

Welcome to our new termly newsletter from the History Department. We would like to update you on what we are doing as a department for your child and suggest ways to support and extend their learning at home. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us via mtaylor88rl@nsix.org.uk or by ringing the school office.

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Hellesdon High School History Department Newsletter

NEWS: We are changing one A-Level unit for September 2022!!



From September 2022, Year 12 A-Level students will continue to study two existing units (on the Crusades and the Tudors). But the current Democracy and Nazism unit will be replaced with a new unit, Revolution and Dictatorship, Russia 1917-1953. In light of current events, this fascinating unit will help A-Level students broaden their historical understanding of political authority, the power of individuals and the relationship between government and economic and social change.

****It's not too late to consider studying History at A-Level in September 2022****

If you are interested or have any questions, please speak to your History teacher or email Dr Taylor on mtaylor88rl@nsix.org.uk

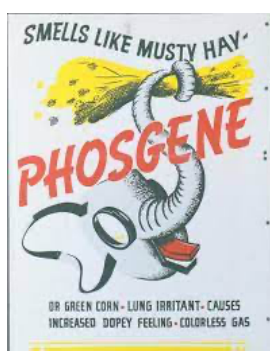
What are our students currently studying?

Year 7

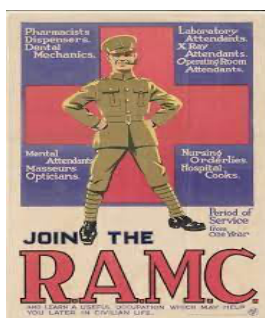


Year 7 students are continuing their study of the later Tudor period. Topics include whether or not Mary I and Robert Kett deserve their negative reputations, how Elizabethans spent their social time, what the theatre was like in Elizabethan England and what the hidden symbols in Tudor portraits teach us about their rule and legacy. Students will also study the causes and consequence of the Spanish Armada and learn why the 16th century was the heyday of overseas exploration.

Year 8



Year 8 students have just completed work on the Suffragette movement and are now focusing on the First World War. In addition to identifying the causes of the 'Great War' and learning about the significant contributions made by women and black, Asian and minority ethnic groups (BAME) to the British war effort, students will also consider the challenges of trench warfare and the devastating impact of new technology on warfare. They will develop their historical skills by using source evidence and interpretations to decide whether Sir Douglas Haig should be blamed for the Army's "unacceptable losses."



Year 9

Year 9 students have now begun a fascinating GCSE unit on injuries and treatments in the British Sector of the Western Front. Although not all students have opted for GCSE History next year, we believe that *all* of our Year 9 students will find this unit engaging and will learn a lot of transferable skills. Covering trench systems, terrain, weapons, illnesses, injuries and new medical advances triggered by the war (especially in plastic surgery and brain surgery), all students will get the opportunity to examine primary source evidence and learn much more about this side of the war.

Year 10

Our hard-working Year 10 students have completed their first progress exams and are now continuing with their GCSE studies. GCSE students always have two specialist teachers (with each teacher responsible for two units of the 4-unit Edexcel GCSE History course). For your information, our students study the following topics:

- (1) Medicine through time, c.1250-Present Day
- (2) Weimar & Nazi Germany, 1918-1939
- (3) Early Elizabethan England, 1558-1588
- (4) Superpower relations and the Cold War, 1941-91.

Year 11

Our GCSE students are currently in the middle of their GCSE exams and we wish them all the best!

Year 12

Our Y12 historians are incredibly hard-working and we are really impressed with the way that they have adapted to the demands of A-Level History. They are currently researching the Crusades in preparation for their coursework and also studying Democracy & Nazism and the Tudors. They also benefit from having two specialist teachers. Both the current Year 12 students and the current Year 11 students going on to study History at A-Level are heading to London in July to visit the Holocaust Galleries at the Imperial War Museum and have a private tour at Westminster Abbey.

Year 13

Our wonderful Y13 historians are currently in the middle of their final exams and we wish them all the best! We would also like to thank them for playing such an active role in tutoring our Y11 students after school in preparation for their GCSE exams. We really appreciate their help and know that the participating students really loved the after-school study sessions.

Other ways you can support your child:

- Encourage your child to regularly submit their homework tasks and other resources on their Google Classroom.
- If you have a child in Year 10 and Year 11, check that they have also joined the GCSE Medicine and GCSE Germany Revision Google Classrooms. Here they will find lots of materials (video links, exam skills guidance, core content resources, revision guides, mind maps and additional resources to help with tricky topics).
- Encourage your child to complete or write some practice questions and to conduct some independent work each week. To achieve top grades at GCSE and beyond, additional research is crucial to provide extra information and extend understanding. Contact us if you would like suggestions for supporting your child.



Trip/Visit update:

Please see below for booked trips and visits. We are also currently looking at trips for all KS3 years from September 2022.

We are also booking in trips for Year 10 and Year 11 History students and will share information when trips have been approved.



Local historical sites that may be of interest:

The Castle Museum <https://www.museums.norfolk.gov.uk/norwich-castle/whats-on>

The Museum of Norwich <https://www.museums.norfolk.gov.uk/museum-of-norwich>

Norfolk Tank Museum: <http://norfolktankmuseum.co.uk>

The Muckleburgh Military Collection: <https://www.muckleburgh.co.uk>

Strangers' Hall, a museum of domestic history:
<https://www.museums.norfolk.gov.uk/strangers-hall>

You could also visit one of 300 local Blue Plaques, erected by English Heritage to link famous people of the past to buildings of the present:

<https://www.edp24.co.uk/news/9-blue-plaques-in-norfolk-6921346>

Unfortunately, only 25 of these were dedicated to women, so a local collective, the Common Lot Theatre Group, put up eight unofficial blue plaques to mark the achievements of local women including Emma de Gaudar, who at the age of 16 was said to have held Norwich Castle against a siege by William the Conqueror. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-norfolk-48351734>

Did you know....

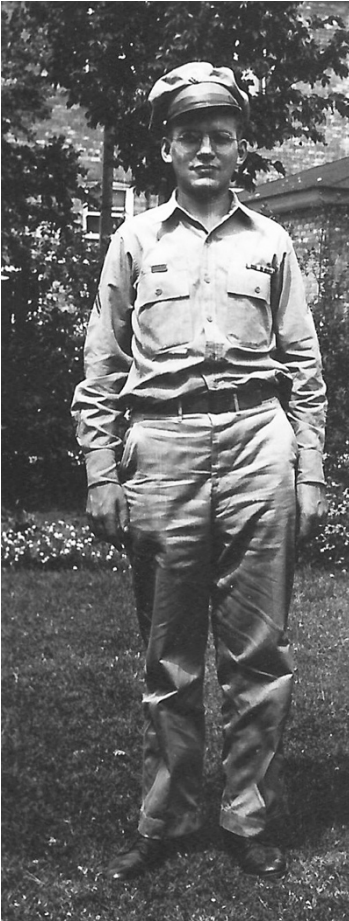
The only surviving medieval bridge on the River Wensum is called the Bishop Bridge. It was built in 1340, which makes it among the oldest bridges in England still in use. The original license to build a bridge was granted in 1275 to the prior of Norwich Cathedral. The monks owned the bridge and had a right to charge tolls (hence the name 'Bishop Bridge'). The prior was allowed to build houses on the bridge but had to leave room for access. In 1393 the bridge was passed to the city. In 1549 Robert Kett raised a rebellion to protest against the enclosure of common land. Kett and up to 20,000 followers marched on Norwich. Guards on the bridge held out against them at first, then the rebels fired a cannonade at the bridge at the nearby Cow Tower. The top of the tower was damaged - you can still see the marks. The rebels then stormed the bridge and overwhelmed the defenders, making their way up Bishopgate, past the Great Hospital, and into the city itself.

Can you help us?

Mr Tkaczuk is currently revamping our History display boards and would like your help for his new WW1/WW2 Board. Many of our students have relatives and loved ones who were involved in one or both of these wars, whether as combatants or as eye-witnesses of significant events. For several years we have been collecting their letters, accounts and photographs and we would now like to display extracts so that our students can learn more from these personal, local stories.

Do you have a relative who was involved in either war? Do you have photographs, letters, diaries or official records? If so, please consider sharing copies of them so that your own important family history can directly support the learning of our students. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Mr Tkaczuk here: ntkaczuk64r6@nsix.org.uk





In case you missed it....

Last term, History students at Hellesdon High School were involved in an essay contest established in honour of Aubrey Burke by his widow, Beverly. Aubrey was a long-time member of the 392nd Bomb Group Memorial Association (BGMA) having served with that group in Wendling, Norfolk, during the Second World War.

Students from selected schools across Norfolk (and students in Europe and America) were invited to submit an essay on a choice of topics related to the 392nd BGMA with the aim of honouring both Aubrey and the 'greatest generation'. A number of History students at Hellesdon High School entered this American essay contest and researched and wrote essays in their own time. After the entries were marked by a panel of teachers and BGMA members, three were selected as winners in the European division of the Aubrey Award.

Chloe (Y9) won first place for her essay on munitions used during WW2 and received £442. She said, "I was so surprised and excited to find out that my essay had been chosen and I had won a prize, which I never expected. I am pleased that the 392nd BGMA members enjoyed it and that it will help others in looking back on the past."

Emerson (Y10) won second prize and received £295 for his essay on the B-24 Liberator's strengths and weaknesses and comparison with other aircraft. Emerson commented that "it is an area I am really interested in so it was a pleasure to write." He added that he was grateful for the "amazing opportunity to discover a part of the history of my local area I didn't really know about. It was an honour to read about the airmen that helped bring the world back together."

Holly (Y9) also received an Honourable Mention and received a 392nd Challenge Coin for her essay on the development of the B24 Liberator and its significance.

Read more here: <https://www.wensumtrust.org.uk/aubrey-awards>

Upcoming events...

Several trips and visits have already been booked for the remainder of this academic year:

- **29th June, 2022:** 49 x Year 10 students will travel to London to visit the Imperial War Museum and the Old Operating Theatre.
***Please note: additional trips for 2022-23 are currently being planned. Students who were unable to join this oversubscribed trip will receive extra consideration for future trips. Unlike Geography, the History GCSE does not include coursework so all trips are solely designed to 'supplement' required content rather than be a required part of the GCSE course.*
- **6th July, 2022:** A-Level History Conference at the Castle Museum, Norwich.
- **8th July, 2022:** Year 12 students and current year 11 students who have chosen to study History A-Level will visit London to explore the Holocaust Galleries at the Imperial War Museum and visit Westminster Abbey.

Please follow our adventures on Twitter:

@HumanitiesHHS.

The next Hellesdon High School History Department Newsletter will be emailed in September 2022.

We hope to include much more content and use the newsletter as a way to share student achievements both inside and outside the History classroom.

Thank you for reading!

The whole History Team 😊