

The Review 2018



DUKE *of* KENT
SCHOOL

Head's Introduction

As one reflects upon the 2017-2018 school year it is astonishing to see how much has been going on. As ever, this has been an exceptionally busy year for the pupils, staff and families of Duke of Kent School and, looking at all the things that we have fitted into just three terms, I am reminded of trying to put an enormous sleeping bag back into its little cover. The sheer range of activities never ceases to amaze. For instance, at which other school would you have a Royal Ballet trip to see Giselle at Covent Garden in the very same week as a football trip to see Scunthorpe United? So often we arrive at the end of term having surfed collectively on a huge wave of activities, visitors, trips, matches, concerts and exams and arrive safely on the final day without ever being sure of how we got there. Such is the life of a busy school.

There have been moments of triumph this year, not least with respect to the wonderful set of GCSE results achieved in August. These reflect the tremendous effort of our year 11s and also the wonderful teachers who have guided them skilfully through the inevitable ups and downs of the learning experience. As ever, we feel a tremendous sense of pride in all of their achievements. The students leave here with their heads held high, as confident young adults, ready for the world.

Also triumphant have been the performances on the games fields. It is one of our strengths as a school that the vast majority of our pupils represent the school in matches throughout the year. There are differing levels and varying degrees of success, but there is always an infectious enthusiasm running through the teams whether it is an A game or a D. Simply flicking through the Calendar of the year, you can see the sheer number of fixtures that occur each week, testament to the efforts of our incredible games staff. They have been rewarded this year with the building of our impressive new All-Weather pitch, Wilsons, of which more later.

There have been moments of poignancy. Who could forget the Martha and Oscar's moving rendition of



'Make me a channel of thy peace' at the remembrance service, or the beauty and mastery that the choir showed yet again at the magnificent Carol service at St Clement Danes. What incredible memories these children are creating. The very same singers and performers, displaying such musicality and sensitivity, can also bang out the rock classics of "We Will Rock You" with equal success. How is that possible? There is something very good going on around here.

There have been many, many moments of fun. The Autumn Term Open Day epitomised exactly what this school represents. If you arrive at school and there are huge letters spelling out 'Happiness Matters' across the top bank, Hollywood style, you know you're in for a treat. With a proper Carousel and Tea cup ride on the front pitch there was a sense of nostalgia for the older amongst us. Mrs FB was seen riding along on one of the up and down horses, whilst other staff, myself included, slipped on to the ride in the hope that no-one was looking...What a day!

There are numerous examples, throughout the year, of excellence, achievement, endeavour, diligence, humour, excitement, awe and joy. This Review will give you a chance to reflect upon some of these things, a chance to choose your best memories, to remember things you might have forgotten. The Review will never tell the whole story for there is so much to tell and that is how it should always be.

Felix Macdonald Acting Head Autumn Term 2018



Staff Farewells

Judith Fremont-Barnes

We said a very fond farewell to our Head, Mrs Judith Fremont-Barnes at the end of the Summer Term, after seven incredible years here at Duke of Kent School. Please see page 106 for a full account.

David Hubbard

It is with great sadness that we bid farewell to David Hubbard, after eight years of exceptional service. He arrived with us in 2010 from Guildford High School, knowing, quite rightly, that the more relaxed environment of Duke of Kent School, far better suited his easy-going character. The students and staff could not fail to warm to him instantly, such was his engaging nature. Cambridge educated, he wears his intelligence with modesty and has a sense of calm that is the envy of all, and he is definitely your man in a crisis!

As Head of Science, David steered the ship from Common Entrance to GCSE with skill, carefully sailing through the choppy waters of curriculum



developments, staff changes and parental expectations, into the harbour of excellence. As Academic Deputy Head he has carried out the almost impossible dual tasks of over-seeing the recent GCSE syllabus changes and the annual timetable cattle market, with assuredness, sensitivity and patience. His day to day management of the School has always been impeccable and he has been approachable and personable at all times. This is no mean feat in a school that has children from three to sixteen, and has so much going on at all times.

David was instrumental in forging a connection with our link school, Salima LEA, in Malawi. Subsequent to his initial visit in 2014, four teachers from Duke of Kent School have visited there, Sayfred Majomeka has visited us from Malawi, and two former pupils have visited, to teach in the school. The benefit to our wider community is untold, as our students not only become familiar with this extraordinary culture, but they also become immersed in it. Such has been the impact of David's pioneering work. He also managed to fit in a mere five hundred mile cycle along the shores of Lake Malawi!

David's affinity with Africa was already well known. Having previously spent some time teaching in Kenya, he has always been drawn back and so it was no real surprise that when the opportunity came for him to take up a Headship in Tanzania, he grasped it. Morogoro International School's gain is assuredly our loss, but we wish David and his family all the very best in this exciting challenge and every success for the future. Duke of Kent School will miss you.

Felix Macdonald

Oli Coote

Oli arrived as a gap student in 2010. His easy going manner, enthusiasm and willingness to join in whole heartedly, were obvious from the outset. During his eight years at the School he completed a BA in Modern Language Studies (English and French) from the Open University and a PGCE from the University of Buckingham and became both Curriculum Co-ordinator and Deputy Head of the Prep School. All hugely impressive achievements and to add to these, he is also a very keen sportsman and an accomplished origami creator.

First and foremost Oli has been a passionate and inspirational teacher in the Prep School. His enthusiasm for all the subjects he taught: French, English and History, to name a few, was contagious and he encouraged all his pupils to become equally passionate about them. He was above all a patient, good humoured and kind teacher, who always took the time to listen and encourage each pupil he taught.

Oli has played a hugely important role in the development of the Prep School Curriculum. In his



role as co-ordinator, he has initiated many inspirational ideas; in particular he was passionate about encouraging pupils to develop a positive mindset and to take more responsibility for their own learning through their Next Steps. He worked incredibly hard to organise and develop these ideas whilst still being fully committed to his role as Year 6 Form Teacher.

As a colleague Oli is held in great esteem by all. He has amazing integrity; he strives to do what is right and what is best for other people, rather than what would be easiest for himself. He has been described as thoughtful, calm, cheerful, kind, patient, good-humoured - the list is endless, but most of all as a genuinely lovely person to both know and work with. He has been a wonderful friend to all of us and will be sadly missed by absolutely everyone. His decision to move to a new school was not taken lightly, but there are times in life when an opportunity presents itself and we have to have the courage to take on new challenges and to venture into the unknown.

Oli, you go with all our love and respect and we wish you and your wife Danni, all the best in your new jobs and life in the sun! We will miss you very much.

Alisoun Lock

Ross Kettle

Ross may have only been here at Duke of Kent School for three years but as Head of Science he has implemented many changes that have greatly helped the students reach their potential in these subjects and something which can be seen in the excellent recent GCSE results. His calm but funny manner allowed students to develop their confidence and skills in an enjoyable classroom environment.

Outside of science, Ross started up and led the triathlon club, giving students a fantastic opportunity to partake in what is fast become a very popular and competitive sport, through weekly training and a schools' competition last year. Those who were unfortunate to face him in badminton club

undoubtedly got a good work out, even if they didn't win!

Both him and Duke, his very excitable dog, will be greatly missed (Duke possibly more), and we wish him every success in his new role by the sea.

Ellen Vermeulen

Tim Vallance Webb

Despite only being at Duke of Kent School for two years, Tim had a big impact, imparting his love and knowledge of Physics, particularly of planes, and Religious Education. In RE, he implemented the fantastic Archbishop of York Young Leaders Award, giving the Year 7 and 8 students the opportunity to carry out commendable and mature selfless acts, and spend time having some insightful conversations with residents at Knowle Park Care Home in Cranleigh. I am sure the handmade cakes went down as well with them, as they did with all of us!

In Physics, thanks to Tim a few Stretch and Challenge GCSE students were lucky enough to take a trip to the Heathrow control tower, to see and hear about the important work and skill that goes into landing one plane roughly every minute, without any mishaps. It certainly made the subject come alive and inspired everyone to learn more.

He was a valued member of the department, always willing to help and we wish him every success flying over the Australian plains.

Ellen Vermeulen



From the Bursary

I am writing this during what is currently a very sunny and mild September. Maybe there will be payback for the fantastic summer and early autumn that we have enjoyed, but let us hope that truly biblical weather stays away for the Autumn Term.

With an outdoors theme in mind, we have seen this year, one of the most important developments on site since I joined the School over twenty years ago. The All Weather pitch was formally opened in June by Cathy Wilson, a former teacher here and was named in her, and her late husband and former headmaster Roger Wilson's honour. Its roots go back at least a decade, as that was how long ago I told Graham Herbert, our Director of Sport that we could not possibly afford one.

Thankfully, times change, the School has flourished and it is wonderful to see this facility being so enthusiastically adopted by the School community. As the 'all weather' label implies this will save a lot of pressure on our grass pitches and also ensure that time out in the fresh air for our pupils is utilised to the maximum, whatever the prevailing ground conditions. If all this sounds a little too hygienic or anodyne, I can assure any concerned parents that cross country races are expected to remain thoroughly muddy affairs throughout the coming winter months.

My thanks go to all the many involved in the planning, reviewing and construction of the pitch. To single out a few people in particular, thanks to:

Graham Herbert, for keeping us on track in terms of how the facility will actually be used for the teaching and development of our pupils.

Keith Stacey, who ensured that we jumped quickly and nimbly through a surprising array of regulatory hoops and related site issues, in the process of delivering the project on time and within budget.

Oli Riches for liaising with our appointed contractors and being our man on the ground throughout one of the wettest, most miserable winters and springs I can ever recall.

Moving indoors, Jim Young has put in another year of stellar work and commitment on our behalf. He has overseen the smooth expansion of the School's IT needs and balanced this with the competing demand and sometimes clamour of maintaining our buildings. In both of these key areas he has been skilful, imaginative, creative and totally committed to the cause.

Headed up by our Catering Manager, Jason Taylor Bowers, we have served in the region of 80,000 meals this year. To me the devouring and demolishing of a beautifully presented salad bar in the space of a couple of lunchtime sittings would be a source of constant exasperation. Thankfully the Catering Team take it all in their stride and produce nutritious, beautifully presented food, day in and day out. It must be the grateful audience that explains their level of commitment and enthusiasm.

So, onwards towards 2019, a year that will mark the welcoming of Mrs Sue Knox to the School and a new era in the School's proud history.

Chris Finill Bursar

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A Few Things That Have Made Us Happy This Year...

A real fairground carousel on Front Pitch



Listening to the Choir at St Clement Danes



Seeing the amazing response of the School staff, pupils and First Aid team when pupils from another school were in urgent need, due to adverse weather



The mutual joy of residents and Year 5 pupils when they met to talk about each other at Ewhurst Old Rectory Care Home



Guy Rudman making the finals of Young Drummer of the Year competition



Mr Ellarby's Maths assembly.



Pliés with Ballet Club and the Director of the Royal Ballet, at the Royal Opera House in Covent Garden



Eating marshmallows and singing silly songs around the campfire with Year 3 during their summer great outdoors weekend activity.



Year 2 walking our Zambian visitor, Teddy, up to Pitch Hill and being taught some traditional Zambian songs.



Students starting and finishing their Silver Duke of Edinburgh Awards



Watching Nursery perform as Oompa-Loompas in the Pre-prep Summer Dance Show.



Hearing the Choir sing in the English Church in Amsterdam and sensing the admiration and awe amongst the audience.



Mrs Henry returning to Pre-prep



Harry Hearn's thank you letter at the end of his GCSE course.



Year 4's performance of "Les Trois Petits Cochons"



Canon Nicholson



Esme



Anabelle R



Clara HS



Anabelle R

Meet Our New Head

It is with a travel trunk brimming with pleasure and excitement that my husband Tim and I look forward to joining Duke of Kent School in January.

In the short time I have been involved with the School, I am immediately taken with the sense of a very strong community. Duke of Kent School is an excellent school, in an inspiring setting and with an outstanding ethos, very close to my heart. Warmth and individuality is apparent from the moment you walk through the door, as is the obvious sense of pride the children have for their school.

Following a career in marketing with Procter & Gamble and British Telecom, I completed a Masters in Education and Educational Leadership at Macquarie University in Australia, having previously completed an MBA at Cranfield University. I joined Pymble Ladies' College in Sydney, a leading independent girls' school with over 2000 students, as a teacher of French and German, subsequently becoming Head of Modern Languages, Deputy Head of the Senior School and Head of the Junior School over a ten-year period. In 2015, I was appointed Headmistress of Wellingborough Preparatory School and, as a family, we returned to the UK. It is here that I have continued to focus on creating inspiring learning environments and delivering quality teaching, to engage and stimulate learners.

As a mother of three, I believe that children should be free to express themselves, with the full support of nurturing and caring adults, but I also believe they need to be challenged as individuals. I want to instil in all pupils, the ability to do their very best in all sorts of environments, encouraging them to embrace every opportunity and to strive for excellence in all that they do. I also believe in cultivating an adventurous spirit, encouraging children, so that they are brimming with self-confidence, imagination, determination and a resilience to take on whatever life holds, and run with it. That's what I want for my own children, and that is what I want for yours too.



As a family, we have a love of outdoor life and have particularly enjoyed our various rafting and canoeing adventures, which have included building and living on a raft and paddling down the Hawkesbury River in Sydney, raising money for charity. Following a number of years in France and Australia, we are delighted to be back in the UK and, as keen ramblers, are looking forward to discovering the beauty of the Surrey Hills landscape.

As I look towards my start, I am excited for the future. Together with a team of immensely dedicated teachers and staff, I will continue to engage and inspire the children, instilling a thirst for learning. We will celebrate effort, nurture wellbeing and focus on achieving personal bests for both staff and pupils. In short, Duke of Kent School is a wonderful school and I want every child to move on from here with a suitcase jam packed with skills, knowledge, great memories and many special friendships.

Sue Knox



Prep School Review

What a busy and exciting year we have had in the Prep School! In addition to our usual annual events, such as the House Bake Off, Christmas Fayre, Christmas Concert, G Live, Prep School production, residential trips, House Chess competition and Sports Day to name but a few, we have also had some exciting inaugural opportunities such as Pi Day, Prep School Science Day, Nutrition Day, Share a Pencil Day and our first Parents' Literacy Evening.

School Council for the first time ever has included members from the Pre-prep department; congratulations to Pip and Eddie from Year 2 who have represented the youngest members of our community. It has been wonderful to hear their wider views and perspectives and it has been most encouraging to see their confidence grow when sharing their opinions. The School Council has had many exciting opportunities and responsibilities this year, not least including interviewing for a new Head. As part of this process the School Council members discussed what type of questions would be relevant and appropriate, as well as what qualities they thought were important in a head teacher. They independently derived their own questions and over the course of two mornings asked them to candidates as part of the interview panel. Here are a couple of examples of questions asked:

My favourite subject is Maths. What was your favourite subject when you were eight and why did you like it?

We have a Junior Jungle where we can make dens; do you think it is important for children to have the freedom to take risks and play outdoors?

Pupils listened carefully to the answers and asked supplementary questions where necessary. Council members then fed back their thoughts on each candidate and their responses to School Governor, Jenny Cropper. Their comments were very perceptive and they confidently backed their opinions with well-considered and reasoned ideas. We were most proud

of the maturity and professional manner that the pupils displayed throughout.

During the questionings and discussion, there was a resounding theme from pupils regarding their desire to have Drama as a timetabled subject. This was discussed in a debate involving the whole Prep School, attended by Mrs F-B and Mr Hubbard, Academic Deputy, who oversees the curriculum and organises the timetable. The sole purpose of our School Council is to provide the pupils with a voice, as an opportunity to influence and have ownership over their own school experience, and as a result of the children's dynamism, pupils in Years 3 to 6 have had a weekly 40 minute Drama lesson added to their curriculum, next academic year.

The School Council was allocated £200 at the beginning of the year to use in a way that they deemed would benefit pupils in our Prep and Pre-prep sections. After much deliberation and discussion with the peers in their year groups, they have decided that they will purchase a set of beginner chess boards which will be used in Pre-prep and Year 3 to teach pupils how to play chess and thereby give more pupils a chance of being successful in the popular House Chess competition. We look forward to seeing the legacy of this decision over the coming years.

The Prep School Council, together with other members of the Prep School, has also been instrumental in a number of charity events this year. Our annual Christmas Fayre raised around £1082, which was divided between three charities selected by the Prep School Council: our partner school, Salima LEA, in Malawi, The Cranleigh Foodbank and Cancer Research. In the Spring Term our Valentines Disco raised £230, which was donated to Rainbow Trust, a local children's charity. The Council planned the disco, deciding how it should run, whether it should be an 'own clothes' event, how much should be charged and to which charity the proceeds should go. They made posters to advertise the event and displayed them around the School.



Council members also provided support in decorating the Performing Arts hall for the disco, blowing up balloons and hanging decorations created by Prep School pupils. Prep and Pre-prep pupils also joined in with the Seniors' World Cup charity football day, where the Year 6s helped the Year 10 pupils to run the stalls, including face painting, a penalty shootout, obstacle race, splat the teacher and a tug of war competition. To top off the Summer Term, Years 3 and 4 worked tirelessly in their Creative Curriculum lessons to prepare artwork ready for their exhibition and auction evening. All proceeds raised went to the International Animal Rescue Foundation. The children were keen to support this charity after having learnt about deforestation in their Topic lessons, and were delighted to be able to donate £1200 to their orangutan project.

The pupils have done a remarkable job of thinking beyond themselves and their immediate lives this year. They have shown great care, compassion and generosity and I would like to extend a special thanks to all of the families who have supported the children in their fundraising across this academic year, as well as in our Forty Acts of Kindness, which you can read more about in this edition. Such encouragement and guidance is enabling the pupils to become well-rounded global citizens and gives hope to a positive and inclusive future where the next generation will look after the world and all of those in it.

To mark the opening of the newly refurbished Prep Library, 2017–2018 has also been a year for focus on literacy development. Prep pupils showed great creativity and initiative to independently create a variety of artwork and designs during their Christmas holidays, to be displayed in our fresh, bright surroundings. We introduced a new spelling pro-forma for pupils in Years 1–6 and have made regular use of our new and exciting resource 'Bug Club', an interactive online amenity that has been used at both home and school to support reading skills and comprehension.

To ensure that pupils are making full use of both the spelling and reading initiatives, parents were invited in

for our first ever Parents' Literacy Information Evening. Our School Governors also visited Year 5 and 6 classrooms to see Bug Club in action on the iPads, where the pupils ably demonstrated and explained its use. In addition to this, we have been fortunate to have a number of trips to meet authors and had them visit the school. In January, Peter J Murray visited School to share his spooky fantasy fiction series 'Mokee Joe' with the pupils. During assembly, he told how his life as a teacher transformed as he ventured along the path of creating and writing his own books, before becoming a published author. The children were most excited about obtaining their signed copies of the various escapades of Mokee Joe, and Peter's visit certainly ignited some focused and engaged reading.

In February a small group of Prep School literature enthusiasts went to Dorking Halls to see acclaimed children's author, Cressida Cowell. Cressida passionately discussed where she found her inspiration as a child, and told some thoroughly amusing anecdotes about her slightly precarious summer adventures with her siblings during the 1970s! She talked the audience through the origins and evolution of the 'How to Train a Dragon' series and shared some extracts from her new book in the series 'The Wizards of Once', a magical tale, set in old England, inspired by the beauty and mystery of our natural surroundings.

Amongst other opportunities, our Summer Open Morning in May featured a variety of reading and writing workshops. Dan Smith, an award winning author of adventure stories, told of his own real-life explorations and offered a Q and A session for young readers. Little Star Writing hosted creative writing workshops to nurture both aspiring authors and reluctant writers, promoting the inspiring and rewarding nature of writing, and George Hoyle used the joy of music and drama to tell stories in the most exciting and magical of ways.

In addition to our attention on English, we have also held two exciting focus days for the first time this academic year, on the other core subjects.



We had our first Pi Day on 14th March (3.14 as some people might refer to it). Our assembly, led by Mr Ellarby, outlined the fascinating principle of Pi and its infinite digits. Some overwhelming concepts such as the fact that everybody's birthdays and phone numbers could be found within its digits were staggering! Prep pupils were also grateful to Martha and Milly from Year 8 who presented on another infinite number: the Golden Ratio (Phi). They taught us about this notion with great energy and panache, and provided plenty for the Prep pupils to aspire to as they enter the Senior School. Following assembly, Prep pupils were organised in to mixed aged groups to participate in a Maths scavenger hunt around the school. They needed to apply logic, knowledge learned in lessons, creativity and teamwork in order to solve riddles and calculations. The culmination of our celebrations of Pi Day was a whole school assembly. Pupils had been challenged to remember as many digits of Pi as they could, and the final two pupils standing, consisted of Mia in Year 3 and Guy in Year 1! It was a tense final, with both pupils impressively remembering over 40 digits of Pi. It was wonderful to see the great enthusiasm, perseverance and gumption demonstrated by the pupils throughout the day's activities.

In the final weeks of our Summer Term we held our first Prep School Science Day. Professor Vonnie, from Science Wizards, hosted an assembly for pupils in Years 1 to 6, where the pupils were entertained by a series of exciting experiments themed around Forces.

Throughout the day, pupils took part in workshops where they were able to try these feats for themselves, including making ping pong balls float in mid-air thanks to a hair dryer, enabling a drinks can to balance precariously on its edge due to a line of gravity, and whipping a tablecloth out from under some crockery, as a result of a lack of friction.

All Prep School pupils also took part in the Marble Run Challenge. In teams of six, they had forty five minutes to design and make a course out of recyclable materials for a marble to travel down. The team whose marble took the longest to travel to the bottom would be named the champions! Amazing initiative and creativity was shown by the pupils: focus, resilience and composure were key in order to complete the challenge in time. The winning team consisted of Rhys (Y3), Annabelle (Y3), Henry (Y4), Conrad (Y5), Fleur (Y5) and Alfie (Y6), with their marble taking an impressive 9.12 seconds to successfully reach the bottom of the run.

These are just some of my favourite memories of a year in which pupils have been deepening and developing their learning in active and practical ways, through experiences that contextualise and bring learning to life, as well as having a lot of fun!

Rebecca Green Head of Prep School





Meet the Prep School Deputy Heads

Rob Ellarby

I am the new Deputy Head (Academic) of the Prep and Pre-prep departments at Duke of Kent School, where my main role is to oversee teaching and learning. My aim is to give the pupils all the tools they need to become successful learners, both for the present day and for their academic futures.

Before I started teaching here at Duke of Kent School I had three successful and enjoyable years working in Dubai at an international school there, not far from the beach and with over 2000 pupils from Reception up to Year 13. I was Assistant Head of the Maths Department which had twelve teachers. Dubai for a time became my home from home and I made the most of the sunny climate and fast paced lifestyle of the big city. Sure enough though I started to miss the greenery of the British Isles, my family and I even developed a soft spot for the rain I was so used to and which doesn't exist in the Middle East.

My passions outside education mostly involve travel and sport. I try each year to visit as many new places as my budget will allow and enjoy experiencing new cultures for

myself whenever possible. I am a keen amateur footballer and will carry on playing until my knees let me down, which doesn't seem too far away after the most recent season's injuries still creaking away in my joints. I also enjoy playing tennis, squash and as the children will tell you, I am a Frisbee fanatic.

Placing an emphasis on producing well rounded pupils, who are prepared both academically and personally for greeting the world beyond Year 11, is something I love about the School. This is becoming increasingly important when reading statistics such as 65% of jobs in 2032 have not yet been invented, proving more than ever that our pupils need to be resilient learners, confident people and ready for anything that awaits them.

I have very high expectations of the pupils here at Duke of Kent School. I think this is very important as the pupils are yet to realise what they can achieve and without high expectations from the adults around them, they will never find out what their potential could be.





Chris Wright

As Deputy Head of Prep and Pre-prep (Pastoral), my main role is to ensure we prioritise the safeguarding and well-being of our pupils. Having worn several hats in my five years at Duke of Kent School, including Pre-prep Coordinator, House Coordinator, Literacy Coordinator, Boarding Staff and Class Teacher of various year groups, I firmly believe that in order to fulfil their potential at school, at any age, in any subject, children must feel safe and happy.

Before teaching, I worked as an art historian at the National and Hayward Galleries, established my own business selling my drawings, and managed wildlife conservation projects in Africa and Asia for the Born Free Foundation. It was thanks to the latter role that I came across the School, when I was invited to give annual talks to the Year 8s about our work with tigers and great apes. My visits here and the enjoyment I gained from talking to the children, played a large part in my subsequent career change.

One of the things I most love about the School, is the emphasis that is given to our pupils' opportunities

to explore their abilities and interests. Everyone is encouraged to have a go and the resultant depth and breadth of their experiences underpins their self-esteem, resilience and appreciation of things around them. I have always had a wide range of interests, from art to sport, languages to wildlife, and as my winding career path bears witness, I was driven by curiosity and ambition, but not in any one single direction. Having the freedom and choice to find their own way and try different things is invaluable for our pupils' sense of fulfilment.

I think our school's emphasis on nurturing the whole child pastorally as well as academically, is wonderful, and bears fruits wherever you look, be it in pupils supporting their friends at concerts, volunteering to help staff supervise younger peers, or just showing a genuine interest in and concern for other people. All of these attributes and attitudes can easily be overlooked – indeed they are so common here as to go unnoticed in many ways - yet they remain a cause for great celebration.





World War I project

The First World War was the predominant theme of the first term of Year 9 History. In this, the centenary of the ending of WWI, the events and effects of that conflict still resonate. Controversies continue to loom over the causes, justifications, leadership and casualties. The war sowed the seeds of WW2, the Cold War and has impacted on modern-day politics from Europe to the Middle East and beyond. Medical advances, votes for women, village memorials and Remembrance Day are more legacies of the war. A plethora of literature, film and documentaries continually comment and judge the conflict. In short WWI matters and it is in this light, Year 9 students study WWI. The supporting images are but a few examples of Year 9's research into aspects of the First World War, which had interested them the most. Every student presented their findings in class.

Several students researched family ancestral histories pertinent to them. These included Nick E's scrutiny of Pte Masson, Matty S's consideration of his watchmaker ancestor who tried to develop early body-armour, and Josie M's study of a relative at Salonica (Greece). Only the latter survived the war. Raef B looked at the vast Australian contribution and experiences on the Western Front and in Gallipoli, while Jasmine B enjoyed researching the role of sport during WWI. We later looked at Walter Tull, in class, and for an Assembly, who was a famous professional footballer (Tottenham and Northampton) and who became an infantry officer in the British Army. He achieved both despite prejudice over his ethnic background - he was black. Killed in 1918, his name is on a memorial in Arras, Northern France. Like so many, his body was never found.

Minnie C considered medical research into facial disfigurements, creating masks to display the effects. Adam McN was one of several students who produced trench models, his being exquisitely detailed and labelled. Archie L similarly laboured over several weeks to build a model U-boat submarine. Florence T created a poster celebrating the life of Flora Sandes, a Yorkshirewoman who joined the Serbian army as a nurse and ended up as one of its frontline infantry commanders. Other topics included the role of animals in the war (a less well known example being that contorting slugs gave early warning of gas attacks), the battle of Verdun, and developments in aerial and land warfare. Roland Garros court in Paris is named after a WWI pilot, who was a strong advocate of tennis!

Many parents and relatives also engaged in this research to the benefit and (I trust) the shared enjoyment of all. We look forward to further cementing our knowledge and awareness with a History tour to the Somme battlefield later in 2018.

Dale Lodge Teacher of Humanities



Outstanding work

Year 8 pupils were asked to write a poem reflecting on what it would be like to be black during Apartheid.

This is what Milly wrote:

United Hearts

I'm stuck in the pit of its brutal grasp,
Covering its face with its forbidding mask.
Each day it will take its harrowing toll,
Only sparing those perfect, pure white souls.

Those pale as snow and bright as light,
Are never haunted, in the dead of night.
They are the ones provoking its hatred,
Promoting its rules, for me, there is no escaping.

Life should be a garden, blooming opportunity,
Instead, this monster just tears away at the community.
Leaving the streets running with prejudice and discrimination,
Turning our world to a place of racial segregation.

I wish we could live together as one,
And racism would take down his loaded gun.
All it would take is one person to have a heart and see,
Then this broken world will begin to pick up its emotional debris.

It's not hard to look a little further than the skin,
What matters is the soul that lies within.
A lot can change with a little kindness and love,
And maybe my race can wear a smile and rise, high, high above.

Milly B. Year 8

James wrote this piece as part of his GCSE coursework. He read it in May, to the audience at the Evening of Original Works, held in The Wilson Room in the grounds of Ewhurst Church.

Ireland. 'The Emerald Isle'

Peaceful, tranquil, happy and mystical.

A land of sleepy villages, where you can walk in total safety. A land of rough and rugged, wild coastlines with their frenzied waves, moving like cannons as they pound the cliffs. A land of jade - the rolling landscape glowing green with the golden gleam of the sun.

It's sunny now - the cool, radiant beams spill over the sea, filling it with colours: greens and blues of all forms, turquoise and even purple...

I imagine traipsing through the emerald forests, through this fairy-tale country, seeing an oilliphéist pouncing upon unsuspecting sheep, or trampling through the site of an ancient battlefield, seeing the bánánach (spirits/spectres) who haunt the remnants of places where once mythical battles took place, or hearing the wails and screams of a lamenting banshee...

I arrive at a bridge which traverses a small but dangerous ravine.

It has deep, plunging sides. Rocks litter the valley floor, carved from the soft rock by the sheer force of the waterfall. The water surges, gushes and gurgles below me, through the gorge, and continues to gouge its way through the earth. Light refracts off the glittering water as the sun gently slopes its way through the azure skies.

A bird glides lazily through the air, swooping, ducking and diving with the sea winds. The sheep graze, contently, in their fields. Even the hills seem to yawn, as they stretch themselves over the land, windswept and dormant.

The air moves fast through the sky - the result of Atlantic winds - but it seems still, happy to remain as it is, in the quiet solitude of Ireland, before it is forced to move on again, on its journey over the wider world. It will reach the peaks of mountains, and as the decades turn into centuries, and the centuries into millennia - never again will it see the peace and safety of this beautiful country.

This is Ireland: peaceful, tranquil, happy and mystical.

James F. Year 9



Junior School winner: Rosie S



Senior School winner: Amelie WB

Photography

at Duke of Kent School

"The camera is an instrument that teaches people how to see without a camera." Dorothea Lange

In 1902, then a seven year old girl, the photographer Dorothea Lange contracted polio. This left her severely weakened down her right side and with a permanent limp. Commenting on this formative experience and consequential, lifelong disability Lange mused, "It formed me, guided me, instructed me, helped me and humiliated me. I've never gotten over it, and I am aware of the force and power of it." Lange's difficult start in life led her to empathise with the poor and dispossessed of 1930s America and she began using photography to document the migrant worker families of the Great Depression. Her images document the same world our senior students read about in John Steinbeck's classic, 'Of Mice and Men'.

Her most iconic piece, 'Migrant Mother' (1936), brought the plight of these displaced families to public attention. This series of just 5 photographs is widely recognised as being the catalyst that spurred the US government to send aid to the area, narrowly preventing widespread starvation.

Lange recognised the power of photography to form an image that creates clarity in a complex world. Her work cuts through the filters of prejudice and politics to expose a basic human reality, one with which the viewer can instantly empathise. The US Army also recognised the power of Lange's images, impounding her documentary shots of the 1942 internment of Japanese Americans by the US military, for fear that they would influence a tide of public opinion opposed to their policy.

Given the power and influence that good photography can have, it is essential that we educate our students to be fluent in its subtle language, to understand the effect it can have and the manner in which it can be harnessed and given purpose. In the digital age the photographic image has a new power. Images can

be created, manipulated and distributed worldwide in an instant. The right photograph has the power to change government policy, switch public opinion and raise awareness of events in a heartbeat. With the development of technology, even the simplest of smartphone places this power in our pupils' hands. With this power in mind, the perceived wisdom that a photograph always depicts a truthful replication of a moment, is an important one to challenge. We have all seen politicians, viewed through different photographer's lenses, depicted as conquering heroes and clumsy buffoons in the same political moment.

Understanding how to use a camera in the field is the first step in harnessing the power of the image as well as becoming aware of its limitations and pitfalls. In the Art and Design Department at Duke of Kent we take a practical approach towards this goal. Students as young as Year 3 begin using our bank of digital SLR cameras (gratefully received from PADoK a few years ago) inside and outside the classroom. Photography is taught throughout the Art curriculum alongside traditional art forms such as drawing, painting, printmaking and sculpture and is given equal weight of importance. This is particularly evident at GCSE level where students often use photography as a tool for research and to develop work in other media as well as using it as an artistic tool in its own right. Alongside this, we have a studio lighting area and dedicated digital suite that allows students to use industry standard software to understand how images can be manipulated and edited, something that is so important with the rise of Instagram and other image adjusting software.

Students' exploration of photography is supported in extracurricular initiatives including our regular stretch and challenge photography trips and the annual Senior School and Prep School photography competitions. The images produced through these two initiatives have improved in quality year on year

and display an increased understanding of the media. There is now an appreciation among students, not just of how to take a photograph, but how to use these skills to explore themes and ideas of interest to them. In recent years, students have become increasingly proficient and confident in their use of Photoshop and other image manipulation software to manipulate the mood and meaning of an image to their own ends. The enthusiasm with which students have approached these opportunities is evident in the quality and variety of autonomous work created. This year's entries to our Duke of Kent School Photography Competition include moody black and white setups, using strong lighting, detailed macro shots exploring the microcosm of plants and flowers on the school site, landscape studies of the school and grounds, and portraits capturing personality and magical moments.

Increasingly students are entering images that they have taken outside school on their own equipment. This shows that their interest has carried beyond the school walls. The joy and sense of exploration evident in all these images is summed up in the words of French photographer, Marc Riboud, when he says;

"Taking pictures is savouring life intensely, every hundredth of a second." Marc Riboud

Michael Watson Head of Art and Design



Photography Competition

Prep School



Fleur S



Isla B



Josh WD



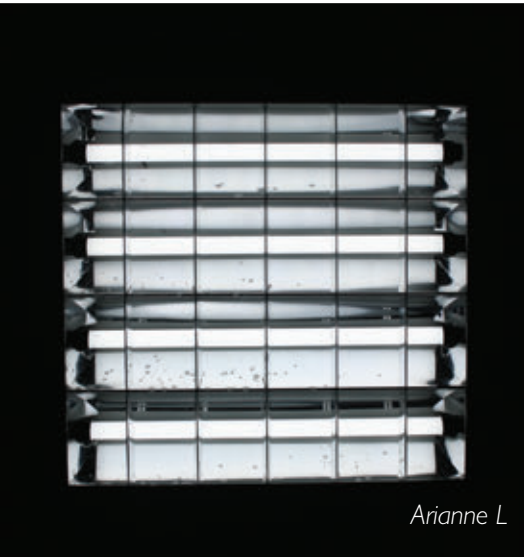
Matilda OB



Ella S



Tom B



Arianne L



Clara HS



Rose S

Photography Competition

Senior School



Alex B



Alex B



Amelie WB



Callum H



Callum H



Callum H



Milly B



Ben P



Ben P

Photography Trip to Hannah Pescher Gardens



Artists in Residence

Olly&Suzi

The Artist in Residence programme at Duke of Kent School is now well established and has included artists from a diversity of disciplines, including photography, portraiture, architecture, painting and product design. Through their work, these artists have explored themes and ideas as varied as disability, human proxemics, refugees and the Afghan War. The Artist in Residence programme has allowed, our students the opportunity to engage in these explorations alongside these highly respected professionals.

This year's invited artists continued in this tradition of excellence. Olly&Suzi have worked in partnership for over two decades. They have travelled the world to explore wildlife in the most diverse and extreme of environments, from the polar ice caps to the African savannah. The drawings and paintings that emerge from these adventures form much more than a record of the animals they encounter. Olly&Suzi actively engage with the animals in their natural habitats to spectacular effect. Their work displays a real fascination and respect for the animals they work with; many of them endangered and close to extinction. Through their work Olly&Suzi consistently aim to raise

awareness of the plight of these animals. Their projects and collaborations now extend into many different areas including music production, ballet, writing and film.

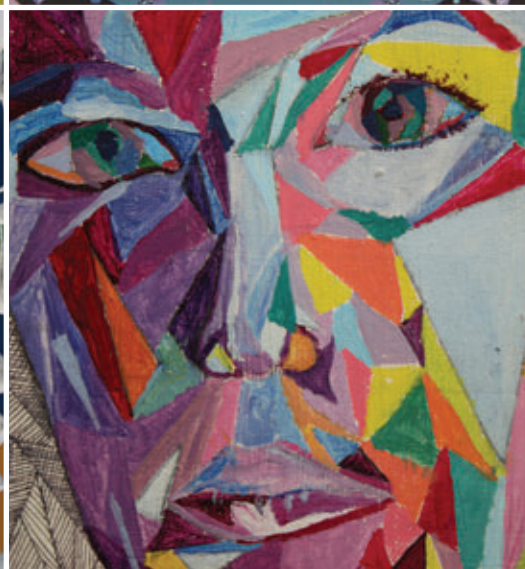
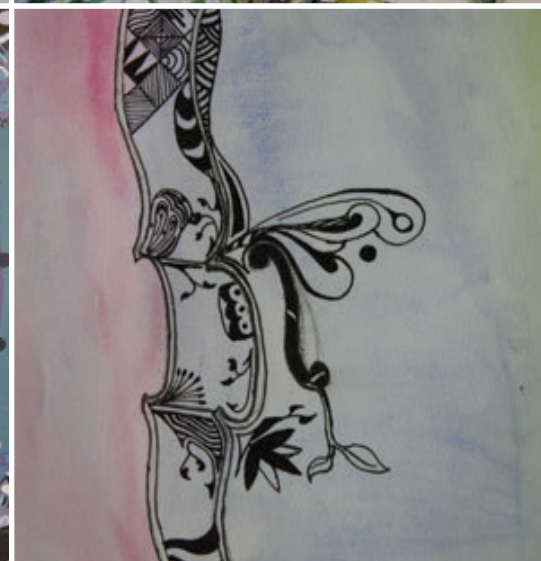
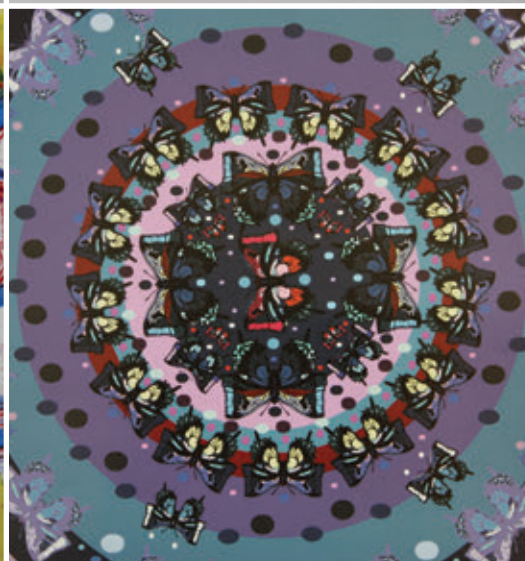
Students watched video footage of Olly&Suzi drawing sharks underwater, printmaking with live crocodiles and tracking wolves. Students were encouraged to respond to the natural forms around them in the Surrey Hills, using the same working techniques and processes used by Olly and Suzie. Outcomes were highly varied, experimental and personalised as a result of working in this free, responsive manner. Olly and Suzie also allowed students to try out some of the equipment that allows them to work in these extreme environments, including diving gear and hand carved snow goggles.

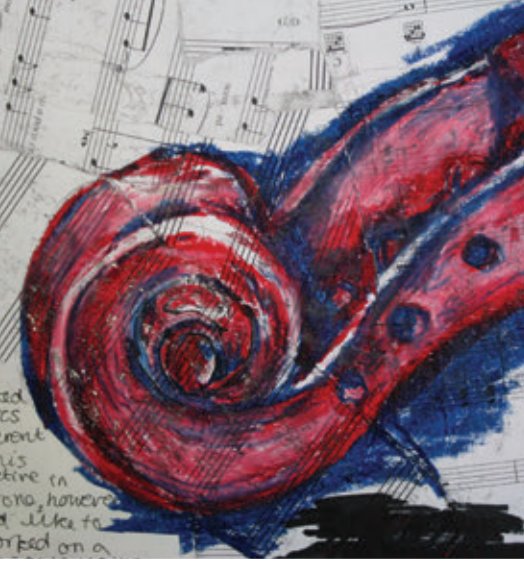
The international and ethical dimension to Olly&Suzi's work echoes the School's commitment to encouraging students to engage with international issues, respect a diversity of cultures and have a truly global understanding of their place and responsibilities in the modern world.





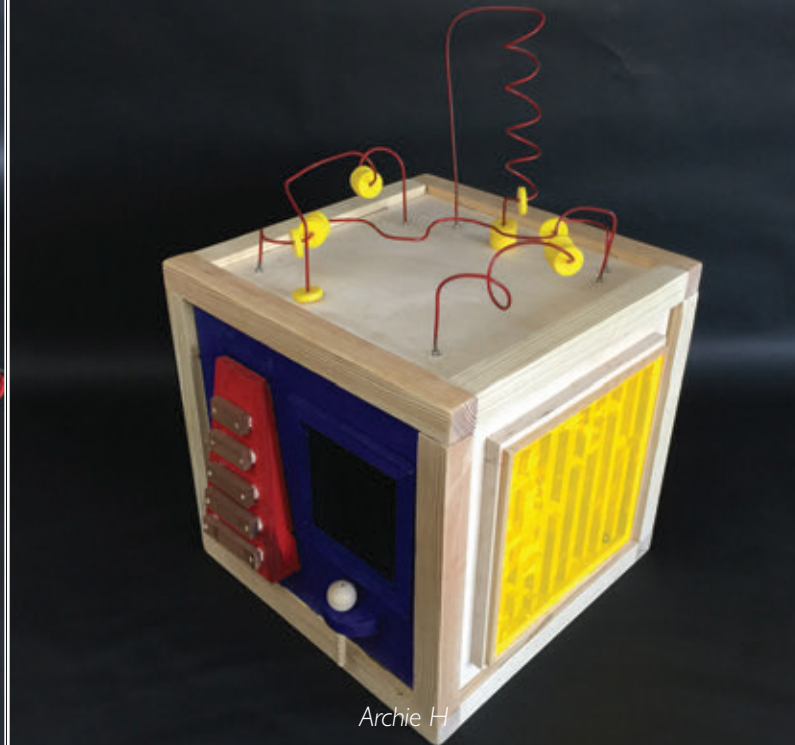
GCSE Art





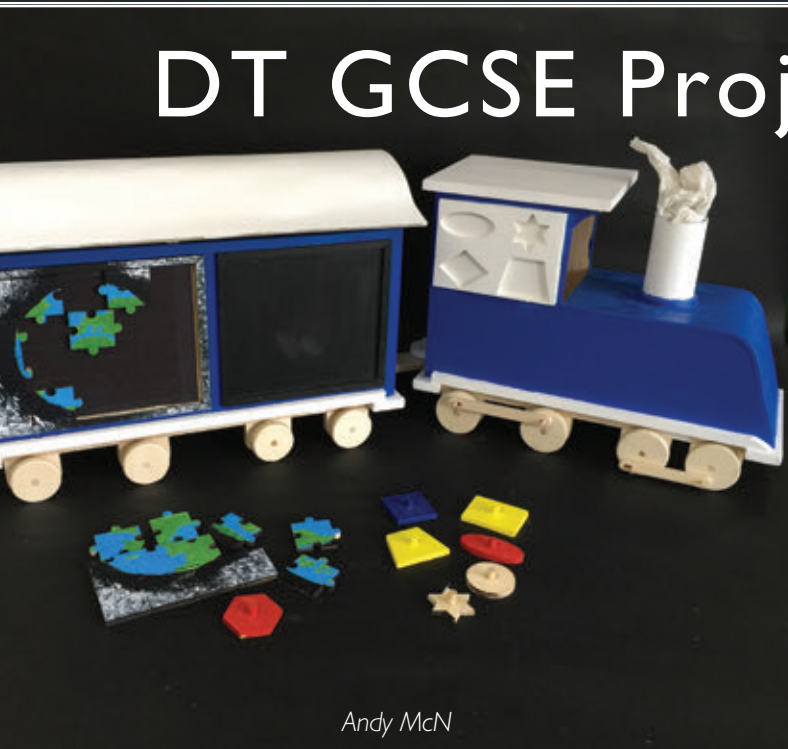


Alex B

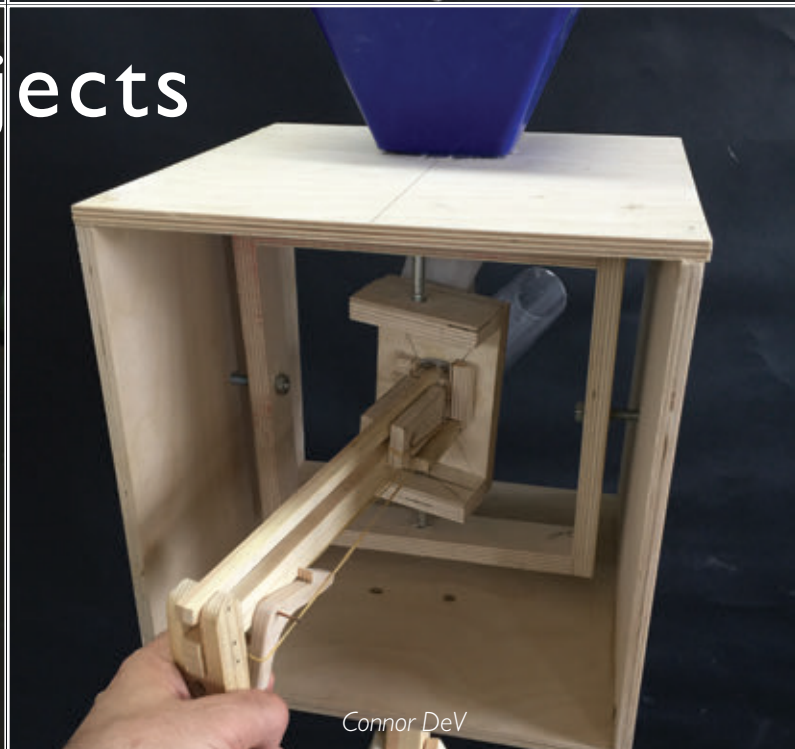


Archie H

DT GCSE Projects



Andy McN



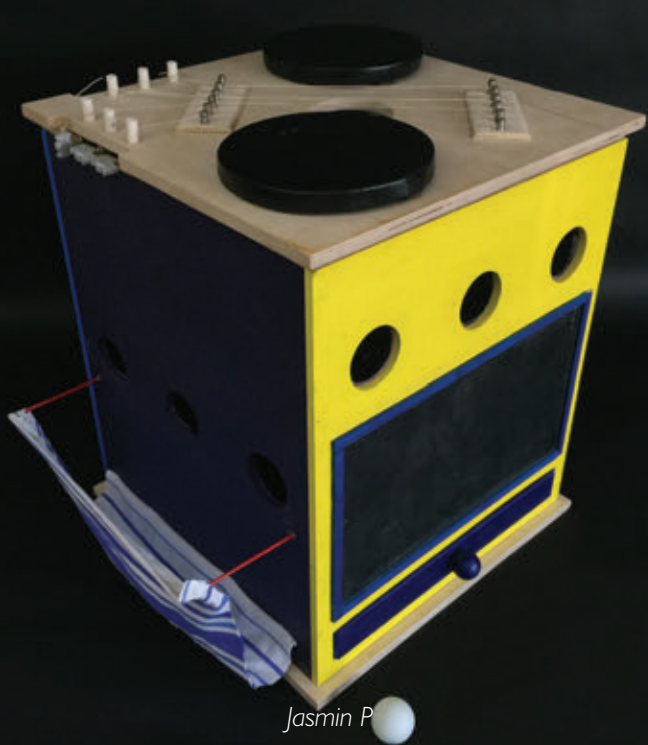
Connor DeV



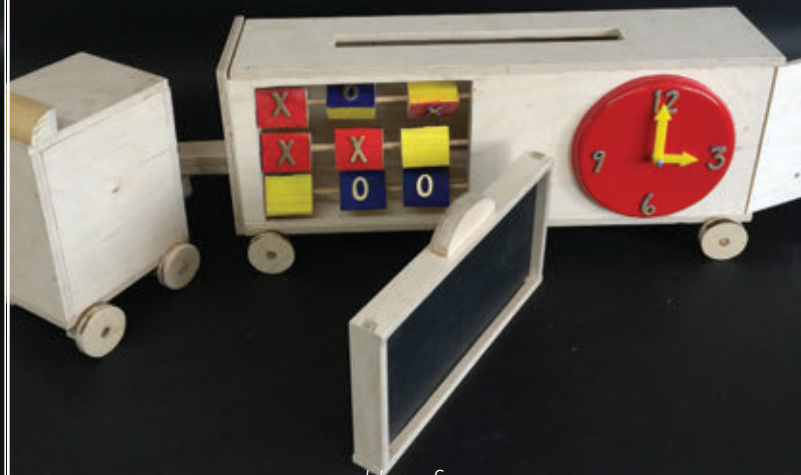
Fergus W



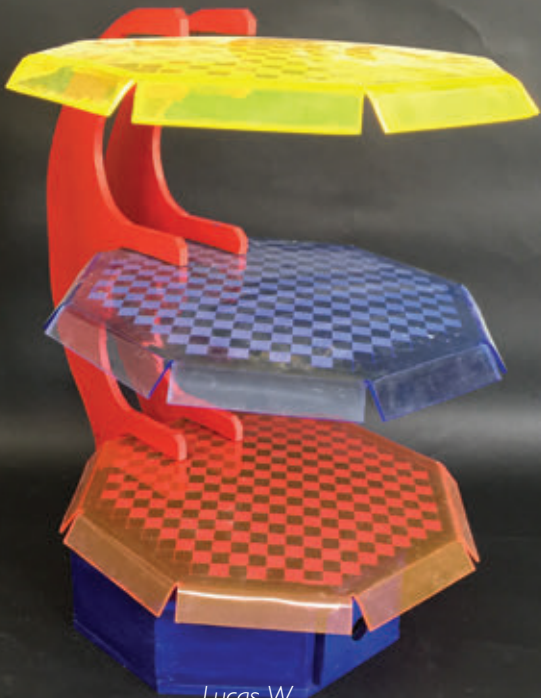
Harry H



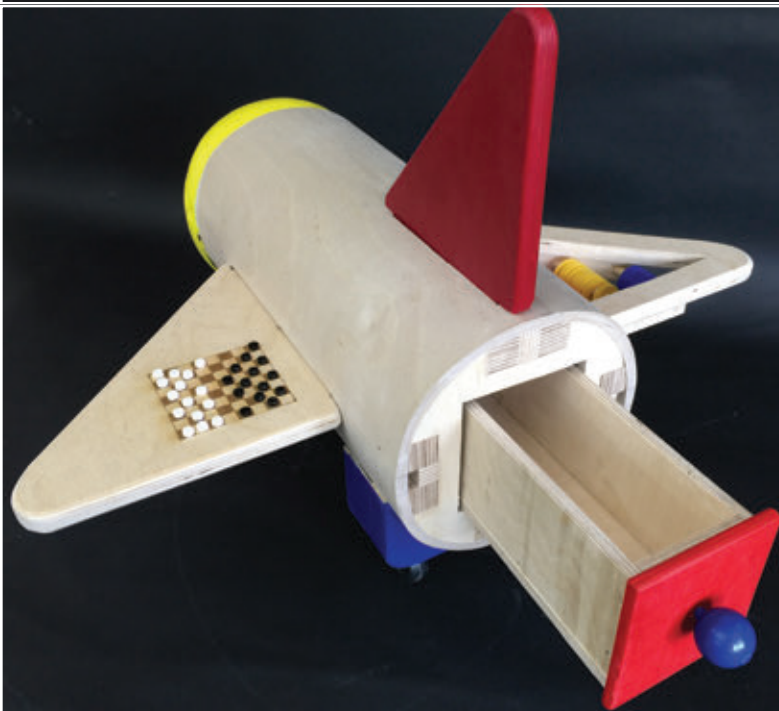
Jasmin P



Henry S



Lucas W



James C



Sacha W



Josie M

Music Review

This year has seen another packed calendar of performances, trips, workshops, lessons and events in the Music Department. There are record numbers of children taking individual music lessons (approx 60% of the school) with over 220 music lessons being taught a week, by our wonderful team of dedicated and professional peripatetic instrumental teachers, who provide such a valuable service to the School. The benefits of these individual music lessons are not to be underestimated; aside from teaching a child how to play, learning a musical instrument will increase numeracy, literacy, processing speed, self-esteem, confidence, problem solving, focus, self-discipline and creativity, just to name a few - and it is great fun!

The whole school continues to receive class music lessons as part of the curriculum and approximately 25% of the pupils in Years 10 and 11 are taking Music as a GCSE option.

Outside of the classroom it has been busy. The School has recorded its own CD in our very own studio (Volume II following on from Volume I which was recorded in 2016), the Senior Choir was featured in a Norwegian documentary and went on tour to Holland, we launched our own Performing Arts microsite on the School's main website, Prep pupils sung for local residents in a care home, we have taken pupils to watch the Royal Philharmonic and London Symphony Orchestras and put on a large number performances and concerts across all three sections of the School. The Music Department continues to be a huge part of school life.

Autumn Term

The focus of this term was of course Christmas, but that is certainly not the only thing that happened in the Department during the term. As we watched the glorious autumnal colours change on the trees surrounding the Performing Arts building we tried to match their variety with whole school singing, Prep

harvest songs, Remembrance Service hymns and a Senior School Musical (see the Drama section for a write up on that). Christmas was of course celebrated as well and this year did not disappoint...

On Friday 1st December the PA Hall was set for the annual Prep School Christmas concert, a lovely event that always signifies the beginning of Christmas at school. A relaxed and warm atmosphere filled the building and the children performed brilliantly.

In Pre-prep, copies of the 'Angel Express' hit the newsstands during the last week of term, announcing the arrival of the Son of God. With the help of some festive narrators, Pre-prep's Choir of Angels quickly set about spreading the news, and preparing to meet the baby Jesus. It was a sell out nativity that featured all four classes from Nursery to Year 2 and was, as always, a highlight.

Our annual Carol Service took place in St Nicolas Church in Cranleigh. To a packed church the Senior Chamber Choir, Junior Chamber Choir and Pre-Prep Choir sang their hearts out, and the readers spoke with clarity and meaning, filling the church with Christmas cheer and creating a wonderful atmosphere.

And finally on Sunday 10th December the Senior Chamber Choir fought its way through the snow to sing in the annual RAF Benevolent Fund's Carol Service at St Clement Danes Church on The Strand. We have had the honour of performing at this service for over thirty years now and it is always a wonderful occasion. Despite the snow this year keeping the attendance lower than usual (and sadly stopping the mulled wine van from attending!) there was still a lovely atmosphere in the beautiful church and, as always, our Senior Choir acquitted themselves excellently, singing beautifully and behaving with courtesy and consideration, receiving many positive comments from members of the public and critical acclaim from the professional choir also in attendance.



Special mention must be made of Year 11 pupil Guy R. He made the finals of the Young Drummer of the Year competition and also played drums in the professional band we hired for our production of 'We Will Rock You' - not bad for a 15 year old boy!

Spring Term

The Spring Term this year will be remembered most for the first ever Senior Choir Tour. This took place at the very end of term and saw the choir and staff head off to Holland for a few days. It was an incredible trip and an overwhelming success for all those involved - please see the separate write-up, to read about it in more detail.

The House Music competition is the main focus of the Spring Term for the whole school and this year did not disappoint. There were over a hundred entries, whittled down to sixteen for the finals day. The judge this year was Chris Leonard. Chris is an internationally successful songwriter, whose credits are a 'who's who' of pop music; most notably he has written with Ed Sheeran, Shawn Mendes, Paolo Nutini, and Harry Styles. The whole event was a wonderful opportunity for both the Senior and Prep schools to hear some of the School musicians play live, the Houses to sing together with wonderful props, costumes and make up, and a chance for some of the pupils to play in their house bands. The standard of all the finalists was, yet again, very high this year, with a lovely mix of instruments and singing, and a wide range of genres on display. A huge well done to the eventual winners (Hillary!)

Our annual trip to GLive! in Guildford always rates highly this term as well - please see the separate write to read about it in more detail.

After half-term Music and Art Pupils from both Senior and Prep Schools were treated to a visit from surrealist piano duo 'Duo Blzart'. Hailing from Belgium these two quirky and wonderfully talented musicians, billed as 'unusual, unconventional and bizarre' were just that. Playing one piano, the two musicians performed a wonderful version of Cinderella and then Sleeping Beauty for the Prep School in the morning, bringing the stories to life with wonderful paintings, lovely story-telling and beautiful piano playing. Then in the afternoon Year 8 and the Year 10 GCSE Art pupils were treated to an exploration of the link between modern art and 20th Century classical music, which really encouraged the children to think about expression, reaction, interpretation and even life!

And finally all the Pre-Prep pupils sang out the Spring Term in some style, delighting their audience with a Magical Mystery Tour of music. The playlist ranged from all-time classics such as 'A Little Help from my Friends', 'Here Comes the Sun' and 'We Will Rock You', to the slightly less well known, but no less rock 'n' roll, 'The Nose Song'. Amidst the harmonious group singing, we were also treated to a wonderful selection of small group and solo instrumentals and there was even time for not one, but two renditions of everyone's favourite - 'Mr Fizz'. It is always a wonderful concert and this one was no exception.

Summer Term

Throughout the whole of the Summer Term we hold a series of relaxed lunchtime recitals for every child that has instrumental lessons. Once again, these were a successful way for the children to gain invaluable performance experience, a chance for parents to see their children perform and also meet their teachers. It was lovely this year to see so many friends and teachers come and support the performers, and the PA Hall or the Meetings Room was often full of the sound of music, be it emanating from a violin, an ocarina or a drum kit.

The School was visited in the Summer Term by a Norwegian film crew making a documentary about a trio of famous Norwegians and what had inspired them. One of whom was a musician who had come to Ewhurst to visit Pitch Hill to see where George Harrison wrote 'Here Comes The Sun'. Whilst here, Magnus Gronnenberg of the ICC Cowboys, came to sing and work with our Senior Choir, and the choir was filmed singing that very song with him, and then singing one of his songs. It was great fun and certainly not something that happens every day!

The Summer Term was also incredibly busy with evening concerts. Each of them deserves a small mention in these pages so please see below:

- The House Music Finalists' concert - a chance for parents to come and listen to those children who made the House Music finals in the Spring Term. Such a lovely evening celebrating the musical excellence in the school
- The Choir Trip showcase - which provided the parents the chance to come and see the Senior Choir perform the full tour programme, and also see some videos and photographs of the trip.
- The Evening of Original Works - now in its third year, it showcases the work of selected Year 9, 10 and 11 English, Music and Art students at the

Wilson Rooms at Ewhurst Church. Originally intended as a one off event, this evening has become a permanent fixture in the School Calendar. It is a fabulous opportunity for the three departments to work together to produce an evening of musical compositions, poetry, creative writing and photography.

- Woodhouse Opera - Junior Chamber Choir sang at Woodhouse Opera in Holmbury St. Mary for the second year running, performing two chorus pieces for their production of 'The Cunning Little Vixen'
- Mrs Fremont-Barnes' Leaving Concert - the top car park was transformed into an outdoor concert venue, where the School held a leaving concert for Mrs Fremont-Barnes. With the sun gently dipping behind the School, and the building providing a natural acoustic amplifier for the performers, this was a joyful event with a wonderful, relaxed atmosphere and excellent performances from the School ensembles and groups. After a massed choir finale that involved all performers, Mrs F-B then requested an encore and we managed to cobble together the wonderful tune 'Shackles' with audience participation and, what was perhaps the highlight of the night, Year 11 pupil Connor de Voil getting Mrs F-B up to dance!
- Year 11 Leavers' Concert - at what is now a tradition, the Year 11 musicians put on a lovely concert before their Leavers Dinner. With everyone done up in their finery, we witnessed some outstanding musical performances from Guy, Felix, Lexi, Jas and George... before the whole year group (and much of the audience) finished the concert with a wonderful rendition of the Beatles classic 'Let it Be'. A wonderful way to finish the year.

Nick Rye Director of Music and Performing Arts







Choir Tour to the Netherlands, Easter 2018

The Surrey Hills were a hive of activity at three o'clock on the morning of Friday 23rd March. For thirty seven Duke of Kent School students, accompanied by Miss Barnes, Mr Kaye, Mr Macdonald and Mr Rye, this marked the start of their five day choir tour of venues around the Netherlands. The sunrise over Dover revealed some choppy waters for our crossing, but all forty one passengers plus our coach driver Trevor, arrived on the continent with our ferry breakfasts still very much inside us. Our drive across France and Belgium, towards the small Dutch town of Noordwijk ('nord-vike') proved pleasingly uneventful, and we were warmly welcomed at the Sea-You hotel by manager Arnold and his family. After tea and a film viewing, the long day was brought to end.

Saturday morning saw the choir rise early for a thorough practice before walking into town to our first venue, Noordwijk Buurtkerk, whose modern decor mixed with religious tradition offered a supportive setting for the choir's programme of both sacred and secular music, to which the town's locals responded with great praise. The day was rounded off with a well-earned visit to the local pancake house, followed by a quiz on our return to the hotel.

Sunday's performance took place at Topaz Groenhoven retirement home, Leiden – a city home to the nation's oldest university, and the birthplace of Rembrandt. Our early morning arrival allowed for some pre-concert exploration to appreciate the stunning architecture of the historic city. The choir's colourful and varied bowling skills were then put to the test at Noordwijk's local alley, followed by an equally

eye-opening talent show, featuring a comedy sketch, a dramatic reading, music, and even magic.

A tour to the Netherlands wouldn't be complete without a visit to Amsterdam, one of the world's best-loved cities. A slightly precarious walk - dodging countless cyclists, and avoiding embarrassing, unplanned descents into Holland's famous canals - led us to Amsterdam's Engelse Kerk (English church), by far our oldest venue, dating back to the early fifteenth century. The choir was pleased to perform in front of a number of dedicated fans in the form of the Bonds, the Wrights, and even Mrs Fremont-Barnes, who battled flight delays to see our final show. An encore of gospel favourite Shackles allowed Mrs FB to witness the ensemble in its full glory. Having disrobed from concert attire, the group paid a harrowing visit to the home of Anne Frank, crawling behind the Jewish diarist's bookcase into the home where the Frank family hid from the Third Reich's regime. Further understanding of Europe's extensive history was gained from a boat tour through Amsterdam, which was a surprisingly peaceful retreat within the hustle and bustle of the Netherlands' busiest city, and a fitting final activity.

Duke of Kent School's first choir tour highlighted once again the huge commitment and inherent respect of our school's students. This was demonstrated not only by their singing, but also to each other, their teachers and of course to the people of the Netherlands, whose amazing hospitality was, and will always be, remembered by all.

Tom Kaye Music Graduate Assistant

The Annual Rotary Club Combined Schools Concert at G Live in Guildford

The annual Rotary Combined Schools Concert at the G Live venue in Guildford continues to be a highlight of the year for the Music Department. This year 104 pupils took part (roughly a third of the school!) and, as always, they acquitted themselves with discipline, focus and patience. The concert is a celebration of what music can and should be; an inclusive and powerful art form that educates, entertains and is fun. The opportunity for all the pupils involved to experience the thrill of playing in a professional venue, working alongside a professional crew and feeling the glow coming off stage after trying their hardest, is wonderful and one that will provide lifelong memories. As one Year 6 pupil said shortly afterwards, 'It is one of the things I am most proud of this year... the audience was huge, so it was pretty scary, but it felt great to be performing songs we had practised so many times with friends. And the applause at the end was amazing!'

The performances by our pupils were fabulous, with each group or soloist rising to the occasion and receiving rapturous applause from not just our loyal parents but the whole audience. Special mention should not be made of anyone; it should be made of everyone! We were extremely proud of all the children who took part: The Rock Choir, The Jazz Band, The Junior Chamber Choir, The Senior Chamber Choir, The Ukles of Kent, The Year 10 Harmony Group, The DoK Rock Band, Jas P and Lexi B. It was a wonderful day, as always, and one which we hope to be repeating next year and beyond.

The photos on show here were taken by the professional photographer on the day, who just happened to be our own Mrs Turner who volunteered her services to the Rotary Club, as the professional photographer for the day.







Drama Review

Drama continues to feature strongly in school life. This year has seen the introduction of Drama as a subject in its own right within the Senior School syllabus, taught by our new Performing Arts teacher Mrs Honey. This has quickly proved to be a hugely popular subject with Years 7, 8 and 9 and next year will see the introduction of Drama in the Prep school, individual LAMDA lessons and Drama GCSE as an option the year after.

There has been a full and busy calendar of productions across all three sections of the School, and an impressive 80% of the School has been involved in productions in one way or another, be it on the stage, behind the scenes or in the lighting and sound box.

The Autumn Term saw quite possibly the biggest production ever staged at school; over sixty senior pupils were involved in the musical 'We Will Rock You'. After only ten weeks of rehearsal, the PA Hall was transformed into a dystopian, futuristic landscape for a production that featured a live band (including one of the guitarists from the West End show), video projections, green screen visuals, wonderful costumes and our new lighting system working at full tilt. Directed and choreographed by Lisa Lee, assisted by Sam Honey and with musical direction by Nick Rye, this was a hugely ambitious production and required each and every member of the cast and crew to work



together and focus on the end goal. The cast was outstanding, pulling together brilliantly as a team, for the performances on the Friday and Saturday, raising their game considerably and putting on a polished and professional show that was a triumph. Doug Jack, one of our governors who came on Friday, even went so far as to declare that Duke of Kent School history had been made!

During the Spring Term it was the Prep School's turn, performing 'The Coin', an original work written by our interim Head, Mr MacDonald. The story tells of journey of a coin from the hands of Julius Caesar to Captain Tiberius. It is then found and passed on to Vikings, Medieval maidens and even the Tudor court of Henry VIII. It is finally discovered by a boy at Hampton Court Palace. When he grows up, this boy becomes a History teacher and uses his coin to attempt to inspire and engage his class of unruly pupils. With excellent

direction by Sam Honey, the cast displayed wonderful acting, singing and dancing on both nights of the performance, and did themselves and the School proud.

Also in the Spring Term, Year 7 took a trip to the wonderful V&A Museum in South Kensington to perform as part of the 'Shakespeare in a Suitcase' project. This project comprised of an initial visit to the museum in the Autumn Term to take part in drama workshops and a tour of the Shakespeare inspired elements of the museum. The pupils then returned to School and in their Drama lessons devised and created their own piece of theatre based on objects from the museum. The props they used had to fit in a suitcase and the final piece was then performed in the incredible 'Daylit Gallery' in the museum, with members of the public milling about, and three other schools there to watch! The children had one rehearsal in an unfamiliar space, a scenario that even a professional actor would find daunting, but they took to the challenge with confidence and professionalism, and produced an excellent piece.

The Summer Term featured a straight drama production for Years 7, 8 and 9. A cast of forty presented their version of the play 'Oliver Twist', adapted from the original Dickens novel by Neil Bartlett. Imaginatively directed by Sam Honey this was a wonderfully dark and realistic depiction of Dickensian London and the murky world of Fagin, the Artful Dodger and Bill Sykes. There were stellar performances from the principles, who all acted with character and authenticity, supported wonderfully by a strong ensemble of ladies, gentlemen, wretches and urchins! With a fabulous set and spectacular costumes the whole evening was a feast for the eyes and ears and the cast did themselves proud, really bringing to life the dark despair of the original novel.

As the heat rose throughout the term, Pre-Prep pushed the temperature up even more with their amazing dance moves in their annual dance show, based on Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, wonderfully choreographed by Lisa Lee and featuring every single Pre-Prep child from Nursery to Year 2. What a show the Pre-prep pupils put on, not once but twice, on

the same sweltering day! In the morning the children's first full dress rehearsal was a triumph, drawing some wonderfully excited and generous praise from the Prep School audience members, many of whom were reminded of their own fond memories of performing lower down the school. In the afternoon, the children did it all again for parents and grandparents, and somehow with even more spring in their step. Mrs Fremont-Barnes remarked on how much pleasure was evident on all their faces as they shimmied, hopped and twirled across the stage, rivalled only by the joy on the faces of their audience!

On top of all these productions, there were also numerous trips to see professional plays and shows. GCSE Music pupils took in the musical 'Wicked', Years 3 and 4 went to the beautiful Woodhouse Opera in Holmbury to see 'A Cunning Little Vixen' featuring our very own Junior Chamber Choir, Years 9 and 10 took in 'Macbeth' at the National, the wonderful, newly formed Ballet Club managed to see Giselle at the Royal Opera House, Years 5, 6 and 9 visited the British Film Institute and finally Year 6 took part in Shakespearean drama workshops at the National Theatre.

It has been a splendidly busy year for the Drama Department!

Nick Rye Director of Music and Performing Arts



We Will Rock You







Pre-prep Dance Show



Wilson's' All-Weather pitch

- Named in honour of the late Roger Wilson, former headmaster at the School (1980-1999) and his wife, retired PE teacher, Cathy Wilson.
- It is a 3,500 square metre artificial turf pitch suitable for playing hockey, football and tennis.
- The project was conceived in March 2016 and completed on 8th June 2018.
- The facility was constructed in less than six months, despite unprecedented periods of heavy rain and snow.
- The planning application process included the provision of plans, drawings, topographical surveys, pitch specifications, floodlighting designs, design and access statements, tree reports, ecology reports, landscaping proposals and an archaeological assessment of the site.
- Planning permission was granted by Waverley BC in October 2017 in consultation with Ewhurst Parish Council, Surrey Wildlife Trust, Forestry Commission, Natural England, Sport England, Surrey County Highways and the Waverley Environmental Health team.
- In October 2017, following the tender process, Kestrel (Contractors) Ltd was appointed as the chosen contractor for the project.
- Earthworks started in December 2017 and a 'cut and fill' method was used to obtain a flat plateau for the pitch, with significant drainage installed around the perimeter and diagonally across the pitch.
- To stop the pitch falling away on the east side and to retain the soil, gabion baskets (steel wired baskets filled with stone) were installed.
- The pitch base consisted of a 4149 square metre geotextile membrane, a sub base of single sized aggregate and type 3 aggregate stone laid to 400 mm (3,651 tonnes) and an engineered base layer of bituminous macadam laid to 40 mm in depth.
- A shock pad made of rubber crumb was laid onto the macadam surface and a sand dressed artificial turf of 3,500 square metres at 18mm depth was glued in place.
- Line markings on the artificial surface have been sewn or cut into the carpet and the tennis markings have been painted.
- Floodlighting columns with LED lights, are 15m high and designed to provide the best light coverage of the surface at 400 lux and to minimise the disturbance to the bat community.
- The facility is enclosed by 220m of 3m high fencing, 40m of 5m high fencing behind both goals and 30m of 1.25m high fencing for the spectator area.
- 268 metres of timber kickboards were fitted at the base of the fencing.
- 430 metres of edging kerb stones were laid around the perimeter of the fence.
- The pitch was officially opened on 29th June 2018 at Sports Day by Cathy Wilson, in the presence of Roger's son, Simon.

Keith Stacey Operations Bursar



WILSONS

This pitch is dedicated to the memory of
Roger Wilson
Headmaster
(1980-1999)

and in grateful thanks for the service of
Cathy Wilson
Head of Girls' Games



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Sports Day

Sports Day was held on Friday 29th June and began with Pre-prep pupils throwing, jumping and running in front of a delighted audience of friends and family, with some impressive demonstrations and support from the GCSE PE students. These included Tom G-B displaying his long jump talent, after his recent ISA National Finals success, jumping over 6 metres. Toby Hughes showed his power and technique in the cricket ball throw, challenging the pupils to beat his distance. Lastly the GCSE PE students showed their speed by completing a 100 metre sprint race.

The afternoon saw the Year 3-11 Sports Day with each house being awarded points for where the pupils finished in the race (4 points for 1st, 3 points for 2nd, 2 points for 3rd and 1 point for 4th). Each team's total was then combined with the rest of their House scores to form an overall total.

All the children tried their best and there were some outstanding performances from all age groups. It was lovely to see the children being competitive and determined but also showing great encouragement and sportsmanship towards each other, throughout the afternoon. It was fantastic to see so many parents supporting the children in all the different activities.

Particular congratulations go to Tom G-B and Tyla W who won the Best Sportsman and Sportswoman awards for the afternoon. The final house results were, in fourth place Whittle, third place Chichester, second place Armstrong and in first place Hillary.

Matt Green Teacher of PE

Sporting Highlights

Autumn Term

There were plenty of netball matches for all pupils, and some particularly memorable matches against Shoreham College, with both the U13 and U12 teams equal after 2 quarters; 6-6 for the U12s and 10-10 for the U13s. Incredibly, both teams stepped up their game during the final two quarters and managed to win with some strong movement and accurate passing. This is just one example of the determination and hard work that the girls were willing to put into their matches to gain success.

Josie Vickers Teacher of Physical Education

We travelled to Handcross Park School for a cross country event, with a team which included thirty pupils from Years 3 to 8. Year 3 and 4 boys raced first, pacing themselves well and finishing the race strongly. The event finished with the Year 7 and 8 girls' race and some great running from our pupils, particularly Ellis McK who finished in seventh place. Throughout the afternoon all our pupils ran brilliantly in their respective races and they did particularly well to keep warm in the extremely cold conditions. Big congratulations to all pupils who took part and a special well done to Rufus B for his silver medal. It is always wonderful to see so many of our pupils trying their very best in an event that takes so much determination and resolve.

Graham Herbert Head of Physical Education



Spring Term

A combination of girls from Years 3 to 6 competed in a football tournament hosted by Longacre School. The U11 team managed to link their passes together in midfield with Alex K, to allow Ava W to score a goal within the group stages, and Millie W-D worked very hard in goal. The team got through to the knock out stages but lost to the eventual winners. It was then the U9 team's turn to give it their best shot. With Edie H in goal making some wonderful saves and Clara H-S and Sydney R holding up midfield, the girls managed to show some great skills throughout the tournament. We are looking forward to more girls' football matches in the future.

JV

Many of the GCSE practical assessments take place during the spring term. The pupils have to be assessed in at least one team sport and many of these assessments took place in matches against other Schools. All of the assessments went very well with the pupils scoring very highly. One particular assessment went extremely well, with our U16 rugby team playing some wonderful attacking rugby against More House; it was brilliant to witness so many tries, which demonstrated great team work and individual skills.

GH



Summer Term

There were some incredible catches, hits and run outs during the summer rounders season. The U12/13A team managed an unbeaten run of seven matches, with memorable catches from Issy F, Charlotte W and Bella R-B. This rounders success was evident within the Year 9 and 10 girls' season as well, with some thrilling matches, often with only half a rounder splitting the score, and Duke of Kent School's U14 & U15 teams came top, losing only one game each throughout the entire season. There were some particularly outstanding demonstrations of striking from Tyla W, Chloe E-L, Fleur B and Minnie C, and fantastic team work with all senior girls playing positively.

JV

There are so many fantastic moments which come to mind when recollecting the summer term highlights, but I would particularly like to focus on the achievements of our athletes who qualified for the ISA National Finals at the Alexander Stadium in Birmingham. We had finalists from Years 5 to 11 (Rufus B, Ben D, Tom M, Ellis McK, Hannah D, Matty S, Tom G-B and Andrew Mc), representing a number of athletic disciplines. This year we won two silver medals - Hannah D in the long jump and Matty S in the 1500m, which was a wonderful achievement. Our first ever gold medal in the finals came from Tom G-B in the long jump. Tom was level with another athlete with one jump to go and he managed to break his personal best and win the final, with a wonderful last jump. What an incredible moment!

GH



Sporting Alumni

Jamie Barden and Harry Barlow

Jamie Barden and Harry Barlow joined Duke of Kent School in 2007. During their time at the School, both boys showed talent in a number of sports but particularly demonstrated a love for rugby. In 2010, after taking their Common Entrance exams, they left to join Cranleigh Senior School .

Jamie Barden

Jamie Barden started playing rugby at the age of seven where he played tag rugby for Cranleigh RFC before going on to play for Harlequins age grade teams.

Jamie captained his Senior School's first XV where they won the Rosslyn Park National Sevens title, Surrey Sevens and St Joseph's College National Schools Rugby Festival tournaments across a two-year period.

Having an unbeaten final season at Cranleigh and being re-selected by Harlequins U18s, were two of Barden's proudest rugby moments, alongside making his England Sevens debut in Marcoussis for the second leg of the 2018 Rugby Europe Sevens Grand Prix Series, where England won bronze. Head coach Simon Amor hailed Barden's performance in Marcoussis, calling him 'outstanding'. (EnglandRugby.com).

Harry Barlow

Harry Barlow captained Cranleigh School for three seasons, played a key part in their Rosslyn Park National Sevens U18 trophy win in 2016-17 and won the U18 Academy League with Harlequins in 2017. He became an England international that year and won a silver medal with the U18s sevens team at the Commonwealth Youth Games in the Bahamas.

Harry joined the Harlequins academy in 2013 and credits academy coaches Warren Abrahams and Jim Evans for helping him gain a good understanding of the game.(EnglandRugby.com)







The Chaplaincy

This has been an exciting year for me at Duke of Kent School. It has been wonderful to be welcomed in a spiritual capacity as Chaplain and to be part of the school community. Duke of Kent School's ethos is committed to nurturing, supporting and challenging our children in all aspects of their well-being, and the role of Chaplain adds a new dimension to pastoral care at the School.

At the beginning of the academic year I spent time in each class getting to know the children, although I have to confess that learning and remembering their names is an on-going process. Being a new role for the School and a new venture for me, it has been fascinating and encouraging to see the diverse ways in which I have been able to be involved in the life of the pupils, staff and parents. This has included taking assemblies, teaching RS, running a Youth Alpha course, making Christingles, co-ordinating a Pre-prep cross-cultural day, parent prayer meetings, liaising with churches to run Easter workshops and, one of my favourites, reading, watching and making things with Reception children once a week.

I operate an open door policy to my room which provides a safe place for the pupils to come and share anything that is in their hearts or minds. I believe this has proved an invaluable resource for all ages. In our busy world we can underestimate the need to just be listened to. From September 2018, I will be more involved on the teaching side, as I take over from Mr. Vallance-Webb with teaching Year 7 pupils the Archbishop of York Young Leaders Award course. I will also be taking Year 6 RS lessons. This is something I am very much looking forward to.



After three years of intense theological training I was ordained as a Deacon in the Church of England on 1st July, which means I became a Reverend. I will continue to train as a curate for four more years at Wonersh Church, whilst serving amongst you here.

It has been a privilege to be involved with your children over the last year; they are all wonderful human beings and I love them dearly!

For anyone wishing to get in touch please email kpakenham@dokschoo.org

With every Blessing

Reverend Kia Pakenham

Kim's Cakes

Everyone at School knows Kim Bettell. She is one of our team of chefs who, on a daily basis, prepare and serve delicious food to the whole school community.

Since starting at the School seven years ago, dividing her time between three days of cleaning and two days helping in the kitchen, Kim made such good progress that she was asked if she would like a job as a chef. A year ago she sat her European Safety Bureau catering exams and passed with flying colours.

In her spare time she also makes the most amazing cakes. Baking was something Kim started to do and love when her eldest daughter was two, and over the last twenty four years she has largely taught herself. The result has been numerous creations for a variety of occasions, for both adults and children. The photos show cakes that she made for members of staff, Jim Young and CathyWilson.



40 Acts of Kindness Challenge

As we approached the Easter holidays, Prep and Pre-prep pupils focused on the way in which they interact with those around them and how they can make a positive contribution to the world, through our 40 Acts of Kindness Challenge.

40 Acts is the generosity challenge for Lent, created by UK Christian charity, Stewardship. For eight years, 40 Acts has asked the question: What if Lent could be about more than just giving stuff up? So, instead of giving something up for Lent, Pre-prep and Prep pupils at Duke of Kent School aimed to do something for others each day for 40 days. Each morning, each class would select at random, a task that they would aim to complete during the week. These tasks were challenges that the pupils could complete independently and which made a difference to someone else. To name but a few, tasks involved thanking people, paying someone a compliment, inviting others to play with them, tidying up without being asked and sending a letter or note to a loved one. They also focused on looking after our planet and its inhabitants by being helpful and respectful to wildlife and turning off lights and chargers.

Pupils were challenged to make a difference not only in their classroom and around school but also in their homes and the wider community. It was wonderful to receive emails and comments in Reading Records that illustrated the thoughtfulness and kindness that our pupils were contributing within their family environment.

40 Acts provided the opportunity for pupils to reflect decisively on their behaviour towards others and their contribution to our community, and its legacy continued throughout the remainder of the school year. Here are a few of the pupils thoughts on the experience:

"Now I hold the door open almost all the time."
Edie, Year 3.

"I have got to know people in different year groups better."
Heath, Year 3.

"I think more carefully about my table manners now."
Jude, Year 3.

"I enjoyed looking after animals. I found a snail to look after." Lucy, Year 3.

"It was really fun and it got you to do things which you might not usually do." Jack, Year 3.

"It felt like it made the School feel even friendlier!"
Ben, Year 3.

"When someone completed a task, it made the person receiving it feel better." Alex K, Year 5

"I think the 40 Acts of Kindness project was a great idea as it encouraged us to be nicer to each other. I especially liked the 'Tell people your best joke' as I love telling jokes."
Ozzie, Year 5.

"My favourite act was to help someone up if they fell down, because so many people actually trip or fall down, you can help more than one person." Ava, Year 5

"My favourite act of kindness was 'Pass the ball to a player in a match', which Rose showed. My other favourite was 'Help someone with their work, if they are stuck' and I helped Fleur." Esme, Year 5.

"Rhys was incredibly thoughtful with his younger brother this weekend, reassuring him through disappointment and encouraging kind behaviour in his actions too. It was lovely to see him being such a wonderful role model."
Mrs Williams

Over the years, 40 Acts has become a movement of over 100,000 people, on a mission to impact their communities with generosity, during Lent and beyond. We hope that the pupils will keep the core message of 40 Acts in their minds and hearts and continue to show kindness to others all year round.

Rebecca Green

Archbishop of York Award

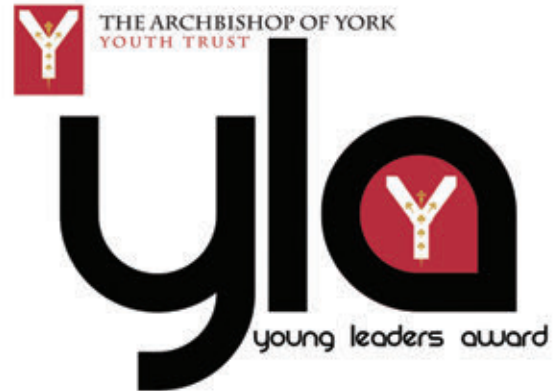
Duke of Kent School has been running the Archbishop of York Young Leaders Award for three years now. It is a programme initiated by the Archbishop of York Youth Trust and championed by Dr John Sentamu, who felt that today's young people were getting a 'bad press'. He wanted to highlight and encourage leadership and community involvement within schools.

The Young Leaders Award is a unique active citizenship programme which empowers young people to make a difference in their school and in their local community whilst growing in key leadership skills at the same time.

Their tag line is 'Be the Change you want to see' and this is explored during the year using three modules. We start by looking at leadership and what this looks like within our culture and our world by studying different people of faith. We look at a variety of people including Bear Grylls and Martin Luther King and we discover how their faith has shaped their motivations and subsequent actions.

Secondly we look at our community and outline what Hope is and explain ways in which it can transform our communities. We look at what it means to serve others, giving practical examples and explore how are actions and choices can impact others.

Finally we put this knowledge to good use in the Action module. This brings together all that we have learnt in the course, incorporating leadership skills in planning and organising a personal project, a school project and a community project. Previous projects have included helping with after school activities in Pre-prep, charity cake sales and visiting Knowle Lane Nursing Home offering games and entertainment.



Pupils who have completed the Young Leaders Award previously have gained confidence, an awareness of their own leadership qualities and deeper involvement within their local communities.

'The highlight of the Award for me this year has been learning about some activists and their moral rights and how these principles helped them in life.'

'I really enjoyed completing my personal task. Volunteering at Famcombe FC tuck shop for two hours as I met a lot of people and really enjoyed the whole community. With the personal project I feel I have become more active in the community and made a difference. I would definitely do this again and I found it quite eye-opening.'

Kia Pakenham

Chess

Senior House Chess

The Senior House Chess competition was particularly competitive this year with some very hard fought matches taking place. All the Houses engaged in their own competition with the eventual House winner going up against the other winners.

It was a very exciting event. Casper C for Whittle, Will W for Chichester and Max T Armstrong battled through some very tough rounds to become champions of their respective houses. Nonetheless, it was Hillary that saw the most intense contests with Hannah S and James F locked in an epic semi-final battle that took place over three tense lunchtimes. In the end it was Archie L, with his deep knowledge of opening theory, who emerged victorious for Hillary and went on to retain his title as Senior Chess Champion.

Well done to all those who participated in what was an exceptionally exciting and rewarding tournament.

Alex Seeley

Junior House Chess

In the Summer Term the Prep School hosted the annual House Chess Competition. Over twenty pupils entered this year, ranging from beginners to seasoned players. The House heats provided some close matches which gave all of the pupils the opportunity to improve as chess players, regardless of their previous experience. Congratulations to all of the players who entered and for the valiant efforts and sportsmanship on display in each match. Eventually each House had their finalist; Charlie N for Armstrong, Chester B for Chichester, Sam S for Hillary and Calum M for Whittle.



The Semi Finals were both incredibly tight matches all the way until the final few moves, with each finalist applying all of their strategies and skill, to find an advantage. The Bronze final was played between Chester and Calum, with Chester taking third place for Chichester. The Grand Final was a thrilling display of Chess prowess from both Charlie and Sam, but a few strategically placed pieces won Sam the match, and the title of Prep School Chess Champion.

Sam Gritton



Readathon

'Reading is so boring!'

'I hate reading!'

As an English teacher and a lover of reading and all things bookish, these words bring me dread. How can we instil a love for reading; one which will last a life time? This is what inspired me to find that one book that will spark a child's imagination and have them hooked. Hence, over the past two years, the English Department has been running Duke of Kent School House Readathon Competition for Year 5, 6, 7 and 8 pupils. This is the perfect opportunity for students to read outside of their comfort zone; to try something different. You never know; they may be very pleasantly surprised. This competition starts a few weeks before World Book Day – an occasion which we always fully celebrate throughout the School.

The aim of this competition is to primarily encourage our pupils to read for enjoyment outside of school, but also to encourage our students to inspire others and to promote literacy across the curriculum. We all know how difficult it is at times to fit reading into our busy lives, but I would hope that this competition gives our students the chance to get stuck into several great books and earn points for their House. The winner of the competition received their very own Kindle and the runner-up received a brand new bundle of books!

The English Department would like to congratulate all our students who took part in the Readathon and we are already preparing for the next competition!

Ella S (Winner of the Readathon 2018):

"I found the Readathon very educational and fun! It's one of the ways to make the most bored of children into excited learners! Reading allows my imagination to go wild. I really enjoy reading about magic. Also, reading at bedtime makes a good dream for the night! Roald Dahl is one of my favourite authors because his books are so 'phizz-whizzing'. They are really cool, easy to read and best of all – really fun!

Here are some of my favourite books that I recommend to everyone:

'Harry Potter' Series by J.K Rowling
 'The 13 Storey Treehouse' Collection by Andy Griffiths.
 'The BFG' and 'The Witches' by Roald Dahl.

Charlie N (Winner of the Readathon 2017):

"I really enjoyed the Readathon because it really helped improve my reading. It is a fun and enjoyable way to encourage children to read. I was really excited when I won my kindle. It's turned out to be really useful! Here are three of my favourite books I have read on it."

'The Boy Who Biked the World' by Alastair Humphrey
 'The Letter for the King' by Tonke Dragt
 'The Lord of the Rings' by J.R.R Tolkien

Priya Anand Head of English



Staff visit to Malawi

During the October 2017 half term, Mrs LaCroix, and Miss Francis visited Duke of Kent School's link school Salima LEA in Malawi. Mrs Lacroix's family (husband Antony, Eve aged 13 and Archie aged 10) accompanied them and they were hosted by the charity Starfish Malawi. This is Mrs LaCroix's story:

'There are no direct flights from the UK to Malawi, so we flew to Johannesburg and then on to Malawi's capital city, Lilongwe. It was very hot when we arrived at the airport and after two hours of queuing for visa and passport checks, we finally made it through without any real hitches. We were met by our host Emmanuel from Starfish, who handed us over to our guide for the rest of the week, Atanzio Katambika (otherwise known as AK). AK was to be our ever-present driver, guide, translator, personal 'body guard' and good friend for the entire visit.

The fifty mile drive to Salima proved more comfortable than expected, with a straight, well tarmacked road taking us all the way. Only a few free-roaming goats, some cyclists and one or two pedestrians were met along our journey, and outside the capital city, there was no traffic to speak of.

At the hotel, the sun was shining, trees were in full blossom, the pool was glistening, the view of the lake was awe-inspiring and added to these inspirational scenes, chickens were roaming everywhere - it was all literally breath-taking! Our rooms were basic, but we were told that the hotel had been battered by a storm earlier in the year and had sustained a great deal of damage, with part of the roof still missing. The builders repairing the hotel had been using a generator as most of the time there is no power supply. We learned that power supplies are deliberately rationed in Malawi and that electricity comes on sporadically for only a few hours a day. With temperatures over 40°C all day and all night, an airless room, no power, no fan, no light and no mosquito nets (and therefore no open windows), I am fairly certain I did not sleep a wink that first night. This had its silver lining however, as I saw a beautiful sunrise glowing over Lake Malawi, with the silhouette of local women walking along the lakeshore.

On our first morning, we were up with the sun and as we ate our omelette breakfasts, we had

the otherworldly experience of watching the local population doing their washing in the lake. We were excited to be going to our link school in Salima, to meet the staff and students and to see how the school had developed since Mr & Mrs Green, and previously Mr Hubbard, had been there.

We drove right into the school yard and parked under the only tree not being used as a classroom. Even though I had listened avidly to the presentations made by former visitors, I was in no way prepared for the sights before me. There were many barn-like buildings which house classes for some of the older children. The younger children make do with a designated tree for their classes each day. There are houses on the site for staff and some villagers, with a manually operated groundwater pump which is used by the village and the school. Chickens and goats roam freely.

There are literally thousands of children attending this school, which is one of many schools in Salima. The Government recognises, supports and enforces education as a means of lifting the population out of poverty. Each year group may have five classes with up to a hundred pupils in each. Numbers dwindle to about two or three classes of about one hundred learners by the final years of this primary school establishment. Pupils finish at the equivalent of Year 8 before a very few go on to secondary school in another town, many miles away. The numbers dwindle due to pressures at home as many of the older children, although only between 12 and 14 years old, are considered adults and at home are expected to pull their weight in the family. Many of the girls reaching puberty are not safe walking to school and they are also still being pressured to marry at a young age. Although the laws are changing to prevent this, and there are many government bodies established to find and return girls to finish their education, we noticed that the older classes were still largely male-dominated.

The students were still clearly unused to seeing white people and most had never seen white children before. Although I had warned my children about this and it became evident that the school staff had warned their students not to crowd us during an assembly earlier that day, our arrival created massive disruption to the lessons. With no walls around the classrooms and no







manpower to keep control (other than prefect students with big sticks – I kid you not!) the students would up and follow us around the school wherever we went. There were also a stoic few who literally followed us around for the entire week and during that time were unlikely to have attended a single lesson during that time. Our fan club could not get enough of looking at us, but it would take a few more days before they had the courage to come close and it soon became apparent that it was really Archie and Eve that they wanted to touch, prod, and examine.

Miss Francis and my family and I, were given the opportunity of attending some Mathematics, English and Science lessons. Miss Francis and I were then asked to prepare a lesson to teach. I had to teach a lesson about 'rate' specifically 'rate of speed'. Clearly teaching a packed room of over a hundred students requires a slightly different approach to the classes of 15 to 20 students I currently teach at Duke of Kent School. You cannot for example, expect to speak to each student, see each student's work, or mark or correct their work on an individual basis. So other techniques for getting feedback from the students are needed to ensure that indeed everyone has understood the lesson. Luckily, I observed some new techniques and shamelessly stole, from the lessons that I had attended the day before. The Head Teacher of Salima LEA, a Mathematics Teacher himself, was very pleased with my performance (phew!). Miss Francis most certainly drew the short straw having been asked to teach a lesson in English Grammar from a government issued text book which was incorrect in places and somewhat dull. However, she won them over with a bucketful of enthusiasm, some Oscar-inspired acting and a big splash of perseverance.

That challenge out of the way meant we could focus on our main reasons for being there....we had many, many questions for our hosts at the school. We could see, as teachers ourselves, some of the more obvious needs, for example, to fully house all lessons under cover, they would need another 13 classrooms (equivalent to 4 or 5 additional blocks of the current design). It was also apparent that much of the wonderful equipment that they had managed to obtain from various sponsors was of little use with the current daily power cuts. Generators are expensive to run, but solar power, if it could be funded, seems a sensible solution for the future. Solar power technology has come a long way and would be a viable choice perhaps integrated into a new buildings design. On another thread, it is clear

that a lot of support is needed to sponsor older girls in education and, although there seem to be many charities that focus on this issue, it is having little impact locally in Salima. Finally, I observed many children very scantily and inadequately clothed. Those who had uniforms were sponsored directly by Starfish as they have already or will soon lose one or both of their parents - the current life expectancy is around 50 years old for an adult in Malawi. Many had no shoes or just one shoe and they would have to walk, possibly several miles to and from school, at least once a day, or twice if they wanted to go home for lunch, as this is not available at school.

Despite what could seem like overwhelming difficulties, the school and its staff are hardworking, resourceful, successful and extremely warm and cheerful. At no point did we feel that they expected anything from us, except our full attention and an interest in their work. They invited us into their own homes for lunches which I am sure they would not normally have and we all felt humbled by their generosity and dignity. My overwhelming impression was about how capable they were as a team and how much progress had been made at the school since Mr Hubbard's initial visit. Much of this progress has been with the help of Starfish.

At the conclusion of our visit and in true Malawian style, ceremonies and presentations were abundant. We heard the choir from the visually impaired school, saw a village dance, mostly about everyday life and growing up, by the girls and boys from the main school, and then we had the dance from the masked Nyau, a secret society of initiated Chewa males, who keep themselves separate from the main Chewa tribes. The excitement was palpable amongst the three thousand strong audience and everyone attended school that day. The students and to some extent the staff, seemed in thrall of this group and when the band started up, the music was loud and crazy. The dances were equally loud, crazy and also threatening, and intended to scare everyone, including any lingering evil spirits! We were entreated to throw money to the dancers in order to appease them, otherwise dust and grit were kicked in our faces. It was beautiful and terrifying, and a complete sensory overload. We were all very privileged to be witness to this spectacle and just a tiny bit relieved when it was safely over!

Afterwards members of the school staff were transported in the back of a few pickup trucks to the lake, where we all enjoyed some music, swimming

and cold drinks. Many speeches, hugs and selfies were traded and it was a difficult parting, as we all felt we had received so much. However we were pleased to be able to tell our hosts that the lovely students at Duke of Kent School had donated many personal items of stationery, paper, blackboards and chalk to the Starfish crate, which finally arrived with them after Christmas, 2017. We were also able to immediately gift them with more than eighty full football strips of various sizes, courtesy of my son Archie's football club, Famcombe Youth Football Club. This was a drop in the ocean compared to their need, but a kind and personal donation, which clearly touched their hearts, and we are very grateful to everyone who helped with these gifts.

Having travelled so far, Miss Francis and I were determined to see some more of this beautiful country and we were able to visit the Liwonde National Park, where we stayed in traditional accommodation and this time quite happily sharing our rooms with bats and geckos. The lodges were set amongst the Baobab trees; where we were able to see the elephants, hippos, primates, warthogs, kudu, and impala of Malawi. Some elephants came very close to our open doors at night and during the day we saw mostly cheeky monkeys and colourful birds. I could have sat and listened to the sounds from the bush all day long. We were also there to witness the first rainfall in nine months, which cooled the air considerably and made for a few refreshing nights of sleep! On our way back to Lilongwe, we stopped off to visit a UNESCO World Heritage Site at Chongoni near Dedza, to see some of the Rock Art Paintings from the Late Stone Age and Iron Age periods. This site was very much off the beaten track and rarely visited, but definitely worth the effort. Shortly afterwards, we dropped Miss Francis off at Dedza for a few days walking and exploring on her own (brave lady) while the LaCroix family stayed in Lilongwe for one more night, before flying back to the UK and home.

It was an amazing visit which was full of fantastic sights and sounds. We crammed so much into such a small amount of time which passed in what seemed a blur. Back in the UK we had more time to reflect on the trip and certainly one thing we could all agree on was that the people we met in Malawi are kind, friendly, resourceful and despite their daily hardships, full of hope for their futures. I can guarantee that if you ever have the opportunity of visiting Malawi, you will be assured of a warm welcome, with many beautiful places to visit.'

Mrs LaCroix and Miss Francis



A Taste of Zambia

In March, the School welcomed Teddy Mukula from Zambia, who had recently arrived in England to study at Oxford University's Wildlife Conservation Research Unit. He has been working for the *Zambian Carnivore Programme* (www.zambiacarnivores.org) for the last few years, researching the distribution and behaviour of a range of predators including lions, cheetah, hyenas, wild dogs and leopard. To start the day, Teddy gave an assembly to Years 1 to 9, explaining how his team run educational outreach sessions with communities living in and around the Liuwa National Park, to mitigate human-wildlife conflict. The eloquence and passion with which he spoke about his work had the children, and members of staff, enchanted. Throughout the rest of the day, Teddy worked with a variety of year groups, allowing them greater insight into life in Zambia, teaching them beautiful traditional Zambian songs and giving them a crash course in the Nyanja language (one of four that Teddy speaks, and one of 73 spoken across the whole of Zambia). "Zikomo" (thank you) and "bwanji" (hello) could be heard being uttered by pupils along the school

corridors all day long! It was inspiring for the children to hear Teddy's story, which has brought him from a small rural village to one of the world's most prestigious academic institutions, and he was clear to point out with great humility, the importance of hard work and determination in reaching one's goals. Year 2 pupils, who had prepared some cards and presentations of their own for Teddy as part of this term's "Home and Away" topic, were given the special honour of escorting him up Pitch Hill and showing him some of rural England's finest views. We didn't encounter anything as large or exciting as a lion, but he was thrilled with a sighting of a rabbit, and also a buzzard, soaring overhead. As charmed and entertained as the pupils evidently were by Teddy, he too remarked on what a wonderful experience it had been to visit the School, and how warmly he had been welcomed. We wish Teddy well with the rest of his studies in Oxford, and a safe return to Zambia later in the year.

Chris Wright



Africa aprons

"A pebble cast into a pond causes ripples that spread in all directions. Each one of our thoughts, words and deeds is like that. No one has a right to sit down and feel hopeless. There's too much work to do." Dorothy Day, journalist and political activist, 1897-1980

Last year, the arrival of some humble aprons in the Art Studio began to cause ripples. This was not the first pebble to have been dropped; even in their making they disturbed the waters elsewhere, impacting on lives and creating a small but tangible difference.

Wrapped in old Tanzanian newspapers and tied with rough string, the arrival of our new batch of African kitenge aprons was markedly unremarkable. A group of Year 7 students were pressganged off the corridor at break time and given the task of opening the package and swapping the old, worn out, paint covered, twill aprons on the Art Studio hooks with the newly arrived East African replacements. Dutifully, if a little reluctantly, the students opened the grey parcel. They revealed a mass of wild African colour, unashamedly vibrant and bursting out of the newspaper packaging. A sudden change in mood erupted and within moments they were giggling and laughing, parading around the room in their new aprons, arguing playfully over who would wear which colour and pattern.

The aprons were ordered from Heshima, a Tanzanian charity where I spent some time working the year before last. The charity trains Maasai women and sells their textiles work across the world. The women use locally produced fabric called kitenge. It's simple, colourful patterns are found all over this part of Africa. Its versatility knows no bounds; it is used as shawls, skirts, baby papooses and picnic blankets, and is even fashioned into the suits and backdrops made famous by the photographs of Samuel Fosso.

I know the women who made these aprons personally. Their names and photographs hang over the apron hooks in the Art Studio. Our order has not only given Precious, Mwamvita and Adelphina a small income, it has drawn our students' attention to a world outside the Art Studio; a world now a little more familiar to them, a little less different, a little more understood.

And so the ripples of a pebble gently erode our boundaries, lap at the edges of the familiar and tempt us to follow them towards new horizons.

Mike Watson



People who have inspired us

Connor Roe

Connor attended Duke of Kent School from 2000 to 2005, while we were still a Prep School and he won a Scholarship to his Senior School, Gordonstoun. We are very proud to learn that Connor was part of the 11-strong voluntary team who successfully freed the 12 schoolboys and their coach in Thailand in July 2018, after 18 days of being trapped underground. The rescue astounded the World.

LCpl Connor Roe is a Cave Dive Group qualified diver who has built up his caving and cave diving experience during his career in the REME, including leading a multi-group expedition to one of the deepest caves in Europe. He was specifically requested to support the team in Thailand, as part of the British Cave Rescue Council's assistance to the Thai-led rescue.

Connor said: "I never felt there was no hope, but I definitely felt that perhaps a miracle would be needed at some point". Just two hours after touching down in South East Asia, he was already inside the Tham Luang Nang Non cave.

Connor has spoken about navigating his way through the cave system with no visibility, guided only the sense of touch, while the eyes of the world were upon the operation. He said: "I was located roughly halfway to the boys' location. When they arrived with their primary carer, my teammate and I would complete a series of checks on them, such as air levels in their diving cylinder and exchange them if required. After ensuring they were OK to carry on, I would guide the children through a long river section which involved some low air spaces and short dives. Having ensured their onward movement, I would return to repeat the process."

Connor added: "I felt, relief, pride and an overwhelming sense of accomplishment. With the world watching, often by the second, the pressure was on. We were so pleased to be part of the great team that has, without a doubt, changed these boys' lives forever."



Izzy Atkin

Duke of Kent School was fortunate enough to be visited by one of Team GB's Winter Olympic heroines, Izzy Atkin, who made a flying visit to talk at an impromptu school assembly. Visiting her uncle, a leading light in the Peaslake Players, Izzy had just flown back from Pyeongchang and, despite being jet lagged, agreed to come and see us.

Izzy is the first British skier to win an Olympic medal, after a courageous final run earned her bronze in the ladies' ski slopestyle. The 19-year-old, who was born in the US to a British father and Malaysian mother, was in fourth place going into her last of three runs, but then landed all her tricks to claim bronze. Despite growing in the US Izzy very much feels at home here. She told the School, "I grew up on Marmite and Ribena".

During her inspirational talk Izzy discussed the resilience and mettle that it takes to be an Olympian. She talked openly about the setbacks that she has faced and the determination that is required to keep pushing herself to the limit. Injuries, such as a nasty accident that led to a broken collarbone, and a demanding training regime in the gym, as well as on the slopes, all require perseverance, courage and tenacity.

The School would like to say a big thank you to Izzy for taking the time to visit and we all wish her every success in her future career.

Alex Seeley



Ski Trip to Passo Tonale in Italy

Early in the morning of Saturday 9th December 2017, an eager posse of Duke of Kent School skiers set off from School, dreaming of mountain tops, powder and sunshine. Our destination was the soaring peaks and elevated views of Passo Tonale, which nestles graciously on a mountain pass near to the town of Temu in the Italian Alps. With its string of wide uncrowded gentle runs behind the town and its beautiful links down to Ponte di Legno, which add steeper and much prettier tree-lined terrain, Passo Tonale is the perfect place for keen skiers to develop their skills.

Historically Tonale was on the border between Italy and Austria until the First World War when these mountains became a battleground. At the bottom of the glacier there is a touching monument created by an Italian soldier in honour of the servicemen killed there on 9 June 1916.

Upon our arrival our party was so bursting with enthusiasm, that we took a short walk to the bottom of the slopes to enjoy a delicious Italian style hot chocolate to warm our cockles. Then it was early to bed to prepare for our first day and our snow filled dreams were answered when, for two whole days and two whole nights, heavy snow deluged the peaks with fresh deep powder for us to play in. When the sun came out we experienced some of the best early season conditions for years, as the whole ski area had opened up into an enormous white quilted playground.

The fantastic days spent skiing were further enhanced by some excellent après-ski. We couldn't go to Italy without having a traditional stone baked pizza night, and even though I struggled to pronounce everything on the menu, particularly the ice cream (stratechelli anyone?), we all had a fantastic time. In addition to this we had a superb competitive quiz night (yes they did beat the teachers), swimming, a DVD night, a town trail and all rounded off with everyone throwing some shapes on the dance floor of the magnificent Hotel Miramonti.

All the pupils worked hard to improve and develop their skills. As ever, moments of despair and frustration, gave way to feelings of elation and satisfaction as boundaries were pushed and our gritty bunch pushed themselves

to achieve things they never thought possible. The progression of some of the groups was incredible, and to see all the pupils get to the top of the Presena Glacier, a dizzying 3016m, by day four was mightily impressive. We all returned intact, happy but exhausted!

As a teacher I love taking children skiing because of the opportunities it presents to help children view difficult challenges as opportunities. When you ski you are constantly faced with intimidating encounters and challenges that force you to push yourself and test your grit and determination. Taking on these types of challenges is a big part of developing as a person. The more we challenge ourselves, the more opportunities we have to learn about ourselves. New challenges equal new opportunities.

Embarking on a new challenge, such as skiing, may be frightening due to the risk of failure. It is interesting to see how this can initially lead to pupils attempting to avoid the difficult challenges in an attempt to continue to disguise weaknesses, holding on to excuses that will allow them to remain in their comfort zone. Sliding down a steep, slippery mountain on a pair of planks forces us all to push and test ourselves to the limit. There were moments on our trip when some children, some of whom have previously found sport easy, wanted to give up when things got too tough. However, with encouragement they pushed themselves on and, by overcoming adversity, learned important lessons.

I am a strong believer that if children are allowed to remain in their comfort zone because they are scared to embark upon challenges that could lead to failure, it can become obstructive to them achieving their personal best. If children avoid challenges they will miss out on crucial opportunities to learn and grow. Fear of failure can be crippling, and lead to children avoiding demanding and challenging opportunities which can in turn lead to them eventually losing motivation and their desire to achieve. Skiing is a great way to push yourself, to face up to the fear of failure and an exhilarating way to learn how to manage your emotions when things get tough.

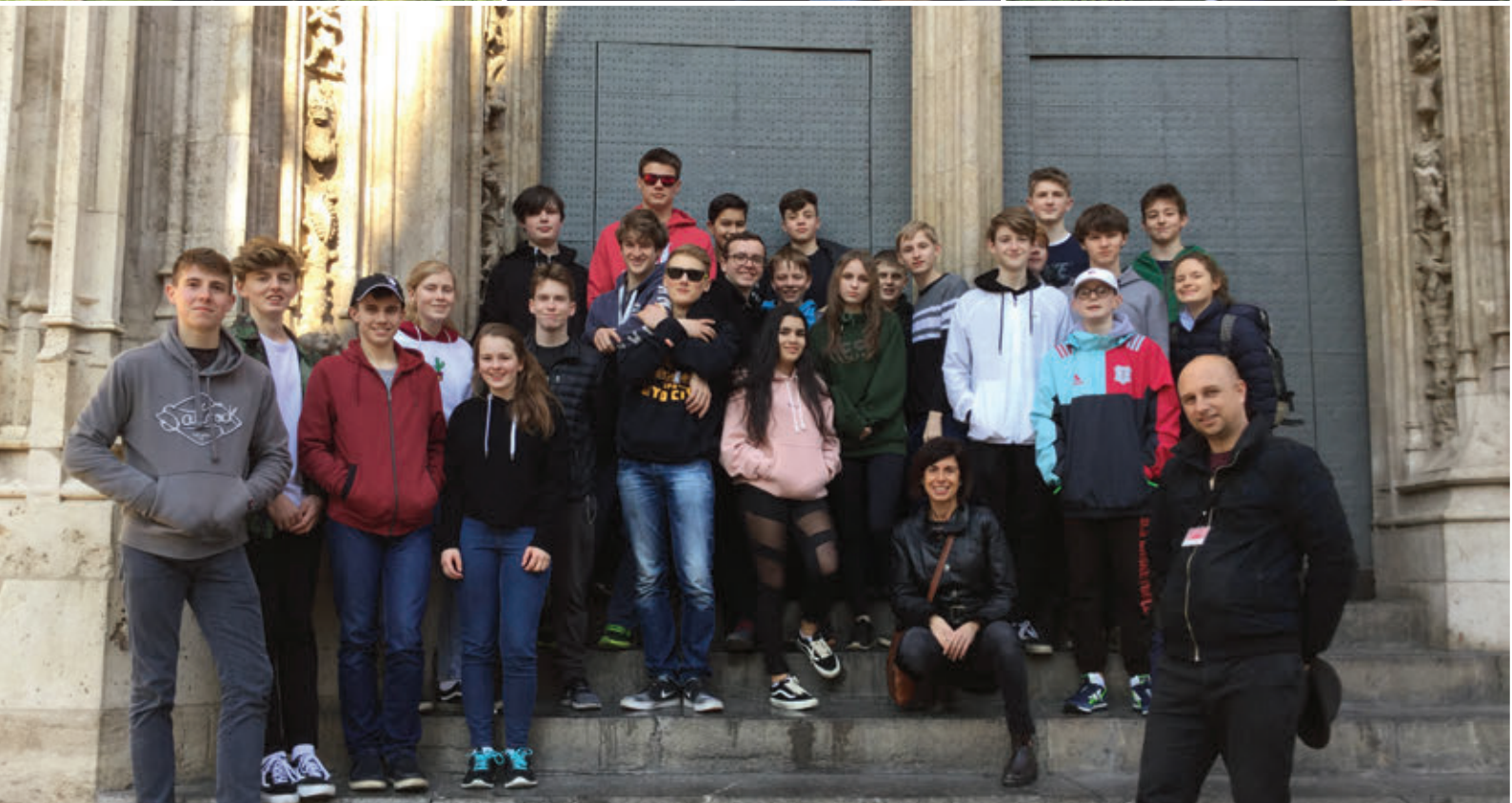
Alex Seeley





Nominations for **Best Trips** are ...

Choir trip to Holland
Westminster Abbey
Leavers' trip to Pompeii
Southwater Park
British Film Institute
Royal Courts of Justice
Butser Farm
Victoria and Albert Museum
Sayers Croft
Milestones Museum
Valencia
Bocketts Farm
Kew Gardens
Brooklands Motor Museum
Copper Box
University of Southampton
The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden
Battle of Hastings re-enactment
Ski trip to Passo Tonale
Bletchley Park
Osmington Bay







Happiness Matters Event

Happiness matters at Duke of Kent School, not just at special events, but right through the academic year. Good pastoral care is of prime importance to us, and in order for each child to fulfil their potential, both academically and socially, the environment in which they operate has to be conducive to this. Students must feel happy and engaged at school, but must also be equally disciplined and well-mannered. If a child is to thrive, they must be completely at ease with their surroundings.

Our annual October open event, aptly titled Happiness Matters, was full of excitement, fun and of course happiness, which fortunately defied the rather dreary autumn weather. The event was very well attended by members of the wider community, as well as by our own parents and pupils, who enjoyed the varied and various workshops throughout the day, as well as the delicious all-day refreshments and salad lunch provided by our catering team.

On the front pitch and to greet people when they arrived, we had a spectacular Carousel and a revolving Tea Cup ride, which created a great deal of fun and enjoyment for both children and adults.

Comedian and established writer James Campbell came to do a stand up show and also present a fascinating writing workshop, during which he shared how he writes his books. James has dedicated his career to working with children and runs comedy workshops all over the UK for would-be comedians between the ages of seven and thirteen. During his career he has performed for the Queen, appeared at the Royal Albert Hall and has also been interviewed on Blue Peter.

The BIG Happiness Experiment Playshop was held in our new Junior Library, where Jules Mitchell described new ways of engaging the brain's positive neural pathways, to help cultivate resilience, inner confidence and a positive mind-set. Her aim was to encourage the audience to go away and develop new 'happiness habits'.

Over in the Performing Arts Hall, Mr Rye our musical director delivered an excellent workshop on 'Music and The Mind', during which the audience learned the importance and benefits of music in our everyday lives. To conclude the workshop our Music Graduate Assistant Tom Kaye played the beautiful Chopin Prelude Op 28 No 4 on the grand piano, which literally mesmerised the audience.

We also had a return guest from last year, Edward Watson from Inner Drive, who talked about how to deal with negative thoughts. The audience filled the Independent Learning Centre and listened as Edward discussed triggers for negative thinking and strategies to overcome them.

Apart from the workshops, Pre-prep's Forest School took place in the farthest reaches of the extensive School grounds, giving visitors a taste of what pupils experience every week. While this was happening, a choice of activities were available in the Pre-prep Department, including dressing up, construction, painting and making creatures out of Play-Doh.

Our thanks to all those who took part and to Mrs Hopwood and Miss Vernon for organising such a busy and enjoyable event.





Literature Festival

Open Morning

Our Literature Festival Open Morning held in May, provided an opportunity for visitors and prospective pupils to tour the School and to enjoy some events with a literary theme. We were joined by many pupils and parents from our school community, making it a lively and very enjoyable morning.

Dan Smith, the award winning author of adventure stories for young readers and thrillers for adults, had travelled all the way from Newcastle upon Tyne to join us for the morning. Dan's books for younger readers include the Second World War adventure *My Friend the Enemy* and *My Brother's Secret*. His novels include *Big Game*, which was published in over twenty five countries and is the story of the action adventure film starring Samuel L Jackson. Other novels titles include *Boy X*, *Below Zero* and for adults, *The Child Thief*, *The Darkest Heart* and *Red Winter*. Dan gave a fascinating presentation to a full audience in the Independent Learning Centre, about his journey to becoming a writer, which was followed by a lively question and answer session and a book signing in the Old Hall.

Performing to a younger audience in our Pre-prep department was storyteller George Hoyle.

George is a musician, performer, composer and teller of stories, and from start to finish, his performance to his young audience was exciting, magical and engaging.

Little Star Writing Workshops was represented by children's author Melanie Taylor, who created Little Star Writing in 2012 to help improve children's writing skills, encourage creativity and stimulate imaginations. She shared her expertise and demonstrated to her audience of Year 3 to Year 6 pupils and their parents, that writing can be both inspiring and rewarding.

In the Old Hall, we were very pleased to welcome Ian Rowley and Sue Adsett from The Haslemere Bookshop, who had set up a 'pop-up' bookshop, with a range of fiction and non-fiction for sale. They also supported Dan Smith with his book signing, which was greatly appreciated.

Thank you to everyone who worked so hard to make the event such a success.





Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award

From 3rd to 5th July, five intrepid Year 11 explorers started their Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award qualification expedition. Alex B, Jago G, Adam N, Felix R and Austin R spent three days successfully navigating their way westwards across the southern chalklands, from Lewes to Amberley, the route was mainly based around the South Downs Way in Sussex. However, due to particular road crossings and the need to get to and from their campsites they had to plot their routes especially carefully. The weather for all three days was extremely hot with lovely for views but not so pleasant for steep slopes and blistered feet. Having met the boys after scaling up to Chanctonbury Ring, I can also vouch for how warm the days had been.

The Duke of Edinburgh Award (and Duke of Kent School for that matter) promotes resilience, personal challenge, teamwork and a healthy dose of fun, and plenty of these qualities have been in evidence throughout this event. We enjoyed England's win against Columbia courtesy of Austin's phone nestling on the woodland floor in Parkwood Scout Camp (Poyning's) - a spectacular setting, noteworthy for its thoroughly spartan conditions. We spent the next night in Washcamp (Washington) and spoilt ourselves by having showers! I don't think I have ever seen so much pasta consumed by five people over three days, in fact, eating something (anything) at all times appeared to be a contest between all five boys.

We all owe a vote of thanks to our External Assessor, Mrs Sarah Williamson, who took leave to come and validate the expedition each day. She was, incidentally, highly impressed with the maturity and positive attitude of all the boys, particularly on the first day when, under our guidance, they had to redirect themselves due to overly dangerous road crossings which were incorrectly shown as paths on the OS maps most recent editions. As part of their presentation requirement the boys successfully recounted notable historical anecdotes gleaned from the route, including references dating from the Stone Age through to WW2 links to the Battle of Britain and D-Day. A Spitfire flying overhead added an exciting and poignant touch to the event.

Adam N and Jago G were the first ever recipients of the Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award at Duke of Kent School - very well done indeed to them and I trust they will not be the last. They also received their Bronze Award certificates on Parents Day, together with Alex B, Lexi B, Connor De V, Harry H, Will J, Alex MacD, Andy McN, Josie M, Felix R, Austin R, Albie S and George V.

All the recipients are a credit to themselves and the School - very well done to them all.

Dale Lodge DofE Awards Manager

Mr Lodge at St James's Palace

On Tuesday 20th March, I was lucky enough to be nominated as one of the Surrey schools representatives to visit St James's Palace for the Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award presentations. The Earl of Wessex presented the certificates to Surrey-based students in the 'Entrée Room', which I have since learned, hosts the fireplace where many Royal engagements are pictured! Accompanying speeches emphasised the personal challenges every single individual had to overcome to achieve each part of the Award - and the mood of the participants and their guests was of very well deserved pride and accomplishment. Our pupils are themselves just too young to achieve this level of Award at Duke of Kent School but I would love to see them continue their DofE Bronze/Silver progression through opportunities at their future colleges/Universities, and will keep a very close eye on their progress.

Dale Lodge









Parents' Association PAdoK

Throughout the year PAdoK has organised many events to bring parents together: the Macmillan coffee morning, music gigs, netball training sessions, shopping evenings, singing sessions, morning walks. We hope that you have been able to join us for some of these events.

PAdoK's main event of the year was The Accidentals, Mr Rye's awesome band. The Performing Arts Hall was transformed into a club for the evening and the event was made extra special by the delicious Italian buffet provided by Jason and his team, and donated by Holroyd Howe. Mr Win-Pe amazed us with his rendition of Superstition and Hannah McAuley give a fantastic performance of Valerie.

PAdoK's Christmas celebrations were kicked off with our now annual Christmas Shopping Evening at Manns of Cranleigh. Together with parents from Ewhurst Infant School and Peaslake School, guests enjoyed exclusive, after-hours access to the store. With discounted shopping, drinks, canapés and some brilliant raffle prizes, the evening was a huge success with a fantastic turnout of parents from the School.

Before the Prep School Christmas Concert, PAdoK hosted our Mince Pies & Mulled Wine party in Old Hall where our Christmas raffle was drawn. Thank you to all those who donated goodies for the many Christmas hampers.

We relied on Mr Rye and Holroyd Howe again for our Jazz Supper Club. Nick put together another evening of brilliant music; Eileen Hunter sang and played beautiful original pieces as well as great covers. Mojo Pin (featuring Mr Nick Rye) entertained us with their brilliantly quirky and original versions of popular jazz, soul and pop classics, while Jason and his team provided a delicious Thai curry buffet.

Although our aim is to unite parents, we do accidentally manage to raise funds from the events we organise. This year PAdoK has funded a new floor for the Performing Arts Hall, which can be rolled out when needed for productions; prizes for Pi Day; a drone, so that the School can film sports events; a contribution towards the Poddely play system, Pre-prep's new outdoor play area.

Huge thanks to all the PAdoK team for the giant effort they take with their duties, connecting and supporting parents in their year group and all the work they put into PAdoK events. Although I have made some wonderful friends during my two years as PAdoK Chair, I am very happily handing the reins back to Mrs Trotman.

Harriet, PAdoK Chair

Neighbourhood Links

Duke of Kent School was established 42 years ago as an RAF school. Its students came from the parents of Forces families, some serving overseas and some sadly passed. Through Duke of Kent School the RAF community supported and looked after them. On occasion these ex-students, now grown men and women, make their way up the hill to revisit a place where they were cared for as part of this military community. All comment on the positive experiences they had at Duke of Kent School as students and the sense of school community that continues and is demonstrated by our current students and staff. During our affiliation with the RAF the school shared the Force's core values, echoed in the famous RAF motto, 'through struggle to the stars'. Our link with the RAF remains, although we no longer draw our intake from the parents in their ranks, we still recognise this as the roots of our school community and, at poignant times, remind ourselves of this legacy. This is no more clearly demonstrated than in the traditional Christmas concert at The Royal Air Force church, St. Clement Danes on the Strand in London. Duke of Kent School choir has sung at this Christmas service for almost as long as the school has been in existence. This year staff and students had to battle through the winter snow to reach the venue, conditions were so severe that even hardened members of the RAF themselves struggled to reach the service!

As an RAF school our wider community stretched across the globe. It is perhaps no surprise that our recently retired, longest serving member of staff and former pupil, Mr Rogers, was a Geography teacher and encourages our alumni to travel through the Rogers Travel Award. Now, no longer directly linked with the RAF and having moved away from a boarding model, our students come from the nearby towns and villages. The community that binds us together is now much more locally rooted and Duke of Kent School is an integral part of this. We encourage our students to become active in the community through their own endeavours. As a school we regularly celebrate their achievements, activities and acts of kindness in the local community. This year has been no exception and has included Oscar B's involvement in a Japanese drumming group, Ben P stealing a well-earned second place racing in the Surrey Regatta, Dugald P and Megan

and Jack R-A performing with the Ockley Dramatic Society, and Ross S and Toby H taking part in the Surrey Hills Challenge charity race. This list barely scratches the surface of the charitable events, local sports clubs and societies our students have been a part of this year. But perhaps the most generous act of community kindness came from one of our alumni, Maddy H. Maddy left Duke of Kent School after completing her GCSEs in 2016, and this year she visited us to give an assembly on her recent experience of donating stem cells, something she was inspired to do after a close friend was diagnosed with Leukaemia. The staff and students she spoke to were clearly inspired and humbled by her motivation and sacrifice in volunteering for this painful procedure.

A real strength of the School has been to recognise the potential in the local community and surroundings for the development of the school curriculum and students' learning. This has resulted in a considerable volume of two-way traffic; students going out of school to get involved in the local community as well as our gates being opened to a wealth of inspirational local speakers, societies and groups, welcomed in to enrich our student's education. This is evident across the School's age range and departments. Highlights have included Geography field trips investigating local rivers, photography trips to the Hannah Peschar Sculpture Garden and other local areas, Year 6 shepherding at Saddlescombe Farm, Stretch and Challenge, Senior School students performing and exhibiting at The Wilson Room in Ewhurst Church and the English Department introducing Prep School students to Alfred, Lord Tennyson's poem The Lady of Shalott, by a brook in Ewhurst's ancient woodland. Countless trips to various local museums, galleries and places of interest have developed students' knowledge and historical understanding of the area. This is beautifully exemplified by Pre-prep's visit to RSPB Pulborough Brooks. They were so excited by their pond dipping discovery of Great Crested Newts that a group of them encouraged their parents to take them for a second visit, so that they could share their finds with their families!

The inhabitants of our local surroundings have been a source of inspiration to our School and we see them



as a really important resource. We have hosted a great number of interesting and motivating local people and groups at the School and with them they have brought a diversity of knowledge, experience, skills and opinion. These have included members of the local British Legion, artists and environmentalists Olly and Suzie, a variety of professional musicians to judge House Music and a wealth of local entrepreneurs, professionals, campaigners, adventurers and academics through our regular assemblies and careers talks.

It is important that students understand and experience the delights of actively supporting their local community and this is something that we have aspired to offer them the opportunity to do. This year has included visits to The Old Rectory nursing home in Ewhurst where students performed songs from the 1930s and 40s as the residents shared their memories of the era. This included an ex RAF serviceman who showed students his collection of souvenirs from his time as a pilot. One initiative which continues to have a real impact on students is the Archbishop of York scheme. As part of this scheme, students visited Knowle Park Care Home, where they hosted four tea parties, providing cakes, sandwiches, entertainment and games for the residents. Environmentally minded students have been getting involved at Sayers Croft, helping to manage the local environment, learning as they go about the abundance of wildlife in the area. This attitude is perhaps best exemplified annually at Harvest Festival when the whole school comes together to support those in the local community by collecting food for Cranleigh Food Bank.

Just as when we were an RAF school our community continues to straddle the globe and we recognise, in the internet age, that even the most distant shores are now beginning to feel very local. Our work with our extended global community continues through Salima LEA, our link school in Malawi. This year we were able to send two members of staff to visit the school where they experienced first-hand the delights of this gentle, relaxed country and the challenges its teachers face in striving to provide a positive educational experience for their students. On their return Mrs Lacroix and Miss Francis have raised money for Salima LEA and have been involved in initiatives to help develop their ability

to offer an education to some of the poorest in society, including the development of sheltered teaching areas to protect students from the sun and supplying the most basic of materials such as blackboards and chalk. Their experiences fed back into the school community, developing our staff and students' understanding of our global, educational context. Our global community continues to grow with a number of departing staff developing their careers in international schools. Most notably our Deputy Head, Mr. Hubbard, who is taking up a Headship at Morogoro International School in Tanzania. Sad as we are at his leaving, his move opens up a world of possibilities for Duke of Kent School. I am confident that this is another opportunity to broaden our School's horizons further still; this is certainly not the last we will hear from Mr. Hubbard.

The work we do in developing Duke of Kent School as a community minded organisation reflects our commitment to the philosophy of life as a learning experience, unconstrained by the walls of a classroom, the boundaries of our woodland grounds, the edges of our social groups or indeed international borders. It is easy to live comfortably within all these constraints, however, we believe in teaching our students to challenge themselves, to push themselves into new experiences, near and far, and remember the RAF motto that echoes so well our own Growth Mindset approach; 'from struggle to the stars'.

Mike Watson





Achievements

Girl Guide Extraordinaire

This year Milly B in Year 8 finished her Baden Powell award. After months of completing numerous tasks, including fundraising, charitable work and engagement activities she achieved the highest award available to a Girl Guide, which will be presented to her by the Commissioner at a future date. She raised the money to fund her adventure weekend by making and selling cakes and her famous fudge and then doubled her money by completing additional challenges. She then chose to fund the trip herself and donate the proceeds to Sport Relief. What a wonderful achievement. Well done for all your efforts.



Oscar's Japanese Connection

In September 2017, Oscar B in Year 8 attended and performed at the Japan Matsuri, in Trafalgar Square. Oscar not only met some of his heroes such as Hibiki Ishikawa, but performed with the Minyo group from SOAS. Oscar plays the Shamisen in the group.

In June of this year, on what is known as Okinawa day (Okinawa is a Japanese island meaning 'Rope in the open sea'), Oscar performed again. The day featured a vast array of Japanese instruments, songs, martial arts and stalls, but most importantly it featured Oscar. Despite being the sole Duke of Kent School and possibly teenage representation, he did not look out of place. In fact, with the number of people, both young and old, coming up to commend him on his performances and enquire about the music, he was more the celebrity.

Oscar started with some entrancing and exciting drum dancing, which incorporated a story through the choreography, singing and the beating of the taiko, all performed in traditional Japanese attire. Following this, he enlightened us on another instrument called a sanshin, a beautiful guitar like implement that produces unique sounds. His skill and knowledge was astounding as he played it with ease, whilst explaining the history. This was a truly unique experience and shows what tremendous diversity we have in the Duke of Kent School community.



Duke of Kent School Sailors

Our sailors have continued to flourish this year. At the Independent Schools Association regatta held at Datchet Sailing Club under the shadows of Windsor Castle, Ben P (Year 9) and Josie M (Year 11) represented Duke of Kent School. Conditions at Datchet appeared perfect for the spectators, light winds and a beautiful sunny day. The sailors thought otherwise, light and shifty were how they described it! Approximately 30 boats competed across a range of boat classes from single handed Optimist, Topper and Laser, as well as two handed boats such as the RS Feva. Keenly fought over 4 races, with a short and very welcome interlude for lunch, Josie and Ben were unbeaten in their class and both finished in the top ten overall. What a fabulous achievement.

Ben also competed in the Optimist sailing event. The Weymouth regatta was the last of three qualifying weekends for the RYA (Royal Yachting Association) Squad. Ben sailed so well he was selected for the RYA Optimist Development squad. This is a terrific achievement.

During the last week of the summer term, Josie was successful in gaining her RYA Dinghy Instructor qualification at Papercourt Sailing Club in Ripley. This was a five day intensive course and in order to be eligible, Josie had also to gain her RYA Power Boat Level 2 and first aid certificates. On the last day of the course and so that Josie could be assessed for the qualification, fellow Year 11 pupils Jago and Bertie came along to support her and be her students for the day.

Well done Josie and Ben.





Parents Day

On a glorious day in July the great and the good of Duke of Kent School gathered for the annual curtain closer, the epilogue that is Parents Day. This year was particularly special for it marked the end, and celebrated the achievements, of Mrs Fremont-Barnes' tenure here as Head. The incomparable Reverend Canon Nigel Nicholson DL was the guest speaker and he was able to captivate the packed Sports Hall audience not only with his eulogy about Mrs JFB, but with his humour, his poignancy and his all round ability to engage with everybody, like no speaker we have ever had. His was a speech few will forget.

The most important part of the day, the prize giving, celebrating the amazing accomplishments of our remarkable students throughout the year was preceded by the traditional send-off for the Year 11 leavers. Whilst the normal festivities continued as are their custom, with the bouncy castles as ever proving popular amongst the old and young alike, there was some additional anxiety; England were playing Sweden in the World Cup Quarter Finals and there was a fear that the a party would not be over in time. People need not have worried; with astonishing efficiency the school cleared almost instantaneously, fifteen minutes before kick-off... and England won, 2-0.





Parents Day Speech

Head Boy, Fergus and Head Girl, Josie's Speech

J: Good morning ladies and gentlemen. We will try to be brief, as we are sure you are all keen to soak up the sun and begin your much needed holidays. When we were first asked to write this speech, we weren't briefed on what could and what couldn't be said, so we apologise in advance if any offence is taken, but just in case, Mr Macdonald is your go to man.

F: We have reached the end of another school year and whilst everyone from our year group will be leaving and looking to the future, this is our opportunity to reflect on the past year, since Josie was asked to be Head Girl and I, Head Boy. It has been a great year, from England making it through the group stages of the World Cup, to Henry Saunders finally being able to solve a Rubics cube.

J: Yes, a great year and throughout our time here, we have had the support of many friends. I am sure this Year 11 will be remembered for many things and hopefully mostly positive ones... anyway, we will be remembered for one reason or another! Now where do we to begin?

F: I think we should start at the beginning my time at Duke of Kent School. Way back when I joined...

J: Maybe not, as we might be here a very, very long time, especially since Fergus has been here since Year 2 and has become part of the furniture, some would say. Instead let's do a quick recap of the highlights. I think us girls have done a great job in keeping the boys under control, and so many boys, with Siena the only girl in her science class - I don't know how she did it!

F: Moving swiftly on. Of course all the boys have been angels this year, with nothing really to report. After all, what goes on at School stays on School. However I have to mention Ebers' dislocated shoulder an hour before the History exam, and Harry's deep understanding of Geography – no Jamaica is not bordered with North Korea. Also Archie colouring in his uterus and Blake's knowledge of physics – gravity only works half of the time because you can jump...

J: Don't worry; we haven't forgotten our wonderful teachers. Who can forget Mr and Mrs Southee, and we are all excited about the arrival of your baby. As we have spent so many hours studying The Inspector

Calls and Of Mice and Men, we think either Sheila or George would be great names. Mr Wilson, thank you for keeping our year in line and I'm sure no one will forget your love of tree goats. Muchas gracias Senora Cabanes y senora Francis. Mr Rye you do so much for the Music Department and I'm yet to find an instrument that you can't play! I'm just sorry that mine and Fergus's musical talents haven't yet emerged. Finally, as this will be our only chance, a special thank you to all our mums for all you have done – our much appreciated heroines.

F: Mr Kettle your lessons have always been exciting. One lesson which will stay with us and I'm sure everyone in the year, was the time where we were conducting an experiment in the swimming pool. Conner became so enthusiastic with your lesson, that George ended up taking a dip into the pool, suit and all.

J: We have had some amazing trips over the years here at Duke of Kent School. Our most recent one was to Sorrento and I speak for everyone when I say that there was never a dull moment. On the third day, we were half way along the coastal Walk of Gods and had just reached a steep section of rocks, when our wonderful English teacher Miss Anand stopped, looked up and said 'this was not built for Miss Anand'. During our geography trip to Swanage, Mr Wilson was woken up by the boys who were convinced they had seen aliens that night and felt they had to share their experience there and then, at three o'clock in the morning.

F: It has become something of a tradition for the departing Head Boy and Head Girl to hand out the last debits of the year. However due our year being so well behaved, we were unable to find anyone who has one, so instead we are awarding this to a person who we don't think has received a debit since arriving at the School. I am of course talking about Mrs Fremont-Barnes, our Head.

J: We would love to thank the catering staff, for feeding many extra portions of food for the many taller boys in our year, and there are some very tall boys.

F: For the last two years, our year has had an undefeated rugby team, so thank you to the Sports Department for all

they have done to help us achieve this. As Harry Hearn rightly said at the Sports Dinner, sport has not only built confidence inside of School, but outside as well. Charlie and Alex both swim at national level, Josie sails at national level and Conner plays rugby for Wales

J: Thank you parents, my fellow students, teachers and our head Mrs Fremont-Barnes for making our year such a memorable and enjoyable one. We will never forget the amazing knowledge and life skills you have taught us.

F: I know I speak for both of us, when I say that we have been privileged to have been part of such a great year group. Every one of you in your own way has helped us travel through Duke of Kent School and helped prepare us, as much as we can be, for the challenges that lie ahead.

J: Thank you Mrs Fremont-Barnes for being such an inspirational Head. It has been a real pleasure to get to know you better over the last year and we all wish you the very best at Milton Abbey. They are very lucky to have you, even if you will arrive with a debit to your name. As well as being such a great Head, it has come to our attention that you can dance, after witnessing you and Conner taking centre stage at your leaving concert and we look forward to seeing you on Strictly Come Dancing, later in the year. As we say our goodbyes, a thought that springs to mind is my very first day at Duke of Kent School in Year 7 and meeting a bunch of strangers, whom I have now grown to love. I couldn't have picked a better year group to spend the best five years of my life with.

F: So a final send off. Everyone at School and especially all Year 11s, three cheers for Mrs Fremont-Barnes, the teachers and everyone who has had faith in us.

Farewell to Mrs Fremont-Barnes

We say a very fond farewell to Mrs Judith Fremont-Barnes after seven incredible years here at Duke of Kent School. It was Mrs Fremont-Barnes who was charged with the difficult task of realising the amazing vision that Dr Cameron had for the school, to transform a Surrey Hills prep school, into a senior school. The reality is that the School has not only metamorphosed into a senior school, but it is now, in only a short space of time, one of some standing and reputation, whose burgeoning qualities were confirmed and heralded by the ISI Inspection report of January 2017.

Judith's qualities are many and varied. For a start it is seldom that you meet anyone so hard-working. It is said that Mrs Thatcher needed only four hours of sleep a night, but Mrs F-B needed only a fraction of that! (By the way, she will not enjoy sharing a page with Mrs T...) She would often be up in the small hours working through her emails, writing her many reports, amending policies and reading Department of Education updates. On top of this, her knowledge of the School, the pupils, the staff, and of the nuts and bolts of administration surrounding them all, was boundless.

Mrs F-B was ahead of the game in many respects. As other schools remained hesitant, Duke of Kent School committed early on to provide iPads for all students. To this end we also committed to installing, at considerable cost, a fibre optic cable to cope with the new I-traffic. We cannot imagine school life without such technology now. This was all down to Mrs Fremont-Barnes. We have also been ahead on gender equality, site security, and safeguarding, to name but a few. We watch, with occasional amusement, as some of our neighbouring schools try to drag themselves into the 21st century, often catching up on changes that we made long ago. Staff at school have been encouraged to better themselves and not only for the benefit of the School. An

unprecedented level of support, both financial and moral, has been given to members of staff for MEds, PGCEs, Degrees, and Diplomas. Judith has been a selfless sponsor of her teachers.

Around the School you can see departments flourishing. The continuing quality of the GCSE results is testament to the support given to teachers by Judith. The stunning Art and DT exhibitions, and the amazing Performing Arts Department, are also beneficiaries of Judith's patronage. One thing, I gather, that would have surprised Judith's games teachers at Kingston Grammar School, would be that she has also been responsible for building the new All-Weather pitch, the biggest capital outlay of the school in for some time. Bravo, Mrs F-B!

Let us move on to Judith's weaknesses. There aren't many but they are considerable; chocolate, cakes, Coca-Cola, biscuits, and doughnuts. Indeed, one of her lasting legacies will be to do with Judith's insistence on spreading the joy of doughnuts throughout the School by giving one to all pupils when they had all managed to sign out the previous evening. (A few of us realised that it happened a bit more often than this, but who was counting?) Doughnut day, and the joy it brought, will be missed by all... bar a few parents.

We thank Judith for all that she has brought to the School. Her tireless effort and her infectious humour will be sorely missed. She leaves a thriving school, where members of staff are looked after and the children are happy. We wish her every success at Milton Abbey School and much happiness for her, Greg, Will, Monty and Ruby, in their new adventure.

Felix Macdonald



And in their spare time



Ellen Vermeulen (née Taylor)

Our science teacher, Ellen Taylor, married Drew Vermeulen, a teacher of history at Box Hill School, on 28th July 2018. The ceremony took place at St Barnabas' Church and the reception was held at Duke of Kent School. The wedding party and their guests were serenaded with beautiful music by pupils Dexter, Ava, Tyla, Jago and Jas.



Lisa Walpole

After completing my degree with the Open University in 2017, I spent 2018 working towards my Primary PGCE with the University of Buckingham. The last four years have been a roller coaster for me; however I have managed to reach my dream of becoming a teacher, all whilst still working at Duke of Kent School.



Tom and Peach Southee

Tom and Peach Southee are pleased to announce the arrival of Alistair Michael Hambrook, who was born on 25th July 2018 and weighed 9.14 lbs. He is pictured here with his big sister Mila-Rose.



Ben Monk

After gaining a degree in Mathematics in 2016 from UWE, during the past year I have completed my PGCE teaching training at Buckingham University. Now I am really looking forward to the future and to the challenges that lie ahead.



Year 11 Leavers' Dinner













GCSE Results Day

The Year 11 pupils of 2018 celebrated a wonderful set of GCSE and IGCSE results. It had been a particularly nerve wracking time, for staff, parents and pupils alike, with this year's cohort talking the new 9-1 syllabi for the first time. We needn't have worried, as with all the typical verve and determination of Duke of Kent School pupils, they excelled in a wide range of areas and made us all proud on results day.

It was fantastic to see 52% of our pupils achieve Grades 7 / 8 / 9 (the equivalent of A or A*), a tremendous accomplishment for our inclusive school, particularly considering the recent major changes to the qualifications. Another impressive statistic is that 97% of our students have achieved the benchmark of 5 GCSE passes including IGCSE English Language and Maths.

There were some phenomenal individual performances with four pupils managing to gain an average grade of above Grade 8 in their results. Nevertheless, we are equally proud of all the pupils who have worked tirelessly during their school career to achieve the grades they deserve. There is a collection of hard fought Grade 4s (C) that we are celebrating with just as much enthusiasm.

Particular highlights include Physics (80% Grades 7/8/9), French, Geography, Chemistry and Biology (all with 60% Grades 7/8/9), Maths (58% Grades 7/8/9) and English Language (58% Grades 7/8/9). Of our Art students, 50% achieved a grade 8 or 9.

This Year 11 has made the most of every opportunity at Duke of Kent School and showed what an inspirational group of young people they are. Their resourcefulness, dynamism, kindness and tenacity leave a lasting legacy and it is wonderful to see them achieving their goals. They have worked hard at their learning and their friendships, and it has been a real pleasure for staff to see the amazing transformations that have taken place through sheer hard work and dedication.

Alex Seeley Director of Teaching and Learning



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SCHOOL

Duke of Kent School
Peaslake Road
Ewhurst
Surrey GU6 7NS
Tel 01483 277313