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RUGBY

Hong Kong and Japan Tour, Summer Break

After over 18 months of planning and preparation, some outstanding fundraising and a delivery of Nike kit making it to Harrow one day before the end of the Summer term, 54 Harrovian rugby players and six intrepid beaks met at Gatwick for the start of an amazing 18-day rugby tour of Hong Kong and Japan.



On landing in Hong Kong, we were struck by the humidity and, fortunately, our first stop was a visit to the residence of the Leung family, where the boys could recover from the long flight with a swim in the complex's pool. Refreshed, we tucked into our first meal of the trip – a full English breakfast at an Irish pub: JLM's pre-tour plea to the boys to truly embrace the culture had already been thrown out of the window. On the second day, we trained for the first time and the reality of the challenge facing the boys, with such humid and sticky conditions, began to dawn on everyone. We explored the city over the next few days, enjoying a cruise around Victoria Harbour, seeing the Symphony of Lights, and having superb dim sum meal at an authentic Hong Kong restaurant, described by our tour guide as "the sort of place grandmothers go." Our matches in Hong Kong were played in 90% humidity but the Harrow boys rose to the occasion with two strong wins, with the Under-18s winning 50-5 and the Under-16s 43-0. Unfortunately, the trip to Hong Kong was marred with the loss of a key member of the tour as Winston, the Harrow-hat wearing teddy mascot, was lost in a McDonald's as his handler, youngest tourist William Barrett, *The Knoll*, left him behind on leaving the store; a sad moment for all involved and we hope Winston is coping with the current political issues in Hong Kong.

On day five, we flew into Fukuoka in the south-east corner of Japan, ready to be over-awed by the cultural difference of this unique country. We met our superb tour guide, Toshi, and had some time to explore the canal city in the evening, with boys having their first experience of the unique Japanese toilets! The next day, in torrential rain, we played our second set of matches against combined sides from the Fukuoka prefecture. Fukuoka is a hot-bed for rugby and the Under-16s found themselves in a real struggle from the first minute as the relentless pace, power and skill of their Japanese counterparts was staggering. Playing the toughest opposition they had ever faced, the boys

did tremendously well to keep the game close but lost 33-21 in a brilliant game of rugby. The Under-18 side had witnessed the Under-16s defeat and knew they were going to have raise their game hugely from Hong Kong if they were to win. They did just that and produced a superb, aggressive performance in defence and clinical in attack to win 38-19, with James Langston, *Druries*, and skipper Nic Neal, *Moretons*, particularly dominant. After the match, the boys witnessed the Japanese boys on their hands and knees scrubbing the changing room floor and picking up every single blade of grass; the Harrow boys followed suit and hopefully will continue this practice back on the Hill.

Leaving Fukuoka (about an hour late thanks to Michael Chiimba, *Newlands*, Tomas Kemp, *The Park*, and a missing pair of AirPods) we made our way to Kobe. En-route, we stopped off at the stunning Miyajima Island to see the Itsukushima Shrine. The island is populated by friendly wild deer: the instructions were clear, 'Do not touch the deer, so, of course, two minutes into our arrival Arthur Leney, *The Knoll*, was having a tug of war with a deer as his map of the island had somehow found its way into the deer's mouth. We then stopped off at the harrowing and beautiful memorial at Hiroshima, the site of the dropping of the atomic bomb. With due reverence, we explored the poignant memorial museum and learnt much about a terrible event that so many of us knew very little about.

That evening, we reached Kobe which would be the destination of our third set of games. On a scorching hot day, both teams were bussed out to Konan University for our matches. Playing on an artificial pitch in over 30-degree heat proved tough for the boys as we came up against our toughest opposition of the tour – Hotoku Gakuen High School. They are renowned for their rugby across Japan and had recently been knocked out in the semi-final stage of the National Championship. They were superb to watch and gave the Under-18 side a lesson in Japanese-style rugby – fast, wide and constantly off feet at the breakdown! Harrow struggled to keep up and went down 40-24. The Under-16s bounced back with a superb 34-7 win over Konan High School. After the match, we had our first taste of



Japanese hospitality – superb food, friendly hosting and a lot of speeches. JLM made his first speech of the tour in Japanese, much to the amusement of the Harrovians and bemusement of our hosts. Captains Neal and Alex Ferreira, *The Grove*, followed with more concise efforts; it was a great day and fun opportunity for the boys to mix well with their hosts. After visiting Osaka to watch a (rather dull) baseball match, we headed north and

came to our next stop in Shizuoka. The hotel website suggested stunning views of Mount Fuji could be seen from all angles. Unfortunately, Fuji was not on show or, as one of our hosts put it, was “not working” during our stay. In Shizuoka, we were hosted brilliantly by our friends at Seiko Academy. We had a training session at the school and then on Day 11 returned for our fixtures. We arrived early to have time for some cultural activities; on arrival, the boys were clapped off the bus by a gaggle of ten year olds, clasp Union Jack flags and Harrow School banners. The same ten year olds then were introduced to the boys in a classroom and they taught the Harrovians the art of Japanese calligraphy (with mixed success!). After that, we were led to the school auditorium where we waited outside the main doors. Suddenly, the doors flung open, an eruption of cheers, clapping and the school band as the whole school, governors and teachers clapped us into the auditorium for the welcome ceremony. Following speeches from captains, more bumbled Japanese from JLM and a bout of kendo, the boys sang *40 Years On* and were clapped once again out of the hall. It was now time for rugby and two excellent games resulted in strong wins for both Harrow sides. The fun did not stop there, however, as, in the post-match ceremony, the Harrow boys had to entertain our opposition and did so with a pitch-perfect version of the Backstreet Boys *I want it that way* and BTM showed off his skills with a kendara. A brilliantly Japanese day and one the boys will remember for a long time. On returning to the hotel to celebrate a good victory, the Under-18s were taken to a local karaoke bar where Bofe Moses-Taiga, *Druries*, stunned the room with his version of Estelle's *American Boy* and JAA (Danny) and BTM (Sandy) beautifully performed a Scottish rendition of *Summer Nights*.

Our trip to Shizuoka had garnered media attention and, thanks to a contact of our tour guide extraordinaire, Toshi, the Governor of Shizuoka prefecture, Dr Kawakatsu, invited us to his residence to meet and welcome the group on behalf of the 3.7 million people of Shizuoka. It was greatly appreciated by the whole group and Dr Kawakatsu kindly donated a copy of his book for the School library (he also, without doubt, had the best business holographic business cards in Japan!).

We left Shizuoka and soon arrived in the sprawling metropolis of Tokyo. Our first evening was spent – to the boys' delight – at an all-you-can-eat Japanese BBQ where each table comes equipped with a small grill, an iPad and all-you-can-eat meat! We then spent a day sightseeing, moving from old town Tokyo in Asakusa to noisy Electric Avenue. The boys ascended the Tokyo tower for a wide view of the huge city and, in the evening, were treated to a rather bizarre trip to a massive indoor SEGA arcade, called Joypolis.

The final day of the tour was now upon us and matches against two All-Waseda sides. Having hosted Waseda at Harrow in the spring, it was nice to be reunited with some friends and to meet again on the rugby pitch. Waseda University is Japan's most famous university and attached to it are three excellent high schools; Eton had recently been in town and lost to one of those schools. We were to play a combined side of all three, so knew we would have our hands full. Two outstanding performances from the Under-18s and Under-16s brought the tour successfully to a close. It was brilliant to see the way the boys had developed over the two-week period and their final performances were an outstanding testament to their constant efforts to improve. Following the usual post-match ceremony of speeches and singing, the boys headed back to prepare for the long day of flying ahead.

Overall, it was a truly brilliant experience. The warmth and friendliness of everyone we met, the superb commitment on the field from the boys and the challenges we faced on the pitch will stick in all the boys' memory for a long time. Thanks to JLM, JAA, BTM, GBF, JM and Dr Sam Barke for accompanying the trip and to all the boys for making it such a memorable and enjoyable experience.

SWIMMING

Pre-season Training, Palma de Mallorca, 28 August

On Wednesday 28 August, 20 boys, including two new Shells, along with RMT, MJT, LHS, Mr Stokes (coach), DRW (assistant coach) and Daisy and Sally Tremlett, gathered at Heathrow Terminal 5 for the start of the swim team pre-season training. Flying into Palma de Mallorca, the island's capital, we took a coach to our hotel in Colònia Sant Jordi, south-west of Palma on the coast. We made it there just in time for the end of dinner and met one more new boy who had flown out earlier in the day. The boys then quickly went to bed after a brief talk about the camp, what we were there to do, and the fact that it “was not a holiday”.



Getting up at 7.30am the next day was a bit of a shock to the system, but everyone was excited to start. After a filling buffet breakfast, we met again at 8.45am for the first of many walks down to the pool. Arriving there just before 9am, the familiar, for most, sight of the 50m outdoor pool reminded everyone that this is what they were truly here for. We were then met by two more boys who were already out there finishing another swim camp with their own club. After a quick talk by Mr Stokes on the training that would be happening, how to approach every set, and what was expected of them, all the boys were given new training hats to symbolise the unity of the team. The first session consisted of a few drill sets, and ended with a bit of dive practice so as not to wear out the boys too soon. Finishing at 11am, we then went back to the hotel for some free time to relax, either by the hotel's pool or in and around the hotel. By lunch, the boys were starting to realise the importance of eating properly, which was helped by the buffet three times a day.

After a bit more free time, we met again at 3.45pm for the second session of the day, which included of the first test set of the week: 10 x 100m with a 10-second rest after each one. The boys were timed, and average times were calculated afterwards. The point of the set was to give the coaches an idea of the fitness, stamina, and ability of each boy at this point in the week. This was the first test of the week, and all the boys, especially the new Shells, performed excellently. Finishing at 6pm, it was a quick turnaround for dinner at 6.30pm. After dinner, we gathered for some team-building and ice-breaker games, led by DRW. These included games such as two truths - one lie, a game of ten questions where you figure out who gave which answer, and a 'safe' version of Never Have I Ever, which brought forth some interesting information.

The next day, we met at the same times. The first session of the day consisted of lots of IM work (every stroke), including a 200m IM sprint. After the session, we returned to the hotel, where some boys got involved with the water polo in the hotel pool. That afternoon, the boys had their next big test of the week: a 30 x 100m set, holding specific target times for each boy, based on the times of the day before. Once again, every boy stepped up to the challenge. That evening after dinner, we all headed to the beach for activities run by MJT. These involved water balloon tossing, human ice-cream making (using shaving

foam, ice-cream sauces, cereal...), and ended with flour power.

After the following day's morning session, we headed to the beach for a couple of hours. After a quick lunch, we headed into Palma for an afternoon out. Once arriving, we took some group photos before everyone had free time to enjoy Palma's old town. We then met for dinner, which was a ten-course tapas menu. The food was fantastic and there was definitely enough of it. Everyone, including staff, was banned from using their phones, which led to some engaging conversations – including MJT getting 'sentimental' over pre-mobile phone days.

The next day the after lunch, the second session brought a different kind of test set: a 6 x 100m max effort off six minutes. In waves, each boy swam 100m all out. Every 100m was an all out sprint. The point of the set was to go all out and hold on. That afternoon, RMT, MJT and vice captain Finn Deacon, *The Park*, headed back to School for staff Inset and Monitor training respectively. That evening consisted of more team activities. The next day, during the morning session, each lane was taken out in turn to do some filming. The boys were filmed both on top of the water and from below the water. In the afternoon, there was another big sprint set for the boys: 6 x 50m sprint off four minutes. That evening, the boys were taken in groups to evaluate their strokes from the footage shot earlier.

On the final morning, we got up earlier than usual to start swimming at 7.30am. The boys were a bit shocked when they were told that they were doing a 100m sprint cold start. No warm up. Everyone threw themselves at the challenge, putting in some unexpectedly good times. We then headed back to the hotel to pack. After a bit of stress at the airport, we were on our way back to the Hill for the official start of term. After a long, hard-working week, the boys had to go straight into Houses.

All the boys put in an enormous amount of effort and stepped up to every challenge put to them. It was a good start to the season. Thanks to all the staff who gave up their holiday to help on the trip, with a special thanks to RMT for organising the whole camp and to Mr Stokes for all his coaching.

ZAMBIA

TLR and his work for the TES and Camfed Education Project

I am no longer in Zambia and yet, as I type this, the orange dust from the construction of a dual carriageway in the rural town of Mpika still stains my fingers. This trace acts as a reminder of the rapid development and investment in the country. Few



places – not even Mpika, 10 hours' drive from the Zambian capital of Lusaka – are immune to the influx of Chinese, American and European money being lent to improve infrastructure and develop industries. These loans offer short-term gain but, in the long-term, the country is likely to suffer when they come due. With this in mind, the role of quality education in preparing

Zambians for the future – a future where prosperity could be precarious – is vital. It's something the country's government is already working towards; the Ministry of General Education (MOGE) redesigned the Zambian National Curriculum in 2013 to ensure their learners, and a new generation of workers, would be equipped with the knowledge and soft skills to thrive in this brave new world.

Unfortunately, many of the teachers, particularly in rural communities, have not had access to the training necessary to adapt their current skills to the aims of the revised curriculum. Additionally, new textbooks developed by the MOGE often either fail to be contextually relevant to many of the more rural regions or are unavailable because of already high pressures on resources. And teachers have been trained to use those textbooks – and only those textbooks – in their lessons.



This was the starting point for the TES/Camfed project that I have been involved with over the summer. The two organisations are well placed to help in Zambia: TES is a household name among teachers in the UK, providing a one-stop shop for teaching resources, jobs, news and training. Camfed (the Campaign for Female Education) is an NGO that addresses poverty and inequality through education in sub-Saharan Africa, focusing particularly on supporting women and girls in rural communities. The collaboration between the two was designed to empower Zambian teachers to generate their own resources and to implement different strategies to make lessons engaging and memorable.

Using a 'train the trainer' approach, Camfed invited 20 participants from their network of schools to take part in this pilot workshop. Encouragingly, and initially dauntingly, 34 delegates turned up on the first day, with over 300 years of teaching experience between them. All were involved with running or coordinating teacher development in their schools, zones or districts.

Over the week, I helped to run sessions on a range of teaching techniques and strategies that could be implemented in Zambia. From developing group-work tasks designed for classrooms of up to 100 pupils to brainstorming project-based learning activities intended to generate community support, the Zambian educators were keen to engage and try things out. By the end of the week, the group had generated over 100 resources and lesson plans that were collectively available.

Like any training, content is only one aspect of what is learnt. The time and space set aside for the workshop allowed delegates to forge new links with other educators in their zones and districts, to share ideas and solutions to common problems and to gain confidence in the new techniques through critical practice and feedback.

It is our hope that the skills they have learned will have a long-term impact on pupil attendance and outcomes, giving Mpika and perhaps, in time, the country, a road to greater prosperity and success. But, unlike that dual carriageway, this is a road where the investment is by Zambians, for Zambians and it is the nation's children who will reap the benefits.

FIFTH FORM CONFERENCE

Harrow International Schools, The Informed Leadership for a Shared Future, 22 June

Less than a week after the relief of having completed their GCSE examinations, a group of delegates from Harrow School, John Lyon School, Harrow Hong Kong and Harrow Bangkok gathered on the Hill for the fifth instalment of the annual Harrow International Schools' Fifth Form Conference. The conference's theme was 'Informed Leadership for a Shared Future', and its purpose was to promote insight, aspiration and determination for the future. In addition, it was a fantastic opportunity for Harrovians from around the world to meet, make friendships and share our connections while also discovering what makes us unique.

The first day of the conference began with informal games and activities with the purpose of allowing everyone to get to know each other; this was followed by orientation activities which permitted the international students to get to know the layout of the School. Later on a guided tour of the school gave an insight into the interior of the School's most cherished buildings, including the Fourth Form Room, Speech Room and the War Memorial Building.



After lunch the official introduction to the conference took place, with the Head Master giving a welcome speech that stressed how important the skills being covered in the conference would be for the world of the future.

We were split into groups and briefed on the community-based projects that we would be working on and that would take place on the final day. Three of the groups were tasked with organising and running activity sessions for local primary school children. The three sessions focussed on Sports, Art and Drama, to be precise. The two remaining groups' objective was to provide an afternoon of entertainment for residents at two care homes for the elderly in Harrow Borough. Throughout the conference, the groups met regularly to discuss, plan and prepare for the realisation of these projects.

Mrs Gavin, a Geography Beak at Harrow Bangkok who had previously taught at the John Lyon School, led three workshops focussed on developing leadership competencies and understanding different styles of leadership. These workshops discussed Teamwork, Emotional Intelligence and Leadership, and were highly engaging and informative, and each workshop generated much discussion amongst the delegates.

Another aspect of the conference was the addresses presented by both Beaks and external speakers. The first of these was on the topic of plotting a course to university. CEGB discussed the general process of applying to British universities, while JAPB focussed on applications to Oxford and Cambridge in particular. KAF then spoke on North American universities, explaining how the education, experience and application process differs from British universities.

On the same day we were addressed by Mrs Lucy Elphinstone, who is the Headmistress of Francis Holland School. She believes that creativity, enterprise, flexibility, resilience, optimism and courage are the qualities needed to succeed in a rapidly changing technological world, and in her address she stressed that only by stepping out of one's comfort zone can significant success be achieved.

The second guest speaker of the conference was Kimberley Abbott, CEO of Vested, a revolutionary company solving the world's greatest challenges, and has been involved in projects such as Roka, an award-winning social enterprise developed to break the cycle of poverty in rural India through the economic empowerment of women and education. In her interactive talk, she described the social issues she has worked on in her life, and demonstrated how logical problem-solving can help ameliorate conditions for disadvantaged people around the world.

Additionally, James Lloyd, who works for Mayfair Capital, a leading UK real estate fund manager, discussed the qualities he believes are essential to being successful in the workplace, such as confidence in one's self and an ability to work with others. He also emphasised the importance of building a good team around you.

There were two university visits, the first to University College London and the second to Oxford University. At UCL we listened to a presentation by current and former students who spoke on what higher education is like, as well as life at UCL specifically. At Oxford, we enjoyed a city bus tour followed by an orientation exercise that led us to all of the main sites of the university, including famous colleges, the Ashmolean Museum and the Natural History Museum.

There were plenty of fun activities throughout the six days, ensuring that delegates left the experiences with both a feeling of enlightenment and fun memories. Delegates enjoyed the New Directions concert and the Junior Rattigan Society production, gaining a taste of the Arts at Harrow. A tour of Shakespeare's Southwark, a visit to the Tate Modern and watching the West End's *Matilda* made for a enjoyable day out in London, which was especially memorable for those who had never visited the capital before.

The projects took place on the penultimate day, and to an excellent standard, with both the primary school children and care home residents delighted with the activities put on for them. That evening there was a celebratory Conference Dinner, with Vice-Admiral Jerry Kyd giving a powerful speech on the necessity of sacrifice and selflessness, and how the team is more important than the individual.

The conference rounded off with presentations, in which each group discussed and evaluated their projects, highlighting how they had incorporated what they had learnt over the course of the conference into the management of the projects.

This was followed by emotional goodbyes; over the course of little less than a week, Harrovians from around the world had formed strong bonds that, for many, will last for lifetimes. From the beginning of the conference, social events such as an informal BBQ and the trips to London encouraged everyone to get to know each other and resulted in the atmosphere of the conference being a jovial one. In no time at all, delegates had become so close that they considered each other true friends, and I know that many of us are still in touch. In my opinion, the human side of the Conference is equal in importance to the educational side, and it ensured that it was truly a stand-out experience.

We are highly grateful to TGE, MGP and HAH for putting together a programme that was stimulating and fulfilling, and for ensuring the experience as a whole was one that will be cherished by all those involved for decades to come. Furthermore, we would like to thank the Head Master for his guidance on the conference's overall structure, PJB for organising the accommodation and his involvement in the programme and TMD for his help in running the projects.

OPINION

DAME VAUGHAN AGONY AUNT

DEAR DAME VAUGHAN,

Welcome back, dearest Dame, in your sun-soaked sanctuary, and I hope you are content in your return to your book-brimmed building. Moreover, was your vacation suitably paradisiacal for such a paradigmatic practitioner of the bookéd arts such as yourself? I'm envisioning sun-kissed sandy shores, scintillating and scandalous summer reads, and your customary wingéd glasses and feather boa? I'm glad if so – you work hard defending the Hill's bastion of book-learning during term time. You deserve a rest.

I, alas, once more humbly prostrate myself before you seeking your guidance. My summer too, was heavenly: 'Napa' with the boys, holidaying in the Seychelles with the Parentals, then some solo backpacking in Perah – you know Perah, it's spelt Peru but I believed pronounced differently. Divine. However, I return to Britain for the start of Michaelmas term only to be greeted by Brexit shambles; climate change has scorched us (plainly more people need to read David Wallace Well's *The Uninhabitable Earth* which you recommended last term); and I couldn't have done less of the summer work set if I'd tried (please don't tell my beaks; that stays between you and me). Of course, it's bloody marvellous to return to the Hill (one's heart really does thrill at the thought) and see the gang, and a joy to get stuck in once more for another year. But the start of term is always difficult – new subjects and beaks, adjusting to the increased workload, constant millennial fear of global doom and impending social collapse, you know the sort of thing. Thus, dearest patron of our pastoral welfare, I turn to you for support. I seek a book I can lose myself in – fantastical, gripping, unputdownable – so that, on those moments of calm amidst the sea of academia and extra-curricular, I can escape to the wonderful world of fiction. Any recommendations would be most gratefully received.

Yours thankfully,
A.N. Harrovian.

Dear My Slightly Stressed Student,

Oh my darling, welcome back: the spire-topped hill of Harrow welcomes you with open arms and only a mild scolding for leaving your holiday prep to the last minute. I pray to St Joles (St Joles, hooray, St Joles, hooroo, Mark my words if it don't come true etc, DNW to rampantly conduct all five verses) you got it all in on time. I had a wonderful summer break thank you: I did the Dewey Decimal Pilgrimage with the Council of Librarian Elders (covers all the famous landmarks visited by Melvil Dewey in that fateful year of 1876 when he created the now famous library catalogue system); I base-jumped into an active volcano to raise money for the Vaughan's coffee fund; and, yes, I had the classic beach holiday. My summer reads included Naomi Alderman's *The Power* and Robert Louis Stevenson's *Travels in the Cévennes with a Donkey*. Of course, my iconic specs and boa were present throughout.

Now, your predicament. I have the perfect fantasy gripper to take you away from the Hill when you need to unwind and escape: Leigh Bardugo's *The Six of Crows*. Described by *The Independent* as 'Ocean's Eleven set in a Game of Thrones-esque world', it nestles within Bardugo's hugely successful Grishaverse, where criminal prodigy Kaz Brekker has been offered a deadly heist: break into an unbreachable military stronghold and retrieve a world-changing hostage. His team: a vengeful convict; a gambling sharpshooter; a runaway with

a privileged past; a spy known as The Wraith; a Heartrender using her magic to survive the slums; and a thief with a gift for unlikely escapes. The question: can this unlikely band actually operate as a team without killing each other? The first part of a duology, *Six of Crows* is a thrilling, fantastical and captivating read, full of twists and turns, and an ending you'll never see coming. One of my personal favourite fantasy novels, this is sure to completely absorb you and transport you away from your start of term nerves. Enjoy my dear.

Yours bookishly,
Dame Vaughan

[If you have a book-themed predicament, and wish to seek advice from the omniscient Dame Vaughan, please email the editor or the Vaughan Library, who will pass it onto the Dame's people]

CORRESPONDENCE

Letters to the editor

DEAR SIRs,

As I come to an end of my time here at Harrow as a student, I thought I would share some of my insight from the past 13–14 years. From growing up on the Hill to becoming a boy here, living in boarding houses for around 11 years, and seeing countless things change at the School. I thought it would be a good time to pass on some of my insights into the School and how to make the most out of it. So, here are just a few points, which I consider to be important for Harrow life.

The lyric 'by word or by deed', sung by countless Harrovians, refers to the belief that, no matter what Harrovians accomplish, that we live up to the Giants of Old. However, I would like to offer a different message on this lyric and argue how, in my opinion, it is false. At least for the time when boys are actually at the School. From the experiences I have had, both from being in Druries and living in Bradbys, I have come to realise that words often don't help at this School. The boys that do the best in the School and achieve the most are the ones that never need words to prove their point (apart from in House debating) or fumble around with excuses, but those who prove themselves through their actions. Those who, having made a mistake, fix it and then move onto the next thing.

One of the things about the School that not many people realise is that, due to the nature of the School, someone is always watching. People know when you have done something good or bad. Because the School is a community, once one person knows a fact, almost everyone does (I'm sure you all know how fast news goes around). Therefore, if you have to tell someone that you have done "amazing" things, then probably you have not done very much at all. However, on the other side, there are often people who are slightly quieter, for want of a better word, and who don't blow their own trumpet, and those are the people who don't need introducing and don't need to tell people about their deeds; those people are the ones known already.

Humility is one of our School values and it is a very important one. I believe, and have seen, that those who are humble make the most out of Harrow. They don't dredge up every detail and tell everyone about one thing they did again and again. They do the deed and move onto the next great thing, making the most of every challenge and opportunity presented. This leads me onto my next point.

Harrow is a unique place, in all its aspects, and, reflecting on my time here, I have really thought about all the possibilities the School gives us and just how lucky I am to be here. Everyone at Harrow is extremely lucky to come to a school like this.

Therefore, if you are not busy at Harrow, you are not doing it right. There are countless opportunities at this School and the boys who get furthest and enjoy their time the most are the ones who take every opportunity given and try everything.

One of the easiest ways to find out what you want to do in life is to figure out what you don't want to do and what you don't like. Where better to start this than at Harrow? Many OHs often come back and say that they wished they had done more and made better use of their time here. My advice is to simply not miss out on what is in front of you, as once you leave you won't have the same chances again. So, the next time someone asks you to try something, have a go because you may end up with an amazing new skill and knowledge. The worst that'll happen is that you know you won't want to do it again, and even that is useful. If you don't take the chance, you will only have regret at the end. Know what you have at this School and use it.

My next point may be a bit controversial for some people, depending on their opinion of the School. As the School develops and keeps up with changing times, of course it is taking measures to root out bullying. However, that does not mean there is, or ever should be, a lack of hierarchy in the Houses and the School (in fact it should increase slightly). I remember in Shells, an Upper Sixth boy held back the lower years once, to say that he wasn't happy about people not holding doors open for other people, especially the older years. Now it was a simple thing, but something that went a long way. Simple acts of respect towards older years help the House and the School run a lot more smoothly, especially in a boarding environment. Other things, such as Shells clearing plates at Christmas or polishing people's boots for drill, are vital: it helps the way the School runs and teaches important lessons. One of the many benefits of the hierarchy to the School is that it teaches you that all boys have to "pay their dues", which is the same when you get a job. You won't and can't always start at the top. It takes time and work, and that is one of the things that hierarchy in the School teaches.

This leads me to my final piece of advice, which ties into another of our School values: fellowship. That point is to just be nice to people. It's a simple thing again but it makes everyone's life easier. When you live in a boarding school, everyone has bad days and good days, but you can't go home at the end of the day and relax by yourself like at day schools. So just being nice to each other and not making a fuss over small things can go a long way, especially at the end of a long week, exeat, or term. That doesn't just apply to your friends in the House, but even to those who annoy you, and even your teachers. Teachers, during Friday period 5, don't want to be there any more than you do because they have even more work than you to go home to. So simple acts of kindness and fellowship can go a long way to making a lot of people's lives easier at a busy school like Harrow.

Hopefully, these points can help you during your time at Harrow, make sure that you realise where you are, and help you make the most of it.

Yours sincerely,
RAFE WENDLEKEN-DICKSON, DRURIES 2014³

DEAR SIRs,

Just thought that I should mention an entry in last week's Harrovian. Dated September 7, 2019. A Short Story, entitled *This Time*. Always good to see a short story lurking within the pages of *The Harrovian*.

To begin with, I thought it was just okay, but was very pleasantly surprised to find that it found its stride really quickly and more than that, held the attention, which can be tricky, until

the end. A really fine effort I thought, although I may have now inadvertently initiated the investigative powers of readers in a fruitless attempt to uncover the writer's identity.

Looking forward to more by this (and other writers) as the year progresses.

Yours sincerely,
NEIL PORTER

DEAR SIRs,

In last week's Harrovian (7 September, the first edition of the year), there is a record about the Junior Debating Final, of which I was a member of the winning team. I am written about and my picture is used. However, disappointingly, my name is not Mr Vayl as the article reports. I don't know if the writer was getting his own back and attempt a joke with shallow wit ("Mr Vile") as perhaps he may have been a member of the audience I rebutted during the debate? But considering my picture was in the paper I would have hoped I would have been recognised by someone on the Editorial Board, as I have written to the paper several times before – but most astonishingly, this error was missed by the great editor-in-chief SMK, who has been my beak for several years.

This is rather disgraceful to be honest, and is evidence of some rather shabby efforts that go into editing this paper. After snooping around, I found that the writer (who I will not name) was in fact a sour Remove that went red after attempting to pick holes in Elmfield's flawless debating technique. Clearly *The Harrovian* needs to scrutinise the writers they employ – I have seen only weak-minded, fickle souls not fit for the world of journalism. It is shocking that a mistake of this magnitude was made – I mean, who could ever get *my* name wrong? Surely the first publication of the year should set the tone and make an impression on the new Shells, inspiring them to unleash their undoubted creative prowess. This seems a mountain to climb in a world where a simple write-up of a House Final no less should be chock-a-block with errors. The onus here is clearly on the hopeless writer, which was not helped by the brainless editorial team and overseen by a muppet.

I can only recommend that, from now on, the team keep their heads on straight, and perhaps take back control of the paper, sack their current Master "in Charge" and instead employ me as editor-in-chief to save them from the doldrums that the number of untouched copies of this paper sit in houses leave them in due to the lousy writing that blesses the rest of this issue.

Yours with frustration,
SACHIN VYAS, ELMFIELD

[Don't blame us – we had only returned back to school when this edition had gone to print. We are pointing fingers at the chief editor as well. – Eds.]

[Would you believe... autocorrect? – SMK]

HERE AND THERE

James Rates and George Rates, both *Newlands*, qualified to participate in the British National Swimming Championships in July. James was placed 14th in the Udnr-15 50m freestyle while George earned 24th place in the Under-17 50m butterfly.

Congratulations to the following boys who gained distinction in higher grade music exams at the end of last term: Jonny Kajoba, *Lyon's*, (grade 8 voice); Angus Labrum, *The Head Master's*, (grade 7 trumpet), Graham Lambert, *Lyon's*, (grade 8 trumpet), Harry Lempriere-Johnston, *Druries*, (grade 8 voice), Mark Lindgren, *West Acre*, (grade 8 voice), Theo Nash, *The Grove*, (grade 8 voice).

GAFFE AND GOWN

Quips from Around the Hill

"Now boys, why is the average number in a family so low in Italy?" "Sir, is it because poor people don't have families?"

"Sir, I received an email from you about *Love Island* and I am a bit confused. Is this prep?"

"You are in the top set because you are very gifted." "Thank you, sir. My psychiatrist tells me the exact same thing."

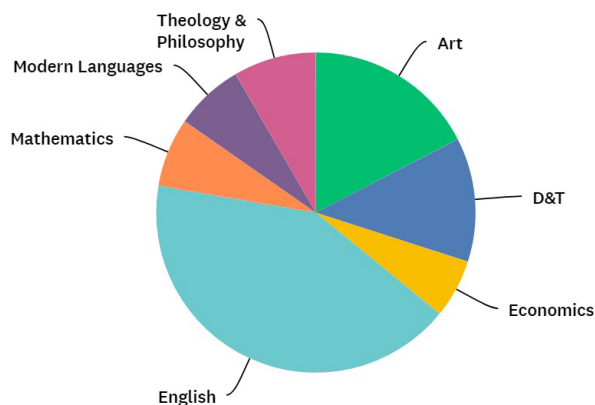
HARROVIAN POLL

Which academic department would win Love Island?

That's right – *The Harrovian* always asks the hard-hitting questions that matter. When we read the careful analysis of the show *Love Island* in such reputable papers as *The Mirror* and *The Metro* – there are a few elements that every viewer expects from the winning couple. First, they need to have a few good stories. Secondly, they can't take it too seriously, and finally – and somewhat contrarily to the second rule of *Love Island* – they need to "keep it real."

If the academic departments went on *Love Island*, what the producers would look for would be desirable, aspirational beaks who have interesting and engaging personalities to keep their viewers glued to the TV and entertained. They need to stand out from the crowd. They must want either love or money. So this brings us to the question: *which* of the Harrow academic departments would win *Love Island*?

With more than half the School voting, the results clearly



make out that our English Department is the Amber and Greg of the Harrow world. The English department, just like Amber, are described as "funny, sassy and kind, they like to include everyone. They like to make friends with everybody. And their three worst traits are that they can be hot-headed, loud and some people don't appreciate that they're quite opinionated."

The Art department are the next closest favourites, as our own Molly-Mae Hague and Tommy Fury. And just like Fury, "they are their own department, and they've said it throughout their whole career. They don't want to be labelled and they're doing the best that they can do in their life and that's all they're setting out to achieve." D&T came in a close third, with the many others trailing far behind, and a few not even noteworthy. (Perhaps that's for the best?)

SUDOKU

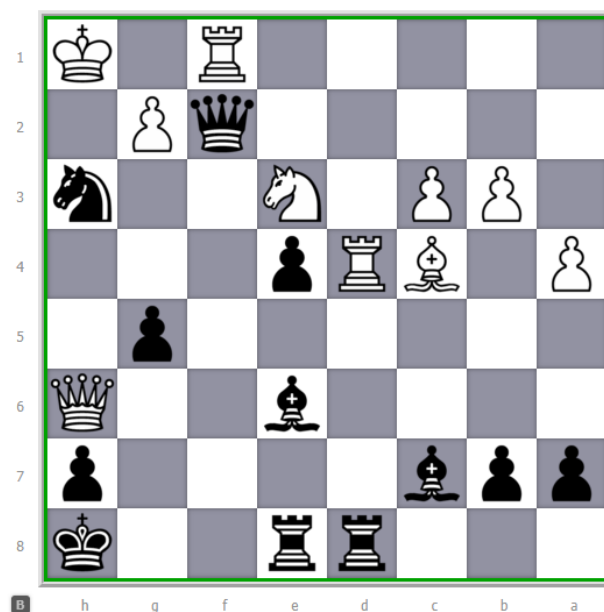
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8		9						1
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1		3			8			
9		5			7	1		3
			1		3			
		1			5			

CHESS PUZZLE

Each week JPBH will set a Chess puzzle as part of the termly competition. Send your answers to JPBH by email. The best solver throughout the term wins a prize!

The first puzzle of the year is below: Black to play and mate in two moves.



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

METROPOLITAN

ARE THE ABRAHAMIC FAITHS REALLY ONE FAMILY?

*Eden Prime, The Head Master's, Independent Schools
RSA Essay Competition*

The Abrahamic faiths are Christianity, Islam and Judaism. 'Abrahamic' are those faiths traditionally held to descend from the biblical patriarch Abraham and his family and therefore consider themselves the descendants of a common ancestor. Abraham, the patriarch of all three religions, is a figure of key importance in all three faiths, particularly because all three faiths believe that God revealed himself to Abraham. The Abrahamic faiths are all monotheistic and share common figures among the religious texts, including Jesus Christ, and prophets including Jacob, Noah and Moses. It is my view that, although the Abrahamic faiths do contain some differences, the fundamentals of the faiths are the same, and thus they can be one family.

Abram/Abraham, in the Jewish scripture, is first mentioned in Genesis 12 in which he answers God's calls, leading to God creating a covenant with Abraham and his family. The God that belonged to Abraham's family was also the "God most high, maker of heaven and earth", perhaps leading to Abraham's belief in one God. An example of Abraham rejecting belief in other Gods is how Abraham smashes his father's idols in Genesis Rabbah 38.13. Abraham's faith in God is shown when he is commanded to sacrifice his only son: Isaac. As Abraham is about to begin the sacrifice, God provides a ram and then reiterates the promises made to him in Genesis 12, including the promise of land in Canaan, descendants and the promise of blessing and redemption. To Christians, Abraham's importance is reflected in that Jesus Christ is a descendant of him, as well as in his status as an exemplar Christian. This is shown in Hebrews 11:8 which highlights how Abraham 'obeyed and went' to a place 'even though he did not know where he was going'. The Islamic tradition sees Abraham, or Ibrahim, as a prophet and a *hannif*: someone who knows that there is only one God. The major difference in the beliefs surrounding Abraham is to do with his son, and how in the Quran it states how Ishmael, not Isaac, was the first born and was asked to be sacrificed by God. Ibrahim's importance is also shown in the Quran as he is the person who built the Kaaba, as it states in Surah 2:127 how he 'raised the foundations of the house'. Overall, Abraham is shown to play a key part in all three faiths, thus indicating how they are one family.

The main similarity between the three Abrahamic faiths is the idea of the monotheism. The Jews concluded that there can only be one God, who created all beings. This belief led to the command known as *Shema*, meaning 'hear', which is recited twice daily by adult Jews: 'Shema Israel: Adonai Eloheynu Adonai ehad', essentially meaning 'The Lord is our God, the Lord is one.' This command underpins the belief in one God. From a Christian point of view, the notion of monotheism can be seen in Mark 12:28-29 when Jesus was questioned on which commandment is the 'first of all'; Jesus answered "'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one'". The Islamic faith emphasises the *Tawhid* of God, meaning his oneness. This belief is demonstrated in the *Shahadah* and is whispered to every newborn: 'There is no God but God, and Muhammad is his messenger'. It is likely that the word 'Allah' essentially means 'the one who is God', further de-valuing any ideas associated with polytheism. Muslims have asserted that Allah should not be translated as 'God', perhaps distinguishing them from the other Abrahamic faiths, and how they may not want

to be a 'family'.

The Christian belief in the Trinity is unique compared to the other Abrahamic faiths and has caused some Muslims to take up the idea that Christianity is polytheistic in nature, and thus not a part of the 'Abrahamic family', which is built upon the idea of monotheism. The Trinity consists of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. These three distinct persons are unique and all God at the same time. The Christian idea of God clearly differs from the Jewish idea, even though the foundations of Christianity is displayed in the Jewish Bible.

Differences in the Abrahamic faiths can also be seen in the beliefs surrounding life after death. In the Jewish scripture, little is mentioned on this topic. The Hebrew word *Sheol* refers to 'the grave' and is presented as a place in which the dead go, whether human or not. Towards the end of the Old Testament, however, it states in Daniel 12:2 that everlasting life will be rewarded to those who have faith in God. Judaism focuses on ways to please God in the current life, condemning those who do so for rewards in the afterlife. Christians believe that by having faith in Jesus Christ, they will be rewarded with eternal life in Heaven. However, there are differences in opinion on whether Christians become righteous through faith alone or through good works. Catholics hold the idea that Christians are justified through good works. The Muslim belief in life after death (*akhirah*) is like that of the Christian understanding, in that those who perform good deeds in life will go to *Jannah* (paradise) and those who perform bad deeds will enter *Jahannam* (hell).

In conclusion, Abrahamic faiths all place similar importance on Abraham, as well as the idea that there is only one true God. There are some differences among the faiths, such as the Christian belief in the Trinity, along with the various understandings of life after death. However, the Abrahamic faiths are one family as all three are united in their shared fundamentals.

TREE HUGGER

Golden Sunshine, a light breeze, the distant chirps of birds: I knew he was coming. Alas, he came, clutching a heavy basket packed full of treats which he always snacked on so gleefully in the grass. He looked up at me but unlike times before, soft water dripped from his eyes and his curling smile was quivering as a frown. This time he didn't even bring out his camera from his pocket and capture me, like he usually did, my favourite part – and his gaze seemed to pierce through me as if he was looking at something that wasn't there. Slowly, he laid down his blanket and basket, and unloaded his food. I closed my eyes and guessed what was in his basket, a game I played whenever he came. 'Cake, sausage rolls, orange juice...and...and, of course, an apple!' I thought. But all that lay in front of him was a sandwich, and his book. I watched him while he ate, the soothing hum he usually whispered as he read was replaced by soulless silence. 'Are you ok?' I asked him, but he looked around warily as if a draft had swept past him. He stayed an hour and left, he usually spent the whole day with me, gazing up at my flowers and leaves or reading his books, but now he trudged down the hill and through the gate, away from me.

The next day it was dark and rainy, thunder and lightning roared and crashed above my head. He wouldn't come. Instead, suddenly, great machines came whirring and spluttering up my hill, with saws and diggers and small angry people within them. I screamed at them to go away but all they felt was an icy wind slicing past their windows. The saws sliced and the diggers gouged, until I was weak and weary. I was at my last whim, when the axe swung high above my branches but before it struck my bleeding bark, he was there. He hugged me, with all his strength, the rain lashing at his trembling face; the axe stopped inches from his back. It was not over yet though.

Now I stand tall, taller than I ever have before. My scars are healing and my trees are growing in full bloom, but he's

not here. The one who planted me – cradled me as a sapling in his warm palms. Watered and fed me, was a friend to me, a friend no squirrel or bird can replace. He once protected me – now I protect him. My long roots reaching into the earth and cradling his eternal bed.

The night he withered was the night he hugged me, passion like a fuel burning within him. For hours, he cradled me, all the while I whispered, “I’m ok, I’m ok”. But he didn’t hear me, he just heard a whirring breeze rushing through my leaves. As the night went on and the storm died, I could sense him getting weaker, like a branch drained of its sap – yet he held on. The machines had retired to the corner of the field, and the angry men had disembarked from them. Staring icily and intently as the little human that clutched me so desperately, they chattered about some plans of a hotel. “So grand, so big,” they said, “so much better than a worthless tree.” The men grew more agitated as the minutes passed, until one of them snapped and, as the sun rose over my hill, my human lay dead on the reddened grass. Death by machine.

I unleashed the elements on these men, great storm clouds, greater than ever before gathered dark and ominous above me and a treacherous, cold wind sliced through the air. Why they ran, I do not know; whether because of my wrath or the crime they had just committed, they fled. All I do know, however, is that it drizzled for a long time, up on my lonely hill.

The next few days were a blur for me, flashing lights of red and blue, and serious men in navy gathering underneath my branches. Then a gathering of people, sad this time, all praying beneath my great canopy.

All I know now is he is here, although my leaves are slowly falling and my days are becoming numbered. My roots prod and scrape at his wooden box, hoping one day to breach it and give him life again. For now, it will continue to drizzle on my lonely hill as my brown leaves pile up high upon his little stone, a stone my roots have long explored. A stone that reads: Arbre.

HEXIT

Had Harrow Voted to Leave

The Harrovians have spoken. We have a mandate to leave the union and stop the subversion of our democracy. Let’s govern here and have our rules decided by our very own Monitors, whom we know and trust, not by someone we didn’t vote for sitting at a desk in Dean’s Yard!

I mean, don’t get me wrong, I love other schools. Eton is wonderful. It should be, because we’ve subsidised it for 40 years. Now, don’t get me wrong, all marriages have ups and downs, but this is a union of economic failure, a union of poor exam results, and a union of low growth. Let’s give the medical centre the £350 million we send each away week.

I’ve always been the outsider: I’ve always been regarded as some extraordinarily dangerous figure: but I’m none of these things. I’m just a middle-class boy from the Cotswolds who likes soccer and happens to have a strong view about a super national government from south-west London. How can you compare my life to any other member of the union? I mean, come on, look at other members – they do five days a week in London and pop home for the weekends! I’m working seven days a week: all the hours God sends. Harrovians are just plainly harder working.

Now look, I judge everyone on the Farage test: would I employ them and would I go out for a drink with them? And for the new Shells, the answer is a definite NO (and not just because that’s illegal). I mean, these Shells are coming in: they’re taking our jobs; they’re taking our entitlements and they’re taking our food; but what do they bring us? Unskilled labour: merely carrying bread and fruit to various Houses from the Shepherd Churchill. These are jobs which should go to

normal, old-fashioned, hardworking Harrovians. A vote to leave is a vote to stop new boys from entering. Did you know that 5 million new Shells will arrive by 2030? I will tell you now and I will tell you again: Hexit means Hexit! We’re going to build a wall around the Hill. And who’s going to pay for it? St Paul’s!

We must regain our sovereignty as a School. It doesn’t matter if the entire east side of the Hill disagrees, they are still Harrovians, are they not? The minority within this School wants to implement surrender legislation that will pass over full control to Barnaby Lenon and his cronies in Queen Anne’s Gate, who want to introduce more examination stress to our School (with implementation of a possible GCSE grade 10.)

My opponents are the people who gave up our borders. Let’s be clear, we’re going to kick anyone out of the Fifth Form who doesn’t agree with our exciting legislative agenda on crime (such as failing to say hello to one another on the High Street), and making sure we have the education funding we need (biscuits for reading periods).

Vote leave and take back control. Believe in Harrow! We want our School back!

SUDDENLY STORY

A group yarn

This story below is not yet finished and, from this week onward, every member of the School is able to contribute to it. The Editors suggest that any boy who is willing can submit a maximum of five sentences as a continuation of what, at any given week, has been told of the story. Please submit your sentences to one of the Harrovian Editors, who will then determine whose sentences are the best. By Christmas, the story will have been written.

The story

A gust of sometime summer air did not shake Little Barrington, but the church remained solemn, still. Within, Christ of beard and hair was looking down from stained glass, and there was chanting; children chanting – from earth-born passions set me free, through darkness and perplexity – muffled through the Norman walls. And across the field was a second figure, reaping that which had been sewn. She moved slowly, yet with purpose.

That’s when she heard the distinct discharge of a Gruukvut hand laser cannon and smelt the acrid whiff of singed hair. She dove over the cemetery wall and hid behind the headstone of a certain Mr Wellington. “How did they find me?”, she wondered as she pulled out her favourite Vunkraks blaster, which was always strapped to her leg. “They’ll never take me alive.”

Send your submissions to one of the Editors below, or to Dr Kennedy, smk@harrowschool.org.uk.

SPORTS

RUGBY

The School v Berkhamsted School, 7 September

1st XV Won 27-20

Down 17-5 at half-time after a disappointing start, the XV showed tremendous courage and resilience to battle back in the second half. Tries from Arundell, *The Knoll*; Leney, *The Knoll*, and Bofe Moses-Taiga, *Druries*, brought Harrow back into the game at 20-20 before a collection of well-worked off-loads allowed Pierce O’Toole, *Druries*, to bundle over for the winning try with three minutes to play and close out a 27-20 victory. 3rd XV v Berkhamsted 2nd XV, Won 33-11

The start of the rugby term at Harrow really is the perfect storm. Within hours of term beginning, an army of 70 boys descend on the Redding pitches. The smell of freshly cut grass is quickly replaced by a mix of sweat and Lynx Africa, and you know that summer is well and truly done. The boys turning up to training fall broadly into two camps: those who are keen to prove that they have honed themselves over the summer into an elite rugby athlete (despite having done little to no exercise since June) and those who are desperate to avoid appearing anything like an athlete so that they can represent the illustrious 5th XV. It's a gargantuan job for the coaches to sift through upwards of 70 boys, decide who goes in what team, and give those teams enough shape and guidance to look half decent on a Saturday. To top it off, there have also been sweeping changes to the 3rd set up; after a near unbeaten season last time round, JDS (Durham University 1st XV, 2017) has been promoted to 2nd XV coach, and was replaced by the far less illustrious MJG (BTEC PE but with Distinction, 2005).

Berkhamsted is a great school to visit for the start of a new season, however, not least because of the fantastic bacon sandwiches served pre-match. Such hospitality is clearly not new. According to the Head Master, in a (very) old emergency policy that laid out protocol in the event the School was destroyed, was a contingency plan in which every boy would be 'given a rucksack and told to walk to Berkhamsted', where the school would then reconvene. The Head Master also remarked that when he asked if the Head at Berkhamsted was aware of this arrangement, he said that they had never heard of it. Sadly, this perhaps sums up Harrow boys' attitude to Berkhamsted fixtures – there may be a short bus ride these days instead of a long hike, but there does seem to be an expectation that we can stroll in, set up shop and win.

The reality could not be further from the truth, and if the 3rd XV were harbouring such illusions they were quickly put to bed, as a snappy Berkhamsted 2nd team took advantage of Harrow's repeated indiscipline at the breakdown and in the defensive line to gain field position and points, easing into a 6-0 lead after just ten minutes. The 3rd XV were stung into action by their own early profligacy, but struggled to find any real rhythm in attack, squandering a number of good try-scoring opportunities in quick succession. The first attack of note came through a line break from Archie Hogben, *Newlands*, who shrugged off Berkhamsted tacklers like an entitled Sixth Former heading for the front of the lunch queue only to see the ball knocked on around the 5m line. A good line break from Zac 'yards' Yardley, *Druries*, also came to nothing, as the 3rds were adjudged to be guilty of an accidental offside within inches of the whitewash. As half-time approached, the team had grown into the game well, making inroads thanks to the hard running of Finlay Jones, *West Acre*, and Herbie Smith, *Newlands*, who reprised their robust midfield partnership from the previous season. It was too little too late, however, as the 3XV headed in to the break six points to the poor.

Having shaken off the summer cobwebs, the 3rds emerged for the second half resolute and clinical. The deadlock was broken quickly, as a fine break and offload from Freddy 'see you later' Slater, *Morteons*, allowed Amaning, *West Acre*, to crash over. Benigni, *Newlands*, added the extras to take the score to 7-6. The 3rds extended their lead soon after with a fantastic team try: a fine wraparound move from the scrum brought Caleb Efemuai, *Newlands*, onto the ball at pace for the first time in the game, taking Harrow up to the ten-metre line. From here, great offloading from Amaning and Foster, *Newlands*, created space in behind, allowing Joshua Oppong-Davies, to ease over the whitewash for a score on his Harrow debut. With the shackles off, a third was quick to follow; more good work from Slater and Efemuai allowed Oppong-Davies to cross for his second score in as many minutes.

It wasn't all plain sailing. Berkhamsted, resilient throughout, soon hit back when a mistake from the kick-off gave them

possession on the 10-metre line. Harrow's defence, flimsier than a promise from Boris Johnson, folded quickly, allowing the home winger to slide over unopposed.

At 21-11, the game was well balanced with 20 minutes to play. It was only a fine snipe from debutant Ben Swan, *Moretons*, that really pushed the game beyond Berkhamsted's reach, with the replacement scrum half jinking from the base of the ruck to elude the flagging guard defender, before cantering past the stretched fullback to score. Benigni added the extras again, and a late rumble over the whitewash from Herbue Smith, *Newlands*, put the cherry on top of an excellent second half performance. There is plenty to work on for the 3rd XV, who will face a sterner test against Warwick next week. Overall however, a very encouraging first outing.

4th XV v Berkhamsted 3rd XV Lost 7-10

Try: Joe Smith, *Bradlys*

Conversion: Ben Walsh, *Rendalls*

5th XV v Haileybury 2nd XV, Won 62-0

Tries: Esam(2), Rugge-Price, York, Ittipakorn,

Brankin-Frisby, Wallace, Pearson(2), Lloyd

Conversions: Wooding(4), Wallace(2)

Colts A Won 41-17

The Colts A side began the term well as they defeated Berkhamsted 41-17 in a fast-paced encounter. The conditions on The Sunley were perfect for running rugby and the Harrow side seemed excited to get back out onto the pitch after a successful and memorable pre-season tour to Japan and Hong Kong. Berkhamsted started the stronger of the two sides and penetrated the Harrow midfield twice to score two early tries. Harrow regrouped and then gradually started to gain the upper hand. The Harrow forward carries penetrated the gain line on regular occasion and this generated plenty of space outside for the backs to make several line breaks. Two effective driving mauls from the Harrow forwards brought them back into the encounter and Archie Chatwin, *West Acre*, and Harvey Douglas, *Elmfield*, kicked well out of hand to move the Harrow side into strong positions to attack from. Iyanu Ademawagun, *Druries*, and Lukas Edstrom, *Bradlys*, carried and defended with admirable physicality and this gave the Harrow backline a wonderful platform to score several more tries. Harrow kept their foot on the pressure pedal in the second half and scored on regular occasion to complete a comfortable victory. The Colts A side travel to Warwick next week and will hope to put in another strong performance.

Colts B Lost 17-26

A tough first game for a relatively new Colts B side. It was a hard-fought match that could have gone either way. Silly mistakes and an unorganised defence are the main areas for improvement.

Colts C Lost 0-53

Junior Colts A Won 31-15

This email came through from Head of Rugby James Melville, *The Knoll*, mid-summer: 'Can you coach the Junior Colts A, the legends who had an unbeaten season, won the country cup and won Rosslyn Park 7s for the first time in Harrow's history?' My excitement rose! Tinged with regret about not coaching with the mastermind Graham Furber, *Elmfield*, who remains the head nurturer, or gardener if you will, of the Harrow Yearlings or seedlings that will grow to become rugby oaks and giants of the future. In his place is summer signing Richard Finch, *The Head Master's*, the new Director of Sport, who was Harrow-blooded in Hong Kong and the former Director of Sport at Oundle. Both Mr Finch and the boys hit the ground running at an excellent

three-day pre-season camp. Victor Grant, *Moretons*, was the highlight of pre-season and smashed every ruck and every man walking and made an excellent debut against Berkhamsted. Waleed Nsouli, *The Knoll*, joined from Jumeirah Dubai, the side Harrow played in the Rosslyn Park 7s Final. After seeing the prowess of the North-West London side, he wanted a piece of the action. He proved himself hungry enough and talented enough to warrant a start in a very competitive squad, and proved the coaches selection by scoring two tries on his debut, earning him man of the match. Kurran Calvert-Davis, *Druries*, also made a tidy debut on the wing.

Berkhamstead were an outstanding opposition. Relentless, aggressive and physical, they competed hard at the breakdown and never gave up despite finding themselves two tries down early on. Cameron Ellis, *Rendalls*, broke through and scored the first try in the corner. He also kicked 3 out of 4 attempts. Tito Edjua, *Lyon's*, tried a new position and scored the pick of the tries, hitting an outstanding line through the middle. Gabriel Black, *West Acre*, and Kit Keey, *Druries*, were both excellent distributors on the day, and Casper Davis, *Elmfield*, demonstrated quick feet at every opportunity.

The front row of Arnaud Du Roy, *Elmfield*; Tiarnan O'Brien, *Bradlys*; Matthew Gaffney, *Bradlys* and Baba Obatoyinbo, *The Knoll*, dominated the scrum and caused chaos at ruck time.

Sam Harrison, *Moretons*, and Emmanuel Olowe, *The Grove*, impressed in a transition to the forwards. Olowe scored an excellent try where he battled to the try line. Although there are many things to work on, it was a reasonable start to the season against a determined opposition.

Junior Colts C v Berkhamsted School Under-15B Won 42-5

Junior Colts D v Berkhamsted School Under-15C Won 31-5

Junior Colts E v Berkhamsted School Under-15D Won 45-15

Yearlings A Won 11-2

A very strong performance from all the boys with some excellent rugby played despite the quick turnaround from the start of term. The match gave an invaluable opportunity to further assess the boy's abilities, it is clear that there is much strength in depth which bodes well for the coming season.

Tries: Abualsaud, *Elmfield*, Brindley, *The Park*, Edstrom, *Bradlys*, Edwards (*Rendalls*), Griffin x 2 (*The Head Master's*), Hope(*Rendalls*), Jang, *The Park*, Olutunbi, *Lyon's*, Tuipulotu x 2, *Druries*,

Yearlings B Won 16-0

Having only just arrived at the School, Harrow boys were thrown into squads resembling A-F teams for this first week of fixtures. Playing three 20-minute thirds gave a great opportunity for squad rotation, with many boys playing out of position for periods of the game. Despite this, the Bs produced some great attacking play. Gus Stanhope, *Moretons*, was at the heart of this. Distributing effectively from fly-half he put many of his teammates into space, allowing boys to show off their pace and footwork against a scrambled defence. Berkhamsted's defence remained resolute, to their credit, as Harrow were forced to continually improve their play.

Yearlings C

Attacking uphill all afternoon, Yearlings C dominated proceedings in their first outing of the season against Berkhamsted. No result was recorded in this development match, but the team's strong performance augurs well for the rest of the term.

Yearlings D

A very strong performance from all of the boys with some excellent rugby played despite the quick turn around from the start of term. The match gave an invaluable opportunity to further assess the boys abilities, it is clear that there is much strength in depth which bodes well for the coming season.

CRICKET

The Goose Match, The School v Harrow Wanderers XI The School 183 for 7 v Wanderers 186 for 9

Harrow Wanderers	R	B
L Harrington-Myers b T Ward	12	23
E Buxton lbw b R Guthe	3	2
C Witter c J Connell b Jafer Chohan	26	37
R Wijeratne b T Ward	0	2
S Wijeratne b T Ward	1	6
D Firoozan b J Chohan	5	19
A Neville c R Guthe b P Patel	18	45
G Reid c W Shankland b P Patel	26	74
R Nelson b P Patel	15	32
C Boland Not Out	36	26
M Ali Not Out	15	16
Extras		29
Total		186-9

Harrow School	O	M	R	W
R Guthe	8	0	36	1
T Ward	11	1	31	3
Jafer Chohan	10	1	22	2
J Connell	8	0	26	0
W Shankland	4	0	15	0
P Patel	9	0	40	3

Harrow School	R	B
J Brankin-Frisby b M Akhtar	1	14
H Wilson b C Boland	56	100
P Patel c C Witter b M Akhtar	8	11
Rishi Wijeratne c S Wijeratne b M Ali	37	48
J Connell b C Boland	19	30
M Ferreira run out (R Wijeratne)	3	5
G Cutler b C Boland	0	1
Jafer Chohan Not Out	29	26
A Chatwin Not Out	13	11
Extras		17
Total		183-7

Harrow Wanderers	O	M	R	W
C Boland	10	1	51	3
M Akhtar	6	3	6	2
G Reid	6	0	35	0
M Ali	10	1	39	1
R Nelson	6	0	28	0
R Wijeratne	3	0	15	0



An excellent game against a strong OH side. Filled with recent leavers and a couple of seasoned pros, the OHs were determined to win. The Wanderers batted first and were met with the XI taking plenty of early wickets, leaving the Wanderers struggling at 60-6. Lusty blows from Charlie Witter (26), Christian Boland (32) and Rob Nelson (26) got the Wanderers up to 185-9 from 50 overs before they declared. Everyone bowled well but it

was Panav Patel, *Elmfield*, and Tom Ward, *West Acre*, who were particularly impressive, picking up three wickets each.

Harrow's response started poorly when Jude Brankin-Frisby, *Newlands*, and Panav Patel were removed with a low total on the board. Rishi Wijeratne, *The Head Master's*, and Henry Wilson, *Elmfield*, built well and put on 61 for the third wicket. Wijeratne batted nicely but was undone by a Musa Ali delivery, being caught by his older brother at first slip. Wilson passed 50 and kept the score ticking over with Johnny Connell, *Rendalls*, before Harrow lost four quick wickets. The Wanderers were very much back in the game and it was left to Jaffer Chohan, *Lyon's*, and Archie Chatwin, *West Acre*, to steady the ship. The pair batted very nicely and took the match deep, putting on 37 for the seventh wicket. Harrow required 11 off the final over to win the match but fell just short and the match ended a draw.

Thanks again to leavers recent and not-so-recent for making the effort and turning this into an excellent occasion. To Rob Nelson and Fred Wooley in particular for their continued support of the OH cricket club to whom the current boys owe so much.

RELIEF EFFORT FOR VICTIMS OF HURRICANE DORIAN

In response to the devastation caused by hurricane Dorian in the Bahamas, as mentioned by Father Nic in Chapel, there will be a School-wide collection conducted in Houses this week to raise funds for the relief effort being conducted by the charity All Hands and Hearts.

<https://www.allhandsandhearts.org/>

Collecting tins will be distributed to Houses and they should then be returned to the Bursary Reception.

There are a number of Old Harrovians living and working in the Bahamas who have sent first-hand accounts of the hurricane, the effects of which have hit the most deprived areas of the islands hardest. Please be generous in your response and work with your friends to consider other ways of raising funds by organising events this week and by encouraging your families to donate.

Ways to contact *The Harrovian*

Articles, opinions and letters are always appreciated.

Email the Master-in-Charge smk@harrowschool.org.uk

Read the latest issues of *The Harrovian* online at harrowschool.org.uk/Harroviaan