

EXTRAORDINARY BEDDIE'S

Autumn 2019



EDITORIAL: MUSICAL ENRICHMENT

Music is growing at Bede's. It is an irresistible and incredibly positive force that is permeating all aspects of our pupils' experience at Bede's from the moment they walk through the door in Nursery through to performing at this year's Cabaret at the Senior School, either as part of the larger Senior School orchestra or performing in the Bede's ensemble for the first time during the Thursday performance. Mr Farley, our Director of Music, has been weaving his magic for a year and a half at the Prep School and the 135 members of the pupil choir are testament to his remarkable influence in the school.

One of the many highlights of the academic year, and a personal favourite of mine, is the Intersection Music Competition and it provides me with an opportunity to briefly mention again the great benefits of such an important subject.

Because whether your child is the next big music phenomenon or more likely to sing his or her solos in the shower, they are bound to benefit from music being at the heart of their education. Research shows that learning the do-re-mi can help children excel in ways beyond the basic ABCs.

Research has found that music embedded within the curriculum and learning to read music, as well, of course, as learning to play an instrument (or two), facilitates learning

other subjects and enhances skills that children inevitably use in other areas, and this begins in the early years, bringing a very serious benefit to children as they progress into more formal learning. Making music involves more than the voice or fingers playing an instrument; a child learning about music has to tap into multiple skill sets, often simultaneously. For instance, people use their ears and eyes, as well as large and small muscles. Music learning supports all learning. Not that Mozart makes you more intelligent, but it's a very integrating, stimulating pastime and research is abundant in evidencing that growing up in a music rich environment is advantageous for a pupil's language development. Studies have been conducted to show the benefits not just academically; effectively making the brain 'work' harder, but also in social behaviour benefits and even improved spatial intelligence, meaning that understanding music can help children visualise various elements that should go together, like they would do when solving a mathematical problem.

I was drawn to a study published way back in 2007 by Christopher Johnson, Professor of Music Education and Music Therapy at the University of Kansas. He revealed that students in primary schools with music education as a particular focus, scored

around 22 percent higher in English and 20 percent higher in mathematics on standardised tests, compared to schools with little music on offer, regardless of socioeconomic disparities among the schools. Johnson compares the concentration that learning music and learning to read music requires with the focus needed to perform well on a standardised test.

I love the following quote too: "Schools that have rigorous programs and high-quality music and arts teachers probably have high-quality teachers in other areas. If you have an environment where there are a lot of people doing creative, smart, great things, joyful things, even people who aren't doing that have a tendency to go up and do better." And it doesn't end there: along with better performance results on concentration-based tasks, music training can help with basic memory recall. "Formal training in music is also associated with other cognitive strengths such as verbal recall proficiency," Pruett says. "People who have had formal musical training tend to be pretty good at remembering verbal information stored in memory."

Music can improve your child's abilities in learning and other non-music tasks, but it's important to understand that music does not make one cleverer. As Pruett explains, the many intrinsic benefits to music education include being disciplined, learning a skill, being part of the music world, managing performance, being part of something you can be proud of, and even struggling with the demands of public performance.

And basing the results of how the pupils performed at the Intersection Music Competition, it is crystal clear just how much pupils enjoy music and performing to an audience at Bede's. Long may it continue!



Giles Entwisle
Headmaster

PROUDLY INTRODUCING OUR HEADS OF SCHOOL



What has been your best moment of Year 8, so far?

My favourite moment so far was definitely the Intersection Music Competition. I did a project on the side to make a video of the rehearsals in the lead up to the competition, for my section.

Harry, Head Boy

I think my favourite moment was the UKSA Hockey Tournament at Burgess Hill. It involved all of my friends, everyone was full of energy and had fun together.

Olivia, Head Girl

Intersection Music was really fun. I love watching everyone perform and I like how competitive and noisy it gets.

Rosie, Deputy Head Girl

If you could invite anyone in the world to dinner, who would it be?

I would invite Albert Einstein as I would want to ask him about some of his inventions because he recorded them all in secret code.

Harry, Head Boy

I would probably invite James Corden to a big family dinner. It would be so fun and he would make everyone laugh.

Olivia, Head Girl

I could invite Adam Peaty for swimming knowledge, Matt Le Blanc to make us laugh and Barack Obama as I think he would be very interesting to talk to.

Rosie, Deputy Head Girl

If you could have one super power, what would it be?

I'd like to be able to read people's minds, particularly Donald Trump's. Then I would have the secrets of the White House and Area 51.

Harry, Head Boy

I would read people's minds as I think it would be really cool to know what they're thinking; I'm really nosy.

Olivia, Head Girl

I would love to shape shift. I could turn into a bird and fly and maybe spy on people too.

Rosie, Deputy Head Girl

What makes you happy?

Sitting down with my family at Christmas to play games. We create our own quizzes about one another.

Harry, Head Boy

Being with my friends and that feeling you get when you arrive at a destination after a long journey.

Olivia, Head Girl

I love taking my dogs for a walk, especially to Abbots Wood.

Rosie, Deputy Head Girl

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NURSERY HIGHLIGHTS

The Autumn term has been extremely exciting. We have welcomed 100 children into our five Early Years Foundation Stage classes. We have made additions to our Curriculum, which now also includes a Core book approach. This has proven to be very successful already with children as young as two years old demonstrating the ability to recall high quality children's texts by rote.



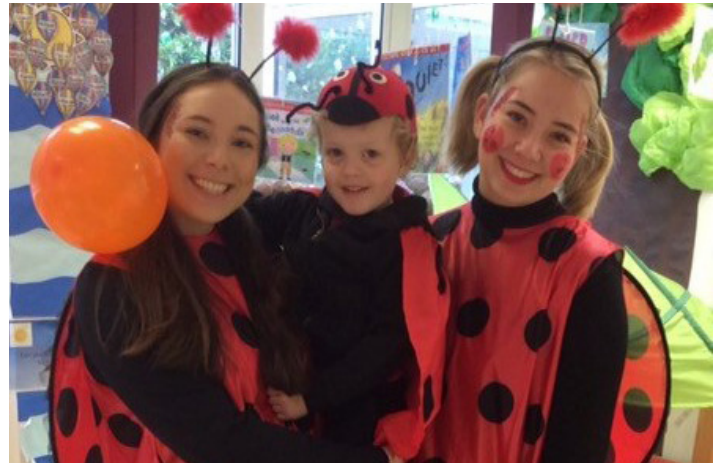
This approach supports children to build vocabulary, develop personal and social skills, aids communication and language, supports the development of imagination and helps children to understand story structure. All of these skills lay the foundations for reading and writing in later years.

The ISI inspection went extremely well and we all feel very proud with the result. It was true testament to the hard work and dedication from every member of staff. Thank you to all the families who spoke with the inspectors, giving such wonderful feedback. The Nursery children have had a great deal of fun and exciting learning opportunities during the Autumn term. Highlights have been successfully settling new babies and toddlers into our Bede's family in the Starfish Room. The Jelly Fish children have been very busy celebrating various special days including dressing up and dancing for Halloween and Diwali, making Autumn artwork and of course dancing and singing Christmas songs at our special Christmas events.



Children in the Rainbow Fish group have enjoyed spending time in the garden areas, looking after the chickens, enjoying some Forest School crafts and making incredible progress in their confidence during dance and swimming lessons. Most recently, they have enjoyed making Christmas craft and learning wonderful new songs to share at our Christmas Jingle and Mingle event.

The Pre-School children have enjoyed a whole host of activities and events. They had an incredible Autumn celebration on the 31 October, which involved a range of craft, sensory and cookery activities. The build up to Christmas has also seen an incredible Polar Express event which included the most imaginative and wonderful experiences for the children. Their highlight was certainly coming to school in pyjamas and drinking hot chocolate. We look forward in anticipation to the nativity and our visit to Beechwood Grove Care Home where a small group of our Pre-School children will be bringing festive cheer to the elderly.



Reception children have settled incredibly well into school life. The highlights for the Reception children have included the most amazing dinosaur day which included visits from two 6ft dinosaurs, a dinosaur feast and a dinosaur themed musical extravaganza. The second half of term has involved the children learning about writing letters inspired by the Jolly Postman Story. The standard of work produced by the children at this point in the academic year has been absolutely fabulous.

As my Autumn term entry draws to an end, I would like to thank you for choosing Bede's for your precious little ones. We absolutely love caring for each and every one of them and look forward to seeing them grow as they continue their Bede's journey with us. I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year.

Hanna Kerrigan
Head of Nursery and EYFS

THE INN-SPECTORS ARRIVE



In this year's Nativity, a group of 'Inn-spectors' arrived in Bethlehem to check that the accommodation was up to scratch. On arriving in Bethlehem, they were horrified to discover that at one of the inns some visitors had been put in the stable and a baby had been born among the animals. It was a health and safety nightmare.



However, as Mary, Joseph and the donkey told their story and the special visitors explained the good news, the inn-spectors realised that this was no ordinary baby and they declared the stable fit for a king.



The script was very funny and Jeffrey and the grumpy donkey kept the audience amused. The show was lively with eight catchy songs; the children raised the roof with their singing and there were a number of tear-jerking solo performances as well.



The dances, choreographed by Nicci Ullah, were spectacular. The children were genuinely outstanding. Year 2 learnt their lines brilliantly; their confidence to speak and act in front of packed audiences reflected the skills they learn within school, becoming confident independent members of the school and wider community.



The production was enjoyed by staff, parents and children alike and put us all in good spirits for the festive season.

Rachel Barrett
Year 2 Teacher

BEDE'S PREP BOOK WEEK 2019



"I believe all books have magic in them." Bede's Book Week is a thrilling way to start our academic year but surely this opening statement from our visiting author was a particularly wonderful way to mark the launch of Bede's Book Week 2019. Helen Dennis – author of *Secret Breakers* and *River of Ink* series – talked to Years 7 and 8 about her fast-paced adventure books and who could be more captivated by the three eclectic ideas that motivated her latest book in the *River of Ink* series: immortal jellyfish, alchemy and the 2005 case of a mystery figure known simply as the Piano man. Helen is committed to looking for mysteries and questions in the real world and was intrigued by the fact that Bede's Prep is situated at Holywell – a holy spring – maybe a most powerful source of elixir. Perhaps this will serve as inspiration for the next novel! Years 1 to 4 were treated to entertaining and inspiring performances by one of Britain's favourite children's poets, Brian Moses. Brian began writing poems when he realised he would never be a rock star: "I put the guitar to one side, but the songs carried on and became poems." An energising mix of poems were performed, ranging from *The Snake Hotel* to *Supermarket Trolley* – a souped-up futuristic shopping trolley – to a mysterious night recalled when he and his family stayed in a castle on an island. The interweaving of poetry, performance and incredible percussion music shone and rang out through his recitals in the theatre.

On our final day of Book Week, when Bede's is transformed into a magical array of book characters, Years 5 and 6 were visited by novelist, Peter Bunzl. We must have appeared a curious audience dressed in costumes that ranged from unicorns to dinosaurs yet, undaunted, Peter introduced us to his series of four *Cogheart Adventures*. His inspirations for writing were as equally fascinating as those of Helen Dennis: including the *Penny dreadful*, a popular serial magazine produced during the nineteenth century which later inspired the first comic books; Victorian photographs and Victorian clockwork figures. Peter recalled writing his first book when he was about the same age as his audience: nine or ten years of age and told us that if we want to be writers, it is important to write as many stories as we can and share them with others. After his talk, we were certainly inspired to get writing.



Ana Guevara, our esteemed librarian, reported last week that she receives over three hundred visitors to the school library every week. Furthermore, she is looking forward to launching the new Bede's Reading Passport in the New Year – proof enough that the magic of reading is indeed alive and well at Bede's.

Sherry Wilson
Head of English



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PUPILS' SUCCESS IN ART COMPETITION

Following the success of the Eastbourne Great Spring Parks Clean in May, which involved over 700 volunteers cleaning most of the 34 parks in Eastbourne, Bede's Prep pupils helped out once again with their designs for the Plastic Free Eastbourne Art Competition.



The campaign for Plastic Free Eastbourne brought together 15 local primary schools where children were asked to design posters for the parks, informing visitors to take their litter home with them.



The entries were judged by three local artists who were tasked with choosing the top ten winning pictures. These pictures are then printed onto signs for display around the various parks.



Pippa's entry was awarded 3rd place overall and she was presented with a certificate and prize of a £50 WH Smiths voucher, by the Mayor of Eastbourne, Steve Wallis.



Max's picture won 2nd place for Bede's and Zak G and Zak P were both awarded 3rd place for their joint entry. The boys all received a certificate and prize for their fantastic work.

Rachael Armitage
Head of Art

YEAR 5 HISTORICAL VISITS

Year 5 visited The Wish Tower and Redoubt in Eastbourne as part of their Defence of the Realm studies.



The pupils looked at the Napoleonic threat to England and how in 1803 the government planned for another French invasion.

The opportunity to go and visit these important monuments to our past is always invaluable and we are so lucky to have them quite literally on our doorstep. At the end of the term, on a very cold and bleak December day, Year 5 found themselves at Portsmouth Dockyard visiting HMS Victory and the Victory museums as part of their Defence of The Realm history studies. The trip involves a workshop on board the ship where the children use evidence and accounts of the time to learn about the lives of some of the men who were actually on

board in 1805. For the children, it is an opportunity to bring to life the facts and information they have been learning in class and the tour guides are always impressed with their questions and subject knowledge.



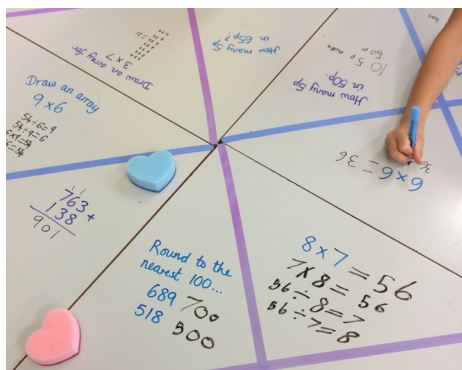
Sam Brown
Head of History

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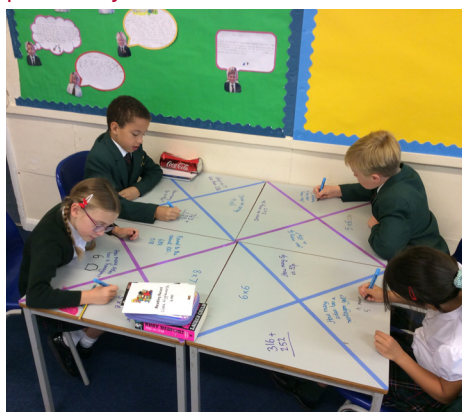
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YEAR 4 TIMES TABLES

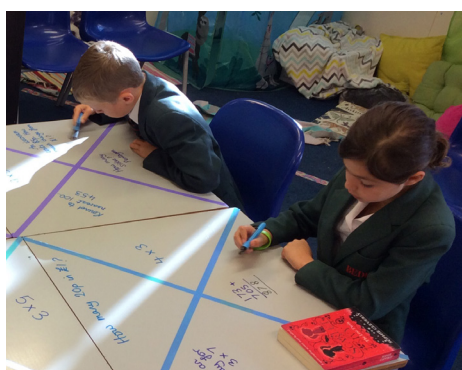


Children in 4MM have been dabbling in a little graffiti recently... all to improve their maths knowledge. Who could resist the opportunity to scribble all over your class desk? Pupils have been answering maths questions with this method and it has proven very successful.



The children have been really enthused by this change of tack and are excited to start their maths work straight away. It has been a fantastic way to see the children's methodology. It's a great way to engage them in their work and they find it great fun. Thankfully, the white-board pens rub straight off once they're finished.

Miriam McDonell
Year 4 Form Tutor



COMPUTER THINKING

As part of their Computing studies, Year 7 have participated in the Bebras Computational Thinking Challenge. This annual competition is run in approximately 40 countries, and this year just over 260,000 pupils took part.

Before computers can be used to solve a problem, the problem itself and the ways in which it could be resolved must be understood. Computational thinking techniques help with these tasks. Simply put, programming tells a computer what to do and how to do it. Computational thinking enables one to work out exactly what to tell the computer to do.

The Bebras challenges are made of a set of short problems and are delivered online. The tasks are fun, engaging and based on problems that Computer Scientists meet and enjoy solving. The tasks can be solved without prior knowledge but instead require logical thinking.

This year, twelve pupils gained a Merit certificate and six pupils gained a



Distinction. With fantastic effort, eight pupils received a Distinction with an invitation to the 2020 Oxford Computing Challenge for attaining a score in the top 10% of their age group nationally. Congratulations to all, and particularly to Harrison, Lilac, Henry, Elysia, Walter, Nell, Kieran and Archie for this amazing achievement.

Peter Barclay
Head of Computing

TASTE OF ROMAN LIFE



To consolidate and round up the term of all things Roman, Year 3 had Roman Day.

Roman soldiers and wealthy Romans arrived in school with a few Celts, Boudicca included. The children's costumes were superb.

During the day there were several activities on offer. These included learning about Roman food, the thought of roast dormouse was not appealing to the children. Everyone made honey and cucumber sandwiches, some said they would definitely make these again at home and some were not so convinced. All had a go at creating a paper mosaic and during maths, they learnt about

Roman numerals.

For lunch, a huge feast was cooked by the catering team. This included chicken in plum sauce, hard boiled eggs, olives, lentils, green beans, peas and bread. On offer for dessert was a delicious egg custard and berry fruit compote. There was definitely something to suit every Roman and Celts' taste.



Everyone enjoyed the day and extended their knowledge of Roman Britain.

Annie Fuller
Head of Junior Years

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YEAR 7 WELCOME CHALLENGES

At the beginning of term, Year 7 visited Arena Pursuits to take part in some team building challenges as part of their transition into the year group.

With many new joiners juxtaposed with our current students who have moved up into the 'secondary' element of their schooling, it was important to provide them with an opportunity to get to know each other, prior to starting the lessons in earnest on the Monday morning. In previous years, these have often been in the form of many exciting games played outside.

However, this year it was decided to take a different approach and immerse the children in challenges that not only excited the mind, but also required whole team participation in order to complete the given tasks.



The first of the activities was the 'Minefield' which involved the teams having to traverse a minefield safely. The teams quickly discovered that the art of 'balancing' on stepping blocks and being creative with the planks of wood provided was the only route

to success. The next challenge was to get every team member across a seven metre canal crossing which required the teams to build rafts out of barrels, pallets and rope.



The teams were largely successful and, although some of their canal transport resembled drift wood, all teams managed to remain dry. The following task required teams to construct a vehicle similar to Fred Flintstone's car and then compete in a timed race. Finally, the challenges concluded with an assault course, which the teams had to complete in the shortest time, supporting their team mates over and under the various obstacles.

The cohort really went above and beyond to embrace our 'brand new' children, to make them feel at ease and to be a part of the Bede's family. In all, a hugely valuable and successful venture that encompassed acceptance, confidence building and above all, the perfect start to the new academic year.

Peter Meier
Head of Senior Years



YEAR 6 GO INTO BATTLE

Year 6 had the opportunity to visit Battle Abbey, the site of the famous Battle of Hastings. As part of the Year 6 history programme, we study the Middle Ages. Whilst at the Abbey, the children toured the grounds, took part in a battle re-enactment and visited the amazing museum.



Hattie: Harold was King for a month or two, before King William took over by winning the great battle.

Pippa: I learnt that Harold's army borrowed the idea of the 'shield wall' from the Romans' 'turtle'.

Coby: My favourite bit was when we re-enacted the battle and I learnt that Harold died by getting hacked down.



Amelia: It was harder for the French to attack as they had to run up the hill in all their armour.

Faith: I really enjoyed being in the field and when we split in half and we pretended to be Harold's and William's soldiers and we learnt that Harold used the Roman shield formation.

The opportunity to visit a site such as Battle is invaluable; the children get a real sense of what has occurred and its importance to our history.

Sam Brown
Head of History

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SUCCESS IN MATHS YEAR 7 RIVER STUDIES

During the second week of November, children in Years 5 and 6 sat the annual Primary Maths Challenge in school.



The Challenge is a great way for children to test their maths skills in a problem solving context. The Challenge consists of 25 questions, which increase in difficulty. Bede's Prep School experienced their best year to date with nearly every child in Year 5 and 6 having entered. Twenty-nine children achieved a 'Bronze' award, 14 children achieved a 'Silver' award and 4 children achieved a 'Gold' award. Achieving a Gold award is particularly difficult, and so an extra special well done goes to Jai, Zac, Emma and Walter. Walter and Jack scored an amazing 22 and 20 out of 25 respectively, this means that they will be invited to the follow-on round.



Here is a question from this year which proved challenging to some of the participants:

Granny and the triplets Cara, Cate and Chris all have their birthdays today. The ages of all four of them total 120 years. Granny is 5 times as old as each of the triplets. When were the triplets born?

Scott Fasciolo-Barnes
Head of Mathematics



The River Studies trip was a very timely visit as the river had flooded all the way from Hellingly to the mouth at Cuckmere Haven. Rather than curtail our visit to the river, this gave an important opportunity for the children to see the flooded river first hand, from a safe distance.

As we drove down towards Exeat, I was actually a little disappointed, for once, to see that the floodwaters that had completely submerged the meanders and whole of the floodplain, as witnessed over the preceding weekend during a final risk assessment visit, had subsided and the rather muddy looking meanders had reappeared.

At High And Over, the children got a dramatic view down into the valley, which was still very much flooded. From here we could see down to the mouth and could see that parts of the lower floodplain were still flooded, offering perhaps, a taste of things to come as the traditional management of the river mouth and tidal embankments is phased out as part of the controversial 'Cuckmere Estuary Restoration Project'.

From High and Over, we proceeded to the main car park at Exeat, seeing for ourselves what had happened to the Buzz Active water sports building. We then walked along the footpath towards the mouth and considered how important a place this is and what might be at stake if the river is allowed to become a natural functioning estuary.

What will become of the Cuckmere due to this 'managed realignment' will form the focus of the Year 7 geography studies for the remainder of the term.

Adam Brewer
Head of Geography

ZERO WASTE FOR ECO CLUB

In November, members of Bede's Prep's new Eco Club visited the hugely popular Zero Waste shop in Eastbourne.



They sell a variety of dry food (pasta, flour, rice etc..) which can be weighed and taken home in your own containers - avoiding unnecessary plastic packaging. The shop

sells a variety of household essentials, all of which can be measured out. You only pay for the product, not the packaging.

The trip was extremely informative; pupils had the opportunity to interview the owner and he kindly gave out some helpful tips about leading a more environmentally friendly lifestyle. After learning more about the shop's ethos, pupils were able to select, weigh and buy some sweets which they took home in small paper bags... not a bit of plastic in sight.

Miriam McDonell
Year 4 Teacher

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YEAR 5 AND 6 BRING THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT

What better way to get the Bede's Prep community into the Christmas spirit, amidst the dreary, wet November rain, than an uplifting and joyous adaptation of Dickens' Christmas story, in the guise of 'Ebenezer', written by Malcolm Sircom.

The Year 5 and 6 children came together to perform this modern twist of 'A Christmas Carol', highlighting the selfish and miserly attitude of Ebenezer Scrooge (played superbly by Jai).



The production mixed the joy and sadness, energy and lethargy, of the characters and scenes, all brought to life with atmospheric lighting, sound, music and even a snow machine thrown in for festive measure. With great excitement, the Year 6 children auditioned for their favourite parts, enabling every child in the year group to have a speaking role, usually of their choice.



The Year 5 children took on the roles of charity collectors, angels and demons, Fezziwig partygoers, and festive townsfolk, to support Year 6 in this collaborative production.

The script blended traditional storyline with modernised twists, alongside a score of catchy music. This included many popular highlights and a wealth of musical styles including Rock'n'Roll, Blues, Rap, Carols and Ballads.

With a powerful script, coupled with songs that were energetic, charming and sweet in voice, not to mention some extremely groovy moves, the children certainly sung their hearts out and gave it their all.

As always there was a tight rehearsal framework, and I would like to thank all of the children for being so committed and reliable - without a doubt, they were true

professionals. A big thank you goes to all of the staff who supported the production, in so many different ways. However, a special thank you must go to Alex Farley, Peter Meier and Peter Barclay, for their hard work in all things musical and technical.

I wish the cast and crew a very Merry Christmas, filled with fun, laughter and joy. The message of this story is a powerful one and so I shall end with the words of Tiny Tim – 'God bless us, everyone!'



Laura Burdekin
Head of Drama



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INTERSECTION MUSIC EXTRAVAGANZA



Wow, what an extravaganza! This year's Intersection Music Competition brought the essence of Bede's to life. Every pupil and member of staff became part of something with enormous aspirations of achieving excellence by working together. What a spectacle!

The independent judge this year employed all his experience and musical credentials to choose a winner in each category. He carefully explained his choices so that everyone knew how much deliberation went into making the difficult decisions. Well done to everyone for making this such an exciting rollercoaster event. It is all about the taking part.

Alex Farley
Director of Music



Each section performed a whole section song, and chose a band, a solo singer and solo instrumentalist to represent them. However small or great their contribution, each member felt a sense of responsibility and duty to do their best for the greater good. The commitment to spending a whole day focussed on being part of a team, even eating together, was beneficial for that crucial sense of belonging which manifested in exhilarating performances. It was awesome to see how much effort went into each section's contribution.



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MUSIC ALL ROUND

The exciting new programme of musical events at Bede's Prep has begun. Over the course of the term, there have been three events which enabled pupils and their families to enjoy the wide variety of music made here.



On Saturday 21 September an enthusiastic, inclusive group gathered in the theatre to sing together. This was a heart-warming event in which younger pupils were taken under the wings of older ones, to show the greatest essence of the Bede's family. All shapes and types of guitar could be seen at the Guitar Concert in October; everything from ukulele to classical guitar and electric bass guitar. The vast range of repertoire demonstrated that Bede's really does offer something for everyone so that pupils may discover the instruments and genres of music which inspire them. The Percussion Concert loudly beat out the rhythm for a great demonstration of how learners progress when studying an



instrument. It is a testament to pupils' and staff's dedication that we clearly saw such superb progress and careful attention to detail. Percussion players will often be relied upon to lead and maintain a group's musical cohesion. It seems that at Bede's we are in safe hands.



As individuals take up the challenge of mastering the new skills necessary for learning to play an instrument, opportunities to perform can help students to focus, practise and hone their talents. Overcoming nerves and playing for an

appreciative audience will ultimately result in a sense of achievement and raise self-esteem.

I would like to thank all those who take the time to attend the musical events here at Bede's, as performing is such a fundamental part of making music. As Christmas draws closer, we prepare for our multitude of annual festive performances. This term, pupils who took part in the 'Christmas Sing and Snack' activity were joined by a few special guests at the Langney Shopping Centre to bring festive cheer by participating in the annual 'Carolathon', raising money for the Demelza Trust. They sang confidently, clearly and loudly, to make themselves heard in a busy shopping centre. They particularly enjoyed the visit to Costa coffee afterwards (thanks to Mr Meier) and are now more than ready for the end of term Carol Service.



Alex Farley
Director of Music

CHRISTMAS FUN FOR FRIENDS OF BEDE'S

The first of our FOBP fundraising events for the year kicked off with the movie quiz night. The atmosphere was fantastic as the teams battled it out to be crowned winners. The evening raised an amazing £516 for our chosen charity. Our first Christmas event took place in



November, with attendees creating beautiful Christmas Wreaths under the watchful eye of local florist Rachel Grimes. This was a great opportunity to take time out and be creative.

The Bede's Christmas Fair always promises to be a wonderful festive experience and this year was certainly no different with an amazing array of 49 external stallholders and children's stalls. The café overflowed with the wonderful cakes and mince pies donated by parents, and the smell of freshly brewed coffee and tea. This year we were pleased again to have Christmas trees for sale as well as the very popular Pizza Leonati who kept us all fed with

his delicious pizzas. We are pleased to announce that we raised approximately £3,900 for the Beachy Head Chaplaincy.



A huge thank you to everyone who came to support the event and also the children who had their own stalls.

Sam Williams
FOBP Chair

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FOSSIL HUNTING FUN FOR PRE-PREP

The Pre-Prep classes have had a fantastic first term. Reception, Year 1 and 2 came together to enjoy a dinosaur day where they got to create dinosaur bones, bake biscuits and enjoy a range of dinosaur themed activities. Year 1 had a mysterious egg arrive in their classroom which led the children to research which animals lay eggs. Once they had reached their conclusion of reptiles, they quickly realised that it was a dinosaur egg.



The children also looked at fossils, including dinosaur poo! The children dissected the 'poo' and found things such as bones, herbs, plants and berries. They used their knowledge of herbivores, carnivores and omnivores, and the fact cards, to detect which dinosaur it came from.



The children were amazed by the dinosaur themed lunch which was provided by the wonderful staff in the kitchen. One of the highlights for Year 2 was a visit to the art centre for a fossil workshop. The children learnt different techniques with the clay and the results were fantastic. They also found out about a famous fossil hunter called Mary Anning and they produced some wonderful fact files about her life. The topic ended with a 'dinosaur day' where the children enjoyed a carousel of different activities including erupting volcanoes, mask making and biscuit decorating. At lunchtime, the children were presented with

an outstanding herbivore and carnivore themed lunch that included dino burgers, raptor claws and lava juice.



The pupils ended their dinosaur day with a performance of 'Dumble the Dinosaur' where the children had the opportunity to perform the songs they had been learning in their music lessons.



Later in the term, Reception visited Pizza Express in Eastbourne where the children learnt about the process of making a pizza and were then all able to create their own pizza to take home for dinner. This was a wonderful opportunity for the children who learnt a great deal about different ingredients, good hygiene and how to stay safe when cooking.



Year 1's topic for the latter part of the term was 'Festivals and Fiestas'. The children looked at many celebrations including, Diwali, where the children made their own colourful Diya lamps out of clay. They also went on a magical journey, through the story of 'Leon and the Place Between'.



The children were only read a section of the story per day and had to use their imagination to predict the rest. There were many magical 'places between' created and the children were encouraged to create their own magical stories in the role play area. A particular highlight for the term has to be the Nativity. The children enjoyed learning about the Christmas Story alongside many songs and dances. I have to commend the children for such a stunning production.



Jo Kenward
Reception Teacher

Millie Brodie
Year 1 Teacher

Rachel Barrett
Year 2 Teacher

A FUN FILLED FIRST TERM

As I reflect on my first term in Meads End, and sort through the huge number of fabulous photos we have taken this term, I cannot quite believe the amount of lovely things we have got up to already.



The first half of term began in balmy sunshine, as the boarders enjoyed trips to the beach, Urban Jump, go karting, walks on the Pier, paddle boarding on the Cuckmere, hours of playing on the astro after supper and pretending to ourselves that it is still the Summer.



After the half term break, Meads End becomes really cosy – with blankets, movies and best of all – Christmas preparations. With the Christmas tree up in the house, we have decorated everywhere with fairy lights, tinsel and homemade decorations – we just love it! We are already planning our Christmas party, have wrapped our Secret Santa presents, and are getting ready for our stall at the Christmas Fair – where all the things we have made will go towards our Meads End Charity which, this year, is the Brighton and Hove Retired Greyhound Trust. And the adventures keep on coming... with trips to the Phileas Fogg escape room, cinema trips, shopping trips to Brighton, ice skating and best of all our festive trip to London where we shopped in Hamleys, went



on the London Eye, and walked around the streets of London looking at all the gorgeous Christmas lights.

I have been really blessed with the most fabulous group of children for my first term in boarding – a caring, thoughtful, polite and very funny boarding family.



I continue to be in awe of their maturity – as many of our boarders are boarding for the first time – and many of them are a very long way from home. They battle homesickness, adjust to new cultures and above

all they have to learn to live with a lot of different children 24/7, with our house rules in mind at all times:

Work Hard, Play Hard, Be Kind.

Despite the very long term, I am so proud that our boarders follow this mantra – and really are incredibly kind to each other especially when one of their friends is sad.



Not only that, but they are really thoughtful about keeping their rooms tidy for their roommates (and staff) and settling well at bedtime – well... most of the time! I would like to thank all our fabulous teaching staff for all their support of our boarders, and to our kitchen staff, cleaners, nurses, matrons, duty staff and houseparents for all that you do. And, of course, to our wonderful Meads End children.

Merry Christmas Everyone!

*Amy Snelling
Meads End Housemistress*



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ON THE RADIO

Once again Bede's had the opportunity to grace the airwaves with an hour long show on Eastbourne Youth Radio on the 15 November.



The show was brilliantly presented by Archie, Leona and Ava who introduced songs from our Intersection Music Competition, anti-bullying poems, a lovely poem commemorating Remembrance Day and a rare interview with Mr Entwisle. Everyone who contributed to the show are to be applauded for their amazing achievements in writing, singing, playing the piano and acting.



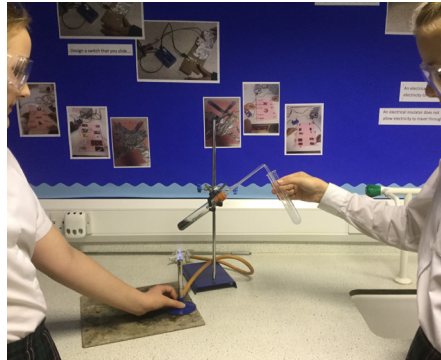
The studio and experience was amazing. Our three presenters were certainly made to feel at home and professional by the students at East Sussex College. Special thanks go to Mr Farley for making the music happen, Mr Meier for being there but most importantly to Archie, Leona and Ava for being so amazing at presenting and the children who contributed to the show. If you missed it, then please visit www.mixcloud.com and search for 'EYR Listen Again'.

Simon Gisby
Year 5 Teacher

TASTY EXPERIMENTS

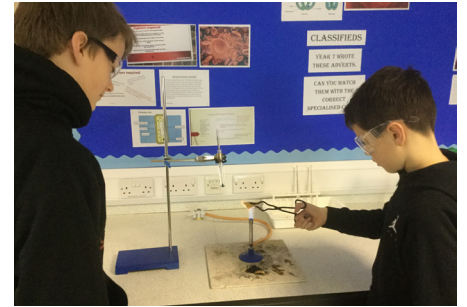
We are so fortunate in having three laboratories at the Prep School which gives the children many opportunities to consolidate key scientific concepts with a variety of practical activities.

Year 8 enjoyed studying thermal decomposition; this is when a substance



breaks down into two or more substances when heated. This practical experiment with green copper carbonate breaking down into black copper oxide illustrates this especially well and the children enjoyed watching the lime water turn milky as carbon dioxide was given off.

As part of their work on energy, Year 7 investigated whether lightly salted, lime or cool original Doritos contained most energy. There was lots to consider about fair testing in this experiment and great discussions followed.



Year 6 made bread with and without yeast as part of their study of microorganisms. They thought carefully about how to keep conditions the same for each loaf, the only difference was that yeast was added to one loaf and not to the other. The results of the loaf with yeast were enjoyed by all.



Helen Rich
Head of Science



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THE FUN IN FUNDRAISING LIONS' SUCCESS



The first of our fundraising events started in September when family and visitors braved the drizzly weather to join us for some tasty lemon drizzle cake in support of Macmillan. We had a delicious variety of cake donations, many of which were homemade and expertly decorated by pupils. Year 4 were marvellous hosts and helped to raise a fantastic £463.90 - a very successful morning.

Once Autumn was upon us, with it came a bountiful harvest. Historically, school summer holidays were designated specifically to allow children in rural areas of the country the time to assist their families with bringing in the harvest; it was a community endeavour. Although things have changed a great deal with the intervening years, staff and pupils at Bede's Prep always gather together as a community each harvest time to celebrate and give thanks for the food we eat.

As was the case last year, children have

again been asked to bring a donation for our Harvest collection. The donations will then be given to the local foodbank during the half term holiday. This will help support numerous local families in need.



In November, pupils from Bede's Prep, Pre-Prep and Nursery raised a fantastic £643.50 for Children in Need. The pupils donated money so that they could wear their Pudsey Bear ears and badges to school to show their support. Well done everyone for your contributions this term.



On Saturday 16 November, ten Bede's pupils gave up part of their evening to take part in the Eastbourne Lions Club Swimathon.

The children, aged between 7 and 13, swam solidly for twenty minutes cheered on by parents, teachers and friends and raised a fantastic £273. Each of the children clocked up between twenty-two and forty-eight lengths and collectively they swam a distance of almost 10,000 metres.

Bede's has supported this annual event for the past seven years as part of the School's charitable work and the children are always keen to choose a charity. This year they chose RNLI (Eastbourne Lifeboat).

Of the money raised, 70% will go to our nominated charity (RNLI) and the other 30% is retained by the Eastbourne Lions Club's Charitable Trust for local good causes.

It was a tremendous success with some wonderful comments from the Lions Club organisers about how well the children swam and how organised and disciplined their swimming was.

Miriam McDonell
Head of Charity at Bede's Prep

Michelle Jebb
Head of Swimming

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SPORT HOCKEY

HARD WORK LEADS TO SUCCESS



The 1st Team Girls had a mixed hockey season this term. Tough games against Claremont and St Andrew's, followed by victories over Cumnor House and Skippers Hill gave the girls good preparation for the IAPS tournament held at Bede's Senior School. Big performances from Amy and Olivia in the group stages saw the girls win 6 and draw the last to top the group and make it to the knockout stage. Unfortunately, Cumnor House scored a golden goal to knock the team out of the competition. A magnificent performance from all that played that day.

Next up for the girls was the UKSA tournament. A slow start against Reigate saw them lose their first game, but won the remaining three games to go into the Plate semi-final, with strong performances from Georgie and Nia. The girls fell at this hurdle losing cruelly to Claremont.

Two more victories over Burgess Hill and Lancing gave the girls good confidence going into the last tournament of the term, the In2Hockey tournament. Again, the girls

had a good tournament but were not quite strong enough to go further. Well done to all that played for the U13 1st team.

The 2nd Team Squad have worked hard throughout the term. They have enjoyed training at Bede's Senior School and they have enjoyed the conditioned match play games, possession games and small unit play. The girls have scored some great goals and their work rate has been superb. Romilly has been excellent and alert in goal. Nell and Humreen have defended well. Rosie has played a massive role at centre mid. Mia has created numerous attacks along the right side. Daisy has worked hard on the left side. Ella B and Ella V have been skillful and sharp in the circle and they have been quick to get shots off.

The U11A girls hockey season has been a real success having come runners up in 3 different competitions: the IAPS Plate, the UKSA hockey competition and the Windlesham House hockey tournament. The girls have been kept very busy with fixtures every week and working tirelessly

during every games session to improve their ability. Their ability was shown within all of the fixtures that were played, the girls only having lost a few matches. The term's results truly reflect how effective the girls were going forward with the ball, having scored many goals on many occasions. There was not a single child who didn't find themselves on the scoresheet at some point throughout the term.

The U10 girls hockey team have had a successful season playing in the 7-a-side format. Honing their skills during games sessions, the girls had a number of matches developing the tactical aspect of the game. Still learning to cope with the larger pitch, the girls demonstrated potential with strong wins against Skippers, Hurst and St Andrew's.

We are proud of our Senior Girls Hockey Squad at Bede's Prep and our attitude of inclusivity. Our teams are fluid, with the opportunity for our emerging players to move up through effort, attitude and improvement. Mishia has put in sterling performances for 4ths, 3rds, 2nds and got the call up to 1st Team hockey towards the end of the season. There is so much to be said for those players who put so much into their training sessions throughout. They have benefitted from our great coaches all the way from Pre-Prep up to the Senior years.

Our broad base is the supporting platform of our hockey success.

Gemma Rham
Head of Girls Games

SPORT

FOOTBALL

INVICTUS GAMES COMES TO BEDE'S

Early in the term, pupils were treated to a fantastic 'Sports for Schools' event. Former GB International, Gianni Frankis, led a sponsored fitness circuit session with all pupils from Reception to Year 8, supported by Invictus Games competitor Darran Challis.



Pupils also had an opportunity to listen to Gianni and Darran during an assembly and ask them questions. Gianni's mantra and message to the children, which is what he was told by all of his teachers and coaches, was 'never give up and keep trying', and he wanted the children to take that message on board, wherever their interests lie.



Some of the pupils also had a chance to attempt the hurdles and were almost as competitive as the staff.

Gemma Rham
Head of Girls Games

AMAZING FOOTBALLING ACHIEVEMENTS



The first team have certainly been busy this term with over 32 matches to fit in including cup matches, tournaments and let's not forget the National Finals.

The boys have certainly travelled the country starting with a long trip to Bishop Stortford, taking the game to penalties the boys won 4-3 to take them into the second round of the ISFA cup. Sadly, we fell short, losing closely to a strong Papplewick side. Our ESFA cup run is still promising with the boys recently beating Wetherby 3-0 in the third round of the ESFA cup, we await our next opponent with anticipation.

The boys have had no time to rest with matches every Wednesday and Saturday throughout the term. They also had to fit in the Regionals somewhere in their busy schedules. The team finished top of their group, and progressed into the semi-final meaning they had automatically qualified for the National Finals in November. We travelled up to Bury Saint Edmunds and took part in the competition. The boys came top of their group again. An unbelievable achievement.

The second team (U13 B) have had a very successful season; 3 defeats early on in the season, a couple of draws and 5 wins show real progression. When we have 'kept the game simple' we have dominated our opponents and thus results have come our way. Gaining victories against Great

Walstead (2-1) and Claremont (2-0) were most satisfactory as these matches were a close affair.

The Colts A season turned round in quite astonishing circumstances at the IAPS Regionals, hosted at Bede's Senior School. We went into the competition without a win to our name and we only qualified for the quarter finals as a result of coming 4th in our group of 5, this meant playing the winners of the other group, Westminster. We won 1-0. We then went into the semi finals and beat The Hawthorns School on penalties. We then marched into the final against Brighton College safe in the knowledge that both teams had qualified for the Nationals in Taunton, but we wanted to go as Regional Champions and our 1-0 victory in the final meant that we did just that. An incredible feat and a day that will live long in the memory.

The team were now full of confidence and followed the tournament up with wins against Great Walstead and Claremont and a thrilling 4-4 draw against Brighton College who were determined to avenge their Regionals final defeat.

The U9 boys have had a busy season with various matches, tournaments and festivals but have found wins hard to come by. The foundations are there for a promising future, however. The U8 boys have certainly enjoyed their football season with some matches to perform in and a few festivals they certainly have been busy. For many, participating in a team for the first time, it certainly was a daunting experience. From the start of the season to now, the team have developed immensely with some fantastic team spirit and togetherness shown by all. The makings of a strong U8 side.

Chris Atherton
Head of PE

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