

REFLECTIVE BEDDE'S

Autumn 2019



INTRODUCING OUR HEADS OF SCHOOL



What has been your best moment of Upper Sixth?

My best moment of Upper Sixth so far has got to be the inter-house football competition. Although I could only captain the Deis team to a last place finish, the boys pulled together to give stronger teams a right scare, and the team work and tenacity they showed blew me away.

Freddie Tuson, Head of School

When I received a video from the school prefects saying 'We love you Kristen, sending all our love!' when I had fly home for an urgent matter. It was sweet.

Kristen Chan, Head of School

There has been lots of amazing moments that have happened this year, I have very much enjoyed all of the time spent with my friends, still playing cricket even in the winter and being able to send of my UCAS and receiving some university offers.

Ben Matthew, Deputy Head of School

One of the best moments in Upper Sixth would definitely be when Bloomsbury won House Music!

Alice Goodchild, Deputy Head of School

What makes you happy?

The small things keep me smiling really, finding a new song I really like, my sister scoring a goal in her hockey match or that crispy noise when you step on frosty grass, not too hard to please me.

Freddie Tuson, Head of School

Every time I see a Snoopy character, I get so so so excited. Cath Kidston just released a Snoopy collection!

Kristen Chan, Head of School

Spending time with both my friends and my family because I always seem to have a laugh when I am with them.

Ben Matthew, Deputy Head of School

All my friends, especially the 'Blooms girls', who manage to brighten up my day, every single day. And I really don't know what I'm going to do without them, when our time at Bede's comes to an end.

Alice Goodchild, Deputy Head of School

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

I'd probably invite Peter Crouch, not only would I be able to see if he looks as tall

in real life as he does on telly, but he also seems like a real laugh.

Freddie Tuson, Head of School

Meeting anyone from the secret intelligence service, I have always wanted to know deep secrets of the world. Not like they would tell me, but it would be cool.

Kristen Chan, Head of School

Nelson Mandela probably because he is one of the most well-known and respected people ever. He would be a very interesting person to listen to and would have some very interesting stories to tell.

Ben Matthew, Deputy Head of School

I would want to invite Karren Brady as she's such an independent woman working in a male-dominated industry, and that really inspires me. I'm also intrigued as to how she has managed to have such a successful career, as well as being a mother of two.

Alice Goodchild, Deputy Head of School

BEDE'S GOES TO THE POLLS

In the run up to the General Election, the History and Politics Department organised a Bede's mock election to run parallel to the national vote.

A number of candidates have been on the campaign trail, pushing a range of policies to the wider pupil body and arguing their vision for the future of Britain. Henry Dolan (Liberal Democrat), James Fricker (Conservative), Tom Harrison (Labour) and Lotte Simmonds (Green) and their teams have been putting up posters, canvassing in Houses and speaking to a wide range of potential voters. In the penultimate week of term, morning Chapel was extended to allow time for a hustings to take place; each candidate being given two minutes to outline their vision, explain their manifesto and persuade pupils to cast a vote in their favour.

This was followed up on Monday 9 December by a wider political debate which took place in the Drama Studio in front of a politically aware audience of pupils and staff. Each candidate answered a range of pre-selected questions before further questions were taken from the floor.



With Miss French in the chair asking the searching questions, Henry, James, Tom and Lotte dealt with issues including the NHS, the environment, police and crime, Brexit and education, with pupils further challenging their views by asking about their plans to combat increasing inequality, their stance on equality and women's rights and the qualities of the Labour and Conservative leaders. All four candidates dealt confidently with all of the questions and were able to promote a wide range of specific policies.



The vote itself took place in the Recital Room on Thursday 12 December, which was set up as a Polling Station with Prefects acting as electoral staff to ensure the transparency and legitimacy of the vote. Results as follows:

- 1st place: Lotte Simmonds (Green) with 218 votes
- 2nd place: James Fricker (Conservative) with 110 votes
- Henry Dolan (Liberal Democrat) with 73 votes
- Tom Harrison (Labour) with 51 votes

The result will no doubt be interesting, with all four candidates running an impressive campaign; however the importance of our Bede's election is in promoting engagement with the democratic process and the responsibility we have to cast our vote when given the opportunity at a local and national level. Pupils are also reflecting on the importance of building a fairer and more compassionate society, regardless of individual political views.

James Whitaker

Head of History and Government & Politics



STEM

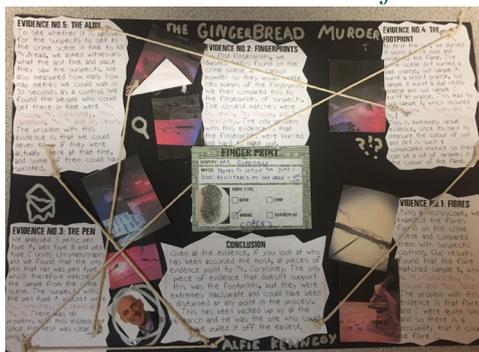
As the nights draw ever darker, amidst the fog and gloom of Upper Dicker, a heartless killer strikes again.

Was it an accident, suicide, or a cold-blooded murder? Will no-one (who is made of gingerbread) be safe ever again? Every year our First Year Scientists aim to solve the mystery of The Gingerbread Murders. There's been a dead (gingerbread) body found outside the Science block and all of the Science teachers are suspects. However which one is the guilty party? And can they prove the crime? Using forensic analysis, the students utilise their scientific knowledge to build up a case - and discover the murderer. Was it Devious Danielsen, Cunning Corbishley or Jailbreak Juniper? There's a whole host of malevolent scientist teachers that could have committed the crime.

From chromatography, to finger-print analysis via soil-testing, each of the three sciences has an hour packed with excitement and investigation. At the end of the week, the pupils have to decide on who they think the murderer was, build up a case against them and present this in the form on a poster. This year's entries were spectacular and it was a difficult decision to come up with the 10 finalists. Posters were packed full of information and presented beautifully. The 10 winning posters were by: Alfie Kennedy, Beatrice Hadley-Farnsworth, Regina Nunez, Harvey Morriss, Will Broyd, Libbi Clark, Lydia Taurins, Ingrid Clemo, Evie Pearson and Zach Bloom.

As to the un-masking of the killer? Well, unfortunately all the witnesses have suddenly disappeared and they've escaped back to the underworld for another year. People made of Gingerbread beware!

Nicholas Abrams
Head of STEM



LOOKING UP WITH UKSDC



This is the fourth time we have held the South East Regional heat of the UK Space Design Competition and our record prior to this has been less than stellar, having only won it once!

The Request for Proposal (RFP) this year was a challenging one, to design a settlement for 220 people that would mine the asteroid belt beyond the orbit of Mars. The RFP demanded detailed responses across a wide range of engineering fields and fitting the proposal into a 30-slide presentation in the timescale is always a challenge. Because of some schools withdrawing shortly before the day, Bede's were partnered with Hurstpierpoint in Vulture Aviation and Riddlesdown Collegiate formed the other team of Rockdonnel with all their pupils.

Ellie Abel (Lower Fifth), Freya Palmer (Lower Fifth), both new to the UKSDC and Finn Ractliffe, who was lucky enough to go to the International Final in NASA last summer were three of our team and their observations of the day are as follows:

Ellie: I must admit it was very daunting at first, as I was one of the youngest at the competition, but I still wanted to be a big part of the team and what went on. I ended up putting myself forward as Head of Structure, not fully knowing all of the responsibilities it entailed. Although it was at times stressful, it taught me a lot about leadership and taught me many new things about the physics and space world.

I enjoyed every second of the experience and wouldn't have changed a thing.

It was amazing to have been a part of such a wonderful team and I have made many new friends from the experience. I cannot wait for the Final and the challenges it will bring me and my teammates.

Freya: I found the event very interesting as I'm not a physicist or mathematician so I got to learn a lot. I was also surprised about how much I could contribute practically. I really enjoyed doing the drawings for the team.

Finn: The regional is a jam-packed day, with only one day to complete a challenging RFP it requires dedication and hard work from everyone involved. It is always a challenge and no one is ever completely done or satisfied with the final project, but that's the nature of the competition and it's what brings the element of chaos to the room. The RFP stretched the imagination and sent us far into the future as well as challenging our technical knowledge and communication skills. The result was, however, fantastic with Bede's continuing on to the National Final in March.

The participation of younger pupils and those who are not taking science subjects is testament to the broad appeal that the UKSDC has for any students seeking an intellectual challenge and a lot of fun! To win through to the UK Final in March is a great achievement and we are all looking forward to a tough, but fun weekend in London.

Bill Richards
Teacher of Mathematics

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WHY STUDY HUMANITIES?

The Heads of Department across Geography, History and Religion and Philosophy from both the Prep School and Senior School meet on a termly basis to collaborate on a range of issues, ensuring progression across the year groups and the maintaining of high standards of teaching and learning.

One area of concern that has been raised at a national level is the belief that Humanities subjects are no longer relevant to the modern world, and that the focus of education should be on STEM subjects. However, many argue that this is a short sighted viewpoint that will lead to a decline in the number of candidates with the high level social skills that are so in demand from employers.

To follow is the view of the Humanities team at Bede's on the importance of Humanities subjects:

The main focus of the field of Humanities is the study of human culture. Our children are growing up in an increasingly complex world facing challenges that will require increasingly urgent solutions; it is the study of Humanities that will enable them to shape our future society and fulfil their role as active, responsible citizens.

Decisions are not made in a vacuum; they are based on prior experience and learning, and children need to be equipped to make these decisions. Therefore, by studying Humanities subjects children are encouraged to approach issues critically, to challenge views and information rather than accepting them at face value, to collaborate with peers when approaching these new challenges and develop high level communication skills.

The study of these subjects will embed in pupils a wide range of high-level critical thinking skills that will enable them to:

- Understand others through their language, culture and history
- Foster tolerance, equality and social justice
- Make moral, spiritual and intellectual sense of the world
- Empathise with people of different backgrounds and experiences
- Deal critically and logically with complex information
- Weigh evidence and reach informed judgements
- Build skills in writing and critical reading
- Think creatively
- Develop into engaged, informed and critical citizens

The value of these skills is perhaps best summed up by Dr Ian Malcolm in the film Jurassic Park when he said, "Your scientists were so preoccupied with whether or not they could, they didn't stop to think if they should..."

At Bede's, Humanities is taught as individual subjects by specialist teachers, preserving the individual strengths of Geography, History and Religion and Philosophy; however we also believe that these subjects complement each other and the wider curriculum, underpinning a diverse range of the options available for further study at A Level and degree level.

We are therefore understandably proud of the contribution the Humanities subjects make to life at Bede's, both in and outside of lessons, and strongly believe that all pupils benefit from the on-going study of these important subjects.

James Whitaker

Head of History and Government & Politics

BEDE'S ART SCHOLAR EXHIBITS IN LONDON

Elisa Conlan, one of Bede's Art Scholars, has recently exhibited in London with graduating Chelsea MA students.



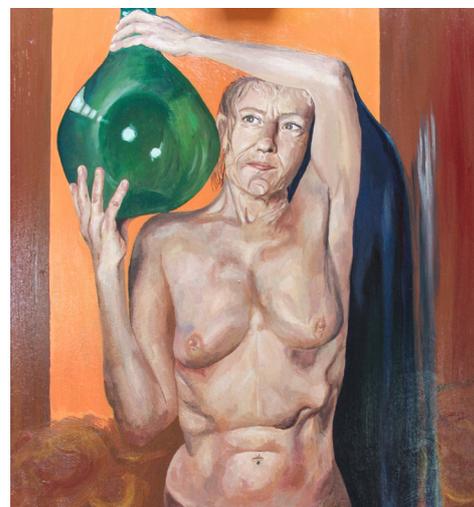
Elisa's painting was selected from over one hundred works and exhibited at Chelsea, Camberwell and Wimbledon Short Course Exhibition shown in conjunction with Chelsea MA Summer Show 2019. Elisa's work is the only work by a Pre-Foundation student amongst the selected 30 works.

Elisa's painting was partly inspired by Francis Bacon's combinations of geometric backgrounds and figures. However, in Elisa's work, the life model takes a more figurative form inspired by the later works of Lucien Freud.

Elisa entered the competition after attending a course at Chelsea while still in the Lower Sixth and the piece was part of her mock exam. This reflects Elisa's ambitious approach to her studies and she is now preparing for her A Level in Fine Art Personal Project, the 2019 Graham Award Commission and University applications to The Slade, Leeds, Edinburgh and Chelsea.

A great achievement by an ambitious student we are very proud of her success.

Jonathan Turner
Head of Art



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PUPILS CELEBRATE WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY

On the 10 October, Bede's Senior School celebrated World Mental Health Day with a variety of events.

An early morning JimJamJog at 6-40am kick-started the day. School prefects went around morning registration tutorials talking to students about the importance of looking after our mental health. They handed out yellow ribbons for students to wear and collection buckets were available for donations.



At break we had pizza, sausage rolls and cake on sale to replenish and revive the body. At lunch a whole host of activities took place from yoga to art, visiting the zoo animals to a walk around the campus. We had a talk entitled Mental Health and Me for senior students, whilst others were found digging in the eco garden.



Mental health should not just be focused on for one day and the school prefects have chosen 'Holding Space,' a local charity that supports children and their families with mental health issues as our whole school charity for this year. Please look out for other fund raising events this year.

THIS BOY'S LIFE: ENGLISH PUPILS CONSIDER MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING IN 'THE SON'

In a busy first half-term of theatre-going, Lower Sixth Pre-U English students travelled to the Duke of York's Theatre to see *The Son*, Florian Zeller's uncompromising look at teenage mental health.

For many observers, fifteen year old protagonist Nicholas might seem to have an enviable life: a comfortable home in an affluent London suburb, loving parents who take an interest in his life and a father keen to pass wisdom to his first born son. But from the very outset of the play - where a frantic Nicholas defaces the pristine white walls of his home with black ink - the audience see a young man who could not be more isolated.

What unfolds in the 'two hours traffic' of the play no doubt strikes a familiar chord with any young audience: the violent mood swings of a boy trapped in an existence he cannot understand; the inevitable tensions which divide a family under strain, the well-meaning parent, trying to make a connection, only seeming to push their child further away.

Given that Pre-U students have begun the term considering questions of canon formation - what distinguishes the 'classic' and 'literary', from the merely popular or entertaining, this play made for an interesting study.

In Lizzie Clachlan's design, pupils clearly saw a text keen to work on several levels. The presence of a mounted stag's head on stage, as well as an ominous-looking black bag hoisted high above the focal point of a chaise lounge seemed to intrigue: were these metaphors for the boy or the family

itself? Were we looking at projections of Nicholas' own mind, or were these objects real in the world of the play? Will Hopkins and Evan Naylor, literature students not unfamiliar with the stage, certainly approved of this ambiguity. So far, so good.

For those pupils with experience of drama, the performances in this play were outstanding. Laurie Kynaston's Nicholas was palpably fragile and John Light, rather aptly, shone in his role as desperate father Pierre. But when it came to the writing itself, the potential for sub-text and subtlety, literature students felt a slight lack. Young Nicholas' grandfather loomed in the background, but could more have been done to explore the impact of fathers on sons? Was it more satisfying, from a dramatic perspective, to know less about the causes of Nicholas' spiral into depression, or would it have been more artistically ambitious to take on that most problematic of questions: why? This was, without doubt, a shocking and important drama focusing on a topic that none of us should turn away from. For any human, it offers a reminder of the importance of empathy, understanding, patience and trust in our relationships. But could it have done more? As an artwork, could it have taken its audiences closer to the heart of the issues it explored? As we left, questions continued. Had this play, in Italo Calvino's phrase, 'finished saying what it had to say', or was there more in it that we had not seen? Time will tell whether *The Son* is merely an arresting drama, or an important work that we return to again and again.



SIXTH FORM ENGAGEMENT

This term has been a very exciting one for our Sixth Formers, with the unveiling of a brand-new Sixth Form Centre, a teambuilding trip and debating morning for our Lower Sixth cohort, and a range of inspiring talks.

Overlooking the stunning grounds and lake, Bede's new Sixth Form Centre is a contemporary, state-of-the-art space which provides a bustling hub for the senior pupils at the heart of the school site. Complete with a coffee bar and individual and group work spaces, the centre is the ideal space for Bede's Sixth Formers to study, socialise and plan their volunteering and community outreach projects. The centre has already received amazing feedback from our Sixth Formers. Special thanks must go to our Estates team for their hard work in renovating the space.

Our Lower Sixth cohort enjoyed a team building day at Bushy Wood to welcome them to the Sixth Form. Ella Gordon, Lower Sixth, said, "There was not a moment when someone wasn't laughing with or talking to someone new. Being thrown into a situation where you have to work with people you do not know was a great way to immerse ourselves into Sixth Form life and the challenges it will throw at us along the way. For example, I did not imagine I would



spend part of my day trying to figure out how to use four bricks and two planks to get all members of our team over an 'electric fence' as quickly as we could. "After a day full of challenges and fun we arrived back at school for a Welcome Supper. This allowed us to catch up with old friends and introduce them to the new friends we had made throughout the day. We were served great food by the Upper Sixth Prefects, who also led some fun games including 'pin the tie on Mr Henham' and 'guess the hobby of the teacher'.

"It was a great day full of new experiences and a brilliant way to integrate all pupils into the Sixth Form community."

Our Lower Sixth Humanities students got the chance to polish their public speaking and ramp up their rhetoric in the Bede's Debating Morning. Mr Oliver, Head of English, comments, "In just under three hours, the English rooms were given over to 60 pupils engaging in 21 British Parliamentary style debates. The format proved an exciting test for seasoned speakers and novices alike, with pupils only



finding out their debating partner on the morning and only seeing the motions 15 minutes before the debates began.

"For many pupils (...and, indeed, adults too) debating or any form of public speaking seems daunting. All the judges were hugely impressed by the attitude, resilience and composure of the speakers we saw. Many pupils who entered will debate again later this year in the English Speaking Union Competitions, or in the coveted Cambridge and Oxford University Union competitions. But even those who won't actively seek out that next debate did emerge with a sense of discovery and confidence, a sense that seeking out challenges is rather fun and, in truth, what Sixth Form life is all about. And that – to us – is what matters."

As part of the Bede's Diploma, our Sixth Formers also enjoyed a full programme of talks, including British Triathlon Paralympian Joe Townsend, Nelson Mandela's former bodyguard Chris Lubbe, and paleoanthropologist Ella Al-Shamahi. Full details can be found on our Guest Speakers page.

Charlotte Sutton
Head of Sixth Form Engagement



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GUEST SPEAKERS

This term we have welcomed a host of inspiring and informative speakers to Bede's.

Joe Townsend, the Royal Marine commando who lost both his legs in an explosion in Afghanistan and went on to compete in the Paralympics and Invictus Games, gave a powerful speech to our Sixth Formers as part of the Diploma. Our sports scholars attended a talk on "resilience in sport and the winning mindset" which was delivered by leading sports psychologist, Michael Caulfield. Ahead of the half term break, we welcomed Professor Tanya Byron to Bede's – the first speaker in the School's Pymont Lecture Series. Professor Byron who is a clinical psychologist, writer and broadcaster held a workshop with staff before talking to over 300 parents about the challenges



about adolescent mental health and how we can develop resilience amongst our teenagers. Finally, Bob Tait held a series of talks with junior pupils as well as with parents, talking about the dangers of substance misuse. He covered a range of topics including an explanation of the different types of drugs and classes as well as the law in relation to drugs and highlighting some cases and how poor decision-making has had a devastating effect on young lives.

she covered some emotive topics including gender stereotypes, fear and aspiration.

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The Sixth Form also heard from Ella Al-Shamahi, a palaeoanthropologist specialising in fossil hunting in caves in unstable, hostile and disputed territories and in her speech,



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CO-CURRICULAR

WARHAMMER

For those of you who don't know, Warhammer 40 000 (or "40K") is a game set in a dystopian fictional future history, where sinister cults, uncaring empires and slathering aliens vie for dominance in a state of constant war. The game itself is between armies of figurines, which are hand-painted by the contestants and then thrown into a tactical simulation involving dice, tape measures, luck and tactics.



Bede's has yet again fielded a team of Warhammer players including several new recruits, enabling us to play in a Warhammer Alliance "Kill Team Doubles" event. Though we were one man down from the beginning, our players still gave a good account of themselves, despite having had one of the longest journeys to Warhammer World, Nottingham, where the event was held (about 5 hours each way). Warhammer World has some of the game's most impressive displays and gaming tables, the company's only ForgeWorld store (very specialist models can be bought there) as well as enough standard

tables to hold nationwide competitions.

Our most experienced player John Rodohan, gave a good account of himself with his forces of Chaos Space Marines (tainted treacherous post-human mutants in powered armour), having also been our lynchpin of training for the newer members of the club. Our surviving pairing had Liam Middleton piloting his Tau (long-ranged imperial aliens mind-tricked into working together) alongside Christian Burstow's Orks (space-faring versions of the fantasy race of the same name, they like smashing things). Both their practice games at the Bede's club and John's advice put them in good stead. All our players faced a variety of opponents with very "killy" armies such as Costodes (even more ridiculously over-powered super-humans in even better armour) and some armies which were more easily dispatched. The change in format certainly changed what to expect at the competition: greater variety of skill level due to no preceding "heats" and more points for victories, rewarding the most devastating of armies.

As usual, I was really happy to have such ambassadors for the school for this trip, both for their patience on the long journey and their attitude at the event. In the final outcome, Bede's was mid-table, alongside a nomination for the painting competition for two of our armies, which was not a bad first shot. We did (of course) spend much of the return journey back plotting improvements to our armies and tactics.

Matthew Peatie
Teacher of Maths

WORLD COOKERY

This term on Saturday mornings we have had the option to take World Cookery as an activity.

Each week, students have been able to cook specialties from different nations such as Paella for the Spanish week and crêpes for the French week.

Guided by members of the Foreign Language department, this activity not only enables us to discover more about different cultures but it also helps us develop our cooking skills and prepares us for the future. Some examples of the things we have cooked include paninis, samosas, "pigs in blankets", spring rolls and pancakes.

Eloise Eyre
Lower Sixth Pupil

Michael Fischer
Lower Sixth Pupil



TRIPS AND VISITS

TEAM BUILDING

In the final week before the start of the October half term holidays, our First Years set off for Edale in the stunning Peak District for our annual Outdoor Pursuits trip. This is a fantastic opportunity to welcome our First Years to life at Bede's, giving them the opportunity to cement new friendships and forge new ones in a fun teambuilding environment.



During the week, the pupils had the opportunity to take part in an array of activities ranging from: abseiling, orienteering, canoeing, caving, problem solving, weaselling, fire lighting and night hiking, all under the guidance of an experienced instructor from the YHA Activity Centre in Edale.

It was great to see the pupils having so much fun, enjoying the natural environment of the Peak District. I hope they have come away with some wonderful memories and with some new and strong friendships. In October, the Bede's D of E Gold teams headed to the Lake District.



The teams spent the weekend training and preparing for a week of traversing the mountains from north to south, starting from Derwent Water to Coniston. The training team have had a very successful first day navigating the Stake Pass into Langdale, undertaking emergency outdoor first aid training and covering a range of map, compass, emergency scenarios and project work.

LITERATURE AND DISCOURSE

Ahead of the Autumn edition of Small Island, Bede's own creative publication for student art, photography and new writing, the 2019 team took inspiration from a trip to 'Magazine' - Brighton's much-loved art and indie publication specialist.

For any creative team, the 'away day' is a familiar concept, so how wonderful it was to find a very welcoming and extremely inspiring destination so close to home.



With Small Island now in its third year, and with artists, budding photographers and graphic designers joining the writers at the helm, defining a new aesthetic seems vital. Thanks to the help of Magazine's Elise and owner Martin, pupils were bombarded with ideas. For any lover of the physical artefact of a book or aficionados of a well-made glossy mag, it was wonderful to pore over details: the importance of a memorable name, the right typography, page layouts, even paper thickness and weight. For professionals, everything matters.



And why not aim for the same level of detail in our own publication, thought our pupils. Absolutely.

And so this fleeting visit gave us a lot to ponder, just as we hoped. Though we might not be creating a hand-stitched chapbook solely for canoe travellers, or a fanzine lovingly crafted to celebrate the ambience of coffee shops, we do want to set our standards high, just like those cool, quirky and beautiful magazines we saw.

As always, the new edition will continue to gather together prize-winning student writing from the year's competitions, but - as well as this - it will be a lovely thing to hold and keep in its own right.

Whatever happens, it will be an exciting project.

If you want to get involved in making our new edition happen, or you want to contribute words or images, please get in touch with the team: smallisland@bedes.org

EDUCATIONAL ENRICHMENT

The Bede's **China trip** was a wonderful cultural, historical, spiritual and culinary experience for all.



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The underlining theme of exploration was the Sino-Japanese war and the history of the Republic of China during the first half of the 20th Century.

Beijing, of course, is the perfect vantage point for any excursions into mainland China. We sampled a great variety of activities, including a traditional tea ceremony, playing jianzi (badminton with your feet), a visit to the forbidden imperial city and of course the walk (steep climb) on the Great Wall of China under a beautiful blue sky; everybody's highlight!



We then took the bullet train to the provincial town of Handan, which is home to 4 million inhabitants. Here we were the only western visitors and very much to the joy of all the Chinese school classes who we met there. The purpose was to visit the Red Army camp in the nearby village of Shexian at the foot of the Tai Hang mountain. We explored the underground tunnels which linked the army bases to the surrounding villages.

By night train, we then went to Nanjing, the former capital of the post-imperial China. This is an especially beautiful city, sadly with a very dark past. Nothing was as moving and hard hitting as the memorial site for the 300,000 victims of the massacre of Nanjing, also known as the forgotten Holocaust. A very well-presented exhibition of photographs, explanation tables and installations, as well as original diaries of Chinese and Western citizens, and Japanese soldiers. Unforgettable.



However, Shanghai was the end point of our adventure. A day of shopping and a

stroll along the famous river promenade, The Bund. A last word on the food, ever so full of unknown flavours, healthy and mind-blowingly bold in its recipes. Everyone embraced the experience and learned how to use their chop sticks properly.

Henrik Rohmer
Teacher of German

Following a year of enthusiastic preparation, a group of Bede's pupils set off for **Nepal** during the Summer holidays. The team spent their time working on a community project; constructing a replacement clean drinking water tank containing 10,000 litres of water at the Shree Siddha School in Pokhara. After five days of digging the project was complete, allowing pupils and staff easy access to clean drinking water. Jenil Patel, Head of Dorms, gave an incredible heartfelt speech to the Headteacher of the school and JCB, our amazing co-worker who helped dig the hole. Jenil spoke about how much the project meant to him and reflected on his home in Zambia.



Max Jones, Francesca Plaskett, Milly Widdop, Kaylan Coetser and Ksenia Reimchen provided an excellent English lesson to a large class of 16 and 17 year old Nepalese students who were preparing for their final exams. Not only did they assist with their written and verbal English, they also performed the National Anthem and received a heartfelt rendition of the Nepalese National Anthem in return.

We visited the British Gurkha Camp and The Gurkha Welfare Trust Residential Home in Pokhara. It was fantastic to interact with the Gurkha veterans, as well as learn about their time in the Corps.

The five-day Annapurna trek then got into full swing. With a trek through the Annapurna Conservation Area, with a brief stop-off at the local museum to sample some traditional Nepalese and Gurkha clothing. On the last night of the trek we taught the porters the Crossways dance, while they taught us

a traditional Nepalese dance. The team completed their trek through the Annapurna Sanctuary and returned to Pokhara for an evening by the lake, with stunning views of Annapurna.

Ali Rowsell
Deputy Head of PE

On a wet Monday morning the Lower Sixth Art, Photography and Ceramic pupils headed to **Tate Modern** on London's South Bank. The British tradition of free galleries is unique amongst major cities across the world. Where else can you walk in off the street and get up close to original work by Josef Albers, Mark Rothko or Picasso. Often the illusion is



that art is elitist, available only to the few while, in fact, it is available and accessible to all - and for free!

Next time you are in London, I encourage you to view the sights from the top of The Switch House or spend a quiet thoughtful moment in The Rothko Room. While surrounded by the large scale abstract work of Rothko it is possible to forget, just for a moment, you are in one of the busiest cities in the world. Our Museums are a gift - and we should use them to escape the modern world. A piece of Art isn't trying to con you or sell you something. It might very well be mischievous, asking a tricky question, or even poking fun - but surely, we should be encouraging ourselves to do that. Like the plucky protesters of Extinction Rebellion, it can only be healthy to stop, pause and see things from another point of view once in a while.

Jon Turner
Head of Art



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CABARET 2019

For many in the Bede's community, Cabaret is one of the most highly anticipated events in the school calendar, and – with a cast and crew of well over 100 pupils showcasing their extraordinary talents on stage and behind the scenes – this year's production exceeded even the highest expectations.

With a slight change of set up from previous years, the whole school sat down to enjoy the production on the afternoon of Thursday 5 December before the two Gala events welcomed close to 1,000 guests across two evenings on Friday 6 and Saturday 7 December. The Multi-Purpose Hall was once again transformed into a glittering dinner-and-dance concert venue, this year with a Winter Wonderland theme to complement the festive set list.

The evening was expertly compered by Alyssia Smith, Max Jones, Megan Hume and Will Gwynne, who charmed the audience with their witty repertoire and thoughtful performers' introductions throughout each of the three concerts.

'You Can't Stop the Beat' from the musical Hairspray was the show-stopping first number at the opening of Concert One. The pitch-perfect



singers and orchestra were joined by our Bede's Legat Dance Academy dancers for a dazzling musical theatre performance to set a joyful and professional tone for the rest of the evening.

The Bede's Cabaret Orchestra then took centre stage with their rendition of 'Sleigh Ride', Leroy Anderson's energetic piece written to summon up the spirit of Christmases long ago – which certainly got our audiences in the mood for the festive season.

Next up was gifted pianist Evan Nayler, with his graceful performance of Chopin's 'Nocturne in C Sharp Minor', who was joined by six of Legat dancers for a poised and perfectly-timed contemporary piece. Continuing the reflective tone was a stunning rendition of 'Once Upon a December' by vocalist Charlotte Webb. This emotive piece was flawlessly delivered by the soloist and accompanying orchestra, who tackled the vast note range and melodies with enviable ease and poise.

The Lower Sixth BTEC band then took centre stage for their ethereal performance of 'Walking In The Air' from The Snowman. Vocalists Amber Giles, Flavia White, Summer Wells-Millard and Clara Martin



sang together in absolute harmony, transporting the audience to magical Christmases past.

Next up was a change of tone thanks to the Bede's Barbershop's jazzy and whimsical twist on well-loved Christmas classic, 'Jingle Bells'. The Barbershop – this year comprised of Evan Nayler, George Linehan, Max Mason, Max Jones and the latest addition to our Music department, Mr James Aburn – is a much-anticipated highlight in every Cabaret event. This year was no exception, with the audience tapping their toes throughout the group's charming rendition.

Lili Spagnoli then brought her powerhouse vocals to Aretha Franklin's Do Right Woman – Do Right Man – no mean feat for any professional vocalist, let alone a young performer yet to take her A Levels! However, Lili performed with flawless grace and wowed the audience with her beautiful tone and emotive performance.

The final piece in Concert One came courtesy of a core de ballet of 21 Legat dancers for the iconic 'Waltz of the Snowflakes' from Tchaikovsky's much-loved festive favourite, 'The Nutcracker'. Special mention must go to First Years Lucy Hammond and Frank Davison for taking on the lead roles of Clara and The Nutcracker respectively, and all dancers for performing the piece with such elegance and grace. Following a delicious main course, audiences were treated to another Legat performance – this time a sparkling, up-tempo piece to Irving



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Berlin's 'White Christmas'. Bringing a spritz of glamour to the show, the technically demanding piece wouldn't look out of place in a prestigious 1920's jazz cabaret venue. Next to grace the stage was Will Hopkins with his powerful rendition of 'Being Alive' from Stephen Sondheim's well-loved musical Company. Although only just into Sixth Form, Will has an impressive performance CV including playing the lead in both a British Youth Music Theatre production of The Winter's Tale and West Side Story at Eastbourne's Devonshire Park. His rendition conveyed a depth of emotion rarely found in such a young performer, with the impressive final note leaving many people in the audience with goose bumps.

Our Jazz Choir then entertained us with their wonderful performance of 'The Christmas Song'. Charlotte Webb, Ksenia Reimchen, Lili Longden, Jess Frisby, Summer Wells-Millard and Aisling Cotter sang in perfect harmony throughout, with their dulcet tones and festive cheer getting everybody into the Christmas spirit.

The winter theme continued with the following two numbers. The Cabaret Orchestra's wonderful Medley from 'The Polar Express' transported the audience with its joyful rendition, which flowed from marching up-tempo melodies to smooth, soothing phrases with ease. Next we were treated to Flavia White, Jessica Frisby and Aisling Cotter's sophisticated and melodic performance of Bing Crosby's beloved 'White Christmas'.

Continuing the romantic theme, Amber Giles stunned the audience with her moving rendition of Sarah McLachlan's 'Winter Song', with her velvet tone conveying the emotive lyrics with ease and maturity. She was joined on stage by dancers Freya Woods and Owen Pennington, who told a poignant love story set during the First World War in a piece movingly choreographed by Simon Williams.

The Cabaret Jazz Band then presented a change of tone with a smooth, upbeat performance of 'Ye Jazzy Gentlemen', followed by a rendition of 'Boogie Woogie Santa Clause' featuring a fantastic piano solo from Joshua Slater. Despite not yet turning 14 years old, Joshua is a Diploma level pianist who showcased his ability to lead a jazz band with unmatched skill. Next up was the Bede's Cabaret Singers' glittering performance of Charles Brown's 1961 classic 'Please Come Home for Christmas', which was delivered with flawless harmonies throughout. Flautist Daisy Noton is one of our brightest musical talents; as well as being a member of the National Youth Orchestra for three years in a row, she recently performed at Glyndebourne's Homelink Gala and with the London Mozart Players at Hastings' Opus Theatre to critical acclaim. Daisy performed alongside Mr Giddey and Mr Scamardella to deliver an atmospheric and evocative rendition of Lowell Liebermann's 'Trio for Flute, Cello and Piano, Op 83'.

We welcomed our Legat dancers to the stage for the final number of Concert Two: a creative and witty musical theatre performance choreographed by Sherrie Pennington to 'One Jump Ahead' from beloved Disney film, Aladdin. They were accompanied by the Cabaret Concert Band with vocalists Will Hopkins, Megan Hume, Summer Wells-Millard and Thea Adams.

Following a quick break for dessert, the Upper Sixth BTEC Band opened the third concert with a pitch-perfect rendition of 'Everybody Needs Somebody', with the Legat dancers getting everybody in the party spirit with their fun-filled Blues Brothers-inspired performance.

With the dancefloor declared open, we were treated to Ksenia Reimchen's romantic



and sophisticated performance of 'The Look of Love'; The Cabaret Singer's upbeat and festive 'Run, Run, Rudolph'; and Lili Longden and the Jazz Band's smooth and classic 'The Man with the Bag'.

The Jazz Band continued to impress with their tuneful and technically-precise renditions of 'Jingle Bells' and '702 Shuffle', before being joined by the Jazz Choir for disco classic and crowd favourite 'Blame It on the Boogie'. The concert finished with The Cabaret Singers' jubilant performance of 'All I Want for Christmas is You', and it was a joy to watch the audience get involved with a singalong and dancing to round off a mesmerising evening.

Following the concerts, the dancefloor remained open for a little while longer thanks to a fabulous set from the Upper Sixth BTEC Band, who performed a range of crowd pleasers from 'Rockin' around the Christmas Tree' to 'Oh What a Night!' A huge thank you must go to all involved in making the event such a success, most importantly to our talented pupils, whose hard work in rehearsals and professionalism throughout each performance cannot be faulted. Many congratulations to all.

Robert Scamardella
Director of Music



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BEDE'S DOUBLE BILL PRODUCTIONS

This year's double-bill of Bede's senior productions represented a vivid change in tone.

As those who saw it will attest, last November's production of *The Crucible* was a powerful, faithful take on Arthur Miller's classic drama; a costume drama that followed in the footsteps of another, *Oliver* at Eastbourne's Devonshire Park Theatre, which followed another, *Great Expectations* in 2016, before which there was yet another, in the form of Sondheim's family favourite musical comedy, *Into The Woods*.



This year however, Bede's Acting Director of Drama Sachin Choithramani set out to shake things up, breaking the pattern and looking to disturb. To achieve his goals, he offered not one, but two alarming, brutal tales back-to-back. Stories of murder, deceit and innocence lost – if innocence was ever there in the first place.



DNA

Dennis Kelly's *DNA* is a linear crime story that centres on a group of teenagers who have made a terrible error in judgment. The ensemble's attempts to cover their



tracks create more problems than they solve, making for a melancholy, nervy drama – and Bede's take on the tale was excellent. Central to the success of the production was Rosa Wescott's Leah. Seemingly sweet, charmingly neurotic, hilariously dynamic, her performance was outstanding. While she reeled, soared and gambolled from delightful to horrid, her counterpart, Tom Haffenden's Phil, was stationary, silent and seething.



Elsewhere in the cast, Izzy Sayer and Echo Abraham played Jan and Mae, two Goth teens who hung out under streetlamps offering rambling, pitch-perfect tranches of exposition. Sayer played a ditz with relish, always a step or three behind, while Abraham delivered her finest performance on a Bede's stage to date – all flitting eyes, twisting lips, and fluid, husky tones. While those two acted as a kind of Greek chorus, Jess Frisby was transformed into an angular, feisty, fatigued Lou, Jem Matthews

a shaggy, grungy, bristling Richard, and Koko Jankowska a twitchy, jangling, imploding Danny; all three were bystanders, and all exuded a surfeit of attitude. Reuben Freer's weird, tumbling, awkward John, Cara Hussey's manic, grinning, trashy Cathy and Alice White's weepy, hysterical, delirious Bree all spoke of the terrors of teenage caprice – giddy, unpredictable and terrifically wrong-headed. Most powerful of all though, Aisling Cotter's Adele was revelatory. While she had the least time in the limelight, her part provided *DNA*'s gut-punch. Caked in blood, rotten leaves and loamy filth, she was psychologically and physically torn, left ragged and abandoned. Both her appearance and performance were breathtaking.



A cautionary tale of children's games gone wrong, lyrical, punchy and very funny.

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BREATHING CORPSES

An elliptical, ambiguous, and fragmentary play, *Breathing Corpses* is made up of three broken stories, each snapped and bent into an unnatural configuration.



It is an incredibly ambitious play to stage with teenagers, both practically difficult and extremely provocative. Some of the language in the piece is designed to bludgeon, disgust and even numb, and that it did; it plumbed the depths of human behaviour and came up with a glinting, empty hook.



Conveying this hollow despair is no mean feat, and to confound things further the play's opening sets out to wrong-foot. This deft, sweet start came care of Alyssia Smith's Amy. Reminiscent of a young Victoria Wood, Smith's performance was hilarious, full of gurns, facial tics and deft physical comedy. In contrast, the final vignette of the drama, featuring Freddie Tuson, presented Amy's counterpoint. Tuson's Charlie was subtle, charming, smug and oblivious. A softly spoken, slinking performance, he gave an understated, affecting exploration of soullessness and creeping dread. Nestled within this frame came Jim's story,

starring Evan Nayler, Esther Tuson and Robbie Cloke, and within that, at the heart of the Russian Doll, sat Kate's story, played by Megan Hume and James Thompson. The first of these tales presents a difficult arc. It explores trauma, and saw Nayler's nice-guy father descend into a gibbering wreck. His blinky, restless performance was haunted by the powerful late-reveal of an omnipresent garage door, and relied heavily on a contrasting, bubbly, hilarious turn by Esther Tuson.



While Cloke's friendly Ray presented a middle-ground between them, a lumbering, jocular yet useless presence, Tuson's Elaine was trilling, rambling and vital. Then, at the dark core of the drama, was the dead love between Megan Hume's furious Kate and James Thompson's boorish Ben. Their hateful dynamic was brooding, bitter and grotesque. Praise must go to Hume however, who delivered a horrid, escalating performance. It was her villainy that made the scene work, and which left Thompson's pottering boyfriend figuratively and literally dominated.



Amidst all of these challenging moments, it made sense that the set was blank, white and clinical – there was almost too much colour elsewhere. And yet, on closer inspection, tables, beds and countertops were revealed to be made of cardboard boxes and detritus masked in white paint. It was intricate stuff, and with scenes chopping and changing, the set shifting and reconfiguring, dozens of props and plenty of oblique moments, the pace of the drama did slow. This space created room for reflection, and it was hard to shake the sense that the piece was a little fussy and somewhat convoluted.

Considering all of this, there is no faulting the ambitions of the Drama department, not least the plays co-director, Upper Sixth pupil Max Mason. An abstract, darting and peculiar exploration of trauma, Bede's *Breathing Corpses* was replete with powerful moments, and offered a disfigured, deceitful, damaging piece of drama designed to bruise, bait and unsettle.

Martin Vaux
Teacher of English



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LEGAT

It has been a busy term for our Legat students both in school and, in some cases, with dance commitments outside it as well.

In September, the Legat department took a trip to Canterbury to the Marlowe Theatre to see Matthew Bourne's 'Romeo and Juliet' which featured two Bede's alumni, Matt Amos and Holly Saw.

The students found it incredibly inspiring to watch Matt and Holly join the professional dancers as part of the main ensemble cast and most said it was the best Matthew Bourne show they had seen!

Matt left us in June and is now studying at Rambert School and Holly is in her final year at Ballet Theatre UK.

Lower Fifth Legat pupils George Linehan, Chloe Hanson and Katie Fenton performed in the Southern Youth Ballet's production of the renowned classic 'The Nutcracker' at the Congress Theatre in Eastbourne on Sunday 1 December. George and Chloe took on the lead roles of The Nutcracker and Clara, and Katie represented the Ensemble in multiple dances including the elegant 'Waltz of the Flowers'. The trio were selected for the parts through a series of classes and individual auditions, and rehearsed every Sunday in the lead up to the production, as well as the entire final week of half term. This was alongside their current Legat, academic and other rehearsal commitments, including Cabaret.

Alex Murphy, Director of Dance at Bede's, commented, "We are incredibly proud and it was wonderful to see George, Chloe and Katie perform at the Congress. They all work incredibly hard, and fully make the most of all opportunities offered to them; their focus, determination and passion for dance is quite simply astounding, especially considering their young age. It was a brilliant show!" Cabaret always provides the perfect showcase for the talents of the Legat dancers and this year was no exception. The opening number 'You can't Stop the Beat' was an upbeat musical theatre number which was closely followed by the graceful contemporary piece performed by Eleanor Abbott, Antonia Clarke, Annika Powell, Anna Featherstone, Lucy Hammond and Shona Rohilla. The first concert concluded with an



ensemble performance from the Christmas classic, 'The Nutcracker'. Other highlights included a stunning contemporary dance performed by Owen Pennington and Freya Woods to the moving 'Winter Song' which was performed by Amber Giles and the upbeat, Arabian themed Aladdin classic 'One Jump Ahead'. Finally, the Legat Dancers set the tone for last concert with a fun Blues Brothers pastiche which soon got everyone on the floor for the final few numbers.



Alex Murphy
Director of Dance



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HOUSE COMPETITIONS

As usual, this year's House competitions kicked off with the Amazing Race with the usual inflatable.

The weeks running up to half-term was a busy time with House Music, followed swiftly by House Competitions and the annual Pumpkin Carving Competition.



At House Music, this year's Big Song was 'Castles' by Freya Ridings and the winner of this category was 'Chamburer' a joint group of Dicker, Camberlot and Bloomsbury houses. Highlights were Lili Spagnoli singing Aretha Franklin's "Do Right Woman, Do Right Man" for which she won the individual prize and Evan Nayler heartfelt performance singing and playing the piano creating a spine-tingling performance. Overall, 1st prize went to Camberlot 1st Years, Upper Fifth and Upper Sixth with 2nd prize going to Dorter, Knights and Dorms Lower Fifth and Lower Sixth and third prize going to Crossways, Deis and Camberlot Lower Fifth and Lower Sixth.



Next up were the competitions in which Bloomsbury and Crossways won the senior and junior quizzes respectively. In drama, Charleston House were triumphant with Charleston also taking the tower building competition. Bloomsbury and Charleston also won the girls' swimming competitions with Charleston and Deis taking rowing honours. Crossways won both the junior and senior girls' badminton titles with Knights and Deis winning the boys' titles. Stud were victorious in the baking and Dorter came top in the ceramics. Finally, in squash, the junior and senior titles were taken by Dorter and Crossways respectively. The junior boys was won by Stud with Camberlot taking the senior honours. In hockey junior and senior titles were taken by Bloomsbury and Dorter, with both matches going to penalties, whilst Stud achieved a clean sweep in the football

taking the junior and senior titles.

Ahead of half-term, the pumpkin carving competition was as hotly contested as usual. After long deliberations, the judges awarded first place to Stud recognising the time and effort that had gone into their innovative carriage arrangement. Dorter took second place with their ingenious "see no evil, hear no evil, speak no evil" themed pumpkin alongside Crossways who were also awarded second place with their beautiful Mexican festival themed creation.

The final competition of the term was the Christmas cake baking which took place on the penultimate day. Amid the festive frenzy, Stud kept their eye on the prize to bring home first place, meaning the standings overall are as follows:



10th Dicker - 70.8 points
9th Deis - 76.1 points
8th Knights - 83.5 points
7th Dorms - 91.3 points
6th Charleston - 106 points
5th Stud - 111.5 points
4th Camberlot - 115.5 points
Equal 2nd Dorter and Bloomsbury - 118 points
1st Crossways - 123 points

The points awarded will go towards the House Cup, which will be announced at the end of the academic year.

Rachael Woollett
Co-Curricular Deputy Head



HOUSES WELCOME NEW PUPILS WITH AN ARRAY OF EVENTS

The first week of Autumn Term began with a series of whole-school events to welcome all pupils, staff and parents back to school for the 2019-20 year.

Term began with our Headmaster's Welcome for new pupils on the Wednesday, followed by our boarders' Colour Run on the Friday. Mrs Murphy, Dorter Housemistress, explained, "As well as being a lot of fun, our annual Colour Run is a wonderful opportunity for new and returning pupils to settle into the school environment and cement new friendships as we prepare for the busy school year ahead."



Bede's Fest, our annual music festival and BBQ, welcomed over 600 parents, pupils and staff from across the Trust at The Park at Bede's Senior School to enjoy a sunny afternoon of music, food and drinks. Talented Senior School pupils from across the years performed an array of much-loved music numbers on a purpose-built stage, while others ran a charity tea, coffee and ice cream stall.



Individual Houses across the Day and Boarding communities have also enjoyed hosting a range of events. Below is a summary of just some of the amazing activities that have been taking place in House.

Bloomsbury, which welcomed Mrs Devereux as new Housemistress earlier this term, held their Evensong and Formal



Dinner in early November. The prefects did a wonderful job organising the James Bond themed event. Along with speeches from Lotte Simmons and Echo Abraham, the girls also heard a heartfelt talk from Bede's Head of Boarding, Mr Juniper on the theme of 'kindness and community'. Meanwhile, back at the House, First Year Kauther Al-Robaie has been running a successful tuck shop and, after a thorough round of interviews, seven new house prefects have been appointed.

In **Camberlot**, staff and pupils enjoyed their termly teachers v tutors football match before Mrs Franks ran her annual Cambo quiz (despite the fact she is now a Knights tutor!) with the tasting challenges proving particularly popular. Anti-Bullying Week saw the pupils conduct "random acts of kindness" with much chocolate-sharing and as well as an exchange of compliments on recent haircuts. The House also held its first Mexican Night, reflecting the growing number of students in the House from this part of the world. Emiliano, Patricio, Roderigo and Patricio prepared quesadillas for everyone, temporarily turning the kitchen into a frenetic street-food diner. Emiliano gave a presentation on Mexican culture and the boys were treated to some Mariachi music. Towards the end of term, the boys held a charity football tournament and silent disco before taking on the traditional 'Santa Run' as part of the Shinewater Park Run.



It has been an action-packed term in **Charleston** House with many girls involved in Cabaret and a number of wonderful drama productions, but also with charity fund-raising events with the combined Dorms and Charleston student quiz night which raised £588 for St. Wilfrid's Hospice and Rhino conservation.



Crossways kicked off the term with a trip to the Cuckmere to enjoy the last few days of Summer sun. The girls walked over the Seven Sisters before enjoying a picnic and some even took a dip in the sea. During Anti-Bullying Week, the girls threw themselves into showing random acts of kindness for each other which included posting cheering messages on each other's doors and exchanging some welcomed chocolate gifts. The Christmas outing was to Brighton this year where the girls enjoyed some shopping and lunch at an Italian restaurant.



Over in **Deis House**, the new First Years settled into life and began getting to know each other, enjoying a pizza and pool party which was organised by the House Prefects. The boys also hosted a FIFA Charity tournament. In November, the House joined together for its House Evensong and Formal Dinner. James Procter who is an executive primary headteacher spoke about how he encourages tolerance across his group of schools. Donny Cecil, from First Year performed on the drums as well and the boys were also treated to music from the

Sixth Form band of Michael Turner, Evan Nayler and Elliot Glynn-Smith. The term ended with a day out for bowling and burgers.

Dicker House has seen some hotly contested debates this term ('Dickers!'). Every two weeks, the House chooses two boys at random to debate in front of the rest of the house on a variety of motions chosen by the boys. Motions this term have included 'Religion causes more harm than good', 'Ronaldo is a better footballer than Messi' and, most recently, 'Money brings you happiness'. The highlight of the term however, was undoubtedly the debate between two of our Lower Fifth boys, Max Harding and Shaun Manweiler on the subject of 'Hulk v Thor'. The debate, and questions from the floor, opened up the large, hidden sub-culture of Marvel comic enthusiasts within Dicker! It was taken very seriously. Teachers looked on amazed as individual comic book editions were quoted by the boys, to bolster or rebut various points. Hulk won the day with a landslide victory. So now we know! Congratulations to all the boys who have taken part in our 'Dickers!' this term - it takes courage to talk in public, and the boys have done a great job.

For **Dorms**, the Formal Dinner, held in November provided a welcome antidote to the ever-darkening days of winter. As well as singing some tradition English hymns the House joined together as the final prayer was spoken by a number of students from overseas in their native language - an apt celebration of the diversity of Dorms House and indeed Bede's as a whole. The boys listened to a moving speech by Naqeeb Saide from the Hummingbird Project which supports local refugees. Emiliano then sung before the evening concluded with speeches from Head of House, Jenil Patel and Housemaster Mr Hickman. The evening was a wonderful celebration of individuality and the unity which Dorms creates from its diversity. Down in **Dorter House**, term kicked off with a trip to the Blacklands Farm Outdoor Centre for some teamwork challenges as well as the traditional Colour Run which Dorter organises every year and which sees boarders from across the Bede's community gather to

make new friendships and cement old ones. This was followed by a delicious BBQ by the lake. In October, the House hosted the German Oktoberfest where frankfurter sausages and some non-alcoholic beer was enjoyed to give the event a realistic feel. Following the success of this, Miss Chen led an equally well-enjoyed Chinese Culture Night which also featured more delicious food - this time dumplings! The boys in **Knights** House have had a characteristically busy term, with new Deputy Housemistress Mrs Franks working closely with the new Prefects on a series of exciting endeavours. The House enjoyed a successful charity week, with its annual Glow-in-the-Dark football tournament proving wildly popular with the Bede's community, raising over £500 for charity.



Elsewhere, the boys enjoyed a fantastic House outing to Cosmos all-you-can-eat buffet in Eastbourne and Urban Jump in Heathfield, with the house-wide Secret Santa present exchange raising smiles and spirits as the term drew to an end. Early in the term, **Stud House** welcomed parents in for its annual Cheese and Wine Evening which raised money for their charity, the ABC Fund and enjoyed sharing this year's event with Crossways House community. The end of term concluded with the Boarders' Christmas Party followed by the House Bowling and Laser Quest trip. On Sunday 8 December, the boarders had their inaugural Christmas party, joining together to celebrate, play games and enjoy a wonderful meal. Much fun ensued with a round of Heads and Tails, a very loud and raucous game of 12 Days of Christmas a competitive game of Musical Chairs.

SPORT CRICKET

CRICKET SUCCESS

It has been a very exciting first term for the Cricket department.

In September, the Bede's U15 Girls Cricket team were declared national champions for the second time in 2019 when they won the National Schools Sports Magazine Final, hosted at Felsted School in Essex.



We are absolutely delighted with the girls' performance. The team has shown true talent and sportsmanship throughout all of their competitions and training, and both of their prestigious championship wins are thoroughly well deserved.

Freya Kemp, Lower Fifth, celebrated a fantastic personal achievement when she was accepted into 2019/20 intake for the England Women's Academy. Freya says, "I wasn't really expecting it, but I am so excited. Playing cricket is always something I've loved doing, and I'm very grateful to have these opportunities and support networks to enable me to pursue my dream of playing professionally."

Congratulations also to Scott Lenham, who was presented with the U17 Player of the Year at the Sussex CCC Awards. This was presented to him by well-known Sussex cricketer and former Bede's pupil Luke Wells. Scott says, "I'm very excited to have been given this award; it's a great honour."

Bede's Senior School was also named in The Cricketer's top 100 cricketing schools in their Schools Guide for 2020!

*Alan Wells
Director of Cricket*

BEDE'S EXCITING NEW RECRUIT

Bede's is delighted to announce that Sarah Taylor, former England and Women's World Cup winning cricketer, will join the School's Sports department as the Sports Development and Life Skills Coach.



In this brand-new role, Sarah will work across both the Senior and Prep Schools (located in Upper Dicker and Eastbourne respectively) to increase participation and performance in sport across all year groups; to support with elite-level coaching across the core and competitive sports; and promote positive emotional and physical wellbeing in pupils at all athletic levels. Sarah, who also attended Bede's Prep from 1999-2002, is excited to start her new role in January 2020. She comments, "This really is the perfect role in the perfect place for me. The opportunity to work with the coaches already at Bede's and learn from them, as well as inspire the next generation of children coming through the School is incredibly exciting."

Sarah is best known for being a world-class level wicket-keeper in the England Cricket team, with career highlights including being the youngest female cricketer to score 1000 runs in One Day Internationals when she scored 75 not out against India in 2008; being the first woman to be inducted in the Legends Lane at the Brighton and Hove County Cricket Ground in 2015; and being awarded the ICC Women's Cricketer of the Year four times (T20I in 2012, 2013 and 2018 and ODI in 2014).

In 2017, Sarah was selected to represent

England in the Women's Cricket World Cup. During the fourth round, Sarah and teammate Tammy Beaumont set the record for the highest 2nd-wicket partnership in Women's Cricket World Cup history (275) in a 68-run victory over South Africa. In an outstanding final match against India at Lord's, England won by 9 runs and lifted the winning trophy. "That was such a memorable moment," Sarah says. "When I close my eyes I can still remember it: the feeling of elation at winning, the celebration with my teammates, the sound of the crowds. I think that will always stay with me."

"The life skills aspect of the role is something that I feel very passionately about," Sarah continues. "I am so incredibly fortunate to have had the experiences I have playing international cricket professionally, however competing at that high level came with a huge amount of pressure (mainly from myself), which made me understand the importance of instilling a work/life balance."

"There is no set method that works for everyone and the process will be different for every child or teenager and may vary by sport; the beauty of taking on a brand-new role is that it gives the flexibility needed to make the programme a success."

For Sarah personally, exercise has taken on a new meaning in her life since her retirement from international cricket. "I run every morning without fail for two miles, which sets me up for the day. When you exercise and challenge yourself it makes a huge difference to your mental wellbeing. The most important thing about my morning runs is that I'm choosing to do this for myself. This message is at the heart of what I want to teach the pupils – they are playing sport because they love it, and should ultimately work hard to achieve their dreams for themselves."

SPORT FOOTBALL

FOOTBALL SEASON KICKS OFF TO A GREAT START

The season started back in second week of August for the 1st XI who had an extended pre-season, with the other sides starting late August, and since then over 100 fixtures have been played.

Usually, I would begin by mentioning the progress of the 1st XI, but I feel it is only right to start with the 15A and 15B sides in this review as they are having terrific seasons so far and are still challenging on all fronts; they are in the last 32 of the National Cup, in the quarter finals of the ISFA Cup and quarter finals of the County Cup whilst sitting second in the league. The 15B have also had a terrific season winning half their games and also having a fantastic cup run and will play their fourth round match in the National Cup on the penultimate day of term.

For the 14's it is always a difficult start for them as they begin to get to know each other whilst other teams have been playing together for years, however with that in mind the 14A have made an excellent start to the season playing 11 and winning 8 so far and progressing to the quarter finals of the County Cup. The B and C teams have also been competitive in their fixtures. The 16A boys have also progressed to the quarter finals of the County Cup.



Now onto the senior teams, the participation strand of Bede's football is really growing with 6 Senior teams now regularly playing and training, and maybe next year this might even grows to 7 senior teams. I must take a moment to thank all the staff from across the School who give up their time to allow the pupils to experience these wonderful opportunities.

Finally, the 1st XI girls team have moved to the final stages of their group games in the ISFA Cup although may just miss out on qualifying for the next round. The 1st XI boys have made a very strong start to the season staying unbeaten until a couple of poor performances just before half term cost them exits from the county cup and ISFA cup – these were both games we should have won.

Luckily, half term arrived and the warm weather camp and 5 day tour

in Lisbon helped refocus them. The team were lucky enough to train at the state of the art facility at Benfica where they experienced a “day in the life” of one of their academy players.



After watching Benfica beat Portimonense 4-0, the Bede's team took on their first opponent FC Barriernse, a League 2 side. Bede's came through 3-0 in a tough encounter. On Friday, the team headed to Sporting Lisbon Academy for a tour and training session with their coaches before they took on C.Fs Belenenses, a Portuguese premiership academy. After an intense programme, the team tired in the second half, eventually losing 2-0 – still an excellent achievement given the standard of the opposition. After some sightseeing and shopping in Lisbon to round the trip off, it was time to fly home. On their return to school, the positive effects of the camp were evident when the team secured fantastic wins against Wilsons 2-1, Brighton College 8-0. As the end of term approached, the team scooped a terrific 5-1 away win in the fourth round of the National Cup at Croydon. The 1st XI are also currently sitting in second place in the HUDL national league after winning all of their first three matches this season.

In terms of individual highlights, Jake Baker, Oskar Lockyar and Tom Howard have all reached the regional trials of ISFA U17's, whilst Tom Collins, Rex Lane and Jack Hobden have been selected for Sussex Schools U18's.

The next round of the Cup matches will commence in January which everyone is looking forward to. Finally, I wanted to take this opportunity to thank all the players for their commitment during a long term, to their families for all their support and to the many staff who support football at Bede's, including all those who coach teams, our matrons and nursing team as well as our transport, grounds and catering staff.

David Caryer
Director of Football

SPORT

NETBALL

HOCKEY

BEDE'S WARMLY WELCOMES NEW HOCKEY AND NETBALL LEADS

We are delighted to welcome Sue Ivemy, an experienced Level 2 coach, England Netball-accredited tutor and umpire mentor, to Bede's as our new Head of Netball.



As well as being a Southern Stars and Regional Performance Coach for 11-16 year olds, Sue helps to run the Eastbourne Netball League and has many links with local and regional clubs.

"The participation focus of the Sports department was one of the main reasons I took the role at Bede's," Sue explains. "Our programme offers a range of opportunities to train at times that fit in alongside the Core Sports, such as pre-season training and squad training on Wednesday evenings. This means that the very active members of our sporting community can enjoy Netball as a secondary sport if they'd like to play alongside their Hockey, Cricket and/or Football commitments."

Reflecting on her first term at Bede's, Sue says, "It has been a very busy term. We have had two netball activity sessions per week, and this has been a great opportunity to meet the students and to find out their goals and netball experiences. We had a fixture for the U14A team against Mayfield in the Sussex Knock Out Cup; we lost the match, but the girls played tremendously well with heaps of enthusiasm and energy.

"We have a busy term of fixtures, National qualification tournaments and league games coming up in the Spring Term, and I am really excited about working alongside all the pupils and our wonderful netball coaching staff."



We are thrilled to welcome Jon Williams as our new Head of Hockey. As well as being a former international player and coach – who has led successful hockey programmes in England, New Zealand and Portugal – Jon currently coaches at Brighton and Hove Hockey Club and the USA indoor team. He has also just been selected for Scotland Masters Over 45 squad and will compete in the Home Internationals and the 2020 World Cup.

"The quality of the Hockey programme is the main reason I decided to take the role at Bede's," Jon says. "The fact that we have a three-term programme means that players are able to refine their skill all-year round (rather than having a break over the Summer, which is the norm in school hockey). Our Academy also allows for small group and one-to-one coaching, which is an absolute joy.

"The participation element of the programme is also incredibly important," Jon continues. "You know that pupils are playing the sport because they genuinely love it – regardless of their ability. This mindset to place enjoyment of sport at the heart of our offer is shared across the sports, and is honestly a breath of fresh air."

It has been an exciting first term for the hockey department. Following Izzy Atherton's fantastic time with England Futures Hockey over the Summer (pictured right), the girls

great strides in the first term of the year, as Jon explains: "There is a great deal of potential with a very young group of players representing the 1st XI. The girls are starting to develop a very good fast-paced passing game.

"The Girls 1st XI finished second place in the Sussex League, having recorded good wins against Eastbourne, Ardingly and Worth. The U16s have progressed to the final 16 of the National Competition, comfortably beating Hurst. The U15s won their Sussex League comfortably, scoring 22 goals in six games, recording excellent wins against Eastbourne and Hurst. The U14s have had a mixed season – playing some excellent hockey in the first part of the term in both the Sussex Cup and our school matches."



SPORT SAILING

SAILING FEVA FOR BEDE'S

On a beautiful September day, the Bede's sailing team took on local rivals, Eastbourne College in the first competition of the season.



The entire team of six sailors performed well and the top three positions were taken by Bede's with Roan Briggs taking first place followed by James Wong and Charlie Fisk. In October, we joined some of the top young British sailors in the RS Feva Hayling Island Grand Prix. With six races across the weekend, including two particularly windy ones on the Sunday, the Bede's team, which featured Charlie Fisk, Alex Simmonds, James Wong, Elfie Day and Roan Briggs and their Buzz Active leader, acquitted themselves well coming 34th, 36th and 39th in a top field of

44 boats. Finally, in November this was followed by a competition at the Olympic sailing site in Weymouth. Our intrepid sailors were competing in the RS Feva Winter Championship, which involved over 100 of the country's best up and coming sailors congregating in 55 Fevas from all over Britain. Winds were light and the Bede's team adapted well to the conditions achieving a very respectable 25th position in one of the races. Alex Simmonds' review of the race won a competition and went on to be published by RS Feva and by Yachts and Yachting. Behind the scenes, our newer sailors and our excellent windsurfers demonstrated growing skill and a considerable degree of tenacity, sailing on sea and lake in sunshine, showers and increasingly chilly conditions. We look forward to racing with them next summer.

Julia Hyde
Assistant Chaplain



EQUESTRIAN

TEAM COMPETE AT THE NSEA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

In October, the show jumping team of Ethan Collins, Ruby Hall, Bella McKeogh, Ella MacKellar and Ellie Wood represented Bede's at the NSEA National championships. Georgie Cloke also took part in the dressage event.

Following this in November, the team of Lola Woollard (who is currently in Year 8 and who will be joining the senior team) Issi Drake, Ruby Hall, Ella MacKellar, Bella McKeogh and Ellie Wood all jumped at the NSEA show jumping at Felbridge Equestrian Centre. Ella had a win in her section with the team finishing in 4th place.



The team also took part in the NSEA county show jumping competition on the 23rd November with Reuben Mace (Year 8) taking part in his first school show jumping competition and jumping a great round. Lola, Ella, Bella and Ruby also jumped well and the team finished 6th. Bella won the individual competition and will go through to represent East Sussex in the county finals.

Katy McKeogh
Equestrian Team Manager

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