



## On your marks, get set, BAKE!

On Tuesday 11 October Nottingham Girls' High School hosted one of the semi-finals of the GDST Bake Off event, the other taking place at Portsmouth on Friday 14 October with the final to follow at Sheffield High School on Thursday 10 November.

Based on the popular and currently very topical BBC television show, representatives from six of the GDST schools were set the task of baking their version of a specially commissioned Mary Berry lemon Victoria sandwich with lemon curd filling. Mary Berry is herself a GDST alumna having attended The Royal High School in Bath, so a very fitting role model for the girls taking part.



Now the second of these competitions, the GDST Bake Off is a popular and fun event as well as showcasing the culinary, design and organisational skills of the girls involved. And following the format of the TV show, the girls also had to take part in a technical challenge, bringing with them a design/style sheet illustrating how they would bake and decorate cupcakes in honour of a favourite heroine, real or fictional, contemporary or historic, if they succeeded in getting through to the finals.

Judges at the Nottingham semi-final were County cricket players Georgie Boyce (Nottinghamshire County Cricket Ladies, Loughborough Lightning and England U19) and Australian born Nottinghamshire County Cricket Club Player, Riki Wessels, as well as resident baking enthusiast Miss Shambrook – famed for making the best lemon drizzle cake in school!

Welcoming the contestants and starting the competition off was Mr Tim Ellis, Head of Design and Technology at the school who said: "This is an amazing competition for the girls to enter. It allows them to be involved in a fantastic experience and opportunity to showcase their skills and passion for the subject."

After two hours of sifting, mixing, beating, folding, baking and decorating, the judges had to sample the bakes and rate them on presentation, technique and taste, and also judge the proposed cupcake designs for the final. It was a great day and a close contest, and all of the judges agreed that the standard and creativity were exceptional. Four winners in total were chosen



who will go through to the finals in November at Sheffield High School, so congratulations to Florence Williams-Rowe and Britt Watson from Shrewsbury Highs School, Charlotte Carr from Norwich High School and India Beighton from Oxford High School on their amazing bakes.

As part of the GDST family of schools, girls from Nottingham Girls' High School have many and varied opportunities to take part in Trust-wide events and competitions and have often been to other parts of the country to participate in these; on this occasion it was their turn to host such an event. This provides them with some great experiences and chances to meet other girls, and test their skills in a variety of subjects while having fun at the same time. Having the support of the GDST network is invaluable and another advantage of an all-girls education at Nottingham Girls' High School.

### **Notes to Editors**

#### **About Nottingham Girls' High School**

Nottingham Girls' High School is an independent day school for girls between the ages of 4 – 18. Part of the GDST (Girls' Day School Trust) Nottingham Girls' High School is the largest school within the group with more than 900 pupils.

#### **About the GDST**

The GDST (Girls' Day School Trust) is the leading group of independent girls' schools in the UK, with nearly 4,000 staff, and 20,000 students between the ages of three and 18. As a charity that owns and runs a family of 24 schools and two Academies in England and Wales, it reinvests all its income in its schools. Founded in 1872, the GDST has a long history of pioneering innovation in the education of girls. For a list of GDST schools go to [www.gdst.net](http://www.gdst.net)