

# Lilith wins essay writing prize

THIS year the GTS school governors initiated an annual governors' essay writing competition.

Our congratulations go out to the prize's first winner, Lilith Foster-Collins.

Here is a small taste of her 800 word essay:

"How can a Liberal democracy best cope with mass immigration?"

A liberal democracy is a democracy based on the recognition of individual rights and freedoms and is often used to describe Western democracies such as the UK and other European countries.

Before we answer this question, an important distinction that needs to be made is between economic migration and refugees seeking asylum.

Economic migrants move to another country for economic reasons whereas refugees move because they fear for their lives in their home country.

The current refugee crisis is completely different from economic migration.

We cannot turn back these people who flee war and terrorism in their home countries because if we do we are sending them back to somewhere where they are in extreme

danger. We have to help them.

These people have experienced horrific events; they have lost their homes, and some have seen family members killed, others have been tortured.

It is our moral responsibility to help these people who have lost everything.

This is the biggest crisis Europe has faced in a long time.

It is a huge challenge and it is imperative that we work together to help.

This is not someone else's responsibility, this is our responsibility. Everyone's responsibility."

Lilith Foster-Collins, Year 10

*"It is our moral responsibility to help these people who have lost everything."*



Calais refugee camp.

## Pupil is UK champion



Emily Tyrell

ON April 16 and 17, one of Great Torrington School's sporting champions, Emily Tyrell in Year 9, travelled to Sport City, Manchester, to take part in The National Athletics Championships.

We are really pleased to announce that Emily is now the national champion in the 2 lap sprint and the national champion in the standing broad jump.

When interviewed about this amazing feat, Emily said: "I don't know what to say."

Well, we know what to say: well done on your incredible success Emily. We are so very proud of you. What an achievement.

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## 'Well received' play is highlight of year

GTS Year 10 drama group, through National Theatre Connections, has been involved in a nationwide celebration of new plays for young people.

Mr Pluckrose, head of performing arts, chose the play *Eclipse* by renowned writer and poet, Simon Armitage as he "loved the rich language and characters". This play "explores the themes of self-perception, child play and ritual".

The play was first performed at the school and then went on to a wider public audience at the Drum Theatre in Plymouth with the possibility of the GTS version being chosen to go to the National Theatre, London.

About her involvement in the play, Trinity said: "My participation in the *Eclipse* performance has helped me develop the way I think about how different people act in situations and has developed my organisational skills. I come to class more prepared as I have been motivated to rehearse my script.

"It has taught me to enunciate my words and develop the skill of projecting my voice. My confidence has grown."

Alice said: "A new skill I have learned is how to learn and perform a



monologue. My monologue in the play are some of the longest lines I've ever had to learn. I have also learned to take my time when performing lines; I decided to slow the whole monologue down, to give it a sense of story-telling, and to give pauses for more poignant moments, pausing to make dramatic effect."

"I thought it went really well," said Oren, "especially when sir said my blind acting was very good. At first I found it very hard to play blind, it was difficult to express that I was blind

with my eyes open. I started with having my eyes shut just to get used to my surroundings. After a while I opened my eyes and tried to be blind like that. It was hard because I had to move my head but not my eyes. It was a new skill I had to learn."

*Eclipse* has been extremely well received by all its audiences so far and has been a real highlight of the GTS school year.

Mr Pluckrose, Trinity Hickford, Alice Hayward, and Oren Woodward, Year 10



GTS perform Simon Armitage's Eclipse.

## Event went with a bang

ON Friday, March 18, a group of pupils from GTS visited The Big Bang Science Fair in Birmingham.

It was amazing. To start with we saw a stand-up show about science facts which was really funny. We then split into smaller groups and looked around.

We battled robots and saw other

robots categorise things; we watched mobile technology make popcorn, learned how to make fake blood and watched a show about special effects and how they are used in films.

It was a long journey and a long day, but immense fun.

Lewis Holt, Year 8