

Sharing the success

Gresham's School in Holt gives the local community the chance to share in its sporting achievements

FROM rugby and cricket to shooting and athletics – it has been a great year for Gresham's School's young sporting stars, and now children from the local community will be given the opportunity to share in its success.

Gresham's in Holt – an independent boarding school for pupils aged three to 18 - has seen a number of pupils shine regionally, nationally and even internationally in the past 12 months. These include cricketer Hudson de Lucchi, who has completed an exceptional season for Norfolk County Youth Cricket, scoring more than 700 runs; Ben Chamberlain and Tobias Shalom, who featured in the British Cadet

Rifle Team's tour of Canada; Rugby player Harry Simmons, who won an England Under 18 call-up, and Amy Matthews, who won the area and county athletics championships in Peterborough.

Keen to share its excellent amenities, Gresham's is providing greater access to its facilities for the community and has recently joined North Norfolk District Council in launching a Sporting Centre of Excellence project. The initiative aims to bring together and support the best young athletes from across north Norfolk with the focus in the first year of the project on hockey, cricket, netball and running. Gresham's School has pledged its support



Rugby player Harry Simmons, who graduated from Gresham's School in the summer and has won an England under 18 call up

to the initiative by enabling youngsters to use its facilities and professional coaching staff. It already sponsors a number of events across the county, including Norfolk Cricket Board's Youth Festival, North Walsham Rugby Football Club's minis tournament and junior tennis tournaments at Hunstanton and Cromer Tennis Clubs. ♦



FROM THE HEADMASTER'S OFFICE

Fred de Falbe, headmaster at Beeston Hall School, West Runton

CONTACT
www.beestonhall.co.uk
 01263 837324

LOOKING BACK

Reflecting on the past is a skill and a great learning tool

DISCUSSION in recent weeks at school, and probably further afield, has focused around the historian's question: "Was Saturday, October 14, 1066, the most important date in British history?"

Irrespective of the answer it is an amazing touchstone from which to spark delight and fascination in children, about the future as well as the past. Whether building motte and bailey castles in a design and technology class, or re-enacting



the battle in the playground – complete with all-important shields and swords - this is a moment to celebrate each year, not simply on this, the 950th anniversary of Hastings. It also helped a good deal with strategies for the weekend's "Nerf Wars" entertainments - slightly less deadly than a long-handled battle axe!

This was a pivotal point in history where change, at a breathtaking pace, transformed politics, culture and language, thanks to William I and his minions. Where else have we heard that recently? Recent conferences are full of predictions about the "hockey stick moment", when exponential change is

upon us. Rather than discuss the rights and wrongs of this, our task is surely to ensure that we equip children with the tools to respond to such change and, rather less dramatically, one of those is "reflecting on the past". This is embedded in school life: not only when studying the Battle of Hastings or what happens when you add sodium to water, but also as - with a friend or teacher alongside - you forgive yourself about what went wrong in a playground yesterday or how you might get more rewards. At school, each day is a new day to enjoy and, through this gentle preparation, so the path is set to accommodate a more uncertain future if and when it comes. ♦



BEESTON HALL SCHOOL

An Independent Boarding and Day School for boys and girls aged 7 - 13

www.beestonhall.co.uk • 01263 837324 • West Runton, Cromer, Norfolk NR27 9NQ