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A NEW CHAPTER

Staff, pupils and parents have plenty to celebrate at Gresham's School this spring

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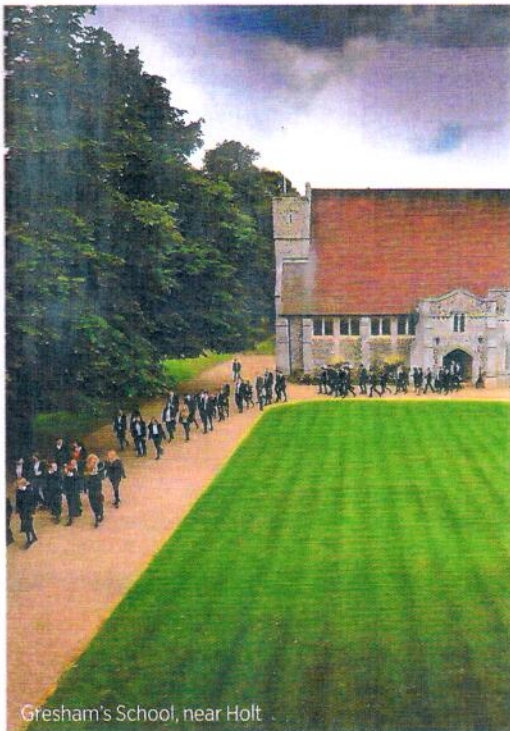


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Gresham's School, near Holt

A FOUR-day visit from the Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI) in February concluded that Gresham's School was "excellent" in all nine categories – the equivalent of the Ofsted term "outstanding".

The inspectors' report states: "Gresham's School fully meets its aims in that the day and boarding pupils should realise their full potential and achieve the highest standards possible in their learning."

The independent co-educational day and boarding school near Holt, caters for children aged three to 18 years. It is already building on its success with an exciting scheme to build a new music school and sixth form centre underway.

It has also been announced that Sarah Hollingsworth, who is currently director of pastoral care at Oswestry School in Shropshire, will take over as head of the Nursery and Pre-Prep School in September. She will follow in the footsteps of current long-standing head Janette Davidson, who will retire in July.

Gresham's Prep School headmaster, James Quick, says: "I am confident that Mrs Hollingsworth will be able to build on the busy and vibrant environment that Janette Davidson has led for 14 years. We'd like to wish Janette all the best for her retirement."

Gresham's open days for the Nursery and Pre-Prep school, are on May 2, and Prep school, May 14.
www.greshams.com



FROM THE HEADMASTER'S OFFICE

Warmer weather and extra daylight bring greater contentment, writes Robin Gain, headmaster of Beeston Hall School in West Runton

Warmer sunshine and lighter evenings have helped lift the spirits in recent weeks as we look forward to the summer ahead in our schools. The daily morning routine and mental preparation for another busy day at work feels infinitely better with the sun streaming in and thoughts of more daylight in the evenings after work.

There is no doubt that at schools the effect of the sunshine has a significant impact on the children's well-being and general sense of contentment, although unlike in lots of things in education you can't properly measure it. I suspect there is some scientific study going on somewhere in the world which measures sunshine against improved levels of perform-

ance in the classroom. However, to put it simply, boys and girls enjoy playing outside in the summer.

At Beeston they are able to make the most of the play fields, the swimming pool, the woods, the tennis courts and other play areas in between lessons and other daily commitments. We often tell them they don't know how lucky they are to enjoy such wonderful surroundings and facilities. I sense they know and appreciate it without having to articulate this to us.

As adults we prefer it if children say they are enjoying or appreciating something when all they want to do is on and play. Let's leave them to play and not worry about asking how they feel, they will soon let us know otherwise.



BEESTON HALL SCHOOL

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

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