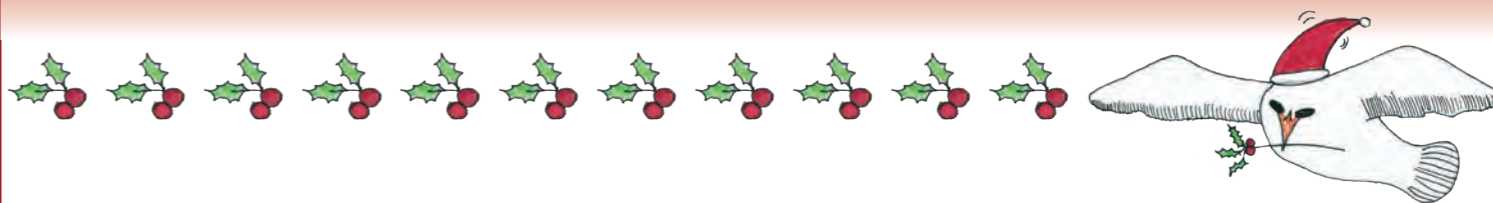
Sadly, I must conclude by mentioning the passing of our former colleague Julie Turner. She was a pleasure to work with and is greatly missed but her spirit lives on at Hilbre.

Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year.

Mr Mark Bellamy, B.Sc.(Hons)  
Headteacher



Congratulations to Will Fennah for his stunning front cover design.



# Shoebboxes Full of Love!

As part of the Resource Provision's lessons on Homelessness, we took part in the Shoebox full of Love appeal this year. In addition to investigating how people become homeless we also talked about how we could help people who are homeless and decided that we would like to help.

The community-led shoebox appeal to help veterans, homeless and vulnerable men, women and children across Liverpool during the run up to Christmas is returning for its 3rd year! The Shoebox Full of Love campaign quickly grew in 2014 when appeals were made via social

media for donations of gift wrapped boxes filled with necessities. Over 2000 people have been helped through the initiative and this year looks set to break that record with over 4000 shoeboxes already collected and many more to be collected and distributed.

We filled several shoeboxes with kind donations from pupils, staff and their families and even filled a shoebox for a dog! We dropped them off at a collection point in West Kirby where they would be taken to a distribution centre in Liverpool to eventually be given out to homeless and vulnerable people in Merseyside. In the picture below are some of the pupils from the Resource Provision with the shoeboxes we had filled.

Mrs Brindle



## Meet our Guide Dog Loki

With funds raised through our Student Council, we are now the proud sponsors of this perfect puppy! She is a female Golden Retriever and Labrador cross and her birthday is 18th October 2016.



# HILBRE REMEMBERS

**I was honoured to arrange this year's Remembrance Service. Just before 11.00 am cadets, staff and students met in the Quadrant to take part in the service and over lunchtime cadets held a private service, at the front of school where the wreaths will remain until next year.**

I found it a very humbling experience watching our young cadets in their uniforms, standing to attention, honouring those service men and women who have fallen in war. The service was a sombre occasion pierced with the lament of the Last Post and Reveille played by our talented Adam Rice.

**Sandra Phelan**  
Library Manager

**I was very honoured and proud to take part in this year's Remembrance Service. It was very respectful of staff at school to arrange the event. Coming into school in my Army Cadet uniform was very special to me and made me feel important.**

The service was a very thoughtful and sad occasion but I felt honoured being part of it. Adam playing the Last Post at the beginning and the Reveille, at the end of the silence, was very emotional, and I felt very proud when the wreaths were being laid.

I think it is very important that people continue to recognise Remembrance Day as it is a way to remember those people who served in the Forces, and gave up their lives to save our country, so that we could live in peace. We also need to remember those who are still serving today and those who have lost their lives or been affected by war.

**Elisha Parker**  
Army Cadet  
Year 9



*The sun sets as the Last Post is played.*

*Army, Air and Sea cadets stand still in honour and remembrance of the lives that were lost in the dreadful wars, that claimed so many lives.*

*Then silence as the cadets recite the Exhortation:*

*They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old,*

*Age shall not weary them nor the years condemn.*

*At the going down of the sun, and in the morning,*

*We will remember them.*

*We will remember them.*

*Two Army cadets march forward like the soldiers of the Somme.*

*Placing wreaths down before returning safely, unlike so many others.*

*Then once again silence . . . . .*

**Charlie Beaver**  
Army Cadet  
Year 9

**It was an absolute honour to take part in the service. It had a great impact on the army, air and sea cadets and showed how Hilbre remembers.**

It is very important that we continue to remember those servicemen and women who worked so hard and fought for their country, not only those from the World Wars but from more modern conflicts. We must remember.

**Hugo Owen**  
Army Cadet  
Year 9

Being part of the service meant a lot to me as it is very important to remember those who gave their lives for our country to keep us safe and let us enjoy our lives.

**Ryan Donnelly**  
Sea Cadet  
Year 7



# SOUTH AFRICA: OCTOBER 2016

In October this year, I was fortunate enough to be part of a group of three Year 13 Hilbre students (Meg Pandit, Jaz Farnworth and myself, Ashleigh Lawrence) to visit South Africa. We were sponsored by HQ Coaching to visit many different schools and to teach football and netball skills.

It was an inspiring trip, as it taught us so much about how we take simple things for granted. Our favourite school was Ridgeville Primary as the children there were so enthusiastic and interested in what we had to offer. They treated us like royalty, asking us for signatures and pictures; they were so happy to be able to go back to their homes and tell their families about what they had done in school today.

We met a young girl at this school who told us about her life and how her mother was murdered at a young age in her township over the use of a mobile phone. This really affected us and made us realise how hard the children's lives are in South Africa and it was an eye opening experience and touched our hearts.

Seeing the smiles on the children's faces when doing the activities made us feel like we had achieved what we went there to do, in giving the children opportunities that they would never normally get.

Furthermore we went up to the top of Table Mountain, where we got to see the views of Cape Town, which were incredible and also the wildlife up there was beautiful. We learnt many new skills in our trip and travelling over to Cape Town. We all agreed the experience was one of the best things we have ever done in our lives, especially knowing that we have made a difference to so many children's lives.

Each one of us would go back over there as we enjoyed helping the people out there and encouraging them to achieve what they want to achieve. On the final day I went great white shark cage diving, which was incredible but also the scariest thing I've ever done! By us all going out to South Africa, the experience has expanded our horizons and made us realise just how lucky we are to live where we live and have what we have.

People involved: Ashleigh Lawrence, Megan Pandit, Jasmine Farnworth.

Written by Ashleigh Lawrence 6AJ0



## PRESTIGIOUS PALATIAL GOLD DUKE OF EDINBURGH PRESENTATION: 29TH NOVEMBER 2016

St. James' Palace, London

It was with great pride that I represented Hilbre High School in attending the above presentation in the presence of HRH Prince Phillip, Duke of Edinburgh.

Two ex-students, Harmony Bowker and David Steiger, were there to collect their well-deserved Gold certificates, having started in Year 10 with their Bronze award and going through Silver in Year 11, to finish with the Gold award in Years 12 and 13. This was the conclusion of a journey through long hours of expedition, months of service to the community, taking part in a sport and completing a residential experience. The Gold award is hard work and the reward for achieving it is a visit to a Royal palace to meet a member of the Royal family.

We assembled in the courtyard of St James' Palace, along with other award recipients from around the country. Eventually our group was shown into the palace to take our seats in a long room. There were 3 other similar rooms each with around 70 award winners and a guest. Prince Phillip then went to each room in turn.

In the rooms, the recipients were divided into 4 groups and when Prince Phillip entered the room, he walked to each group and talked to the award winners, asking various questions about their experiences on the award scheme. He then asked guests what their role was in helping the students achieve. He left the certificates with each group and once he left the room, the special guest in each room gave a motivational speech to the students and presented them with their certificates.

In our room the special guest was Chris Boardman, a former pupil of Hilbre, which came as a surprise. The whole ceremony lasted around 2 ½ hours and was so worthwhile for the students who have been through a lot to achieve an award that will benefit them in the future.

By Mr Blackstock





## ELLIOT IN THE NEWS: A PHOTOGRAPHIC FUTURE BECKONS!

**Earlier this year, Chris Packham presenter of 'Spring Watch' and 'Autumn Watch' said he had "Asperger Syndrome" and that it had given him special abilities.**

BBC Wildlife magazine decided to find out if there were any other people with similar interests to Packham, who also had these special abilities. They found that person and it was Elliot Montieth, a Year 13 Student from Hilbre High.

The BBC magazine came to interview Elliot in Port Sunlight River Park, a former landfill site on the Wirral, managed on a day-to-day basis by a local charity 'Autism Together', where Elliot plays a vital role in recording birds. Only last year, Elliot, who has also been diagnosed with Asperger Syndrome, found the park's first and only kingfisher and whinchat. Elliot has the ability to recognise birds instantaneously and is able to record them in immense detail.

Elliot knows his stuff and he's ticked off a number of unusual species in his local patch- Birkenhead Docks. He's seen Iceland gulls, a great northern diver, scaup and a roseate tern to name but a few.

Elliot is also a keen and very talented photographer, winning many photographic competitions. Earlier this year Elliot entered 'The British Wildlife Photographer of the Year Awards 2016'; he was entered into the 'Under 18's Category' Young People's Award (Sponsored by RSPB Wildlife Explorers)

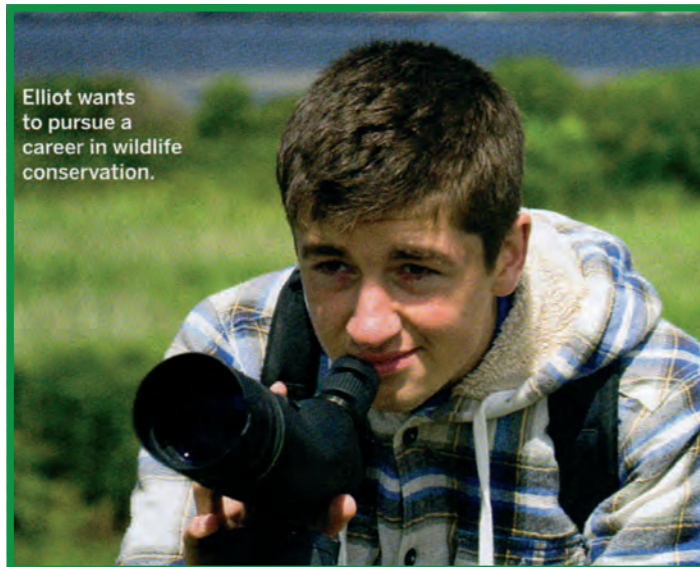
Elliot was one of the winners in this category and his photograph has been published in a full colour hard back book "British Wildlife Photographer of the Year Awards collection 7"

Elliot would like to pursue a career in wildlife conservation and we're sure he will...



**ELLIOT MONTIETH (AGE 17) ▲**

**The Urban Misconception**  
(Common tern, *Sterna hirundo*)  
Birkenhead Dock, Wirral, England



Elliot wants to pursue a career in wildlife conservation.

# GEOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY TRIP TO ICELAND

DECEMBER 2016

**A group of twenty four students were very fortunate to be offered a place on the Hilbre 2016 trip to Iceland.**

After an early start we arrived at Keflavik Airport for the onward journey to the famous Blue Lagoon, a geothermal spa in which the warm water is enriched with the mineral silica, known for its healing properties.

We rejoined the coach and transferred to the hostel in Reykjavik where we spent the rest of the day at leisure. Most of the students spent their free time at the ice rink in the city centre.

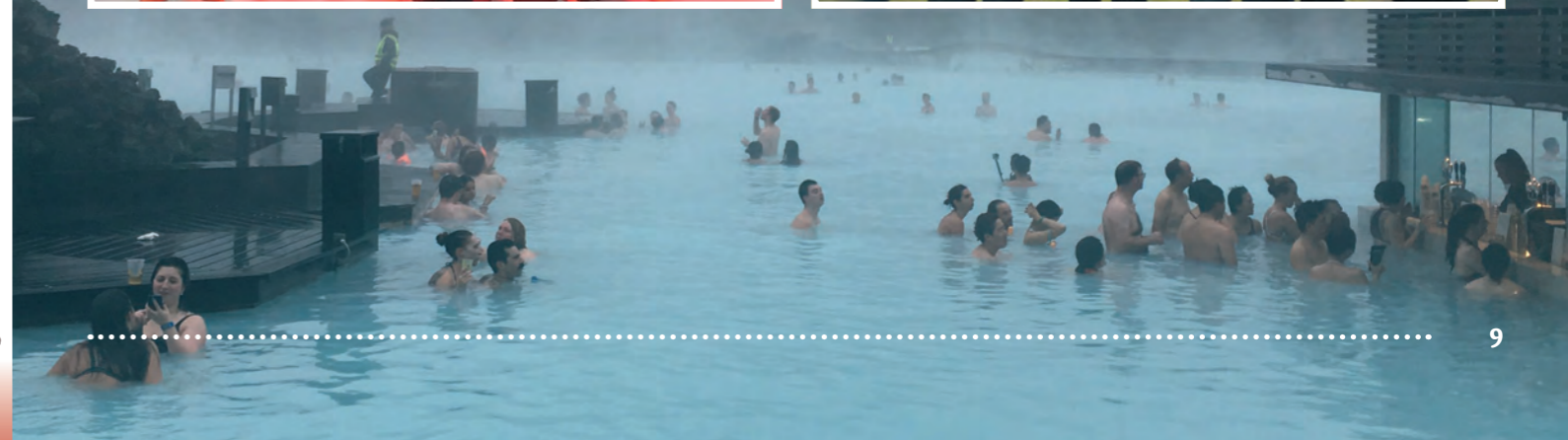
Friday meant another early start. We were met by our tour guide and set off on the drive over the mountain pass, taking in views of snow-capped Hekla, the country's most active volcano. Our first stop was at the spectacular waterfall Seljalandsfoss. It is the only waterfall of its kind where you can walk behind it. The next stop was to the glacier Skogafoss, again a beautiful site to see. After lunch we headed to the Black Beach on the southern coast, flanked by steep cliffs made from columnar basalt.

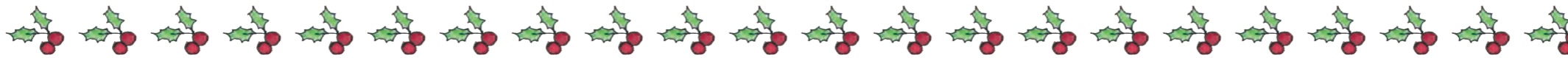
Our last full day in Iceland was again jam packed. The day started with a visit to the Hellisheioi Power Station to see how Iceland utilises its geothermal energy. Onwards to Kerio, a lake filled extinct volcanic crater was our next port-of-call before witnessing Gullfoss, one of the most impressive waterfalls in Europe. After lunch, we took the short drive to see the famous Great Geysir. Here one of the most active hot springs, Stokkur spouts up to thirty meters every ten minutes.

Last but not least we travelled to the Pingvellir National Park, a remarkable geological site. The canyon running through the park is the meeting point of two of the earths' tectonic plates.

In the short time we visited Iceland we packed in so much of this beautiful country, yet only scratched the surface of all it has to offer. I felt extremely privileged to have been able to be a part of this trip with a fantastic group of students and colleagues.

By Mrs Hogan

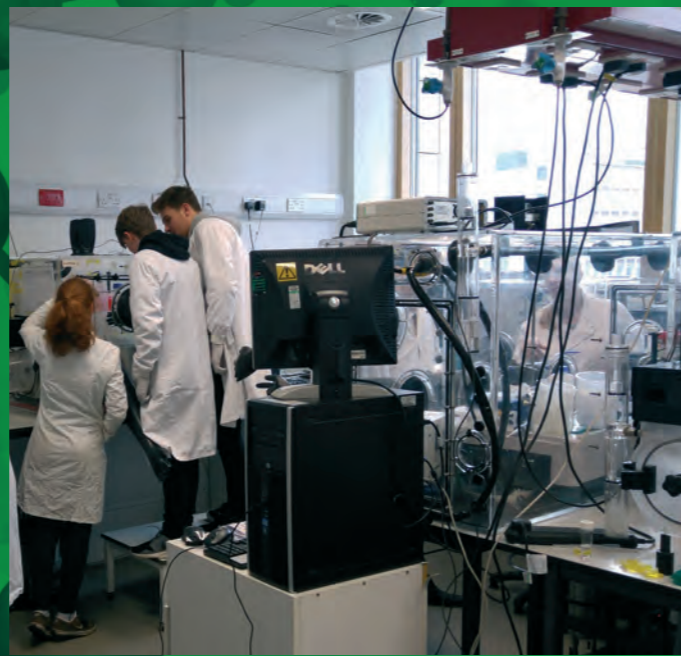




# SIXTH FORM SCIENCE TRIP TO TOP RESEARCH INSTITUTE

In November, the Manchester Institute of Biotechnology celebrated the 10th anniversary of its opening. The Institute was opened for the day to allow groups of sixth form Science students to explore the facilities and find out about the areas of research undertaken at the Institute.

Twenty five students from Hilbre learnt about the various ongoing projects including the enzyme catalysis of biofuel production and the identification and transfer of genes to create bacterial factories for the production of useful chemicals like menthol. The students were taken through the theory and practice of the research through talks, interactive stands and laboratory tours which covered fields as diverse as X-ray crystallography, mass spectrometry, robotic testing of genetic manipulations and many other advanced scientific techniques.



# 'CAREER CONNECT QUALITY AWARD' FOR HILBRE

On Friday 25th November, Hilbre High School Humanities College was awarded the 'Career Connect Quality Award for Excellence in Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance, Work Related Learning and Enterprise.' This award includes a regional quality award in addition to the highest possible national quality award for careers information, advice, guidance and work related learning.

This kite mark builds on the very positive LEA inspection report on careers provision in school in March 2016 and the June 2016 Ofsted report, which rated the careers education and guidance at Hilbre High School as being excellent and preparing learners well for their next steps.

The award was made after submission of a very detailed portfolio of evidence, school tour, interviews with the school's full-time Careers Development and Guidance Co-ordinator, Fran Trought, key members of staff and pupils from all year groups.

Inspectors were particularly impressed with the conduct and articulate information, pupils were able to provide. These pupils were described as a credit to Hilbre High School Humanities College by the inspector

Francis Trought



## 2B or not 2B – that is the question! Live Performance of Hamlet

On Monday last, Mrs Whiteley was kindly invited to watch a stunning 6 minute production of 'Hamlet' alongside 10TBA. The performers were BAFTA standard: Mr Bassett and Mrs Daly.

Mrs Daly wrote the play herself and it was soon clear to the students that there was a problem to be solved!!!

Mr Bassett, as a detective, had to decide out of the 10 deaths that occur in the play, which death should be outlined in form 2B. Students were given opportunities to comment on the performances and they were very complimentary in their responses, although one student did say to Mr Bassett that he should not give up his day job!!! The pupils will complete a follow-up activity that will challenge their knowledge of the play and give them opportunities to talk about the text. This was literacy and numeracy in perfect harmony.

## Top Author Visit coming soon...

In January 2017 we have renowned children's writer Cathy Cassidy coming to school to work with our students. Cathy is a British author of young adult fiction. She has written 23 books and has been the Agony Aunt for 'SHOUT', a magazine for teenage girls. She presently has a series of books about Daisy Star (for younger readers). Some of her books include 'Life is Sweet', 'Looking Glass Girl' and

'Marshmallow Skye'. She will share her secrets for success through workshops and give our students a range of ideas for their own Creative Writing toolkits.

This visit pre-empts our annual Literary Festival which will take place in the last week of February in association with World Book Day, where we will have a range of writers from different genres working with groups of our students to develop their own reading and writing skills. So come on – let's get reading!

Callum Swanick  
Mí Pueblo Invernal

Vivo en un pueblo se llama Glasgow, en mi pueblo hay una savana que es muy caliente y radiante. In mi pueblo hay un queso que es muy asqueroso. En mi pueblo hay un spa y se puede que es muy frío y glorioso, se puede también montar en trineo, comprar la ropa de nieve, hacer esquí, hacer patinaje, beber chocolate caliente y tener un guerra de bolas de nieve. Me gusta vivir aquí porque es muy divertido y divertido.

Reindeer opinions  
Te toca a ti... Rudolph and friends are feeling left out! Can you write some opinions about school subjects for the reindeer?

Rudolph me gusta mucho el español porque el hispano pero no me gustan nada las matemáticas porque son aburridas. By Rachael Kerr 7/20

Dasher me gusta la historia porque es interesante, no me gusta nada el francés porque es muy difícil.

Dancer no me gustan las ciencias porque son aburridas pero me gusta el dibujo porque es divertido.

Prancer me gusta el dibujo y el teatro porque son interesantes, no me gusta la geografía porque es difícil.

Vicer me gusta la historia porque es muy interesante pero no me gusta nada español porque es difícil.

Comet no me gustan las matemáticas porque son difíciles, me gustan las ciencias porque son divertidas.

Cupid me gusta la educación física porque es divertida pero no me gusta el inglés porque es aburrido.

Donkey no me gustan las ciencias porque son difíciles, me gusta inglés porque es divertido.

Blitzen me gustan las matemáticas porque son muy divertidas pero no me gusta el inglés porque es demasiado aburrido.

## OUR SPANISH CHRISTMAS: Feliz Navidad!

This Christmas, Mrs Garrett's Year 7 Spanish class have thought of some really lovely opinions about school subjects from the point of view of Santa's reindeer.

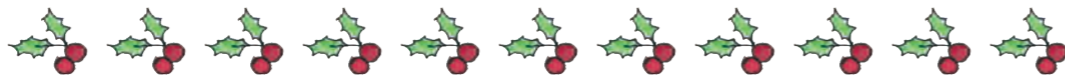
We couldn't resist sharing the work of Callum Swanick with you, as it is so well presented.

## LITERACY COMPETITION

Are you the next JK Rowling? Are you an aspiring Suzanne Collins? Can you create adventures like Anthony Horowitz? Or, do you just want to have a go at writing a short story and maybe winning a trip to London?

Well... Take a look at the information attached. The National Literacy Trust are running a competition for young writers, encouraging you to explore creative writing and develop your writing skills. Your entry should be a piece of Fan Fiction, no longer than 750 words. You will need to convince the judges to select your story from thousands across the country, through your detailed and interesting characters, exciting plot and spellbinding descriptions. We are here to help, but your entries must be proof read and submitted before 17th March 2017. Grab your favourite pen and notebook and get thinking of ideas you can bring to life! If you need any more information please ask Miss Turnbull or Mrs Miller.





## Selling Like Hot Cakes!

In its support of various charities, Hilbre High School has created the Cake Sale Challenge every Wednesday, in which Tutor Groups are allocated registration time to plan-and-sell for a good cause.

Our Year 7 MacMillan Cake Sale saw our best response to date with a large range of cakes baked and an even larger group of students ready to sample them! They raised a fantastic £398.

Thanks to all the students and Form Tutors for their ongoing enthusiasm in responding to Hilbre's own 'Bake off!' Keep up the good work! We also held a 'design a tea cup' competition; well done to the winners Rachel Kerr, Ellie Lane and Reece Ventre.



## Children In Need

On Friday 18 November students had the opportunity to take part in Children in Need Zumba classes.

Our School Nurse Mrs Susan Harvey, along with three sixth form students and four Year 11 students, delivered three one hour sessions throughout the day. Year 8 had a fantastic time and many of the students came back at lunch to take part again. Three year 8 students held a Children in Need cake sale and staff and students took part in a guess how many spots are on the cake. Well done to everyone; we raised £238.



## Wirral Food Bank

On Monday 12 December, a group of students visited the Wirral Food Bank to deliver our Christmas Hamper boxes.

We collected a massive 552.68kg, this is the highest amount any school has ever donated.

Thank you to Mrs Myers for all her hard work and enthusiasm in organising our charity events. She would like to say how proud she is of what has been achieved by Hilbre, giving her thanks to students, parents and staff for their kindness and generosity to help local families. Well done to 7EST who collected a stunning 254 food items and 87 toiletries.

## Santa Murder Mystery!

In Ms Tutill's recent English lesson, her Year 9s were given clues needed to solve a Santa murder mystery, which required inference, logic, mathematical and geography-based skills!

The winning sleuths were James McNally and Ben Cowan, who correctly identified "Red" as the culprit!



# ART AND ABOUT AT THE GALLERIES!

During the Autumn Term, the Art Department took the Year 12 Fine Art group on two gallery visits.

In October, the students visited the 2016 John Moores exhibition at the Walker Gallery in Liverpool, where students were able to observe contemporary art from around the world as well as explore other gems in the Walker's collection by the likes of Holbein, Rembrandt and Turner.

In late November, the Year 12 Fine Artist's travelled to the Lady Lever Gallery in Port Sunlight to see, amongst other items in the collection, Picasso lino-cuts on loan from the British Museum. This excellent exhibition allowed students to not only observe Picasso's work first hand, but also showed them the processes he undertook to arrive at his final pieces. This timely exhibition will go on to help the students with the intaglio and poly-block prints they will start in the New Year.



## Picasso

linocuts from the British Museum



## Farewell Mr Fyfe

On December 21st Mr Fyfe hangs up his graphite for the last time, after twenty two years at Hilbre and a teaching career spanning over thirty years.

During his time as Head of Expressive Arts and then Art & Design, Mr Fyfe has overseen a hugely successful period of examination results, expansion of courses and opportunities for pupils at Hilbre to engage in a range of enrichment experiences-ranging from Art's Week to London gallery visits. Mr Fyfe has embedded in Hilbre a culture of 'all can' and through his guidance the department gives all students a rounded education that allows them to engage in Art regardless of ability or experience. All at Hilbre wish Mr Fyfe a long, happy and well deserved retirement.



# TWELVE OF THE BEST!

WE LOVE TO SHOWCASE SOME OF THE BEST ART BY OUR STUDENTS AND THIS CHRISTMAS WE HAVE SOME GREAT EXAMPLES FOR YOU. WITH TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS, HERE ARE TWELVE OF OUR BEST!



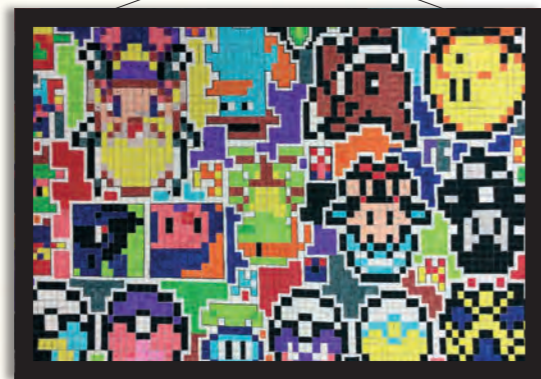
**AMY NIGHTINGALE**

Study of deer based on a Russian artist in mixed media



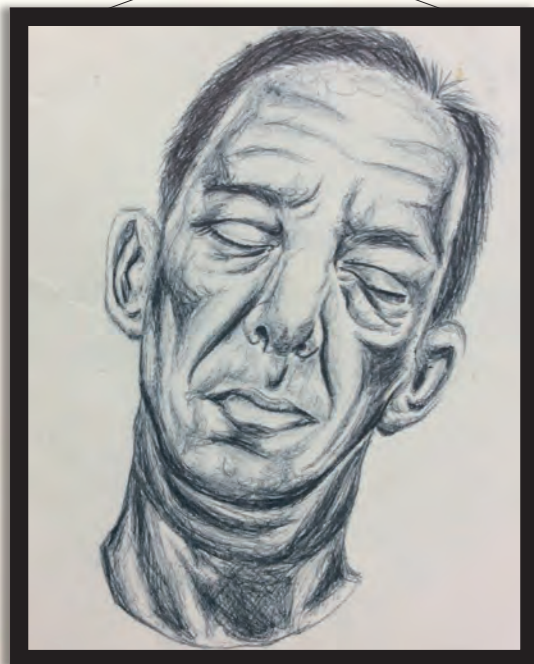
**ARCHIE FLETCHER**

Urban art piece photo-shopped onto the Drama studio



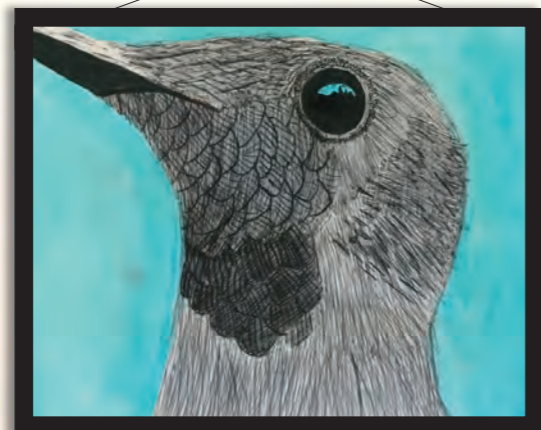
**STEPHEN CLARK**

Looking at the urban artist Space Invader



**LYDIA HARDMAN**

Biro portrait study



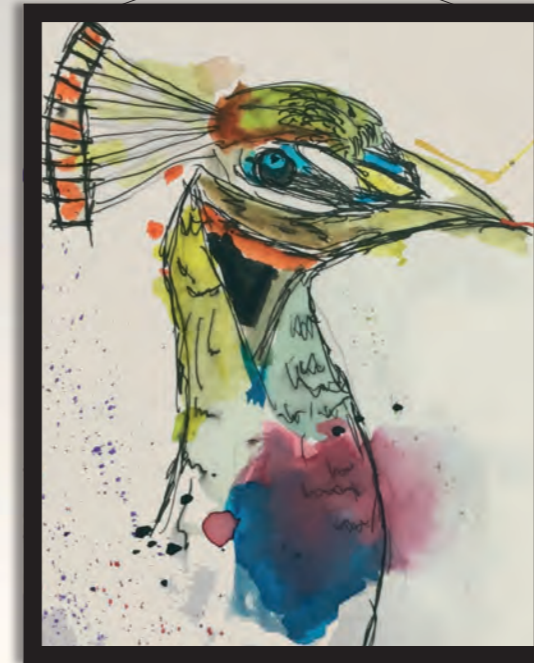
**JAKE BURNS**

Biro and watercolour study of a bird



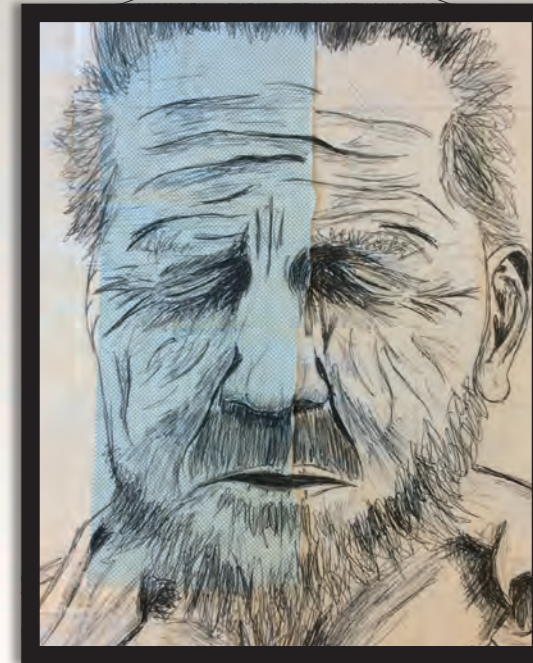
**GABBY NICHOLSON**

Portrait of a fellow student in acrylic



**LEWIS CLARE-SCHOFIELD**

Drawing of a peacock in watercolour and pencil in the style of Abby Diamond



**WILLIAM DOLAN**

Biro drawing of a Richard Avedon photograph of Ezra Pound in the style of Mark Powell



**NATALIE TAYLOR**

Pencil study of a bird



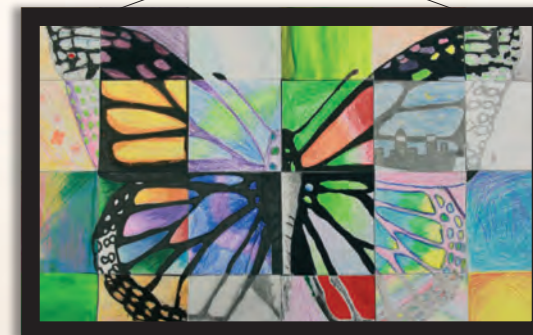
**ANNABEL CARRICKER**

Watercolour study of a bird on an opened pharmaceutical box in the style



**EMILY DE PAUW**

Portrait of a fellow student in acrylic



**YEAR 7 ART TEAM**

Butterfly





## GREAT GYMNASTICS AND A GOLD FOR AMY

The year 7 and 8 girls have shown excellent dedication and commitment in gymnastics and trampoline club.

The girls started off with the North West Novice Floor and Vault Competition in Preston in November. Both the Year 7 and Year 8 competitors took part in groups of over 60 competitors each. Every pupil put in beautiful performances on both pieces of apparatus, showing great composure. The star of the team was Amy Cowell who won a Gold medal in the vault competition. The girls are now preparing for two more competitions to come in the early Spring.



Gymnastics Team: Charlotte Clark, Phoebe Tyldesley, Ruby Hitchmough, Aimee Wellsbury, Amy Cowell, Jessica Arden, Grace Woodley, Rachel Birch and Alice Griffiths



Gold medal winner on Vault: Amy Cowell



U14 Novice Girls' Team: Rosie Wilson, Rachel Birch, Ruby Hitchmough, Phoebe Tyldesley & Paige Smith



U14 Novice Boys' Team: Daniel Johnston, Sam Kershaw & Luke Gibson

## Keep on Running!

Freerunning Club has been running (no pun intended) for all years since September and is a very popular extra-curricular club; getting 30+ pupils every Wednesday and Thursday lunch time.

This activity is like gymnastics but with the emphasis more on freedom, creativity and exploring different ways of moving. Pupils are starting to develop difficult and complex skills, such as standing somersaults on the floor and wall flips.



## Life's a Bounce!

In Trampoline Club, Years 7-9 pupils have been working through the Trampoline Proficiency Awards.

Some have passed Awards 6, 7, 8 and are working towards Award 9. A team was selected to represent the school (including a boys' team for the very first time) at the North West Schools Trampoline Championships, held in Wigan at the start of December. The team worked really hard on their routines in preparation for the competition, which included a trip to a local trampoline club to train on competitive trampolines for the morning.

At the competition the U14 Novice Girls team (most of which this was their very first competition) had some challenges and set-backs along the way, but showed great resilience to finish with solid performances. The star of the team was Rachel Birch, who put in two strong performances to finish 33rd out of over 100 competitors. The U14 Novice Boys team worked well as a team by encouraging and motivating each other and finished 4th, narrowly missing out on a medal. The U14 Intermediate team showed off how far they have progressed in the last year, competing routines with three or four somersaults in each. They finished 5th in a very strong field. Year 8 pupils are also starting to develop their leadership skills by taking it in turns to coach each other on one of the two trampolines; particularly helping the Year 7 pupils.





# Hilbre Endeavour

*Christmas 2016 Edition*

## HILBRE RUGBY

**This year has seen the introduction of a 1st XV to our rugby fixtures. Led by Tom Evans, the team is slowly developing into a strong squad of players from Years 13, 12 and 11.**

Although our 1stXV have lost all of their games, many of the players have stepped up to the plate and performed at a very high level. This squad is developing both physically and mentally to the rigours of U18 rugby and hopefully, with increased commitment to training and playing to the game plan, will be more successful next season.

Our Year 10 rugby team have had a good run in the Natwest Shield, winning one and losing one. They have grown a lot as a team so far this year and we as coaches are looking forward to watching their development as the season continues. A special mention should go to Sam McDaid, who had the opportunity to go to Burnage RFC over the Autumn half term for trials for the Irish Exiles. He performed to the standard that they were looking for and they have invited Sam back for further trials during the February half term. The Year 9 team is another of our teams that is developing with new players coming in and learning fast. Bolstered by some of our Year 8s, the team is beginning to come together and we are hopeful that they will be successful in the Natwest Shield next season.

Our Year 8s have continued where they left off last season with their success. This is a very exciting team with some very natural talent. Unfortunately, they have not had many games this half of the season but fixtures are going to be arranged between Christmas and Easter to build on the momentum they built up last season. Coming up for them they have the Cheshire Cup which will be played in January and the Emerging Schools 7s which I am confident they will win.

Finally, onto our Year 7s. This is a team of highly skilled players. They have brilliant skill sets that have been developed by their coach Mrs Myers. The team have started training twice a week and are a pleasure to watch play. To date they have only lost one game, but have beaten every team that they have come up against. Their best win was against Calday School in a local Central Venue League. During this tournament, they amassed just under 100 points and only conceded 5. Their hard work on the training pitch will pay off in the years to come and we are looking at this age group with high expectations.

I would like to thank all the coaches for all their hard work over the first half of the season. Training for years 7 – 10 is now being held on both Tuesday and Thursday nights after school. In order to get the success the players are hoping for, we would like to see all players putting in the hard work on the training pitch.

**By Tim Hodson**

## RUGBY HALL OF FAME

Year 12 - Louis Matthews - Cheshire U17

Year 11 - Sam McDaid - Irish Exiles development squad U18

Year 9 - Max Bradbury - Sale Development Squad U14

Year 9 - Luke Gibson - Sale Development Squad U14

Year 9 - James Smith - Sale Development Squad U14

Year 8 - Jonny Lloyd - Sale Development Squad U13

Year 8 - Barnaby Matthews - C Sale Development Squad U13



## A Message from Mr Kev Teasdale

**Thank you to all of the football managers who have helped our boys play inter-school competitions. After Christmas all year groups will be entering into the Wirral Cup.**

