



**Academy Choir celebrates tenth Festival win**



### Elizabethan Choir on song

The Elizabethan Academy Choir has completed a clean sweep of awards at this year's Worksop Festival. Not only did they win First Prize with Distinction in the Open Choir class and the Choral Championship Cup, they have also been invited to sing in this year's Winners' Concert, where they will be presented with the Capio Shield for Choral Excellence.

The choir, comprising boys and girls from across the school, has been competing in the Worksop festival annually since 2007. Each year, the choir has achieved First Prize in its class, gaining either Commendations or Distinctions from the festival adjudicator.

Students have been practising twice weekly to secure their tenth consecutive win alongside rehearsals for next month's production of *Hairspray* at the Academy.

Academy Principal, Chris Horrocks, said that she was "overjoyed" by the choir's success. "I am a passionate supporter of the Arts myself. Art, Music, Dance and Drama add so much to the life of our Academy, and I have seen so many students grow in confidence and self-belief through their participation in the Arts."

### Junior journalists join national News Day

Budding reporters from the Elizabethan Academy's family of schools gathered at the Academy earlier this month to take part in the tenth BBC School Report event. Challenged by TV Newsreader Huw Edwards to find, research and produce a news report in a day, the pupils from Year 5 worked alongside Gifted and Talented students in Years 7 and 8.

Each Headteacher had been invited to nominate just two pupils to take part in the event.

Students the length and breadth of the country participated in the event, with The Elizabethan the only Bassetlaw school taking part.

Vice Principal at the Academy, Jason White, who leads on transition from primary to secondary school, said the day had been a complete success. "We really value our close working with the primary schools. Our Year 7s settle really quickly when they come here, and numbers are up significantly for September."

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Vanessa Hogg, teacher of Years 5 & 6 at Misson Primary, said "our gifted and talented writers were absolutely in awe of the time they spent with you for the BBC School Report. A huge thank you to all of your staff who have made the different transition events, that we have attended this half term, such a phenomenal success."



## Artsmark joy for The Elizabethan

Staff and students at the Elizabethan Academy are proud to announce that the work of their Expressive Arts department has been recognised by Arts Council England. The prestigious Artsmark award comes on the back of high profile productions such as *Phantom of the Opera*, but is also recognition for the work that happens on a day-to-day basis.

We have now drawn up an ambitious plan to achieve a minimum of Gold Status within a year. This includes further strengthening the collaboration between The Elizabethan and its feeder primary schools through an Artsmark group led by the Academy and the expansion of the Elizabethan Community Choir.



Congratulating the school on its success, Darren Henley, Chief Executive of Arts Council England, said: "I would like to congratulate the Elizabethan Academy on their Artsmark Award. To become an Artsmark School, the Academy had to demonstrate its dedication to the arts and a commitment to interweaving the arts into all aspects of school life. They have put together an ambitious plan for Arts provision which will ensure every pupil is given the opportunity to nurture a love of the Arts that will remain with them as they go through adult life."

As an Artsmark school, The Elizabethan has included a talent in Performing Arts as one of its over-subscription criteria for Year 7 students starting in September 2017. Auditions will be held this summer for any talented Year 5 pupils wishing to secure a place. Details will be on our website.

## Government Minister visits



The Elizabethan Academy was proud to welcome Education Secretary Nicky Morgan to open the East Midlands Women into Leadership Conference last month.

As host of the event, Mrs Horrocks said she was "passionate not only about education but about furthering equality and diversity. At The Elizabethan Academy we strive to raise the aspirations of all students and to challenge stereotypes and barriers."

The Conference was attended by women from across the East Midlands.

## Study Visit to Hamburg

Just before Christmas, our students were lucky enough to visit the north German port of Hamburg. Year 9 GCSE German student, Hannah Taylor, tells us more:

"The first night we went to a small Christmas Market, which was good – it was very Christmassy!

Next day we did a walking tour of Hamburg and learnt about Hamburg's history. Then we travelled to the zoo and had lunch. The zoo was amazing as it was huge and we got lost! We also had a tour of the football stadium, the Imtech Arena, home to Hamburger SV, which was interesting and we got to see 'behind the scenes', such as the changing rooms and the VIP area.

That night we went to a larger Christmas market by the town hall, which was very festive and we could buy lots of Christmas gifts and decorations.

On Day 3 we went to Hamburg Dungeons which were cool, but quite scary. We learnt quite a bit about the more gruesome history of Hamburg. After that we went to Neuengamme Concentration Camp, which was very interesting because we have been learning about Nazi Germany in our GCSE History lessons.

The last day we went to a model village, which was huge. I really enjoyed it, as it was very different."

## Hairspray

Tickets for the Elizabethan Academy's production of the Broadway musical *Hairspray* are selling fast! With less than four weeks to go till opening night, plans are underway to turn back the clock to the 1960s with the building of an 18-foot TV screen over the two-week break!

Tickets only £5, are available from the Main Office.



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