

# DAME ALLAN'S Digest

DECEMBER 2018



## A welcome from the Principal

This Christmas edition of the newsletter is, as you will see, full of a variety of academic and extra-curricular activities and achievements across all areas of Dame Allan's Schools.

We were lucky enough to once again host the Relais de la Memoire conference. In my address to the students I asked 'What makes us what we are?' Hopefully you can see from the following pages that, should the question be asked to Dame Allan's as a collective, we are diverse, we are giving, and we are a community.

I've been incredibly impressed by the students' fundraising efforts over the past few weeks. From the Christmas Kindness and Harvest Festival collections for local foodbanks at both the Senior Schools' and Junior School and Nursery to the thousands raised for Children in Need. DASPA held a wonderful Christmas Bazaar again this year, and it was great to see the Dame Allan's family coming together for this. Many thanks to everyone involved and I thank you all for your continued support in our fundraising endeavours.

I'd like to thank the Junior School for ensuring we're in the festive spirit with their performances of the Nativity and The Ugly Duckling. Many thanks to everyone who supported our students in their performances. As the curtain closes on the first term of the 2018-19 academic year, I wish you all a peaceful Christmas and a Happy New Year, and I look forward to working together for another successful year in 2019.



## A Star is Born

The Junior School set the scene for the festive season with yet another year of successful Christmas performances. Children in Nursery and Reception delivered an excellent Christmas Nativity, and Year 1 and 2 wowed us with their performance of The Ugly Duckling. Special thanks to all of the teachers and support staff who make this possible year on year.



# Memories build the future



Once again the students at Dame Allan's Boys' and Girls' Schools are reflecting on a successful weekend hosting students from schools in France, Germany, Poland, and Austria for the Relais de la Mémoire junior conference. In the year that commemorates one hundred years since the end of World War I, the motto of the conference 'La Memoire construit l'Avenir' ('Memory builds the future') is particularly poignant. Dame Allan's Principal Dr John Hind opened the event, in which he posed the question 'What makes us what we are?' and urged the students to embrace the purpose of Relais. He said: "There are people without honour in all countries,

but ventures like Relais show what can be achieved when good people work together and to a common goal." The Lord Mayor of Newcastle Councillor David Down formally welcomed the students and teachers to Newcastle before the keynote speakers, journalist Yvonne Ridley and Professor Martin Pugh, addressed the students and staff. This year the conference focused on the theme of 'Women in Times of War'. In an emotive speech, Ms Ridley talked about her experiences as a woman working in war correspondence and those of the women and children she had encountered throughout her forty-

year career. She said: "Margaret Atwood once said that 'War is what happens when language fails.' Having walked through the killing fields of Iraq, Afghanistan, Libya, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and other conflict zones in the Middle East and Asia, I can tell you that she is right." However, Ms Ridley stressed that even in the face of such atrocities, she still feels optimistic: "You here today can make a change and turn the world into a better place. And you can do it by going on to become politicians, leaders, journalists, writers and opinion formers and changers, educators – people who can and will make a difference, especially the girls in here today".

'Tables rondes' discussions led by guests focused on topics including the work of Médecins Sans Frontières, the life of Anne Frank, and first hand experiences of World War Two and the Rwandan genocide. As is tradition, the conference explored creative and artistic responses to the main themes, with groups producing dance, music, dramatic, artistic and poetic responses to the stimulus material to which they had been exposed.



# Around the world



The start of the 2018-19 academic year has been jam-packed full of trips already.

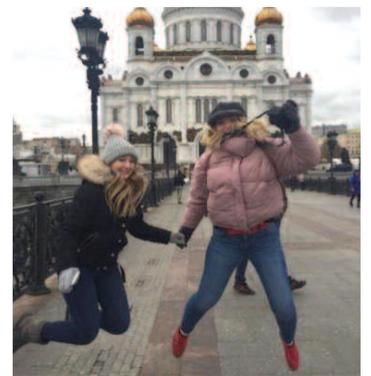
This year was the first time that Dame Allan's ran a school trip to Russia. Year 12 and 13 students visited the Red Square, Lenin's Mausoleum, and the Kremlin in Moscow (Москва) before braving the snow in St Petersburg (Санкт-Петербург) to visit the Winter Palace and the Hermitage as well as taking a trip to see the

Firebird Ballet at the Mariinsky Theatre. The students would like to thank staff for all their support. 22 art students from Year 10 and 11 went on a trip to London earlier this term. Excursions included the White Cube Gallery, National Gallery, and National Portrait Gallery, as well as visiting the Tate Modern and the Turner Prize at Tate Britain. They also had time to see the Lion King musical at Covent Gardens and take a trip

to Harry Potter World. During the October half term, the Year 8 and 9 DABS rugby teams went to Belfast for a rugby tour. As well as games against a series of Northern Irish schools, they got the chance to catch up with Allnian and Ulster fly-half Johnny McPhillips. Sightseeing included the Giant's Causeway, the Titanic Museum, the Peace Line, and the Carrick-a-Rede Rope Bridge.

## OLED

We are set for another record-breaking year. A huge congratulations to the 91 students that have signed up and are currently working hard on the independent study section of their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award. It is fabulous to see so many enthusiastic and proactive young people putting themselves forward for extra-curricular activities. We hope you all thoroughly enjoy taking part in the award; Mrs Cookson is very much looking forward to starting expedition training in the New Year.



## Check mate



Well done to the U11 chess team for their fantastic performance at the English Chess Federation Primary Schools' Regional Qualifier. The team played very well and

improved as the tournament went on. Two players - one just 7 years old - managed to take points from some very advanced competitors.



## Chef mate

The Junior School have continued to enjoy fantastic workshops this half-term. Year 3 enjoyed a tasty treat with a Healthy Eating cooking workshop,

and Year 1 had a great day with That History Guy learning about toys and household objects from the past - some were over a hundred years old!



## Debate...

Congratulations to Libby and Emily, who won the first round of the regional ESU Schools' Mace. Here they are in the Jenifer Cole Room running through their notes, which just goes to show practice makes perfect!

# Senior Sports round-up

## Basketball

Huge congratulations to the U14 Basketball team who cruised to victory after winning all three of their games in the group stage of the Tyneside Schools Basketball Tournament. This puts them through to the final which will be held after Christmas.

## Sports Hall Athletics

We attended the first round of the 2018 Sports Hall Athletics competition with teams of Year 7 and 8 DABS and DAGS. The Year 7 DAGS won 1st place with a very high score, the Year 7 boys placed 2nd and both Year 8 teams placed a very commendable 3rd. An excellent result all round, and both of our Year 7 teams are through to the Tyne and Wear finals in January 2019.

## Netball

Well done to the U14, U16 and U19 team who all competed in the National Schools Netball on Saturday 10th November. The girls came up against tough opposition, but showed resilience and determination throughout. They had some great wins, played excellent netball and

demonstrated key teamwork skills.

The U14 and U16 teams both came 3rd overall and the U19 4th. Well done girls!

## Hockey

Well done to the U12 hockey teams, who won the A and B sections of the TWSSA U12 hockey tournament in November.

## Squash

Year 13 Max won Gold in the Under 19 Silver Squash Event in Pontefract.

Year 4 Sophie represented her county in Manchester at the Under 11's. She won both her matches and the U11 team beat Yorkshire and Lincolnshire to go through to the Finals in Nottingham in February.

Well done to the following students who also represented their county at different age levels: Tom, Annabelle, Sam, Beth, Jess and Sian.

## Special congratulations

Year 11 Saffron won the Elite section of the School Games Trampoline Finals.

Year 12 Robbie qualified for the Scottish National Short Course Swimming Championships.



# Junior Sports round-up

This term has seen the return of the after school club jersey award and the Player of the Week trophy. We have also introduced the Green Lace Award. This is given out to a member of the team that has displayed the true values of sport; sportsmanship, enjoyment, teamwork, discipline and respect. If you see a green lace, please ask them why they have received it! The Junior School have taken

part in three HMC competitions in the autumn term. Both teams competed well at the HMC Rugby, learning to contest the ball and develop their 'go forward' techniques. The HMC Hockey was a success as we competed with all teams in defence using strong tackles and then worked on our understanding of moving the ball forward into space. The HMC Cross Country at

Barlborough Hall School was a new event in the cross country calendar for us. The children took part in a fantastic race around the grounds of the school and uphill along the famous school drive.

Every single runner performed at their best for their teams, and we took first place in the Boys U10 race and 3rd place in the Girls U11 race. We are Team DAS!



## Rowing

Students were invited to partake in a six week Learn to Row course, exclusive to Dame Allan's students, at Tyne United Rowing Club. Students in Year 7 and 8 attended the rowing club every

Friday after school, they initially learned to row using indoor rowing machines and in the 'tank' at the rowing club (TURC being one of the few clubs in the country to have a rowing tank on site),

they then progressed to rowing on the river Tyne in both a quad and a double. The course will be running three times per year and is open to all students.

# Lights, camera, action!



## Code Club

Students in Year 7 and 8 meet every Thursday after school and learn to program using the programming language Python. They have also been programming Lego 'Mindstorm' robots as well as programming using the BBC Microbit. This term, the students made a 'frustration' game – also known as

'The Steady-Hand Game' – in which they programmed the Microbit so that if the player touched the wire accidentally this added one to their 'fail counter'. After Christmas they will be using Scratch to navigate programmable drones, kindly purchased by DASPA.

Well done to the A Level and GCSE drama students who staged their devised drama exam pieces this half-term. These pieces were created entirely by the students, based upon a set of stimuli for DAGS and a separate set for DABS. All eight groups responded very well, resulting in a huge range of work from a piece looking at the allegations about Harvey Weinstein to the 1962 Cuban missile crisis. Not only did the students have to create the piece themselves, they also had to research their chosen topic and relevant practitioners;

write a script; and decide on costume, set, lighting, sound, and props. Along with 22 talented young actors, we also had one costume designer and one sound designer, whose creative designs were an integral and valuable part of the pieces.

Mrs Clarke was extremely proud of how all our students conducted themselves throughout the whole process, showing great maturity in dealing with some very sensitive issues, and working extremely hard to produce engaging and diverse work.



## Important notice

School Blazer are having a sale from 27 December until 11 January. There will be up to 1/3 off selected lines

including uniform and Squadkit sportswear. Please note, this is online only whilst stocks last.

## She's behind you!

Year 13 Georgia White will be performing the title role in 'Cinderella' at The Peoples Theatre's Christmas Panto. She will be joining former pupil Nick

Warneford, who is playing Prince Charming. The two starred together in our school production of 'Little Shop of Horrors' just over 2 years ago.



## Governors' Message

As Christmas fast approaches, Dame Allan's governors would like to send their good wishes to all in the Schools community for a happy and peaceful time over Christmas and the New Year.

*Mr B W Adcock, Governors' Chairman.*

# Allanian Dates

## The Allanian Society's Founders Day Lunch

Friday 15 February 2019, Northern Counties Club, 12.30pm.

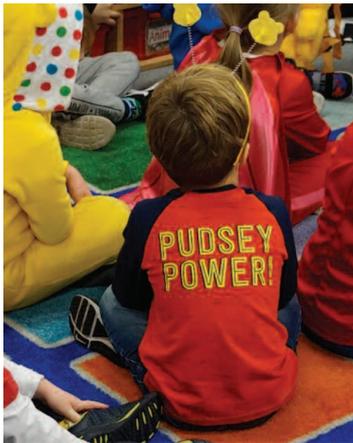
## The Allanian Society's Annual Dinner

We invite alumni to attend the

Dinner on Saturday 30 March 2019. This year the event will celebrate 30 years of a co-educational Sixth Form at Dame Allan's Schools. The dinner will be held in Newsom Hall at the Senior Schools site. More details to

follow in the New Year. If you would like more information about any of the above or would like to find out more about arranging a reunion, please contact the Development Office at the Schools.

## Pudsey Power



In November, we raised a grand total of £1803 for this year's Children In Need.

It was a fun and colourful day at the Junior School with some fantastic Children in Need costumes for Non-Uniform Day. The whole school got involved in a Bring and Buy Sale and tried to guess the weight of the Pudsey cake; and Early Years had a great time with a Pudsey Colouring Competition and Children in Need sing and dance-a-thon.

At the Senior Schools, tensions ran high with a competitive Girls' vs Boys' hockey match in aid of the fundraising. In a

closely fought match, the Boys team triumphed over the Girls team overall with a 3-1 win.

Other fundraising efforts this term include the Sixth Form 'Wear It Pink' campaign which raised £213 for the 'Breast Cancer Now' charity and 'Wear Yellow Day' for World Mental Health Day organised by Year 9 DAGS which raised £145.15.

The DASPA Vintage Fashion Show raised over £500 for the Children's Liver Disease Foundation and the Christmas Fair raised over £3,500 for school resources.

A very successful start to our fundraising efforts for 2018-19!

## Safeguarding at Dame Allan's

Dark nights and poor weather lead to many more accidents involving pedestrians. Children and young people are particularly vulnerable as they can lack the perception needed to judge traffic speed and distance. Please take the time to discuss this important issue at home.

Pupils should always make sure that they cross roads at designated crossings or in the safest alternative place. Reflective clothing or tags added to backpacks and coats are helpful. Pupils should not wear headphones when crossing roads and must give the act of crossing their full attention at all times.

## Looking to the future...

### Saturday 15 December

Richard Holmes Memorial Match at Dame Allan's, Fenham, 11:00am

### Monday 7 January

Staff Training Day

### Tuesday 8 January

School resumes

### Saturday 12 January

DABS Entrance Exam, 9:00am

### Tuesday 15 January

Life in the Middle School, 6:30pm

### Friday 18 January

Jazz Evening, 7:00pm Newsom Hall

### Monday 21 - Friday 25 January

Year 11 Trial Exams

### Saturday 26 January

DAGS Entrance Exam, 9:00am

### Thursday 31 January

Year 11 DAGS Parents' Evening, 4:00pm

### Friday 1 February

Year 7 Rugby Tour to Scotland

### Saturday 2 February

Dance Show, 7:30pm Dance City

### Sunday 3 February

Dance Show, 2:00pm Dance City

### Monday 4 - Tuesday 5 February

Year 12 Trial Exams

### Friday 8 February

Music Recital, 1:00pm Lumsden Music Centre

### Monday 11 February

Year 9 DTP and MENACWY vaccinations

### Wednesday 13 February

Year 12 Parents' Evening

### Thursday 14 February

Half-term begins for Nursery to Year 5

### Friday 15 February

Founder's Day Service Year 6 and Senior Schools, 10am St Nicholas' Cathedral; half-term begins after service

### Friday 15 February

Allanian Society Lunch

### Saturday 16 - Saturday 23 February

Ski Trip to Salzburg Sportwelt

### Monday 18 - Friday 22 February

Half term holiday



**DAME ALLAN'S SCHOOLS**  
building the future

t: 0191 275 1500 e: news@dameallans.co.uk www.dameallans.co.uk  

## DASPA Junior

As the festive season approaches, DASPA J continues to contribute to the vibrant Christmas celebrations at Dame Allan's Junior School. So far, we have organised the Christmas Bauble competition with great success and all of the entries are in pride of place on the school's Christmas tree. We have also raised funds for DASPA J with our Christmas card and calendar ventures and a big thank you to Mrs Needham for all of her work in this enterprise. DASPA J also gives all of the children a treat at their theatre visits.

We are currently getting ready for the Year 5 Christmas party at the end of term, many thanks to Mrs Needham, Mr Horton, Mr Thompson and Mr Hopper who ensure these events can happen.

DASPA J would like to thank everyone for their support in 2018 Happy Christmas and we wish the best for 2019.

## DASPA

As the calendar year draws to a close, we look back at what was a record-breaking year for DASPA fundraising. The recent Christmas Fair was an enjoyable early start to the festive season and raised £3,547. This is added to £11,320 raised through our biennial Spring Ball earlier in the year – a great event and phenomenally successful!

Two additional events found a place in the DASPA calendar this year, the Ceilidh and the Vintage Fashion Show. Just another way our organisation brings both the Junior and Senior Schools together as a community.

This year's fundraising efforts have enabled us to support a variety of departments in the school including refurbishment of the drama studio; a set of Timpani for the music department; two trophy cabinets to proudly display the achievements of our students; two HD trail cameras for the biology department; and two tablets for the geography department.

Please don't forget that you too can contribute and support our school via [www.giveasyoulive.com](http://www.giveasyoulive.com).

We would like to thank you all for the continuous support and wish you and your loved ones a healthy and peaceful festive season!