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ORCHESTRAL CONCERT

Reflection and Thoughts, 19 January, Speech Room

On the cold winter's evening of Saturday, the School put on its the Orchestral Concert in Speech Room. It was a spectacular event and the music was simply stunning. The orchestra, without a doubt, managed to deliver something astonishing and magical that night. The standard and the quality of the sound that it produced was startling, and everyone performed with great enthusiasm, passion and emotion for the three pieces of music.



The orchestra commenced with the graceful *Karelia Suite* by Sibelius, Op.11. There were three sections to this Suite, beginning with the Intermezzo, followed by the Ballade and concluding with the Alla Marcia. The start of the Intermezzo was solely enchanting, with the strings section presenting a soft yet melodious harmony. This delicate harmony was joined by the French horns, which created a rich tone and march-like rhythm. The Intermezzo gradually built up, with the strings crescendoing and accelerating, until the piece took a swift turn. The trumpets were blasting out their melody and the percussion was determinedly adding poise and style to this fanfare. Overall, the Intermezzo was exciting and moving: it would be something that most people would want to put in future Marvel films.

The Ballade section of the *Karelia Suite* proved itself worthy of even more recognition than the Intermezzo. The bassoonists of the woodwind family produced a lovely, rich, and smooth sound. Then, as the violins, violas, cellos and double basses entered, taking over the melody, a solemn and thoughtful theme floated through the air. On occasions, the strings would add even a bit more charm into this elegant Ballade by their use of pizzicato, plucking the strings of their instruments. Gradually, the Ballade turned more mysterious, until what was left was just a couple of violins and violas repeating a short passage. Then, total silence and, while all was calm, the whole orchestra came back with the beautiful, smooth and angelic melody. This piece was absolutely phenomenal and was performed with the highest level of professionalism.

The Alla marcia section that concluded the *Karelia Suite* was pumped with excitement, elation and craze. There was a beautiful, light and graceful start from the strings and, as all the families of the orchestra joined in, the orchestra seemed remarkably engaged in this piece. There was a section where the trumpets were joined by the enchanting beats of the triangle, adding to the majestic and noble character of the piece.

As the *Karelia Suite* concluded, a swift change in the orchestra took place, so that only the strings remained on the stage. The second piece began: a *Violin Concerto in C Major* by Haydn with Jonathan Yuan as soloist. Again, there were three parts to this concerto, beginning with the Allegro moderato, followed by Adagio and concluding with the Finale: Presto. There was a charming and delightful entrance by the violins, violas and cellos in the Allegro moderato section and, as the soloist took over, there was a light, progressing harmony to accompany him. The soloist, Jonathan Yuan, performance his part solidly. Overall, the orchestra's commencement was strong and majestic.

The Adagio section was performed exceptionally well with a fine, clear-cut rhythm to distinguish the soloist from the accompaniment of the strings. There was an elegant and artistic start from the soloist, including a mesmerising harmony of the violins, violas and cellos with their unadorned yet graceful pizzicato passage. The Adagio movement was utterly striking and charming, saturated with peaceful, soothing and emotional phrases.

As the Adagio section faded into the distance, a sudden Presto movement took its position. Plain, simple yet light, elegant and adorned with richness, one might even describe this movement as being "handsome". Once again, there was splendid playing from the soloist Jonathan Yuan, who clearly understood the spirit and the characteristics of the Presto movement. During the heart of the Presto section, there were gentle arpeggios performed by the orchestra harmony, which transformed key on every new arpeggio. Fascinating and engrossing as they were, the descending smooth phrase played by the soloist during the arpeggios was also truly distinct and mystic. The result of such an astonishing and glorious performance by the orchestra and the soloist was well-earned applause, but it really should have been a standing ovation, in my opinion.



The orchestra's musical families joined together onto the stage for the final time that evening for a concluding *Symphony No 8 in B Minor 'Unfinished'* by Schubert. There were only two sections to this symphony, beginning with Allegro moderato and closing with Andante con moto. The beginning of the Allegro moderato was strongly delivered by the cellos and double basses, making the atmosphere mysterious and tempestuous. This is one piece that really defines the words "mystical grace" and I felt that the orchestra managed to present the message explicitly with provocativeness and intensity. Then, sneakily, the strings take over the harmony, adding vivid colours of emotion and life into the space around. Lastly, a flute comes

in, with its mystical solo and the whole movement builds up. You feel as if you are listening to a piece of music from *Star Wars* or, especially when the flute comes in, a *Swan Lake* ballet production by Tchaikovsky. In conclusion, Allegro moderato is a provocative piece of music, filled with anger and contempt yet also compassion, desire and suffering.

As the Andante con moto takes over, the malice, greed and affliction are replaced by endurance, love and forgiveness, with the gentle smooth melodies of the clarinets and the irresistible lush harmonies of the orchestra. This was not only a beautiful piece of music but dreamy, amorous and glamorous, which I felt the orchestra managed to capture and deliver to the audience. No words could have expressed the beautiful phrases, the pizzicato of the violins and violas, the sonorous and smooth sound of the bassoons and the majestic yet humble sounds of the brass, especially the trumpets and the French horns. This was the music of the gods. This music took out all my grief and sorrow and left me in peace and contentment. The orchestra produced music that was just phenomenal.

The Orchestral Concert was something of a magical adventure. Although, in the future, I feel that the orchestra should do the *Grosse fuge in B flat major, Op.133* by Beethoven, as it is fascinating and full of vitality and vigour.

In conclusion, I feel I owe recognition and gratitude to the orchestra and the conductor. Therefore, to the orchestra and the conductor DNW, I would like to say huge congratulations,

OSRG ARTS SOCIETY

'I Am Ashurbanipal' at the British Museum, 15 January

The OSRG Arts Society had the opportunity to visit the British Museum's highly acclaimed exhibition, *I Am Ashurbanipal*.

The history of the ancient Near East was shaped by the rise of Assyria in present-day Iraq. The Assyrian kings expanded its borders over three centuries to create a true empire. When Ashurbanipal came to power in 669 BCE, the empire was at its height, stretching from the eastern Mediterranean to western Iran. The remains of his capital Nineveh, the greatest city of its day, are now in the city of Mosul in Iraq.

Ashurbanipal presented himself to the world as a heroic king, claiming that the gods had given him outstanding strength and virility. Artworks often depicted him hunting lions, the most ferocious animal in Assyria. As the human representative of the gods, it was the king's duty to recreate the perfect world that they had made at the beginning of time. By hunting lions, creatures of the untamed wilderness, Ashurbanipal defeated the forces of chaos and maintained world order.

By the time Ashurbanipal came to power, Assyria controlled a huge territory. The empire was organised into provinces, each supervised by a governor appointed by the king. The king's trusted ambassadors combined diplomacy with coercion to manage neighbouring states. Obedience was rewarded, but brutal punishments were inflicted on those who disobeyed the king. Wealth flowed into Assyria from all corners of the empire. Millions of displaced people were forcibly resettled to cultivate barren land, build Assyrian cities and produce luxury goods. The movement of goods and people introduced new languages, art styles, technology and ideas to the region.

The Assyrian kings built on a lavish scale. The city of Nineveh was transformed by Ashurbanipal's grandfather Sennacherib into a city, the size and splendour of which astonished the ancient Near Eastern world. Sennacherib built his grand residence, which

he called the 'Palace Without Rival,' to be 'an object of wonder for all people.' Visitors entered through imposing gateways flanked by colossal human-headed winged bulls that protected the king from dangerous supernatural forces. Ashurbanipal ruled from this palace for most of his reign before building himself a new royal residence, the North Palace, at Nineveh. This was decorated with carved wall panels painted in vivid colours that glorified his rule and achievements. The scale and decoration of these impressive buildings reflected Ashurbanipal's wealth and power. The external walls were constructed of mud brick faced with gleaming white plaster and colourful glazed bricks. Huge beams of cedar wood from Lebanon were used for the roofs. The palace was divided into suites of rooms arranged around paved courtyards. Grander rooms were decorated with narrative scenes and protective figures carved in low relief on gypsum panels. They would have been seen by members of Ashurbanipal's court and visiting dignitaries. The panels were originally brilliantly coloured, but few traces of paint survive today.



The Assyrian empire was enormous and difficult to manage. Its unity depended on efficient communications network, the first of its kind. To speed up the transfer of information, the empire was connected by an innovative system of royal roads. It only took a few days for news to travel between the capital and the furthest reaches of the empire. The king's cabinet of trusted officials used the royal mail service. Each wore a golden signet ring engraved with the imperial seal. Letters sealed with these rings carried the king's authority and their instructions had to be obeyed. By delegating royal power, the king could be in many places at once.

Ashurbanipal owned at least 10,000 works, each newly made from the finest clay and written in the clearest script. His library gave him access to a vast range of reference works, many labelled with his name. The knowledge stored in them ensured the wellbeing of king and country. The library primarily contained textbooks to help Ashurbanipal communicate with the gods and learn what the future held. Divine messages were received through a complex system of earthly and heavenly signs that were carefully interpreted by the king's retinue of experts. The library included manuals about omens from sacrifices, the heavens and the earthly world. There were also rituals, calendars, hymns, prayers, magic and medicine.

Ashurbanipal was an exceptional king of Assyria. Like his predecessors, he commanded a terrifying war machine, but unlike them he never led his troops into battle. For Ashurbanipal, control of the empire also rested on knowledge. Images of the king show him with a stylus for writing tucked into his belt. He was educated, and proud of it. The king loved to boast about the range and depth of his scholarship. He had studied with one of the top scribes of the time and was able to discuss difficult topics with his advisers. The young king inherited an impressive collection of specialist writings from his father. Ashurbanipal would make it the largest and most comprehensive library yet assembled.

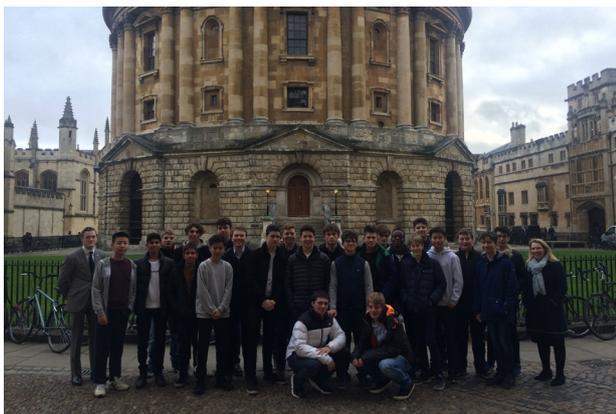
The exhibition was curated exceptionally well and its accessible nature was very impressive. Many thanks go to Mrs Walton for organising the trip.

CLASSICS STUDY DAY AT OXFORD

Away at Oxford, 15 January

Last Tuesday, after braving morning lessons, around 30 Fifth Form boys studying Classics embarked on a trip to the University of Oxford, for some inspiration on the glory of the Classics at A level.

After a quick journey there, we immediately got stuck in and were given a tour of Magdalen College by EPM, his own college, and learnt from first-hand experience what it was like to live and study at the college. Magdalen's stunning 'quads' and grounds were an amazing site, and it was a treat to be shown around.



However, in the interests of time efficiency, SMK quickly whisked us off to Balliol College via the Bodleian Library, where we were to hear from some Oxford University speakers on what it was like to study Classics there. Having been guided through a labyrinthian route to a small room off one of Balliol's corridors, the anticipation was palpable. First up was OH Krishan Emmanuel, who is currently in the second year of his Classics and Oriental Studies course. He described briefly the unique tutorial system at Oxford, where students get tailored 2-1 lessons with college tutors on their particular interests, before detailing what Classics at university entails, and what it was like to do as a degree. Emmanuel was keen to stress the fact that Classics at university was so much more than the guided translation exercise that Latin and Greek are at GCSE, and that it could be a window into any subject area, such as History, Politics and Anthropology.

After a few good questions, Emmanuel gave way to three former students of HRM, who were also there to talk on undergraduate Classics. They were very informative and added to areas that Emmanuel had spoken on, and were keen to talk about life outside of the classroom at university in general. They also imparted lots of helpful advice on university applications, especially on what universities are looking for in a potential applicant, as well as what A level combinations to do. It was really interesting to hear what they planned to do after their Classics degrees at Oxford and, surprisingly, it ranged from trying for the Foreign Office to working in sports management.

Our final speaker of the session was Olivia Thompson, a PhD student at Balliol College who had visited Harrow to deliver a lecture last year. She began by speaking about her PhD thesis on public policy in Ancient Rome, which was interesting as it has many applications in the modern world and, in her opinion, parallels could easily be drawn between then and now. Ms Thompson then spoke about some of the opportunities that studying Classics has given her, such as working in the rare books department of the Ashmolean Museum, as well as working in the wider public policy sphere, such as for the NHS. She was very positive about the benefits of postgraduate study in general and commented that it was very worthwhile to pursue,

especially if you had an interest in a topic outside the standard curriculum that you want to explore further.

The academic side of trip ended with a whistle-stop tour through the Ashmolean Museum, which houses an amazing collection of ancient artefacts, arguably second only to the British Museum. Split into groups and with our respective division beaks, we were guided right through the timeline of the classical world, from ancient Egypt and Persia, through Ancient Greece, and right up until the end of the Roman Empire. This was a fascinating adjunct to the talks we had just listened to and a reminder that Classics is not all about literature and language.

Our final stop on the tour, and for some the highlight, was a meal at the Pizza Express in the centre of Oxford. Burrowed away down a little alleyway, within minutes of walking in the pizza was set out, a consequence of SMK's meticulous planning. An enjoyable meal followed, and it was a good opportunity to discuss the day's events and process some of what had been said.

After the Pizza Express meal, it was a short walk to the bus before we began the journey back up to the Hill. It was thoroughly enjoyable and also extremely insightful trip, and was certainly very useful as Fifth Formers begin to make decisions about A levels and beyond. Thanks must go to SMK, HRM, and EPM for their organisation of the trip, as well as their insightful remarks throughout the day.

TREVELYAN SOCIETY

Andrew Roberts, 15 January, OH Room

On Tuesday, the Trevelyan Society were lucky enough to welcome Andrew Roberts, writer of 19 books including biographies of Chamberlain and Robert Cecil; now his *Walking with Destiny* leaves Churchill blazoned in honour.

Roberts began his lecture with addressing the view put forward by Churchill in his own autobiography, *My Early Life*. The common interpretation of Churchill's school life was that he was naughty and perhaps lazy in some ways until he matured. However, Roberts presents an alternative view that Churchill was an extremely active academic in the School, attending societies and delivering speeches hundreds of lines long from memory. Roberts' most significant point about Churchill's Harrow life was that the School truly did make an impact on him, and his aspirations to be a 'giant of old' were repeatedly mentioned. As a 16 year old, Churchill stated to his schoolmate Sir Muirland, "London will be attacked, and I shall be very prominent in the defence of London. I shall be in command of the defences of London and I shall save London and England from disaster." It seems Churchill really was walking with destiny.

Churchill has received much criticism from historians for his policies in the abdication crisis, the Bengal famine of 1943 and of course the Dardanelles campaign in 1915. Roberts addressed each of these mistakes during Churchill's political life and, even though 147,000 forces from across the Empire died in his campaign, which would usually be the end of anyone's political life, Churchill persisted due to his constant sense of destiny. When he was Minister of Defence, he never in the Second World War overruled his chief of staff to avoid a repeat of Gallipoli. Furthermore, Roberts says that the "things he got right were so much more important than what he got wrong".

Finally, Roberts addressed the most significant impacts of Churchill's life and his incredible foresight. Threats to the Empire that Churchill spotted included the threat of the Kaiser, the rise of Hitler and, in his second term as prime minister, the dangers of the Soviet Union and the Cold War. Without these warnings it is unlikely the democracy which we now take for granted would exist. Roberts finished his lecture by addressing Churchill's prediction as a 16-year-old and claimed that he

was wrong: ‘He didn’t just save England and London but he saved civilisation.’

Prominent historian Dr Kissinger comments that, ‘Andrew Roberts is a great historian who is always relevant to contemporary thinking and contemporary problems’, and I believe that all who attended Tuesday’s talk would agree.

JUNIOR CLASSICAL SOCIETY

Joseph Wragg, The Grove, on “Alexander the Great’s Greatest Victory”, 16 January

Joseph Wragg, *The Grove*, addressed the Junior Classical Society on the topic of Gaugamela, Alexander the Great’s greatest victory.

After Alexander the Great’s father, Phillip, was assassinated in 336 BC, Alexander became King of Macedonia. Almost immediately, he gathered a large and elite army to help him fulfil his dream of becoming the ‘King of all Asia.’ Along with his allies in Thessaly and Greece, historians estimate that this force was around the size of 40,000 men. Alexander soon crossed the Hellespont and met the armies of Darius III (the emperor of Persia at the time) at the battle of Granicus in Phrygia. Alexander won a resounding victory against the Persian armies with minimal losses. He then went on to conquer Sardis, Ephesus and Halicarnassus. In the next two years, he conquered all of Egypt, Anatolia, Cappadocia and Syria. Darius fought him again at Issus, but again failed to defeat Alexander’s elite army. Alexander kept on defeating army after army at city after city. Darius had had enough. He decided to meet him on the plains of Gaugamela on 1 October 331 BC with a gargantuan army.

Alexander the Great had brought an army of roughly 40,000 men to the Battle of Gaugamela. This consisted of 25,000 heavy infantrymen, 8,000 heavy cavalrymen and 7,000 peltasts and archers.



The heavy infantry corps consisted of the Macedonian pikemen, hypaspists and pezhetairoi. The pikemen, or phalanx, were put into units of 256 men. This unit was brutally effective against the Persian light infantry and cavalry. Also, Alexander had the Companion Cavalry nearby to prevent any encirclements. The pikemen were placed on all three flanks but mainly populated the centre. The pezhetairoi (or foot companions) guarded the rear of the central. These were mainly reserves for most of the battle.

The skirmish line of Alexander’s army consisted of peltasts, javelinists and archers. The archers were designed to weaken any cavalry attacks and to keep the larger archer corps of Darius away, as well as to skirmish down the lightly armoured Persian infantry while they charged towards the phalanx.

The cavalry under Alexander consisted of the 5,000 strong Companion Cavalry and 3,000 Thessalian cavalrymen. The Companion Cavalry was a very heavy lancer and melee cavalry regiment. They were excellent at charging enemy lines and fighting other cavalrymen. They were the best of Alexander’s

troops and were pivotal in his decisive victory. The Thessalian cavalry was positioned entirely on the left wing of the battle under the leadership of Parmenion, Alexander’s second in command.

Contemporary sources such as Ptolemy state that Darius’ army was at least 1,000,000, but modern historians estimate that Darius’s forces could have been between 100,000-250,000 men, similar to Xerxes’ invasion force of Greece in 480 BC. Taking these numbers into account, it seems that Darius brought around 100,000 men. However, most of Darius’ forces were nowhere near as well trained as Alexander’s elite soldiers. The whole Persian army was laid out in a two-mile-long line with the cavalry in front and infantry and skirmishers behind.

The backbone of the Macedonian army was the phalanx formation first employed by the Greeks in the 7th century BC. This was a 16-man deep (256 in total for one ‘unit’) near-impenetrable pike line. The reason this was so effective (especially on the flat plain of Gaugamela) was that there was no simple way around the pikes. One could attack the flanks, but Alexander placed the heavier hypaspists (shieldbearers) and peltasts behind them. This meant that neither infantry nor cavalry could attack them and push through without sustaining a significant number of casualties. The two other ways to get around Alexander’s front line was either to surround it (which was impossible with the Companion Cavalry nearby) or to pelt them with missiles. This would be arduous as Darius had only brought 1,500 archers to the field compared to Alexander’s 7,000 peltasts, javelinists and archers. This meant that even if Darius ‘focused down’ one part of Alexander’s line, they would be then attacked by Alexander’s skirmish line.

In the early stage of the battle, the Macedonian phalanx began to march towards the Persian infantry. Alexander however, led his entire Companion Cavalry wing and a large number of pikemen, hypaspists and peltasts right in a diagonal formation away from the main battle. Darius, seeing that Alexander may attempt an attack round the flanks, ordered some of his cavalry to follow him along the Persians’ own lines. While this was happening, the Persian cavalry under Bessus charged towards the left flank. Some of these were intercepted by the Thessalian cavalry under Parmenion. As well as cavalry charging on the left flank, the Indian cavalry charged the Macedonian lines on the right.

After Alexander and his Companion Cavalry went towards the far-right flank of the battlefield, Darius decided to send 8,000 of his cavalrymen against the left flank of Alexander’s forces commanded by Parmenion. While the Thessalian cavalry fought some of the charging Persian horsemen, the Scythian chariots and the war elephants charged the peltasts lines. This is where the peltasts showed their true strength in the battle. The javelins killed most of the crews of the chariots and, when they did reach the Macedonian lines, the light infantry simply parted and the vicious pike line of the phalanx again met the chariots. With the elephants, again, the light infantry line would part and, while the elephants were still charging, the javelinists would pelt the elephants’ hides. Despite the defeat of a multitude of elephants, chariots and cavalry, Alexander’s left flank was still under extreme pressure from the remainder of Darius’ infantry.

When Darius sent a large number of his cavalry to the right wing, a large gap was created between the attacking cavalry and the main Persian infantry lines, which were now completely open. Alexander saw this and, as he was marching towards the right flank with his Companion Cavalry, he charged towards the gap in the Persian lines. The light Persian infantry was destroyed by the full Companion Cavalry regiment and at least 6,000 pikemen and hypaspists charging towards them. Alexander soon reached the back of the Persian lines and then looped round towards Darius, who soon fled the battle. The Persian infantry who were fighting the Macedonian phalanx before were surrounded by the attack and soon the Persian Immortals (royal guard of Darius) were in tatters. Alexander had won the day.

THE ORIENTAL SOCIETY

One Country Two Systems: Hong Kong's fight for Democracy, by Preston Chung and Ryan Lai
15 January, MLS 17

The Oriental Society met last week Tuesday for its first lecture of the term on a very relevant and somewhat sensitive topic: the ongoing Hong Kong-China conflict over Hong Kong's democracy and its future impacts on Hong Kong. The speakers, Ryan Lai and Preston Chung, both *The Grove*, began with the cause of Hong Kong's separation from China: the First Opium War, which raged during the mid-19th century and ended with the signing of the Treaty of Nanking, a humiliating defeat for the Chinese at the hands of the British. Among other things, China was forced to cede Hong Kong (and later the Kowloon Peninsula after their defeat in the Second Opium War) to the British as a colony for 99 years until 1997. China also agreed that Hong Kong would remain as an administrative region for another 50 years until 2047, after which it would be fully re-integrated into China.

With the origins of Hong Kong's special status being elucidated, Chung continued by outlining some recent examples of tensions between Hong Kong and China, such as accounts of racial abuse being hurled by mainland Chinese spectators at the Hong Kong football team, as well as a fight that occurred in 2011 after a Hong Kong tour guide insulted three mainland tourists for not buying jewellery. More worryingly, in 2015, five staff members of a bookstore in Causeway Bay went missing, causing people to speculate that at least two of them had been taken to China, as the bookstore's workers had written, but not published, sensitive books about Xi Jinping's grip on China. In 2016, Chinese authorities confirmed that all five staff members had been taken into custody. Such disappearances are common in mainland China, but its occurrence in Hong Kong was seen as a violation of Hong Kong's Basic Law, which protects freedom of speech and freedom of the press. At the time, the United Kingdom's Foreign Secretary, Philip Hammond, said that this event directly undermined China's principle of 'One Country, Two Systems'.

In the next slide, Lai explained the history of the principle and slogan 'One Country, Two Systems', which was created by Den Xiaoping, a prominent politician in the years following Mao Zedong's death in 1976. By this, Den Xiaoping envisioned a single country, China, which would be composed of different regions operating under different systems. These 'special administrative regions' (SAR) would be allowed the highest degree of autonomy of any region in China, and only Macau and Hong Kong have this status. For the people of Hong Kong, this would mean that Hong Kong would be allowed to maintain its own trade relations and, crucially, its own government system, with China promising in 2007 that free elections would take place in 2017.

This, however, did not occur and this became the root cause of a series of protests and present-day bitterness. In 2014, the Chinese government announced that there would be a 'pre-screened' election in 2017. This meant that the candidates for Chief Executive, the head of the Hong Kong's government, would be chosen beforehand. This would be fine, if not for the fact that the 1,200 members of the Election Committee who chose the candidates were supposedly dominated by pro-Beijing politicians. To many in Hong Kong, this was a violation of China's promise for 'free elections', and their anger and frustration led to a protest that became known as the 'Umbrella Movement', due to the fact that, later on, many protestors would use umbrellas to protect themselves from tear gas and pepper spray used by the Hong Kong police.

The protests began as a peaceful sit-in, organised by a Benny Tai, a professor of law at Hong Kong University. Other important figures include the students Joshua Wong, Nathan Law and Alex

Chow, who were imprisoned after the end of the protest. Several student organisations and members of the public, as well as Benny Tai's organisation, protested in front of the government headquarters in Hong Kong. Their most important aim was to allow the people of Hong Kong to directly elect their Chief Executive, but they also demanded that the Chief Executive at the time, Leung Chun-Ying, be removed as, in their eyes, he prioritised Beijing's interests over Hong Kong's.

The protest soon escalated and the police began to use tear gas and rubber pellets on the protestors, but this brutality only encouraged more protestors to join the fray. Eventually, there were more than 100,000 protestors in three different locations: Admiralty, Causeway Bay and Mong Kok, and protestors began to set up tents in these major intersections. This had a huge effect on Hong Kong in the six months that the protest was active: Traffic was blocked for 77 days in some areas and heavily congested in others, more than 100 subways and tram routes had to be changed, taxi driver incomes decreased by 30% and there was a 20% increase in passenger trips on the Hong Kong metro. Additionally, the protest fractured opinions on the relationship between China and Hong Kong, with disagreement and debate on social media as well as in MLS 17. On the plus side, however, the pollution risk in Hong Kong went down from the usual 'High' rating to a 'Low' rating due to the decrease in vehicle exhausts.

Several important figures in the world's governments supported the Umbrella protestors, including MPs in the UK, a US senator and the UN Human Rights Committee. Among inhabitants of Hong Kong, the support was noticeably against China; in a 2018 poll conducted by Hong Kong University, only 38% of those polled said that they were 'proud to be Chinese and, in an earlier poll, 59% of those polled said that they refused to accept the government's plan for the 2017 election. China still continues to push forward its 'One Country, Two Systems' policy, but the Umbrella Protestors have clearly shown that China's wish for a smooth absorption will not be granted as easily as it would like to believe. The talk finished with a few questions from the audience, which illustrated an interesting view of the range of opinions in the room. Both speakers were firmly pro-Protestors and also, in their opinion, firmly pro-Hong Kong. Both speakers stated that they were anti-Karrie Lam, the current Chief Executive, as, in their opinion, she is also pro-Beijing when she should be acting in the interests of Hong Kong and its people. After a two brief discussions with two firmly pro-Beijing audience members who, interestingly, also lived in Hong Kong, the talk ended on a somewhat dissonant note, leaving much for the audience to think about.

GOD, NOT GURUS

*A Response to Oliver Bater's "Reason, Not Religion",
By Max Evans-Tovey, Druries*

Oliver Bater, *Rendalls*, is a very composed and eloquent debater and one whom I have had the pleasure of debating with on numerous occasions. However, I must take issue with his dismissal of the importance of God.

Bater started off making a philosophical point by quoting Einstein, in which he correctly identified that right and wrong cannot simply be about rewards and punishments. But before he addresses this, he quoted that, 'A man's ethical behaviour should be based effectually on sympathy, education, and social ties and needs.' Again, he is right, but why 'should' this be so? Bater seems to be assuming this on faith. And yet, on Bater's metaphysics, there is no 'should'; there is no God to say that this is the right way of navigating the moral map. Moreover, why should we accept it on the authority of Einstein as if he were a great philosopher instead of a great scientist? Does the fact that Einstein once said it make it correct? Are we to now use

Einstein as the infallible source of all wisdom? Is he Zarathustra? I think not. And this is the point Bater has missed. No matter how coherent or how compelling your philosophy is, there is always what I shall now refer to as ‘The Should Problem’. As I highlighted in ‘Bloody Atheism’, there is no reason why anyone ‘should’ follow an axiom like that purported by Kant, Mill or Nietzsche if there is no transcendent good. For Kant is no more correct than Mill, nor is Mill any more correct than Kant in Bater’s universe, as they are all just theories in a world where nothing is right and nothing is wrong. So, really, I must thank Bater for his attempt at derision. He has emphasised my point rather than refuted it.

Bater then proceeds to take snippets of the Bible and turn them against me as if to provide some incontrovertible evidence of Christianity’s malignant nature. He takes a quote from Peter, ‘Slaves, be subject to your masters with all reverence, not only to those who are good and equitable but also to those who are perverse.’ I will address this problem head on. In this verse, God’s commands to slaves about submission are not an endorsement of slavery as an institution. It was simply a reality of the day. As someone who was now “free in Christ” by the grace of God, this is how a slave should live in the world in that time. Peter says that God’s will for slaves is the same as His will for everyone under any kind of human authority. It is not about the master, it is about God. It is also important to note that the word used is not the Greek *douli*, the classic term for ‘slaves’. Rather, it is *oiketai*, best translated as ‘servants’. Bater has defenestrated context and nuance and replaced it with unexamined phrases which he has failed to truly analyse – a low blow, and one that makes for a fragile argument.

Bater, finally, gives his own explanation of what is really going on. According to him, the Enlightenment period was the fountain of societal development – the wonderful period whose most notable achievement was the French Revolution. But Bater forgets that this was also a time referred to as the Reign of Terror, during which over 40,000 people died: it was savage and inhumane.

Following this, Bater risibly links the generation of women’s rights to the work of Mary Wollstonecraft and other such thinkers: a woman who has only come into the public eye recently and who cannot possibly be the main reason for women’s suffrage. In this case, it was not thinkers but men of science who gave women rights. The improvement of medicine and technology changed the function of women in the world. From vulnerable life givers to autonomous reasoning people, women were not subject to the sicknesses that accompanied childbirth and could lead a safer and a more liberated existence. Later, contraceptives enabled women to more easily choose when or whether they would have a child and plan their life around that. In addition, inventions like the washing machine reduced the work load of women at home and meant that they could pursue other areas outside, giving them a larger stake in society. I’m sure Mary Wollstonecraft was very influential in some respects, but she and thinkers like her were not the reason for women’s equality. Although this is digressing somewhat, it highlights my point that Bater gives too much credit to the thinkers of the Enlightenment. So, indeed, it is not gurus but God we must again turn to.

Next on the menu – a poor grasp of history. From Common Entrance to A level, the Crusades are a compelling part of arguably more halcyon days. The twists and turns that accompany the stories of the Knights Templar make this period a fascinating epoch. It is the stuff of legend, definitely worth studying. But this is something Bater has failed to do. When he says that the purpose of the Crusades was to convert and impose religion on others, he is wrong. The Crusades had two true purposes: to liberate Jerusalem and to plunder. On the first point, Jerusalem was the Holy Land. It was the ‘cradle of Christianity’ - where Jesus himself walked and preached, where God incarnate lived and loved. In the accounts of Pope Urban II’s speech at

Clermont, there is no reference to conversion nor to changing belief. His main points of discussion were the liberation of Jerusalem and Muslim brutality. Hence, his purpose was clearly not what Bater said it was. Moreover, Baldwin of Boulogne took Tarsus from Armenian Christians, people with whom he shared a religion. He would hardly do this in an effort to convert as the Armenians had the same beliefs as he did. To dismiss all this and say that the Crusades were an attempt to impose a new religion on people and to convert Muslims is not only wrong but careless. He must also recognise that this does not even achieve what he thinks it does. Even if what he was asserting were true, it still does not explain why Christian values have not built the society in which we live.

Finally, Bater uses the example of Singapore and Japan as demonstrations of prosperous nations that have not used the Judeo-Christian value system of which I speak. On first glance, it may seem that Bater has a point. However, after looking at the histories of these countries, it is clear that the opposite is true. Singapore was under British rule for over 144 years, throughout which it adopted similar values to that of the West, and it has since been modelled largely on American economic policies. Japan would seem a better example if it weren’t for the Meiji Restoration – a period of Japan’s history that turned it into a global super power. The Japanese knew that they were behind the Western world when American Commodore Matthew C Perry came to Japan in 1853 in large warships with armaments that far outclassed those of Japan. What proceeded was the opening up of ports to the Americans. From there, the Japanese established trade routes and they started to import similar values and economics to those of the Americans. Moreover, after World War 2, agreements at Potsdam and Yalta left Japan under the control of the US, who then began a procedure of democratising and demilitarising the state. During this time, Japan’s financial strength was crippled, although this was later reversed in 1948 with growing concerns over the rise of communism in China. It was further strengthened by the US for economic reasons during the Cold War, and so it was a country energised and revitalised. This is not because of some philosopher in his ivory tower, but because of good old-fashioned Christian values, which work.

Let us dispense with all the emotive rhetoric Bater uses to convince us of the evils of religion. We can see through this sophistry. His attempts to lampoon God are thinly veiled. Though maybe I should really thank Bater for providing me with this opportunity to support and explain my position to those who were not fully convinced the first time round. I would like to wrap this debate up with a quote by atheist Friedrich Nietzsche, who looks at what happens when we abandon God and is not best pleased: “God is dead. God remains dead. And we have killed him. How shall we comfort ourselves, the murderers of all murderers? What was holiest and mightiest of all that the world has yet owned has bled to death under our knives: who will wipe this blood off us? What water is there for us to clean ourselves? What festivals of atonement, what sacred games shall we have to invent? Is not the greatness of this deed too great for us? Must we ourselves not become gods simply to appear worthy of it?” He is not happy, and nor should he be.

HERE AND THERE

Congratulations to the following boys who won the composition competition run in association with this term’s production of *Twelfth Night*. WJC and APC were impressed by the quality of the entries and that so many boys took the time to write such ambitious pieces of music. The boys will receive cash prizes and their pieces will be performed during pre-show music in the

Ryan Theatre and also at the Globe: 1st place, Daniel Sandell, *Moretons*, 2nd place, Francis Bamford, *Bradlys*, and 3rd place Nicholas Platt, *Moretons*, and Corran Stewart, *Lyon's*.

GAFFE AND GOWN

Quips from around the Hill

“Sir, when did you realise you wanted to be a teacher?” “It was when I got my pole dancing injury.”

“My Surface Book hasn’t been working since Dianne Abbot started speaking on *Question Time* last night.”

“Well done on this Send Up, boy. I’m sure this has everything to do with how hard you were working and nothing to do with the fact that this beak was probably trying to fill their Send Up quota.”

“‘Mistakes are the portal of discovery’. But if you make a mistake in your final exam, boys, all you’ll be discovering is that you’re not going to university.”

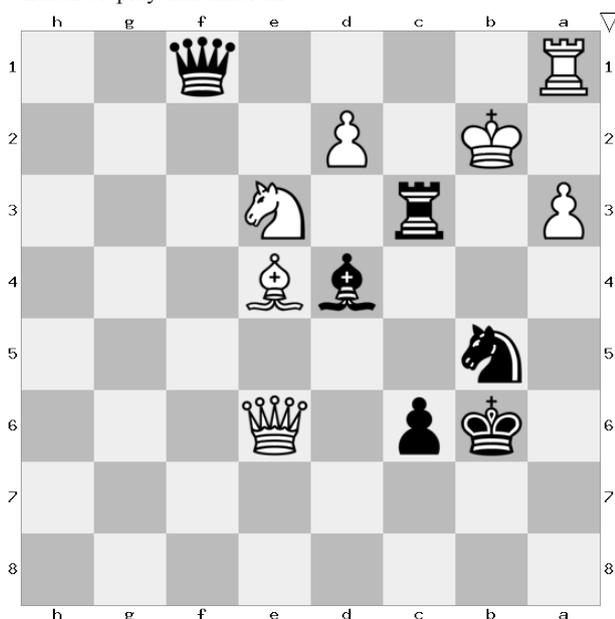
(en français) “I don’t kill ants deliberately. I don’t consider it to be something *fourni*.”

(in Italian) “Do you sunburn when you go to the beach?” *(misunderstanding the question)* “My nationality is German.”

CHESS PUZZLE

The weekly Chess Puzzle is set by JPBH. Email your solutions to him to enter the termly competition. Answers are published with next week’s puzzle.

Black to play and mate in 3.



Last week's solution: 1.Qd6+ Kxd6 2.Ne8#

Fancy playing chess? Drop in to Chess Club – Tuesdays and Thursdays 4.30–6pm in Maths Schools 5. All abilities (boy, beak or support staff) are welcome!

SUDOKU

Persevera per severa per se vera

4							7	
6								
8					1			9
	1							
				7			4	8
	2				9			
5				6				
				4				
	9							2

BADMINTON

The School v John Lyon School, 19 January

2nd Team, Won 10-8

The B team won 10-8 against John Lyon School. Well done to pair 4, Justin Leung, *West Acre* and James Yuen, *Lyon's*, who didn’t drop a game.

BASKETBALL

The School v Wellington College, 17 January

1st Team, Lost 33-34

Boys Under-16A, Lost 32-46

SWIMMING

Gala vs Warwick School Boys, 17 January

Results: Harrow A 65, Warwick 57, Harrow B 55

In their first competition of the year in Warwick against both Warwick College and Bromsgrove School, Harrow put down an emphatic win. In the Under-14 category, Sebastian Moscoso, *The Knoll*, swam very well across the board, making fantastic improvements. Competing in the Under-16 age-group, Maxwell Brook, *West Acre*, posted an exceptional time of 30.80 in the 50 metre butterfly event. In the senior age group, of particular note were Harrison Layden-Fritz, *West Acre*, making his return to competitive butterfly swimming after an extensive injury, and Tommy Nguyen, *The Grove*, who swam very solidly and made impressive technical gains on his breaststroke. This bodes well moving forward to the important meets this term.

FENCING

Bouts v Westminster School, 17 January

1st Team

Foil A – lost 45-21, Foil B – lost 45-21, Epee – lost 45-29

Harrow lost to a well-drilled and formidable Westminster side on Thursday, by three blades to nil. Despite the talismanic appearance of AJH before the match, the boys couldn't get a foothold and lost both the Foil and the Epee, with two of Westminster's GB players taking centre stage.

RACKETS

The School v Tonbridge, 17 January

Senior – 1st Pair, Won 3-1

An outstanding performance from Julian Owston, *Moretons*, and Otto Stroyan, *The Grove*, in a 3-1 win against a very strong pair.

Senior – 2nd Pair, Won 3-1

Some strong, hard hitting rackets in a competitive 3-1 win for Rishi Wijeratne, *The Head Master's*, and Charlie Witter, *Elmfield*.

Colts – 1st Pair, Won 3-0

A fine effort from Ben Hope, *Rendalls*, and Jude Brankin-Frisby *Newlands*, who overturned a 3-14 deficit in the 3rd game to win the game 17-14, and the match 3-0.

Colts – 2nd Pair, Lost 1-3

A strong performance despite a 1-3 loss for Johnny Connell, *Rendalls*, and Tej Sheopuri, *Lyon's*.

Junior Colts – 1st Pair, Lost 0-2

Some good rackets in a 0-2 defeat from both Max Shirvell and Federico Ghersi, both *The Head Master's*

HOCKEY

Junior Colts A Chigwell School, Drew 3-3, 12 January

Goals: Joe McGuinness, *The Park*, Phoenix Ashworth, *The Head Master's*, Owston, *Moretons*

In their first match of the season, the JCAs put on a fantastic performance despite a weakened team. Chigwell started well and scored two first-half goals to put Harrow in a tricky position at half time. Pressure from the forwards caused a mistake in the Chigwell defence and Sam Owston, *Moretons*, clinically put the ball past the goalkeeper. Chigwell bounced back with a scrappy goal and maintained a two-goal advantage. A skilful move from Ben Kyd, *The Park*, put Joe McGuinness, *The Park*, in on goal, producing a fine finish. In the final five minutes, Harrow won a short corner and Phoenix Ashworth, *The Head Master's*, smashed in to equalise. Full time 3-3. Great performances all round, most notably George Leigh, *Elmfield*, and Caper Davis, *Elmfield*.

The School v St Albans School, 19 January

1st XI, Drew 0-0

2nd XI, Lost 0-3

Junior Colts A, Lost 1-3

Junior Colts B, Lost 1-4

Yearlings A, Drew 1-1

FOOTBALL

The School v Berkhamsted, 1st XI won 6-0, 12 January

Scorers: Carlo Agostinelli, *The Head Master's*, 4; Christian Boland, *Newlands*, 2

Berkhamsted away is a tough start to the season for any side. Berkhamsted away on a brand new, expansive pitch with windy conditions adds to the difficulty. Harrow, however, were more than up to the task and the width of the pitch worked in their advantage. The 1st XI side has been playing together for a while now and showed good cohesiveness on the pitch, although some still need to work off the Christmas cheer. In injury news, Ed Lewis, *Rendalls*, was out with a touch of gout, so Raef Tanner, *Bradby's*, stepped up brilliantly. Ludo Palazzo, *West Acre*, was a late fitness worry after being seen storming around West Acre's corridors at 11.30pm on Friday night with a beer in one hand and a doughnut in the other, ranting on about the glory days of catenaccio to anyone who could be bothered to listen to him. Harrow began this game positively. They were on the front foot from the start, with Will Holyoake, *The Head Master's*, getting up and down on the right wing and seeing plenty of the ball. It took just five minutes for Harrow to open the scoring through Carlo Agostinelli, *The Head Master's*. There was great work from Palazzo and Holyoake, who fed Christian Boland, *Newlands*, down the right wing. Boland's pace and strength took him away from his pursuer and his cross was met by Agostinelli, who finished left-footed from 12 yards out.

Boland has started the season with a bang after scoring Harrow's second. Musty Akhtar, *The Head Master's*, went for a highly ambitious 50 yard piledriver after the ball spilled out to him from a corner, but his shot ricocheted in the penalty area and Boland pounced from 18 yards to finish under the keeper.

Harrow's third goal was a thing of beauty. Defending a corner, they launched into a stunning counter attack. The boys broke at speed and within seconds, the ball was played from Yuhki Koshiba, *Lyon's*, to Toby Gould, *Lyon's*, who played a delicious through ball to Agostinelli, who sped between two defenders to chip the ball sumptuously over the keeper's head. The fourth goal came from Boland. This time he was played through by Agostinelli and he hit a first-time shot from 25 yards out past the onrushing keeper.

Berkhamsted showed far more resolve in the second half and Harrow's quality dipped. Max Little, *Rendalls*, made an unbelievable save to tip a volley onto the bar but, on the whole, the back three of Palazzo, Andrew Holmes, *The Grove*, and Tom Ward, *West Acre*, dealt with Berkhamsted's threat comfortably.

Harrow grabbed two more deserved goals late in the game. The fifth goal came after excellent pressing from Ward and Thomas Walduck, *The Knoll*, and the ball was hit forward to Boland, who headed on for Agostinelli. Agostinelli rounded the keeper and finished into an empty net. The sixth goal came after Oliver Johnson, *Rendalls*, launched a throw down the line to Boland and his direct running and cross found Agostinelli. His first effort was parried by the keeper but, as Berkhamsted tried to clear, Agostinelli blocked the rebound and the ball went in. All in all, a fine start to the season for the 1st XI.

Results

2nd XI, Lost 1-3

The 2nd XI started the season, disappointingly, with a loss against a technically good and combative Berkhamsted side. Nonetheless, Harrow played well in patches, showing some excellent moments both individually and as a team. Scorer: Sam Allen, *Newlands*

3rd XI, Draw 0-0

4th XI, Won 3-2

5th XI, Draw 2-2

Colts A, Won 3-0

This was an impressive first game for the Colts As, with a deserved win, albeit a slightly flattering result. Scorers: B. Harrison, *West Acre*, M. Harrison (pen), *West Acre*, Y. Chatziyiannas, *The Park*

Colts B, Lost 2-4

The Colts Bs had a disappointing start to the season with a defeat to a strong Berkhamsted side. The boys grew into the game in the second half with some very positive attacking football, but it proved to be too little too late to get a result. Scorers: Ciaran Timlin, *Bradby's*, x 2

Colts C, Won 2-0

The Colts Cs made a promising start to the season, overcoming Berkhamsted 2-0 in a free-flowing game. The number of chances created and solid defensive play was particularly pleasing.

Junior Colts A, Draw 0-0

A tough first fixture, Harrow started slowly but grew to dominate the game. In the end, a share of the points was probably fair. George Cutler, *The Knoll*, was man of the match.

Junior Colts B, Lost 3-4

The Junior Colts Bs came up just short in a thrilling game against a clinical Berkhamsted side, losing 4-3 despite a brace from Ayo Ajibola, *Bradby's*, and an excellent finish by Jasper Blackwood, *Elmfield*.

Junior Colts C, Won 3-2**Junior Colts D, Won 6-0****Yearlings A, Won 10-3**

The Yearling As produced some majestic football in their first competitive fixture, overpowering Berkhamsted to run out easy 10-3 victors.

Scorers: Ellis x 4, *Rendalls*, Roberts x 3, Ayombami Awolesi x 2, *The Head Master's*, Taylor x 1, *West Acre*

Yearlings B, Won 3-1

The Yearlings B team got off to a winning start thanks to a dominant second-half performance against a gritty Berkhamsted outfit. Second-half goals from Elliot, *Druries* and a brace from Timlin *Bradby's* secured a deserved win on a tight pitch. Scorers: Timlin, *Bradby's* (x2), Elliot, *Druries*

Yearlings C, Won 3-1**Yearlings D, Won 9-0****Yearlings E, Won 6-2***The School 1st XI v Haileybury, School won 7-1*

Scorers: Carlo Agostinelli, *The Head Master's*, 2; Christian Boland, *Newlands*, 2; Toby Gould, *Lyon's*; Thomas Walduck, *The Knoll*; Oliver Johnson, *Rendalls*

Harrow faced their second tough test of the season against a physical Haileybury side. Having been frustrated in the corresponding fixture a year ago and being held to a 1-1 draw, the 1st XI were out to break down the defensive barriers and take their chances. Will Holyoake, *The Head Master's*, was a doubt after missing Thursday's training session with poison ivy but made a full recovery to start. Ludo Palazzo, *West Acre*, was tasked with opposition analysis and used a combination of the Rayleigh Observatory, Google Earth and West Acre Shell boys working in shifts to spy on Haileybury's training sessions from the comfort of his top-floor room in the boarding house. Palazzo, however, appeared to be confused by the brief set by ADJT and there were rumours that he was being questioned by authorities late on Saturday night for the alleged stalking of famous Hollywood actress Halle Berry.

The 1st XI were excellent in training all week and put those principles into practice straight away. As usual, Carlo Agostinelli, *The Head Master's*, broke the deadlock after just eight minutes. He turned his defender beautifully and got the ball out of his feet before curling a sumptuous left-footed strike into the top corner. A stunning goal to begin the game.

There was then a passage of even play where both sides battled in midfield and the Harrow back line of Andrew Holmes, *The Grove*, Ed Lewis, *Rendalls*, Tom Ward, *West Acre* and Palazzo held strong and were confident enough on the ball to play out from the back time and time again.

Harrow's second came from Christian Boland, *Newlands*. Toby Gould, *Lyon's*, played the ball across the top of the box and Yuhki Koshiba, *Lyon's*, showed great awareness to dummy the ball to Boland, who fired a left-foot strike into the bottom corner from the edge of the area.

Boland then decided he would unleash his ridiculously powerful left foot once again. The ball came to him 35 yards out, he turned and then, almost nonchalantly, launched a thunderbolt of a strike that flew into the top corner that left the watching fans gasping in awe. A goal that would grace any level of football.



Harrow did not let up at the start of the second half. Just three minutes in, Agostinelli grabbed his second of the game. Boland turned his man and drove menacingly at the defence before feeding Agostinelli and his right-foot shot hit the back of the net.

Gould then decided he would get in on the act in the 57th minute by making the Haileybury centre backs look like they were running in treacle. Gould counter-attacked from his own half and gave the defenders a 10 yard head start. He then kicked the ball beyond them and raced past them on the half-way line before streaking away, rounding the keeper and finishing into an empty net.

Next it was Thomas Walduck, *The Knoll*, who had been imperious in the centre of midfield and who had controlled the game. The ball fell to him from a corner and he curled a delicate strike into the far corner from 25 yards out.

Oliver Johnson, *Rendalls*, then got a deserved goal of his own in the 68th minute. He was played through, rounded the goalkeeper and then showed great composure to steady himself and hit a curling shot around the recovering defender from a very tight angle. Haileybury then grabbed a late consolation in the final minute of the game.

It was an outstanding performance from Harrow, one of the best that I have seen in my time at the School. The passing was flowing, the movement was excellent and the attitude of the players was positive and encouraging. Let's hope that continues for the rest of the season.

Results**2nd XI, Draw: 1-1**

Scorer: Fin Scott, *Rendalls*

This was a performance full of many encouraging signs, yet ultimately yielded a disappointing result. Whilst the first half was a somewhat scrappy affair, Harrow exerted almost total

dominance in the second, and can feel no little frustration in failing to take the victory. In reality, though, the hosts relied on a late penalty from Fin Scott to level the scores, having himself nudged the ball beyond the goalkeeper and subsequently been brought down. In the remaining seconds, Harrow had a couple of corners but, tantalisingly, just failed to make the connection that would have nicked the win.

3rd XI, Won 4-1

Scorers: B. Moses-Taiga, *Druries* x 2, I. Ajibade, *The Grove* x 2
The 3rd XI continued their excellent start to the season with a commanding display at home to Haileybury. The visitors defended stubbornly in the first half, but Harrow worked hard to create chances and when the breakthrough was made, the floodgates soon opened allowing Harrow to run out comfortable winners.
4th XI, Draw 2-2

5th XI, Won 6-0

6th XI v The Leys School, Lost 1-6. Well done to John Bonas, *Rendalls*, for a break away goal.

Colts A, Won 5-1

Colts B, Won 3-1

Scorers: Gabe Rogers, *The Knoll*; Oscar Cohen, *Bradbys*; Neil Kumar, *West Acre*.

The Colts Bs bounced back from last week's defeat with a convincing victory away at Haileybury. In a physical contest, the Harrow boys played composed and intelligent football to come out on top 3-1.

Colts C, Won 7-1

Scorers: William Wallace, *The Head Master's*, 3; Jude Brankin-Frisby, *Newlands*, 2; Oskar Bulstrode, *Rendalls*, 1; Thomas Cheah, *The Head Master's*; 1.

The Colts C's continued their unbeaten start to the season in emphatic style, dispatching Haileybury 7-1 having created a multitude of chances.

Colts D vs King's College School (KCS), Wimbledon u16C, Draw 2-2

A hard fought draw that owed much to dead ball specialist Cameron Yarrow, *Druries*, who scored a penalty and a quite extraordinary direct free kick from at least 35 yards to equalize for the second time. It wasn't a pretty match on a bobbly and sandy surface, but both teams could be proud of their energy and effort. In addition to Yarrow, there were strong physical performances in the centre of the pitch from Angus Hill, *The Park* and Alexander Morrison, *Newlands*, who was playing for Harrow for the first time without a goalkeeping kit on.

Junior Colts A, Won 2-0

Scorer: Garuba, *Newlands*

Harrow thoroughly deserved their win against an organised Haileybury side. One goal in each half, the first from Chiike Odogwu, *Moretons* and the other an Ed Garuba, *Newlands* screamer. Jack Joyce man of the match for his excellent defensive work.

Junior Colts B, Won 12-1

Junior Colts C, Won 7-0

Junior Colts D, Won 11-0

Scorers: Florian Hull, *Druries*, Dimitri Samonas, Dylan Winward, *Lyon's*, Brankin-Frisby, *Newlands*, Jack O'Connor, *Druries*, Jin Park, *The Knoll*

The drop in temperature did little to reduce the tempo with which Harrow JCD's played, taking the game to the opposition with every opportunity. The match was played entirely in the opposition half until it was abandoned early.

Yearlings A, Won 11-0

Scorers: Charlie Young, *Newlands* (3), Tito Edjua, *Lyon's* (2), Mathaeus Roberts, *The Knoll* (2), Ayobami Awolesi, *The Head Master's*, Elliott Taylor, *West Acre*, Arnaud du Roy de Blicquy, *Elmfield*, Ayomide Awolesi, *The Head Master's*

The Under-14s racked up an impressive scoreline as they dominated Haileybury on a cold January afternoon. Charlie Young, *Newlands* set the tone right from kick off with a classy run and finish. Further clinical finishing in the first period, including a brilliant long range effort from Mathaeus Roberts, *The Knoll*, left Harrow with a comfortable 5-0 lead at half time.

Yearlings B, Won 3-2

Scorers: Owens, *Rendalls*, De Hemptinne, *Bradbys*, x 2

A wonder strike from outside the box by Owens and two composed finishes by striker De Hemptinne helped the Bs scrape past a dangerous Haileybury side in an evenly fought contest. In a scrappy game, debutant Williams, *Moretons* showed why he deserved his January transfer from Reddings 1.

Yearlings C, Won 6-0

Scorers: Fin Smith, *The Knoll*; Femi Adejolu, *West Acre*, Adam Mohd Zakhir Siddiqy, *Lyon's*, x 2 Casper Kingsley, *Elmfield*, Archie Keith, *The Knoll*

The Yearlings C produced a strong and controlled performance in their first home game to defeat a committed Haileybury side.

Yearlings D, Won 15-0

The School v Harrow College

3rd XI Won 3-2

Goal scorers: S Smith, *The Head Master's*, H Zumbika, *Lyon's*, B Moses-Taiga, *Druries*

This was a good win for the 3rd XI against a spirited and lively local state school. The visitors started well, but Harrow weathered the early storm and soon began to assert their authority. 3 excellent goals were scored and the team defended well towards the end following a late fightback from Harrow College.

4th XI Won 4-2

HARROW FOOTBALL

The Outcasts XI v Lawson-Cruttenden XI,

Outcasts won 5-2

The Lawson-Cruttenden XI: Tim Lawson-Cruttenden, *The Head Master's*, 1968/2, Richard Lawson-Cruttenden, *The Head Master's*, 1970/2, Charles Pycraft, *Elmfield*, 1982/3, Sami Yohannes (friend), Patron, J. Rendalls, Akinluyi C.I., *The Head Master's*, Harris A.G.T., *Bradbys*, Macleod C.H., *The Head Master's*, Ruge-Price S.J.R., *The Park*, Hirdaramani A.V., *The Park*, Mannan M., Sch, *The Park*, Wooding G.A.W., *Bradbys*

The Outcasts: Cullimore J.J. (Capt), *Rendalls*, du Sautoy C., *The Grove*, Dunning F.M., *Rendalls*, Farr A.H.S., *The Park*, Gibbs J.H.A., *The Park*, Grundy C.G.A., *Rendalls*, Litton R.A.L., *Newlands*, Mackenzie-Smith C.A.H., *The Park*, Owston G.G.A., *Moretons*, Taylor O.S., (Capt) Rendalls, McCreanor H.W., *The Park*, Moore B.J.M., *Moretons*, Cleeve W.D.F., *Lyon's*, Potter H.F.L., *Moretons*, Singh V., *The Park*

The second game of the season arrived, and once again the Outcasts were as ambitious and greedy as ever to continue a winning start. As is customary, we all met at the Boyer Webb for a pre-match chat at 140pm; classically, the timings meant nothing to some of the team who decided to stroll down slightly later just in time for the photo. Like at the battle of Stirling

Bridge in 1297, the teams had a few talks before we exchanged handshakes like civilised human beings (and reminisced about past and present times) before we got down to battle.

However, on this occasion the idea of the game was not to mow down the opposition with cavalry but to outplay them with a typical style of schoolboy footer. Nevertheless, military tactics were still needed and talks from inspirational leaders, Cullimore and Taylor were required and the instructions were carried out accordingly. Normally, in rugby (lets say), the XV like to show off their biggest forward to scare off the other team in the first minute but, in this case, it was Grundy's terrifyingly large size 18 American football boots that had to be imported from our transatlantic neighbours for yet another nail-biting fixture, and these acted as our vanguard or Boagrius, from the opening scene in the film *Troy*, a classic of all time. Although in this instance Achilles didn't come down and kill the much-favoured giant, and thus the match begun!

The Old Boys, in line with tradition, took the slope advantage and then decided to kick off. A good routine of tactics and formation was played but the deadlock was broken and the OHs' defensive line had been breached. Cullimore took yards from Litton's flick and sent the ball through the base. The large roar from the staff, parents and subs vigorously echoed the importance of the base to give his team an early and elementary lead, especially with the uphill disadvantage like at the Hastings in 1066. With no surprise, the opposition responded and came thundering back down the hill like infantry with depth of players and in style gave the boys a taste of their own medicine. DRW, the umpire, brought out his notebook and scribbled down the score – it stood at 1 apiece.



After phases of barges, bounces, 'good fouls' and many other old-school lessons from the Lawson-Cruttenden brothers, they battled on but on this occasion, experience didn't prove as useful as expected and the Outcasts slowly moved into the driving seat. In the passage of play two bases were scored, and in quick succession by Gibbs and Taylor, efficiently aided useful offensive and bombarding play from midfielders Plant, Owsten and Farr.

From nowhere, a glimpse of hope was reinstated for the OHs as a further base was tallied to bring the tie to 3-2, with enough time to pull off a remarkable recovery. However, unlike Fulham's miraculous 2007-2008 relegation survival, this comeback wasn't to be and the boys put to bed once and for all with a further two bases by Taylor, once again to wrap up his second score of the game and extend his lead in the race for the Golden Boot. The last base was scored by Singh and thus the match came to an end.

The game was wrapped up, hands were shaken, again, and, as requested by the Lawson-Cruttenden brothers, instead of three cheers for both teams everyone involved in the game got in a circle and sung their hearts out to the chorus of *Forty Years On*; this really was an emotional but captivating way to round off a spectacular match of Harrow football, one of London's and certainly England's finest sports.

It's not the game in itself, it's the way it is played and treated, both in terms of tactics but, most importantly, in spirit, that

makes it such an appealing and unique game to be part of and a tradition which the forthcoming generations of Harrow must do their utmost best to cherish and honour. This is a magnificent event that is a great excuse for Old Boys to return to the Hill.

Now preparations begin for Derby Day on Thursday with our nemesis from Slough, who will attempt to take on our version and vice-versa, which is another wonderful tradition that is loved by all involved. I would like to extend my thanks to the Old Boys for coming and hope to see them all next year.

The Old Boys v The School XI, the School won 3-2

The School XI: Amaning N.Y.A.A., *West Acre*, Barr D.T.R., *Newlands*, Campbell J.H., *Bradbys*, de Broë-Ferguson A. J., *The Park*, Evans-Tovey M.H.G., *Druries*, Glimmerveen O., *Bradbys*, Jenkins G.B.S., *Newlands*, Johnson-Watts A.W.H., *Lyon's*, Keith M.W., *The Knoll*, Marsh J.A., *The Park*, Proctor A.T.S. (Capt), *The Head Master's*, Ravagnan R., *Bradbys*, Saunders A.A.J., *The Knoll*, Stephenson H.A., *West Acre*



The Old Boys' XI: James de Broë-Ferguson, *The Grove*, 1981³, Johnny Farrar-Bell, *Moretons*, 2004³, Jamie Hill, *The Head Master's*, 2013³, Edward Keith, *The Knoll*, 2004³, Henry Kenyon, *The Head Master's*, 2009³, CEBG, EPM, Huw Power, *The Park*, 2007³, Stafford Proctor *The Grove*, 1981³, Charles Pycraft, *Elmfield*, 1982³, Craven G.H., *The Grove*, Heilpern A.F.F., *The Knoll*, Hogben A.M., *Newlands*, Thompson W.F.B., *Elmfield*, Benigni P.K., *Newlands*, Dutton W.H.R., *Newlands*, Polturak L.T.L., *The Knoll*

The XI recovered well on Saturday from the first game lost to John Russel's OH side to take on a mixed OH XI 3-2. The diverse XI had plenty of young substitutes to maintain freshness on the field so it was going to be a competitive game. Proctor and de Broë-Ferguson showed their faces again from the recent Harrow football tour and led the boys to fear a well-organised and talented OH side.

However, the boys had a strong start with heavy hits from Keith, who appeared to be competing with his older brother Edward. The XI had plenty of opportunity to push forward of the scorecard however could not finish in front of the base. Glimmerveen broke through the defence and was in on goal yet, due to some confusion and shouting, he stopped not wanting to score a soccer base. Saunders pushed the School forward by a well-worked team's yards. Edward Keith with great aggression and strength mounted an attack to level the game. Unluckily for the XI, there were many missed opportunities, which made the game tense, as we did not want to lose the first two games of the season.

The School started the second half confidently, with the downhill pushing forward with an early base from Saunders. Now bursting with confidence, the OHs quickly returned fire with a well-drilled and direct base. The boys began to put pressure on the OHs with a great effort from Keith to transfer the ball from the half way line to Proctor, who nearly had it,

but unfortunately dropped it. Pressure was maintained on the structured side, but the boys could not find a way through them. Fortune struck and Barr received yards and did a quick transfer across the field to Evans-Tovey, who caught it excellently. This was a key base near the end of the game and he finished it off sweetly.

Reinforcement came in the form of new legs from the Lower Sixth substitutes, but the XI played the rest of the game out to achieve their first win.

RUGBY

*Junior Colts A v RGS, Guildford - Under-15
National Cup - Rd 5, Won 31-0*

The Junior Colts A came away from the last 16 of the National Cup unscathed, with a convincing 31-0 win against RGS Guildford. From the 256 teams that entered, Harrow are now one of eight sides left in the competition. The quarter-final of the Under-15 National Cup will take place the week after the exeat against Wellington.

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