

## Youth Speaks Debate



The Cowplain School won the intermediate Youth Speaks debate competition on 29 January and were put through to the final. Their debate subject was 'whether animals should have equal rights to humans'. The final took place on 13 February at Admiral Lord Nelson School and The Cowplain School came second. The winners were Mayville High School, an independent school in Southsea. Well done to Erin White, Elena Jordan and Holly Young.

## WW1 Battlefields



Four Year 9 students participated in a national WW1 Battlefields tour scheme with a selection of other schools from across the south of England. They visited a number of memorials and battlefields across France and Belgium, learning about the war and how it evolved over four years of conflict. The students visited the graves and memorials of soldiers who had given their lives protecting Britain and were able to develop their understanding of the roles played by soldiers from Australia, New Zealand, Canada, India and China who all fought and died protecting Britain. The students were privileged to witness the last post ceremony at the Menin Gate in Belgium where they honour the memory of the 54,000 soldiers who died in Belgium and have no known grave. The students personal highlight of the trip was being able to explore a recreation of the trenches that the British and German troops would have lived and fought in and empathise with how difficult their lives must have been.

## Holocaust Memorial Day Service

Holocaust Memorial Day was created on 27 January 2000, when representatives from 46 governments around the world met in Stockholm to discuss Holocaust education, remembrance and research. At the end of their meeting, all attendees signed a declaration committing to preserving the memory of those who were murdered in the Holocaust.

On Monday 27 January 2020, 12 of our students attended the Holocaust Memorial Service at Havant Cemetery organised by Havant Borough Council. The theme for this year was 'Stand Together', and two of our students wrote their reflections and thoughts entitled 'Stand Together', which were both read out during the service. The service concluded with a minute's silence, to remember all those who have lost their lives through genocide, and the laying of wreaths.



## News

Dear Parents

Welcome to our first newsletter of 2020; again, it has been a busy six weeks!

This week was especially interesting as we held our annual Advanced Learning Day (ALD). I don't think there would have been many schools on that day who had such a diverse range of activities going on in one place! Across the school, Year 7 were participating in teambuilding activities; Year 8 were hearing from the Royal Dockyard, as well as the Navy and RAF; Year 9 attended a careers event at Havant and South Downs College; Year 10 were hearing from the Prison Service and Year 11 were receiving advice about managing their finances!

The feedback from students and staff about the ALD day was universally positive and, in return, a number of our many visitors commented about how engaged, attentive and well behaved our students were. In summary, it was a fantastic day and testament to how schools can offer so much to young people. I am sure there will be students who will now join the RAF, or go into a career in finance, having been inspired by what they heard on the day.

Last week we were also visited by 4Strings Quartet, a professional string quartet, who performed in Year 7 assembly. They were fantastic and gave the students an insight into the skill of professional performers. Our aim, as we go forward with developing our curriculum, is for our young people to experience more 'elite' performers and to develop an awareness and love for the arts.

Next half term sees the start of the last full term, either side of Easter, that our Year 11 students will experience at The Cowplain School. I am pleased to say that the majority of them are working hard and putting in the focus and effort needed to achieve highly in their GCSE examinations. I know, as parents, you will support them as much as possible and encourage them to participate in all the additional activities and opportunities the school is implementing to help them.

As always, thank you for your support and best wishes.

Mr IR Gates  
Headteacher

Work hard. Enjoy learning. Achieve highly.



[www.cowplainschool.co.uk](http://www.cowplainschool.co.uk)

## Jukebox - Blue Monday



On Monday 20 January, Jukebox were pleased to support the 'Beat The Blues' event for Blue Monday, organised by Denmead Junior School, by providing upbeat live music to brighten everyone's day in Denmead Village Centre. Students also handed out postcards wishing people a good day.

**Reminder:**

**February half term:**

**Monday 17 February to Friday 21 February 2020.**

**School reopens at 8.15am on Monday 24 February 2020 (Week 2)**

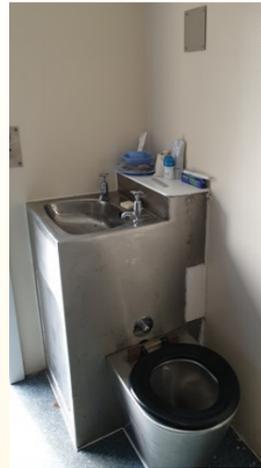
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February 2020

# ADVANCED LEARNING DAY 11 February 2020

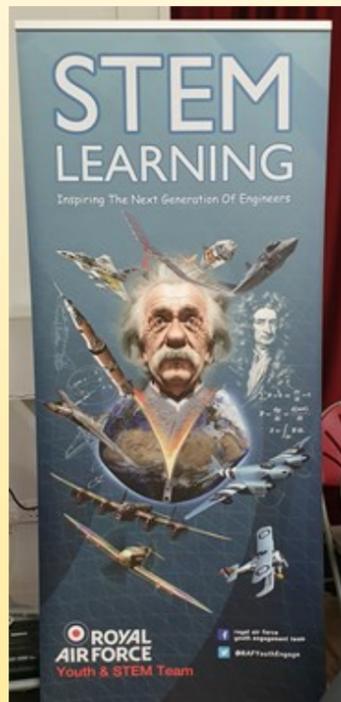
## Prison Me No Way



The National Museum, Royal Navy



## RAF—Hyett Education



Eight  
Wealth  
Management



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