



HORRIS HILL
FOUNDED 1888

Horris Hill

2018/19



Where boys thrive

www.horrishill.com



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From the Headmaster's Study



It would be an impossible task for one person to list all the successes that the boys have achieved over the past academic year, so I am delighted to present the latest school magazine, to which so many have contributed in order to capture what has been a great year for the school.

Of course, those same colleagues are the ones who have worked tirelessly to teach, coach, challenge and support your sons, whose smiles beam out from these pages as they do, mostly, when I see them each morning.

As ever, academic results have been excellent and once again all our Leavers passed to their target schools: entry to these schools is ever more competitive and our results in Scholarship, Common Entrance and Winchester Entrance papers are outstanding. As well as an Academic Exhibition to Winchester, one boy was

awarded a Music Exhibition and three earned Sports Scholarships. Horris Hill has always encouraged boys to develop all aspects of their potential and I am delighted that the Sport is at a high level here, as well as our traditional strengths in the classroom and in the Music school. Having ex-England player Nick Compton coaching the 1st XI cricketers this season was an added boost!

I am delighted to announce that the fundraising target for a new theatre has been reached and that work has now started in its construction. By Summer

2020, Horris Hill boys, and, we very much hope, members of the local community, will be on stage in a state-of-the-art resource for this fundamental area of education.

The other big development is that in September we welcomed new boys into the Lower School for boys aged 4-8. Mrs U, our Lead Teacher for the Lower School has a real passion for creative teaching styles and firmly believes that magic, awe and wonder in the curriculum is a must. Harriet Uwalaka joins us from Cheam School where she has worked as the Head

of Early Years, prior to that she taught at Upton House in Windsor.

We believe that the period from 4 - 13 years of age are the most critical in any boy's life. Horris Hill is a very special place to be. Nestled in its own 85-acre estate with outstanding facilities; boys can exercise their intellectual inquisitiveness, free to explore all avenues, building self-confidence and awareness in a safe and encouraging environment. I hope that you will enjoy looking through the magazine and that it will stay long in the family archive; my thanks to Lisa Lee-Smith for doing such

an excellent job as magazine publisher. As you read this, we shall already have embarked on the next exciting chapter of the school's history and another action packed year for the boys.

Giles Tollit, Headmaster



Leavers 2019 and Senior School Destinations

Abingdon

Gumbrell, Troy

Bradfield

Woods, Charlie

Bryanston

Spies, Ludwig

Charterhouse

Bensoussan, Emeric (Music Exhibition)

Huang, Tony

Tertychnyy, Nikita

Cheltenham

Moore, Freddie (Sports Scholarship)

Clifton

Cavaghan, George

Eton

Downie, Rory

Kan, Zhenfeng

Knight, Hugo

Tollit, Hugo

Gordon's

Scannell, Max

Harrow

Edu, Charles (Sports Scholarship)

Marlborough

Cowling, Freddie

Nicholson, Christopher

Oundle

Narfeldt, Adam

Van Neerven, Nathan

Radley

Cartwright, Oliver

Watson, Rufus

White, Hugo

Sherborne

Revell, Oscar

Ricketts, Charlie

Ricketts, Ralph

Talbot-Williams, Barnaby (Sports Scholarship)

Van Koetsveld, Marcus

SWIS China

Jin, Nicholas

Winchester

Gladston, William

Howard, Matthew

Popo, Samuel

Vere-Whiting, Harvey (Academic Exhibition)

Williamson-Jones, Hugh

Xu, Harry



Head Boy and Termly Prize Winners

AUTUMN TERM 2018

Head Boy:

Rory Downie

Monitors:

Oliver Cartwright
Freddie Cowling
William Gladston
Hugo Knight
Barnaby Talbot-Williams
Hugo Tollit
Hugo White

SPRING TERM 2019

Head Boy:

Oliver Cartwright

Monitors:

Freddie Cowling
Rory Downie
Hugo Knight
Freddie Moore
Oscar Revell
Barnaby Talbot-Williams
Hugo Tollit

SUMMER TERM 2019

Head Boy:

Hugo Knight

Monitors:

Oliver Cartwright
Rory Downie
William Gladston
Max Scannell
Barnaby Talbot-Williams
Hugo Tollit
Marcus Van Koetsveld

Academic prizes 2018-2019

Academic prizes are awarded at the end of each term. The Form Prize is awarded to the boy with the best combined Orders and Exam results. Special Prizes are awarded for a number of reasons such as strong academic performance, improvement, or for simply being a really good egg.

Autumn Term 2018

FORM PRIZES

Form 1a Hugo Tollit
Form 1b Daniel Yu
Form 2a Tony Huang
Form 2b Christopher Nicholson
Form 3a Nick Wang
Form 3b Alexander Buckley Fairey
Form 4 Xerxes Gulabani
Form 5 Tony Jiang
Form 6 Abubakir Aben
Form 7 Edward Lee

SPECIAL PRIZES

Form 1a Rory Downie
Form 1b Hugo White
Form 2a Emeric Bensoussan
Form 2b Charlie Woods
Form 3a Marcus Scales
Form 3b Miguel Azpiazu
Form 4 Digby Tollit
Form 5 Toby McCorquodale Cruise
Form 6 Beltran Menendez
Form 7 Bertie Corbett

Spring Term 2019

FORM PRIZES

Form 1a Hugo Tollit
Form 1b Daniel Yu
Form 2a Kostia Riabyi
Form 2b Christopher Nicholson
Form 3a Koyin Majekodunmi
Form 3b Alexander Buckley Fairey
Form 4 Kevin Lee
Form 5 Toby McCorquodale Cruise
Form 6 Abubakir Aben
Form 7 James Lee

SPECIAL PRIZES

Form 1a Hugh Williamson-Jones
Form 1b William Gladston
Form 2a Ralph Ricketts
Form 3a Charles Chu
Form 3b Barnaby Titmus Mather
Form 4 Benjamin Brady
Form 4 Luka Nishimura
Form 5 Miguel Caso
Form 6 Fabian Reis
Form 7 Alexander Meager

Summer Term 2019

FORM AND EXAMINATION PRIZES

Form 1a Exhibition Prize, Harvey Vere-Whiting
Form 1a Prize for examination success, Hugo Tollit
Form 2a Prize for examination success, Tony Huang
Form 2b Prize for examination success, Charles Edu
Form 1b Daniel Yu
Form 3a Oscar Wang
Form 3a Charles Chu
Form 3b Alexander Buckley Fairey
Form 3b Barnaby Titmus Mather
Form 4 Kevin Lee
Form 5 Aeneas Sexton
Form 6B Bertie Corbett
Form 6A Eugen Spies von Buellesheim
Form 7 Chenchen Guo

SPECIAL PRIZES

Form 1a Matthew Howard
Form 2a Troy Gumbrell
Form 1b Sam Shi
Form 3a Rodrigo Almazan Tena
Form 3b Miguel Azpiazu
Form 4 Arthur Yang
Form 5 Jaime Zamacola
Form 6B William Griffin
Form 6A Beltran Menendez
Form 7 Jack St Aubyn

MUSIC PRIZES

For special contributions to Music throughout the school year:

Emeric Bensoussan
Oscar Wang
Kevin Lee
Edward Lee

For achieving the highest marks in graded music exams in the academic year:

Kevin Lee ABRSM and ABRSM Music Theory
Grade 5 Double Bass
and Grade 5 Music Theory
William Griffin Trinity Classical
Grade 1 Trombone
Tony Jiang Trinity Rock and Pop
Grade 7 Drums

DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY PRIZES

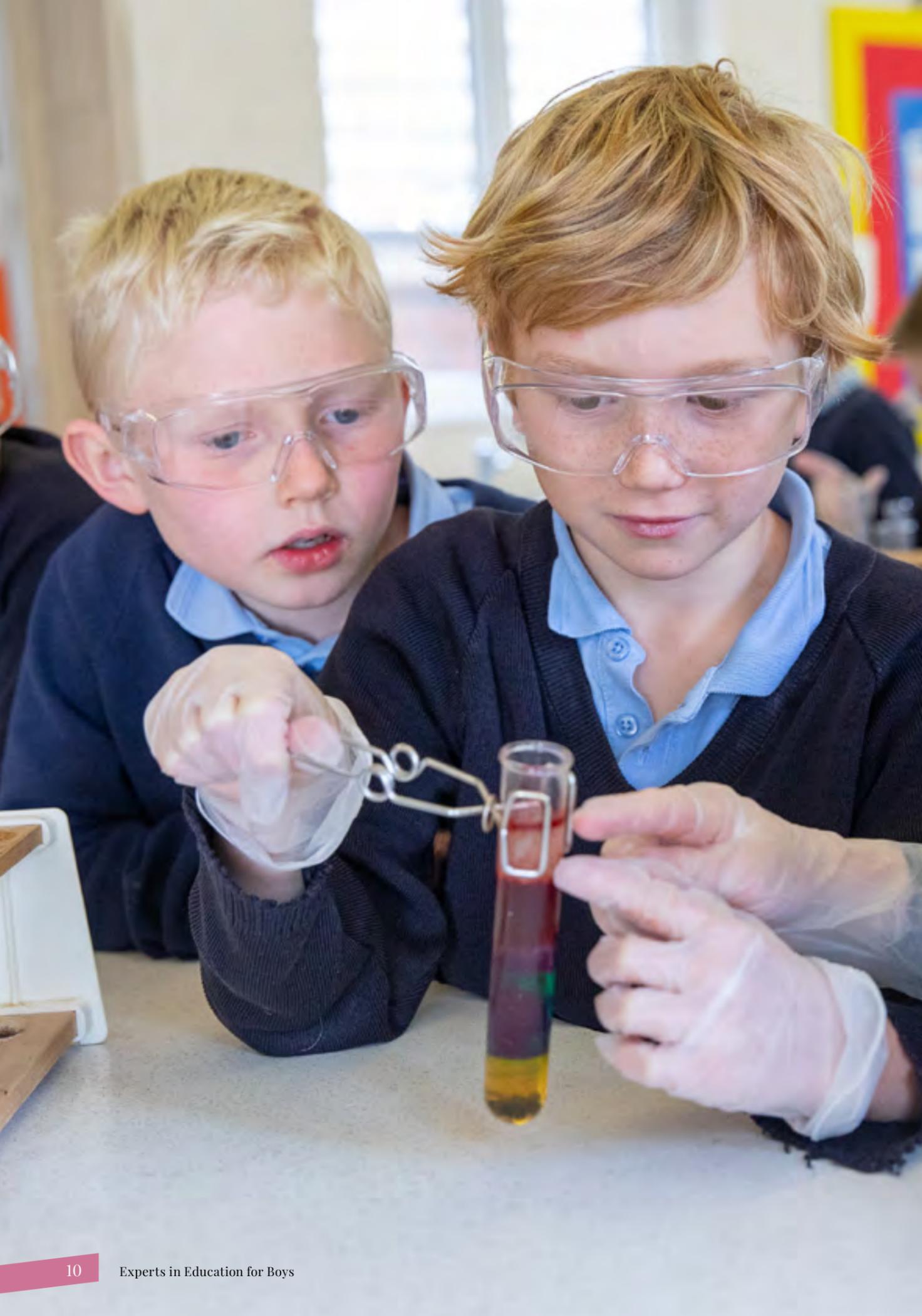
Ludwig Spies von Buellesheim
Toby McCorquodale Cruise
The Junior D&T prize went to Edward Yates.

CITIZENSHIP PRIZES

Citizenship Prizes are awarded to boys who, in the consideration of all the Staff, have made the greatest contribution to school life. This year we awarded prizes to Oliver Cartwright and Eugen Spies von Buellesheim.

DALRYMPLE TROPHY

The trophy and prize were donated by the Dalrymple family, who for many years had boys at Horris Hill School, for excellence in the Arts and Humanities. The prize was awarded jointly to Oliver Cartwright and Hugo Knight.



General Knowledge

MCS Prep Schools' GK Quiz October 2018 SATIPS Quiz

"Will it be easy? Nope. Worth it? Absolutely!"

Excitable cries of "we won, we won, we won" heralded the return of the Year Six quiz team. Questions covered a wide range of subjects – Geography, History & Politics, Science & Nature, both 'High' and 'Popular' Culture and General Knowledge. An early lead saw them in first place only to drop to second equal before rising to first equal and finally finishing first by 2 points. A very enjoyable, nail biting competition that saw them beat off teams from much larger prep schools.

Congratulations to our champions: Arthur, William, James, Xerxes and Ben.

Thank you to Magdalen College School for hosting and organising this event: the boys would particularly like to thank them for half time refreshments of pizza and Ben and Jerry's ice cream.

All boys in years 5 and above answered 100 general knowledge questions along with a few thousand others from independent schools around the UK. Prize winners from Horris Hill were Hugo Knight and Arthur Woods.

Junior Challenge Quiz

Think of University Challenge and you have the format for this competition. Our team of four (Oliver Cartwright, Hugo Knight, Max Scannell and Harvey Vere-Whiting) won their first round before being knocked out in style.

Mr Duncan Wood, Master in Charge of General Knowledge

Maths Challenges 2018-19



Boys at Horris Hill are going from strength to strength in the various maths challenges run by the United Kingdom Mathematics Trust and the Mathematical Association. Besides being fun and stimulating, these challenges are the best way for the boys to show that they can use and apply their growing mathematical knowledge. Some boys struggle with them at first, but that is all the more satisfying when they finally crack them.

Primary Mathematics Challenge

All boys in Years 5 and 6 take the PMC. Gold certificates were awarded to Xerxes Gulabani, Tony Jiang and Daniel Yates.

Senior Mathematical Challenge

I have never entered boys for the SMC before, as it is aimed at senior school pupils up to 18 years old. It is a sign of the talent that we have at Horris Hill that not only did we enter, but Zhenfeng Kan achieved a bronze certificate, Sam Shi a silver, Hugo Tollit and Daniel Yu golds, along with qualification for the follow-on Senior Kangaroo.

Senior Kangaroo

Daniel Yu went one step further in achieving an outstanding Merit certificate, for finishing in the top 25% of this very rarefied field.

Primary Mathematics Challenge – Bonus Round

Daniel Yates and Tony Jiang qualified for the Bonus Round, with Tony winning a silver award.

Intermediate Mathematical Challenge

The IMC is aimed at senior school pupils up to 16 years old. However, many prep schools take part, as success in the IMC is a great stepping stone to scholarship success. This year bronze certificates were achieved by William Gladston, Matthew Howard, Samuel Popo, Barnaby Talbot-Williams,

Nick Wang and Hugh Williamson-Jones; silvers were won by Zhenfeng Kan, Kostia Riabyi, Harvey Vere-Whiting and Harry Xu. Gold certificates and qualification for either the Intermediate Kangaroo or the Cayley Olympiad were won by Hugo Knight, Sam Shi, Hugo Tollit and Daniel Yu.

Intermediate (Grey) Kangaroo and Mathematical Olympiad (Cayley)

Hugo Knight performed well in the Kangaroo. In the Olympiad all the boys did outstandingly well, with Sam Shi and Daniel Yu earning Merit certificates, and Hugo Tollit a Distinction.

Team Maths Challenge – Regional Final (Reading)

The Team Maths Challenge is an extraordinary competition. Around 2000 schools enter teams of 4 pupils from up to Year 9. We entered the Regional Final at Highdown School, Reading, with a Horris Hill team of Zhenfeng Kan, Hugo Tollit, Sam Shi and Daniel Yu, along with a combined Horris Hill/ Marlborough College team including Hugh Williamson-Jones and Harry Xu. Both teams did tremendously well, and after a bit of a mishap over marking, which knocked the boys off their stride in the final two rounds, the Horris Hill team finished second and the joint team with Marlborough 5th. Usually only one team from each regional final qualifies for the national final, in London, but as we had one of the highest second place scores in the country, we qualified.



Junior Mathematical Challenge

The JMC is aimed at pupils up to 13 years old. This year's haul of gold certificates was the best in recent years, perhaps the best ever: William Gladston, Xerxes Gulabani, Matthew Howard, Tony Jiang, Samuel Popo, Kostia Riabyi, Barnaby Talbot-Williams, Harvey Vere-Whiting, Nick Wang, Hugh Williamson-Jones, Harry Xu and Daniew Yu, who scored an unprecedented (in my career) 135 out of 135 marks. The best JMC performers qualify for either the Junior Kangaroo or the even more prestigious Junior Olympiad.

Team Maths Challenge – National Final (London)

88 of the best maths teams from around the country assembled at the Linley Hall in Westminster to compete for the TMC National Final in May. We were one of only two purely prep school teams taking part, almost all the other teams having older Year 9 pupils. The boys performed superbly, including a near perfect completion of the devilishly difficult Cross-number round, just needing to answer more questions more quickly in the final Relay round. Overall we finished an excellent 20th.

Junior Kangaroo

From our 8 entries, Nick Wang, Matthew Howard and Hugh Williamson-Jones won Merit certificates, for placing in the top 25% of this already advanced field.

Junior Olympiad

The Junior Olympiad is a serious test, two hours of concentration, full written answers and the toughest marking imaginable. Harvey Vere-Whiting did exceptionally well to qualify for the Olympiad. Each year the UKMT awards just 30 gold medals to the very best performers nationally, from the 300 000 original JMC entrants, and we were honoured to win 3 of those 30 gold medals: Sam Shi, Daniel Yu, and the climax of an outstanding prep school maths career, Hugo Tollit.

Mr Peter Boyle, Deputy Head Academic and Head of Maths





Creative Writing



Strange Song

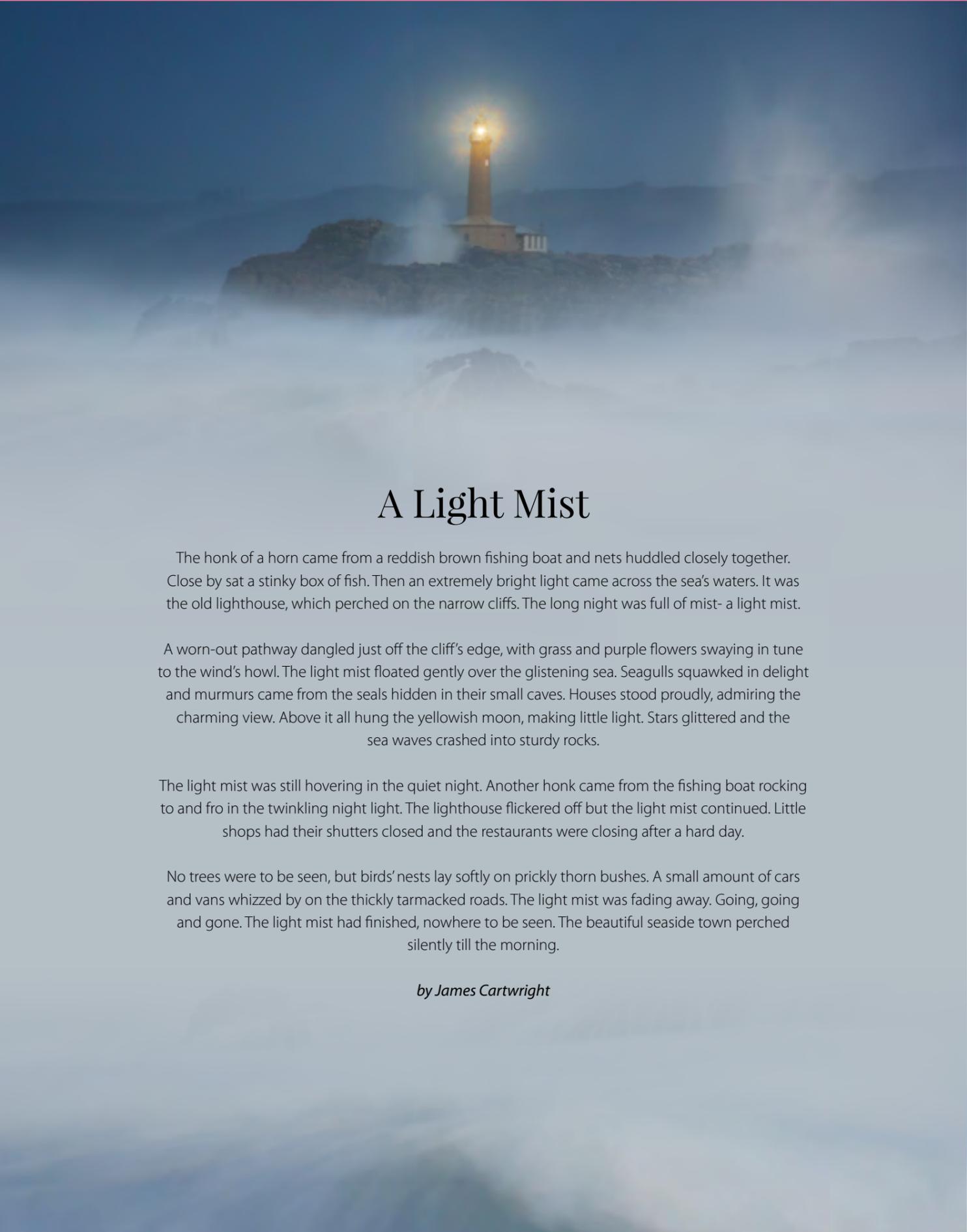
I woke with a start. I recalled last night's events. What a strange night it had been. A small girl flying across the sea with metre-long wings. And her albatross friends, calling to me with their strange song. I decided it for myself. I would go back there today to see her.

I ran along the beaches of Normandy, not quite realising what had happened there, 75 years ago. I called out to the open sea, so calm and solitary that I felt like there was no-one out there, except me. The smell of poppy mixed with the gentle sea breeze put me in some sort of heaven. And at last, there they were, the albatrosses, and the lone girl. She rose high above the cloudless sky casting a sad, long shadow beside me.

She swooped down, and dropped into the lapping waves, quiet as a mouse. Her dress was made of poppy flowers and her face portrayed a pure beauty and sadness. She walked up to me, her long golden hair blowing behind her. The happiness that I thought I saw in her sky blue eyes was gone, and was replaced with the sense of mourning and sadness. She spoke to me in a voice that sounded like the wind, long and quiet, but it filled me with a bleakness that I had never felt before.

"I am the angel of sadness," she said. "I have seen the destruction of humans, and what it could cause. The death of innocent men is what happened here." And she took my hand, and I found myself on the same beach, except there were men with guns, firing at others. Explosions shook the ground and I saw one handsome young man crying over a dead companion. He looked at me, and in his eyes I saw a glimmer of hope.

by William Milroy-Goulding



A Light Mist

The honk of a horn came from a reddish brown fishing boat and nets huddled closely together. Close by sat a stinky box of fish. Then an extremely bright light came across the sea's waters. It was the old lighthouse, which perched on the narrow cliffs. The long night was full of mist- a light mist.

A worn-out pathway dangled just off the cliff's edge, with grass and purple flowers swaying in tune to the wind's howl. The light mist floated gently over the glistening sea. Seagulls squawked in delight and murmurs came from the seals hidden in their small caves. Houses stood proudly, admiring the charming view. Above it all hung the yellowish moon, making little light. Stars glittered and the sea waves crashed into sturdy rocks.

The light mist was still hovering in the quiet night. Another honk came from the fishing boat rocking to and fro in the twinkling night light. The lighthouse flickered off but the light mist continued. Little shops had their shutters closed and the restaurants were closing after a hard day.

No trees were to be seen, but birds' nests lay softly on prickly thorn bushes. A small amount of cars and vans whizzed by on the thickly tarmacked roads. The light mist was fading away. Going, going and gone. The light mist had finished, nowhere to be seen. The beautiful seaside town perched silently till the morning.

by James Cartwright

Isiah

Our father was an ancient river god. We, his fish, speared by his glance, gutted 'til our mangled hearts bled, steeped in his ale-soused breath. Our mother, a river nymph, soothed the torrent to keep us afloat in our fragile paper boats.

He turned younger through the years, through our unmooring, softer and dryer, until we aged past him.

We fidget, watch his body drift, forget its strength, his eyes losing themselves in quilt patterns. We cast our old answering-back voices about over his head. Pinch his fingers, hard. Trying to bait the fierceness we were once so afraid of.

My older brother (one of many) was called Isiah he swum in his father's footsteps. He desired power. He would never stop talking about his heritage and when father passed away he was only partly sad. Our brother calls to us he wants us.

His hand with a knife, his arm around mother. "Isiah what are you doing, what do you want"! I say "I want your inheritance". He responded. And with this mother spun around, stabbing Isiah in the gut. The world stopped in slow motion I saw Isiah's body fall to the ground. Mother dropped the knife in shock, her hand over her mouth and a thick transparent tear slowly trickling down her cheek.

by Marcus Scales



The Storm

The waves were splashing up the side of the ship. It was tilting left and right, it felt like it was about to capsize at any moment. I was nervous about how we were going to get to safety. No sight of anyone or anything.

I shouted "Help! Please!" The storm was getting worse and the ship was ruined. The side was scratched by wood and the ship was flooded, it was slowly sinking. We were all terrified. Everything was unpredicted and everyone on the ship was confused.

I was getting chucked around on the deck by the huge storm. It was powerful and the waves, made the ship tip and turn like a rollercoaster. The ship was gradually sinking and turning diagonally. This was not what we expected from sailing on a normal day.

The current kept pushing us farther away from the land each second. All there was was water. Giant waves towering over us and crashing, we were drenched. From head to toe, all over us. The storm was non-stop.

by Ned Cleland

My special journey to space

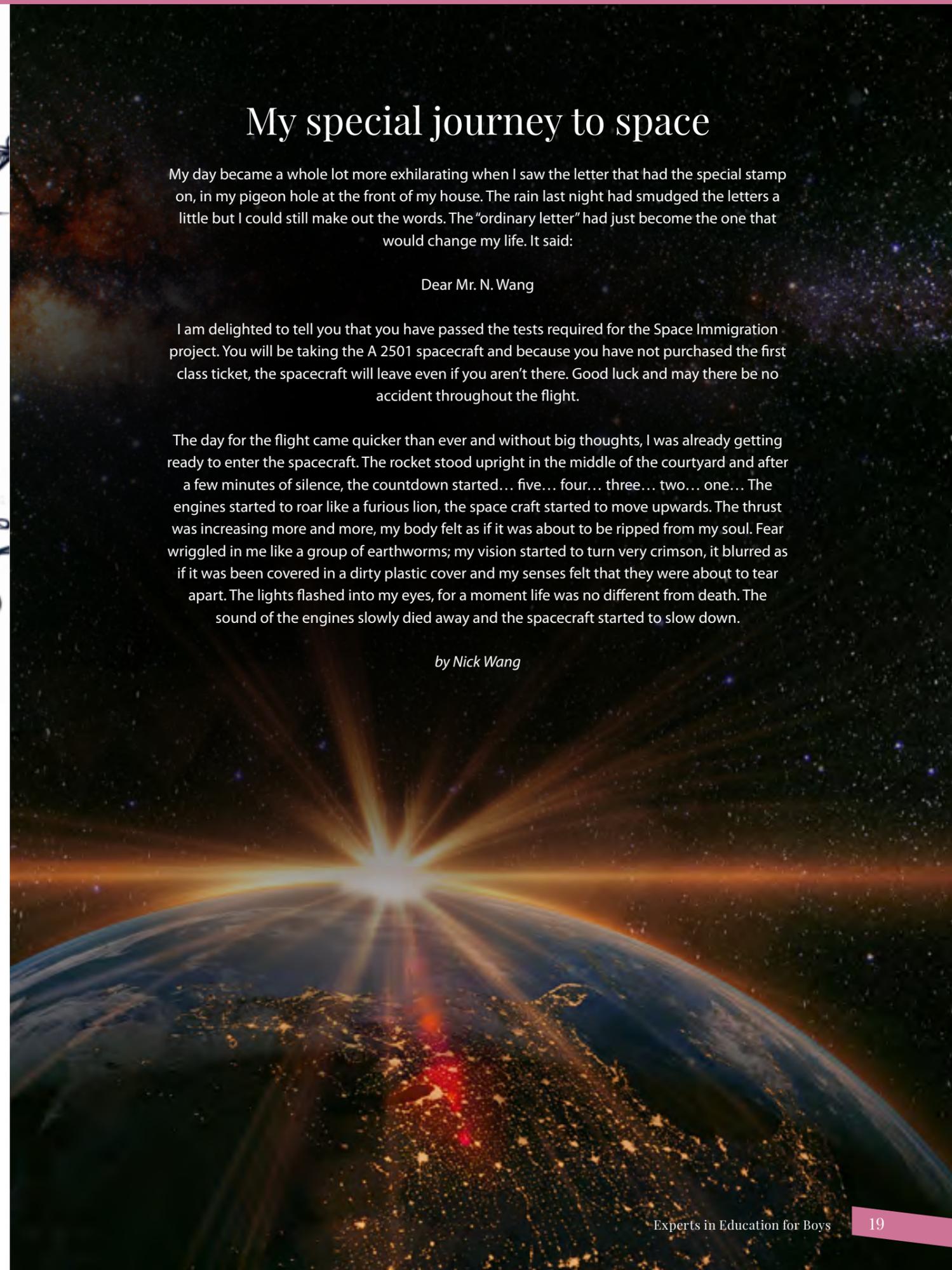
My day became a whole lot more exhilarating when I saw the letter that had the special stamp on, in my pigeon hole at the front of my house. The rain last night had smudged the letters a little but I could still make out the words. The "ordinary letter" had just become the one that would change my life. It said:

Dear Mr. N. Wang

I am delighted to tell you that you have passed the tests required for the Space Immigration project. You will be taking the A 2501 spacecraft and because you have not purchased the first class ticket, the spacecraft will leave even if you aren't there. Good luck and may there be no accident throughout the flight.

The day for the flight came quicker than ever and without big thoughts, I was already getting ready to enter the spacecraft. The rocket stood upright in the middle of the courtyard and after a few minutes of silence, the countdown started... five... four... three... two... one... The engines started to roar like a furious lion, the space craft started to move upwards. The thrust was increasing more and more, my body felt as if it was about to be ripped from my soul. Fear wriggled in me like a group of earthworms; my vision started to turn very crimson, it blurred as if it was been covered in a dirty plastic cover and my senses felt that they were about to tear apart. The lights flashed into my eyes, for a moment life was no different from death. The sound of the engines slowly died away and the spacecraft started to slow down.

by Nick Wang





Modern Languages at Horris Hill

Modern Languages continue to excel at Horris Hill and we have thoroughly enjoyed the infectious enthusiasm of so many of the boys as they come to their French lessons.

They have a real desire to learn, and this makes our teaching in the department so much more enjoyable.

Mme Bekker and I share a love of using songs in the classroom, both feeling strongly that pupils not only enjoy the fun of singing some of the songs, which they now can be heard singing in the corridors, but learn a lot from them. We are often regaled with the oh so catchy "aller" song. But does it help them to remember verb conjugations better? - Yes, of course it does. Not only this, but they help so much with vocabulary and pronunciation. The list continues.

One of my highlights this year was teaching the boys in 1B and 2A a song I wrote myself in French called "une retenue" (a detention). It's about pupils who find French difficult but don't want to miss their break time just because they can't concentrate. Of course this

would never apply to anyone here! The song starts "Je n'aime pas le français quand je suis très fatigué..."

The guitar is a regular feature of my lessons, just as much as the wonderful YouTube songs on different grammar points form part of both Mme Bekker and my lessons.

Halfway through the academic year, I hosted a mini MFL conference for other teachers from local schools. This was a great way to share good practice, learning from each other what works best in motivating our pupils and helping them reach their potential.

Being highly competitive myself, it is great fun to make so many of the activities in class into some sort of fun competition. Even the year 8 boys in the last 10 mins of one lesson could not get enough of the "Hide the vocabulary around the room" game.

We believe that if the boys are enjoying the lessons through a varied approach, which involves some fun and games, they will learn better. This, however, does

not detract from the fact that we are fully aware of the need to push the boys to their full potential and not to shy away from meaty grammar from an early age. Mme Bekker has been a leading light here, with my taking a lead from her rigorous approach. This is why we try to strike a balance in our lessons throughout the week. The end result can be seen in the pleasing results that we have had in our vocabulary tests, end of unit tests as well as more formal exams.

Although French is the only modern language on the curriculum, boys do have the opportunity to be tutored in Mandarin, German or Spanish by visiting tutors. This helps stretch our more able boys who are looking for further challenges.

We have European Day of languages in September – a fun and informative day – in which all colleagues greet their classes in different languages, and give them a small introduction to the language and culture of a European country. And of course, the highlight of the academic year is the year 8 trip to Montpellier in October.



French Trip

On a dark October morning, thirty Year 8 boys made it to the coach for 2am, suitcases in tow. Despite the sleep deprivation, we were all in good spirits and made it safely to Gatwick and onto our flight to Montpellier, although we did have to send out a search party for Samuel Popo in the airport! On arrival, it was not long before Matthew realised that he had left his hand luggage on board! Being such a small airport, we were fortunate to be able to retrieve it. At least he realised – Christopher hadn't even noticed the scarf he'd left behind!

We were soon matched up to our host families, to whom we returned for lunch. In the afternoon we had a fantastic time at a local beach. Risk assessments in place, I gave a clear instruction "Don't go in too far". That was not a good instruction as their idea of "too far" did not agree with mine. No disasters fortunately, everyone had a great time in the waves or playing on the beach. To round off the day, we had a meal out in the beautiful historic area of Montpellier in one of its cobbled alleys.

Sunday was our big outing day, where we enjoyed a visit to "Orange" to see an ancient Amphitheatre and then to "Pont du Gard", which was by far everyone's highlight of the trip. It is a huge Roman aqueduct over the river Gardon. After celebrating the late arrival of Ludwig Spies, the boys enjoyed exploring all that there was to see and do there. Down at the river I was asked quite an unexpected question: "Can we go for a swim in the river?" to which I replied: "But you haven't got your swim stuff here".

"We can just go in our boxers". Sometimes you just have to make a decision and go with it. Bathing was allowed, so why not, I thought! The boys had such fun and listened well to my instructions, which were this time much clearer!

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday the boys had French lessons in small groups, taught by native teachers. As part of their lessons, they also had a guided tour of Montpellier (in the torrential rain we enjoyed that day!), as well as doing some interactive exercises in some local shops. It was great to see them out and about. Each afternoon and evening we would then enjoy some different activities or smaller trips.

These included a visit to Sète, a local town famous for its Street Art. This is not graffiti, but huge murals painted on walls throughout the town. This culminated in a tiring walk up hundreds of steps, where we enjoyed a view of the town and port. It's amazing how boys after an hour's guided tour then have the energy to run up these steps as if it was a Horris Hill colour



competition! We also tried to do the typical "Horris Hill" photo, requiring the boys to spell out Horris Hill with their bodies. I take my hat off to them – it was not easy but they did it, despite odd looks from other tourists.

One evening the boys split into 3 groups and did a carousel of activities, which included taking part in a cooking course in a Michelin star restaurant, interviewing locals in a nearby shopping centre, as well as some well-deserved free time!

A trip to the aquarium had to be cancelled at the last minute but Laser Tag was put in its place, which unsurprisingly with a group of 32 lively boys proved to be a real hit. Nicholas Jin won overall with 99 hits.

On the last day, farewells said, we started making our way through customs. There was the fun of making sure nobody was overweight with baggage and putting gifts in other boys' suitcases to even things out. What I hadn't quite bargained for (and possibly had forgotten about)



was that Troy could not fit his wooden sword, that he'd bought at the Amphitheatre, in his suitcase. He was not too happy when he was told that he could not take it through customs. Thanks to the calm intervention of Mme Bekker, who used to run an airline, neither he, nor his sword stayed in Montpellier, and he was able to rush back and check it in. A good life lesson.

The boys behaved very well, often using French for real reasons – be that in their host families or when interviewing locals, or during our trips out. A number of boys were pushed out of their comfort zones, and grew in confidence as a result.

The boys spoke to each other, enjoyed each other's company, played games

and were a pleasure to be with. On arrival back at school, we did an Oscars ceremony, awarding boys under numerous categories. The boy who made most effort to speak French, the most resilient boy, the most helpful boy etc. It was very hard to choose overall winners as so many boys did so many things well.

I am confident that the boys had a fantastic time overall, improved their French, learnt many new experiences, and broadened their horizons. I would like to thank my colleagues Mme J. Bekker and Mrs J. Omar for their help in running such a fabulous trip.

Mr Philip Bates, Head of MFL



School Trips

Bath Trip

On a warm and sunny day in June while the rest of the school were hunched over exam papers the intellectual elite of Horris Hill journeyed to the Georgian town of Bath. Even the most jaded post-scholarship twelve or thirteen year old cannot fail to be impressed by the Roman Baths. Throw in the added incentive of a pizza and you have the perfect 'educational' trip.

On arrival William Gladston pronounced himself an expert on the streets of this fine old town and led us confidently in the direction of the baths. Somehow we found ourselves standing outside a world-famous fudge shop and were enticed in by the sickly-sweet aromas. Sensing opportunity, the staff behind the

counter plied us with free samples on the understanding that we would return shortly. With tickets pre-booked we sauntered past the massed ranks of tourists and into the bath complex.

The wonders of Roman engineering awaited as did the strange superstitions of the Celts. Despite this being Mr Moss' seventh visit, the boys still made it round the site quicker than he did, perhaps impelled by the thought of lunch in a nearby Pizza Express. The Roman historian Tacitus, a renowned cynic, once stated that the Britons thought Roman Baths, togas and the Latin language the height of fashion when they were merely the tools of their own slavery. A short dose of free time saw the boys lured into the shiny and hyper-modern setting of the Apple Store

for their own 'hit' of self-imposed 'slavery'. Only the promise of a second visit to the fudge shop persuaded them to tear their noses away from the twinkling screens. The journey back to school was surprisingly quiet, punctuated by the sound of fudge-munching. We even made it back in time for games so we could burn it all off!

Mr Sam Moss, Head of Classics



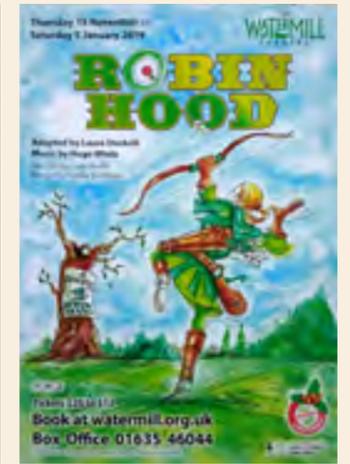
Eton College Exhibition

On 30th October Mr Beardmore-Gray and Mrs Tollit took 1a to visit the Eton College Collection 'In memoriam' exhibition to explore the lives of Etonians, some of whose school careers had started at Horris Hill, who tragically never returned from the battlefields.



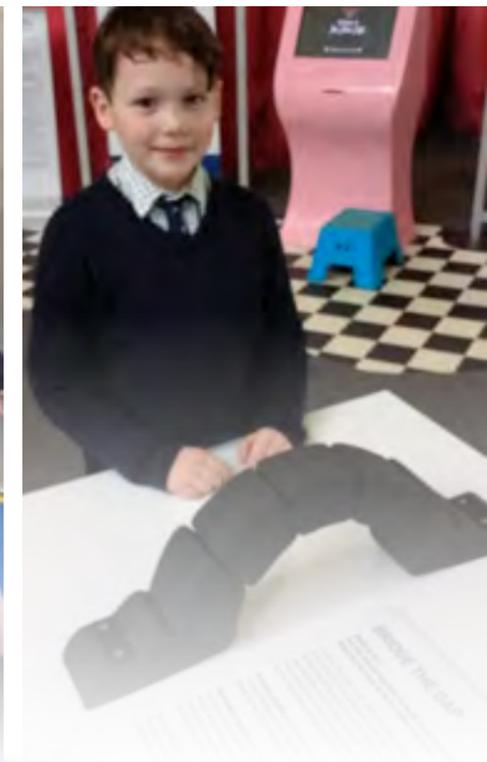
Robin Hood at the Watermill Theatre

An enjoyable viewing of an interesting adaptation of the traditional Robin Hood story performed at the Watermill. The boys were amazed by the props, impressed with the money handed to the poor, dazzled by an exploding glitter ball, awestruck with the singing and a rock guitar solo, amused by an invitation to a birthday party a month in advance, shocked at Maid Marian's forced marriage and entertained at the thought of the Sheriff of Nottingham being so desperate that he needed to go to the loo!

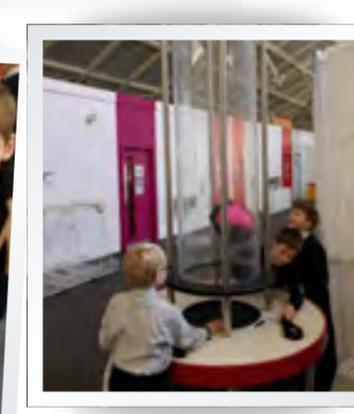


Supporting the Newbury Community

The boys hosted members of the Royal British Legion for tea on Sunday 4th November, entertaining them with some lovely music and listening patiently and with interest and respect to their stories and on 29th March we hosted a two-day Piano Masterclass as part of Newbury Spring Festival in which talented local pupils, including two from Horris Hill, were inspired and encouraged to improve their performances by award-winning Robertas Lozinskis' wisdom and skill.



Winchester Science Trip





Science and History meet at Horris Hill

An intrepid band of budding Viking marauders (Forms 7, 6A and 6B) met with Master Mariner Nic Allott (Marlborough College) to be instructed in the science of rowing and making pulley systems.

He led them through an investigation of the science of forces acting on an oar to show how they could glide easily through the rough waters of Horris Hill. They then learnt how to thread their pulley blocks to hoist the great sail with the least effort.

Then outside they marched to create a full scale layout of a Long Ship. The young Vikings paced out the length of their ship, put the mast in place and hoisted the great sail which billowed in the wind. They even had the Raven of Odin painted on it.

The dragon figurehead, with forked tongue, was prepared to lead the way and terrify the natives of Newtown.

Oars were raised and away they sailed!

Off to Court

3B were transported back in time on their trip to the former Crown Court in Aylesbury. They were shown around the Judges' Lodgings where the Circuit Judges used to stay. The boys then saw the Old Court Rooms including Court 1 where Charles Bronson faced the Judge.

Then it was down into the depths to see the cells and have a talk from the Custody Officer. A grim place indeed!

Court was in session so we travelled to the new Courts where the boys were able to witness at first-hand, the workings of the judicial system.

Mrs Claire Allott, RS and History Teacher



Form 7 take a Walk on the Wildside

The Juniors passed snugly through the Cheeky Monkey Gate as they headed into Marwell Zoo to take their learning about animals to extremes. They saw rhinoceroses, ostriches, meerkats, giraffes, tigers, leopards, cheetahs, a sloth ... as well as handling snakes and cockroaches, being fed and swinging like monkeys through the play areas.





Colour Challenge!

The colour challenge is one of the most highly anticipated events of the term. Each colour is split into 3 groups and each group travels around the school to participate in 7 challenges set up by a member of staff. The challenges are wide-ranging and require a whole host of different skills, skills which could be considered fairly unusual and not often used in a normal school day!

All the challenges also require a great amount of teamwork, patience, communication and creativity and it is excellent to see boys from every year in the school working together so well. The winning colour in the Summer Term after a tie break situation was Yellow because they earned the most pluses for their hard work and good behaviour. Well done boys!





Gordonstoun Challenge, May 2019

Gordonstoun is a very special, perhaps unique, public school. Founded in the 1930s on the Moray coast in the north of Scotland, Gordonstoun has always prided itself on developing all facets of its pupils, and today it thrives on its blend of outdoor adventure, drama and music, sport, academic work and perhaps above all, service to the community.

For many years Gordonstoun has run its Prep School Challenge, inviting schools to bring teams of five 10-11 year olds for a weekend of fun and adventure. This year we were honoured to be invited to take part, and so as the rest of the school relaxed in second exeat, PJB and his band of Fergal Byrne, Ben Brady, Freddie Acloque, Freddy Mulvany and Arthur Woods, boarded the 0845 from Heathrow to Aberdeen to start the adventure along with 17 other prep schools from across England and Scotland.

It is quite astonishing how many activities

the boys enjoyed in just 48 hours: games, service experience (a taste of the work done by Gordonstoun with their Fire Brigade, Coastguard and Mountain Rescue), crossing the school lake on a Tyrolean traverse, Headmaster's Reels, two nights camping, performing arts showcase, sports challenge, art challenge, problem solving challenge, obstacle course, climbing wall, design problem, backwoods skills. Many of the challenges lead up to a final race, which was a bit like 1970s It's a Knockout, led with a parade of all the schools lead into the arena by a Gordonstoun piper.

Our first thrill was finding out that we had three excellent student hosts from Gordonstoun, to help us throughout the weekend, one of whom was our very own Timothy Griffin, who is thriving after his first year there.

I had kept a close eye on weather forecasts, and the weeks leading up to

the Challenge had seen, well, Scottish weather not cricket weather. We were blessed with three days of gorgeous weather whilst the rain clouds moved south. The boys took full advantage of this and threw themselves into the activities. The Gordonstoun motto is "Plus est en vous", and you could really see this in action, as the boys were encouraged to push themselves into things they had not tried before. The boys' favourites were probably the Tyrolean traverse, operating the fire hoses, the climbing wall and the backwoods skills.

The boys wrote thank you letters afterwards to the Principal Mrs Kerr, the Headmaster and his wife Mr and Mrs Edge, and Mr Lyall, who organised the event. I would like to add to that my thanks to everybody who played a role in putting on a wonderful weekend which the boys and I will never forget.

Mr Peter Boyle, Deputy Head Academic

Chess Review

Over the school year we continued with our Junior and Senior chess clubs, led by our visiting Grandmaster Nick Pert. Nick has been a continuing inspirational presence to our chess players, and we thank him for all his input. I know the boys derive a lot of great ideas from Nick, from how to improve their opening moves, to wider strategy and those cunning tactics for later in the game. I did ask Nick for some tips on my own "chess by text" game that I had going on at home- but sadly, I couldn't remember all his advice and promptly lost the game . . . I'm still trying to work out where it all went wrong . . .

It has been another busy season for the boys and their chess boards. In January we were pleased to be the host school for our zone in the English Primary Schools Chess Association (EPSCA), when we welcomed three other schools to the sports hall for a few hours of good-natured but serious chess playing. Cheam, Abbey and Aldro joined us, along with a supportive band of assorted teachers, parents and siblings. It was a rather chilly day even though we mustered all the heaters we could, but the Horris Hill brains didn't seem to be deterred by the weather: our brilliant boys qualified for the semi-finals at Bristol. I witnessed a cunning pawn fork, a textbook back row checkmate with rooks, and super queen sacrifice leading to a smothered mate-thrilling stuff indeed.

Later in the year, a much warmer day saw the U9 team motoring on their way along the M4 to Bristol Grammar School for the semi-finals. It was an early start (thanks Chef Barry for our early breakfast!) and a long day. Our team performed really well: in fact everyone won their game in Round 1, which had PAS hopping with excited anticipation of what might lie ahead! Alas- mixed fortunes followed in subsequent rounds, but all our players had some good games and victories. We were awarded bronze medals for our achievements.

The team – Jeremy Hao, Ismail Khalid, Edward Lee, Jack St Aubyn and Eric Yue – all deserve credit for their sportsmanship and impressive behaviour at the venue. We started at 7am and returned to school more than twelve hours later- thank you boys, for your politeness and patience over a long and demanding day.

Next January we will once again be the host for a group of schools in our zone. We look forward to even greater success - and hopefully a warmer sports hall - this time around!

Mr Peter Shaw, MiC Chess



Friday Fun

Parents Quiz and Curry Night

On the eve of February half-term the intellectual cream of the parental body assembled to take on 100 questions in the annual quiz and curry night. The defending champions (Knight, Downie, Woods, Watson) put up a good fight as did

the staff team but the winners on the night were Denison-Smith, Bowder and Cleland who won the champagne and the pride. Thanks to chef Barry for cooking a fantastic curry!



Dragons Den

Well, it was that time again; 8 brave contestants (in pairs, threes or on their own) entered the den to pitch their best ideas to the formidable dragons. This year the dragons were particularly ferocious – Edward Woods, Peter Shaw, Giles White and Caroline Downie. After a tense hour and a half of presentations, questions from the floor and grilling from the dragons, the contestants could at last relax or at least until the results were announced. Runners-up were Freddy Mulvany and Rmaan Khyra and the winners were Marcus Scales, Henry Bhagobati and Jayden Adeshugba. Well done to all contestants and many thanks to the dragons.



Snow at Horris Hill

February 2019



Weekend Trips and Activities

Greenham Fun Run

Boys and staff took part in this fun run (in the torrential rain!) to raise funds for our Theatre Project.



Heroes At Highclere

On Sunday 9th September Mr and Mrs Tollit took boys to the Heroes at Highclere charity weekend in support of armed forces charities including The RAF100 Appeal, Combat Stress, SEPSIS UK and the Royal British Legion. This event was part of the 100 years commemoration of the end of the First World War. The boys were able to talk to representatives from the current

armed forces about their work, go on board a real combat helicopter, dress up in camouflage and play in a laser tag game on the estate, imagine what it would be like to travel at high speed on a fighter jet simulator and, for some culture, managed to also fit in a tour of the house in which the Downton Abbey television series was filled and gape at Egyptian collection



from Tutankhamun's tomb which the 5th Earl of Caernarvon famously discovered in 1922.

Royal Berkshire Show

Once again Horris Hill supported the Royal Berkshire Show held nearby every September. The Show is a celebration of the agricultural life of the beautiful county in which Horris Hill sits. Fabian Reis, Charlie Woods, Harry Woods and Daniel Yates were even part of the Show, in the Young Handlers Category, showing Bea and Cinnamon, two Southdown sheep belonging to the Anstie family, whose home borders Horris Hill's and who so kindly trained

up our boys for this event. It is a highly memorable experience for those who wish to be involved: well done, boys! On Sunday Mrs Tollit was back with Mr Tollit to bring other HH boys to see Bea and Cinnamon who by now had been awarded several rosettes as well as pigs, cattle, horses, hens, a beagle pack, llamas and snakes – not native of course! In addition the boys marveled at the motorbike stunt artists, for many the highlight of the morning.



Laser Tag In Spain

After a sensational summer break, we arrived at the first Sunday of the academic year and found ourselves, as we always do, playing a huge game of laser tag in our very own woods. Spain, the name given to our woodland as it is the shape of the country from the air, provides a perfect venue for this game of speed, stealth, skill and survival. 50 boys enjoyed 2 hours of frantic fun on a beautiful September afternoon. Some boys preferred the charge-around approach to warfare whereas other preferred a rather more subtle approach! Many thanks to the other staff who were such good sports during the afternoon and well done to the blue team who came out on top. A great time was had by all!



Hawk Conservancy Trip

A group of our younger boys spent a great day at the Hawk Conservancy near Andover. As the large birds of prey, from vultures to eagles, and with a selection of large falcons in between, flew through, over and almost under the assembled crowds, it became clear that our lads were rather smaller than some of these winged friends and might form part of their mid-day snack if we didn't keep our eyes peeled. It was wonderful to see these majestic birds up close and personal and our thanks go to all those at the trust who work to ensure the conservation of these birds, some species of which are on the critically endangered list.



Great British Bake Off

On the first Closed Sunday of 2019 eight pairs of boys competed in the annual Great British Bake-Off with judges Paul Hollywood, aka Head Chef, Mr Fairchild, and Mary Berry aka Mrs Tollit (yes, we are a series or two behind but we prefer the original duo!) The challenge: to bake and decorate six cupcakes to the highest standard in terms of taste and appearance in 45mins: no mean feat! The boys did brilliantly! After much deliberation and an awful lot of cake sampling, Oliver Cartwright and William Gladston were announced the winners receiving a cookbook. The boys all had a lot of fun and picked up some good baking tips from Chef. Who will be crowned Star Bakers next in 2020?



Ready Steady Cook



Halloween



Lagoona Park

Lagoona Park is located just outside Reading, so it is not quite as exotic a place as its name suggests. That doesn't stop it being great fun, as many of our boys will testify. An intrepid band piled aboard the minibus festooned with towels and trunks, keen to burn off any lingering energy after a busy week of school. Whoever came up with the idea of floating an inflatable assault course on water must have been a genius. A bracing dip in the cold water and the boys were clambering onto giant ramps, over walls and across yawning chasms. Never has an hour flown by so quickly!



Spy Game

Always a firm favourite in the Horris Hill School calendar.



Go-Karting

Karting is always one of our most popular trips. We went twice during the year to the karting circuit at Thruxton. The boys all get kitted out in racing overalls and helmets. The younger boys have 120cc Cadet karts, whilst the older boys graduate to the 160cc Stratos karts. Competition is intense, although it is hilarious to watch a range of styles: slow but steady gets around the course with no mishaps, but, well, not a lot of

speed either, whilst the more adventurous combine slick manoeuvres with spectacular spins. Mr Boyle of course does his best to hold up the honour of the oldies, convinced that it is only weight which stops him from beating the boys, nothing at all to do with ability! The star of the trips was Hugh Williamson-Jones, combining encyclopaedic knowledge of Formula 1 with no small amount of driving skills.



Mountain Biking

A joy at Horris Hill is seeing the boys out on their bikes, around school and even in "Spain" Woods. For the more intrepid riders we enjoy taking them out of school for mountain biking trips. In October a group of boarders went to Swinley Forest, near Bracknell, for a morning of riding. The trails are marked like ski pistes, and so having found our legs on the green runs we were soon looking out for more challenging runs, loving the run through the woods and the big loop out and back. A huge amount of fun.



Food

Another year of fantastic food at HH courtesy of Head Chef, Barry Fairchild and his dedicated team. The events included some fun theme days such as Central American Day, Burns' Night Celebration - with thanks to the parents who, after a splendid meal of haggis and tatties dramatically piped in by our previous bagpipe teacher, Bernie, and accompanied by a brilliant recitation of some of Burns' poetry by Mr Boyle, taught the boys to reel; Chinese New Year Celebrations with thanks to some of the Chinese parents who provided the decorations for our dining room and red envelopes for all the boys; Ethiopian Day; Spanish Day; Australia and New Zealand day; South Africa Day. Lots of festive fun at weekends preparing for the Christmas season in the Autumn term, Birthday Teas every month in the Headmaster's House.



Birthday Teas in the Headmaster's House



Kitchen Garden

Kitchen Garden

Our own Kitchen Garden has produced lots of organic fresh produce enabling the boys to enjoy food from plot to plate.



Remembrance Service

Address by the Headmaster



**CAPTAIN HENRY DUNDAS
MC AND BAR**

On 5th February 1919 there was a service in St Pauls Cathedral in honour of all the officers and men of the Guards regiments who had fallen in war. Just for the Scots guards there were five pages of officers' names but one could not help notice that there were almost 90 pages of other ranks.

Each one a life lost, a story cut short, a family left bereaved.

We do not read out the names of the fallen in our service, but rather concentrate on one name and try to recreate in our minds that man's life and family.

In services and ceremonies across the world today, the ending of the First World War is being commemorated, as the armistice was signed 100 years ago. That moment was brought about by what became known as the Hundred Days Offensive from August to November 1918, when the Allies pushed the Germans back to the Hindenburg Line.

The Hindenburg Line was a defensive barrier with installed concrete pillboxes armed with machine guns

as the start of an extended defensive system up to eight miles deep, based on a combination of firepower and counterattacks.

The Hindenburg Line had resisted all Allied attacks in 1917 and was the last and strongest of the German Army's defence - consisting of three well-defended trench systems.

Throughout September 1918, the British Army secured positions from which an attack on the Hindenburg Line could be launched. Planning began for a major attack at the end of the month. It was hoped that this attack would finally break the power of the German army.

Two Battalions of the Scots Guards Regiment took part in this attack. H hour was at 0520hrs on the 27th Sept 1918 and the objective was the Hindenburg Line of the German defences across the broad and deep Canal du Nord which was empty of water and needed scaling with assault ladders.

That morning Captain Henry Dundas had written a letter home. He was a prolific writer and sketcher.

In the attack they had to cross the Canal, and the first objective was about a mile beyond. The objective was duly reached, and Captain Dundas led his own Company with complete success

through a trying barrage which caused considerable loss.

He climbed out of the trench to see the ground ahead, there being a machine-gun post in the neighbourhood which was inflicting damage on other advancing troops. Henry Dundas was shot by a sniper through the chest. He died instantly. He was 21 years old.

Henry had been born in Edinburgh and joined the Scots Guards in 1915, was billeted at Wellington Barracks and went to France in May 1916. He proved to be an outstanding officer and in November 1917 he was awarded the Military Cross.

"A patrol was sent out by night. It was heavily fired at by a hostile post at close quarters and only two men returned unwounded. Two of the patrol were missing. The officer in command took another man and went out to search for them and in turn were shot at and were both wounded. The officer carried his soldier back to safety, and then went round his posts, despite suffering from his wound, and stayed with his Company until ordered to an aid post."

And he was awarded a bar on his Military Cross.

"For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He led his Company with great skill under trying conditions

in darkness, and it was entirely due to his untiring efforts that direction was maintained and the position captured and consolidated. His encouragement and example were beyond praise."

Perhaps this behaviour and leadership was unsurprising to those who knew Henry. Before joining the guards, Henry has been at Eton. He went there in 1910. His first end of term report: 'a lively boy, fully interested in all that is going on. Once or twice lately I have thought I have detected a slight inclination to be silly, but as his record for conduct is so far unblemished, I am possibly mistaken.'

A definite shot across the bows! It obviously had the desired effect:

In his final year Henry was Captain of 1st XV, Captain of the 1st XI cricket, was a prefect and, in case you think he was just a sportsman, he won a History Scholarship to Oxford, which he was never to take up.

In the autumn of 1906, when he was nine and a half, Henry went to Horris Hill, where he remained till the summer of 1910.

The life of a private schoolboy is uneventful, and no description can make it interesting to any but those of the boy's immediate home circle. Henry, with his quick and receptive mind, learnt an immense amount during his four years, and ended his career there as Head of

the school. He was captain of the football eleven during the last winter, and was probably the best bat in a strong cricket eleven, which generally won its matches against the five or six other schools it played. And little wonder, for Horris Hill must surely have had one of the best cricket grounds among all the private schools in England.

Eton College now holds the archive of Henry Dundas' letters and I was privileged to have several hours last week in the Reading room there, looking through them.

Sketches and doodles. School reports and letters. He did what I think we have all done and traced around his hand; looking at the date it was in his first term at HH. Lovely letter to his sister, who was obviously not having a great time at her new boarding school: "Buck up! Remember everyone has to do it - its like being vaccinated and the unpleasantness soon passes away. Besides one must be educated and education can never be properly done without competition. I was not all happy when I went to Horris Hill but it soon went. Study the other girls; human nature is always interesting and it will give you lots to think about."

Don't worry about me. I'm alright and shall be. They'll need a new prime minister in about 20 years time, and of course I shall be there.

A TRIBUTE TO HENRY DUNDAS, FROM ONE OF HIS BEST ETON FRIENDS.

"Henry's extraordinary power of concentration, his varied interests, and above all his intense enthusiasm, made his personality unique, and his every doing of interest. Nothing he ever did lacked character. That was the secret of his early life. That is what made him what he was, and that is what gives his memory a peculiar and a particular freshness.

In the broadest and best sense of the word, he was an artist at whatever his hand found to do. The affair of the moment was the one and only thing that mattered on it he concentrated all his genius and on it he lavished all his buoyant enthusiasm.

But far above all else was his great and generous love for those people and things he held most dear. In this he showed a depth of feeling an honest frank confession of sentiment which it is rare to meet.

It is with gratitude for what he did with his life, no less than for what he gave during his life, that I offer this small tribute.

It was always more than a pleasure to be with Henry; it is an honour and a privilege to remember him."

Music Review

Horris Hill's Music Department has been extremely busy all year. It really is amazing and wonderful how many performing opportunities are given to the boys, and how well they take advantage of them. There are opportunities to perform every Monday morning in assembly, as well as Informal Concerts and regular Chapel Services all year.

The Autumn term is often seen as the time of year for Christmas preparations and performances, but it is not the only thing that happens in that term. It is the time of the year where the first major musical competition happens, in the Musician of the Year.

Before the Musician of the Year finals, the first musical event the boys participate in is the Radley Orchestra Day. At this event, boys come along to learn a few pieces with other prep schools, who combine to make a huge orchestra, and spend the day practising for a concert put on for parents at the end of the day. This year, Barnaby Talbot-Williams, Kevin Lee, Koyin Majekodunmi, Jayden Adeshugba, Max Scannell, Hugo Tollit, Sam Shi and Emeric Bensoussan (who was selected as leader of the orchestra) were selected to participate and joined in with the orchestra which totalled over 120 participants! The string section played a beautiful folk tune, while the woodwind and brass played the very dramatic "O Fortuna". Then the full orchestra combined to play "In the Hall of the Mountain King" and "Mars", from the Planets suite, which is in the unusual time signature of 5/4. A great day was had by all and we look forward to returning next year.

This year 9 boys were put through to the Musician of the Year final, where Mr Jonathan Brown, Director of Music at Malvern College, came down to adjudicate the performances. Tony Huang started the event with his rendition of "Valse Lente" on the piano, giving the event a nice calming start. Max Scannell then performed "Gavotte" on the Cello before Daniel Yu really changed the mood of the audience with his drumming of "Shut Up And Dance". Ollie Cartwright then played the beautifully tranquil "Mountain Song" on his guitar before Barnaby Talbot-Williams played the very traditional Baroque "Trumpet Concerto" by Laue. Hugo Tollit continued the

Baroque theme, with Bach's "Siciliana" on the flute, while the youngest competitor, Kevin Lee, then serenaded the audience with his performance of "Ladies in Lavender". Nicholas Jin then brought the excitement back to the audience with his rendition of "Alive" on the drums, before defending champion Emeric Bensoussan finished off the competitors' performances with his performance of the "Allegro" from Harry Thacker Burleigh's Southland Sketches for Violin and Piano.

Whilst Mr Brown was in discussion about his decision, this year we had two younger promising musicians perform a couple of pieces to entertain the audience. Freddy Mulvany played the Van Halen classic "Jump" on the drums, and Richard Ovey, played Mike Schoenmehl's "The Somersault King" on the Piano. During his adjudication, Mr Brown reminded us that the performance starts the minute you move onto the stage and only finishes after you leave, and to think about how you present yourself during that time as a result. Bowing was something of great importance to the way we present ourselves on stage and Mr Brown had the whole audience on their feet to perfect their bowing, including the parents and staff! After some encouraging words, Mr Brown decided to award a joint third place to Kevin Lee and Daniel Yu, second place to Tony Huang and first place to the excellent Emeric Bensoussan, who was able to retain his crown. Huge congratulations to all boys for their performances and our thanks, of course, go to Mr Brown for travelling down from Malvern College to adjudicate for us.

The Remembrance Service is always such a moving service and the boys did themselves proud once again. Barnaby Talbot-Williams played the "Last Post" and "Reveille" for the final time at Horris Hill and played it to perfection. His



excellent trumpeting skills will be missed next year. The choir sang two beautiful anthems again this year, singing Faure's "Pie Jesu" and Rutter's "A Clare Benediction" with great skill and poise, a tricky thing to do for such young singers.

The Christmas Cracker started with the Orchestra playing "Ode to Joy/Hallelujah Chorus" and "The Entertainer", before we had the first form performance by Form 5, who sang "Hall of Fame". The Brass Band then played "The Old West" before the Guitar Group played "Funky Town" and "We Three Kings". Form 4 sang the Katy Perry classic "Roar", before the Saxophone and Clarinet Group played "Mexican Madness" and the Bottesini Basses played "Barcarolle" and "Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer". Form 7 then revived their performance of "Happy" from the Junior Play to keep the spirits high. The Percussion Group then woke everyone up with a performance of "A Stick of Christmas Rock", based on Queen's "We Will Rock You". The Flute Group then played "God Rest Ye Merry Gentleman" before Forms 3a and 3b combined to sing "Rise". The String Group then played "Prince Rupert's March", "Away in a Manger" and "Deck the Hall", before the debuting Jazz Ensemble, known as the Horris Jazzers, played their version of "Superstition". Form 6 were the last boy performance, where they sang "Shotgun", ending with the group forming a human car and 'driving' out of the room for a spectacular finish. The show ended with the usual controlled chaos of "The Twelve Days of Christmas" with boys, adults and teachers all jumping up and down singing various verses to start the Christmas season on a great note (pun intended).

The Choir continued their traditional Carols Around the Villages, this year with a few new locations. As is traditional, we began by singing for the Kitchen Staff at Horris Hill, who, as ever, very kindly supplied the boys with some edible treats by way of

thanks. From there, we jumped on two buses, one kindly driven by Mrs Omar, and drove to Donnington Hotel and Spa where we sang a small 15 minute set in the reception. We then jumped back in the buses and went on to the Carnarvon Arms, where we met a few parents and sang another 15 minute set. From here, we headed home to sing for Private Side boys in the Headmaster's house, before finishing the evening with another delicious Choir Feast, kindly arranged by Chef and Mrs Tollit. Our thanks to everyone who helped make this possible and well done to the Choir, who sang extremely well all the way around the mini-tour.

This was followed by the traditional two Carol Services, which, this year, saw Marcus Scales open the services by singing the opening verse to "Once in Royal". The choir once again sang five anthems, this year picking quite an eclectic mix. There were the more boisterous performances of "Carol of the Bells" and "Torches", a traditional piece in "Coventry Carol" and then two delicate lullabies in "Candlelight Carol" and "Veni, Jesu, Amor Mi", and the choir demonstrated their versatility with these different pieces and styles. As ever, there were numerous opportunities for solos, and many of the boys sang brilliantly with their solos and small groups during the service. As ever, our thanks go to Mr Barnes who joined us to play the Organ for both the Remembrance and Carol Services again this year.

The Spring Term was also a busy one for Music, but was dominated by the Colour Music Competition as well as the Middle School Production of the E.S.S. Koa, which will be reported on in a separate report. Colour Music this year took on a slightly different format from previous years, adding another level of intense competition amongst the boys. Following the success of the Solo part of the competition last

year, this part of the competition remained the same. First up this year was Matthew Howard representing Yellow, singing "Let Her Go", followed by Harvey Vere-Whiting singing "Ride" for Blue. Next came the two Year 7 boys, Marcus Scales singing "A Thousand Years" for Green and Richard Ovey singing "I'm Not The Only One" for Red. All four boys performed brilliantly on the day, and should be proud of their performances. In the end, the adjudicator, Mr Philip Dukes, Director of Music at Marlborough College, decided that Marcus' performance was the winner of the Solo section, but all four performances were marked 1 point apart.

This was followed by the new section to this year's competition, the Colour Vocal. For this section, each colour was given a song, this year within the theme of Motown, and asked a small group within their Colour of 8-12 boys to sing. Green began this section with the Jacksons beautiful ballad "I'll Be There", which they sang with grace. Red then sang Stevie Wonder's song dedicated to his daughter "Isn't She Lovely", which was exactly that... lovely. Yellow were asked to sing "I Heard It Through The Grapevine", the Marvin Gaye classic hit, which they did with great energy. Last, and by no means least, were Blue, who entered this section as underdogs as their group had the least amount of Choir members in it. They rose to the challenge, however, and Mr Dukes judged their performance of "My Girl" as the best in the category.

The final section was the traditional Colour Song, in which the colours could pick any song they wanted to perform. Every boy in the school would then sing their chosen song as a whole Colour. Keeping it topical, Mr Steen's Green chose ABBA's "Mamma Mia", inspired by the release of "Mamma Mia 2: Here We Go Again" in the cinema earlier in the year. A great choice of song, which the boys performed with tremendous gusto! Blue, in a terrific demonstration of their excitement, then sang van Halen's "Jump!", which they did, rather a lot, during their performance. Mr Benwell for Red chose a very risky piece for their song, choosing to ignore the magnificent band and singing an a cappella version of South Africa's second national anthem "Shosholozza" featuring Daniel Yu on the djembe drum. Inspired by Mr Hayes' extreme fitness, Yellow performed Queen's "Don't Stop Me Now", which they did with tremendous energy. It even included Eric Yue finishing the piece with a very impressive splits! In the end, Red's risky choice of piece paid off and Mr Dukes decided that Red won this section of the competition.

With three different winners in the three different sections, the overall competition came down to how the Colours

finished in the sections they didn't win. Showing tremendous consistency throughout the competition, Green ended as deserved overall winners, with Red in second and Blue in third. We must say a huge amount of thanks and appreciation towards the other three Heads of Colour, Mr's Benwell, Hayes and Steen, as well as the band Mr's Bentley, Howell, Law and Mrs' Price and Verkerk, all of whom helped to make it a special experience for all involved. We look forward to doing all again next year, at an earlier point in the academic year.

The final major musical event of the year took place in the Summer Term on the morning of Horris Hill Day. The Summer Concert was began by the Orchestra, who played "Spring" from Vivaldi's "Four Seasons". It is always difficult to have so many musicians on the stage at once playing at the same time, but, after we managed to fit everyone on, the boys all played very well, opening the concert in fantastic style. The Percussion Group then performed their own version of the piece everyone likes to play on the Piano, "Chopped Drum Sticks". Bongos, Timpinis, Xylophones and all sorts of other percussion instruments were used, producing quite a noise by the end of the performance! We then had our first soloist, Tony Huang, who dazzled the audience with his Grade 6 piece, "Allegro in Eb" on the Piano. This was the last time we would hear him playing solo Piano, and he finished his performances at Horris Hill very nicely indeed. The ever growing String Group then played "The Dorset Ring Dance" and "What Should We Do With a Drunken Sailor". This group always picks ambitiously tricky pieces, but the boys always rise to the challenge, and played it with great confidence and ability. The Saxophone and Clarinet Ensemble followed playing "I Love My Love" featuring a solo from leaving clarinetist Rory Downie, who has led the group, not only for this performance, but over the course of the year extremely well. "Happy Farmer" and "Reel" was then followed by the Bottesini Basses. This is another group who are making great strides, and it helps that the four boys are all in the same year group and get on so well. Our next soloist was leaver Hugo Tollit who played his Grade 5 Flute piece "Vivace from Sonata in F". He is another boy who has improved his playing immeasurably in his time at Horris, and it is great to see him have the confidence to perform this solo in this concert. The next group was another young group of musicians, who are improving both individually and as a group all the time. The Brass Group played "Eudoxia" and "U.S. Marines Hymn", proving that Brass instruments can both play quietly and with great force. The Guitar Group followed with "Addams Family" and "Beat It". This is another group that has made great strides recently, and they will miss their leader Oliver Cartwright next

year, but there are plenty of boys ready to step into his shoes next year. Next up was, without doubt, our loudest soloist, Nicholas Jin who played his Grade 6 drum piece "Love Rears Its Ugly Head". The newly formed String Trio followed him playing "Two Movements from Suite No.1 for Two Violins and Cello" and "Tempo Di Marcia and Allegro Moderato". This group featured Emeric Bensoussan, Kevin Lee and Oscar Wang, three of our elite musicians, giving them a chance to play some extremely challenging music. This group will become a quartet next year, with two new members replacing the leaving Emeric. The Flute Group, featuring a growing number of younger players, rather pleasingly, then performed the Choir classic "Ave Verum Corpus". Oscar Revell then played a piece to demonstrate what everyone thought about Horris Hill Day, performing "Happy Day" on the Piano, a very funky performance. This was followed by the newly formed Jazz Band, who played the Calypso style piece from

A Little Mermaid, "Kiss The Girl", getting everyone in a great mood before the rest of the day. However, there was one final treat for all, with Oscar Wang stunning the audience on the Cello. Oscar's performance of "Allegro Appassionato" drew a standing ovation from the audience and left several younger members of the school absolutely spellbound.

So, once again, it has been an exciting and extremely busy year for the Music Department. Regular trips to concerts, performance opportunities at Informal Concerts, Assemblies and the big performances, regular lessons, exams and many more opportunities provide a wonderful event list for the boys to participate in. Well done boys, and I look forward to doing it all again next year!

Mr Richard Frost, Director of Music



Special Prizes

For special contributions to Music throughout the school year, either as a solo performer or as a contributor to various music groups.

Senior	Emeric Bensoussan
Penultimate	Oscar Wang
Middle School	Kevin Lee
Juniors	Edward Lee

For achieving the highest mark in a graded music exam in the academic year.

ABRSM	Kevin Lee	Grade 5 Double Bass
ABRSM Grade 5 Music Theory	Kevin Lee	
Trinity Classical	William Griffin	Grade 1 Trombone
Trinity Rock and Pop	Tony Jiang	Grade 7 Drums

Music Grades

Autumn Term 2018

ABRSM

Fergal Byrne - Prep Test Piano - completed
 Daniel Yates - Grade 1 Piano - passed
 Charlie Ricketts - Grade 2 Piano - passed
 Digby Tollit - Grade 2 Singing - passed
 Hugo Tollit - Grade 4 Flute - passed
 Kevin Lee - Grade 6 Violin - passed

ABRSM Grade 5 Music Theory

Kevin Lee - passed with Distinction

Trinity Classical

Sam Shi - Grade 2 Clarinet - passed with Distinction

Trinity Rock and Pop

Rmaan Khyra - Initial Grade Drums - passed
 Ned Cleland - Grade 1 Drums - passed
 Tomi Edu - Grade 1 Drums - passed
 Luka Nishimura - Grade 1 Drums - passed
 Ralph Ricketts - Grade 2 Drums - passed
 Nicholas Jin - Grade 5 Drums - passed

Rock School Ltd

Daniel Yu - Grade 4 Drums - passed with merit

Spring Term 2019

ABRSM

George Cavaghan - Prep Test Piano - completed
 Ismail Khalid - Prep Test Piano - completed
 Freddie Acloque - Grade 1 Double Bass - passed
 Troy Gumbrell - Grade 1 Piano - passed
 Oscar Revell - Grade 1 Piano - passed with Merit
 Nathan van Neerven - Grade 3 Piano - passed
 William Milroy-Goulding - Grade 3 Piano - passed with Merit
 Max Scannell - Grade 4 Cello - passed
 Kevin Lee - Grade 5 Double Bass - passed with Distinction

ABRSM Grade 5 Music Theory

Tony Huang - passed with Merit

Summer Term 2019

ABRSM

Charles Chu - Grade 1 Violin
 Chenchen Guo - Grade 1 Violin
 Ismail Khalid - Grade 1 Violin
 Arthur Woods - Grade 1 Double Bass
 William Griffin - Grade 2 Piano
 Zhenfeng Kan - Grade 2 Cello
 Nikolay Kopelchuk - Grade 3 Violin
 Abraham Babalola - Grade 4 Flute
 Hugo Knight - Grade 4 Piano
 William Milroy-Goulding - Grade 4 Flute
 Kevin Lee - Grade 5 Piano
 Richard Ovey - Grade 5 Piano
 Hugo Tollit - Grade 5 Flute
 Tony Huang - Grade 6 Piano

ABRSM Grade 5 Music Theory

Joshua Awolesi
 Jayden Adeshugba
 Barnaby Talbot-Williams
 Harry Xu

Trinity Classical

Harry Xu - Grade 1 Saxophone

Trinity Classical

Bertie Corbett - Initial Grade Guitar - passed with Merit
 Chenchen Guo - Initial Grade Guitar - passed with Distinction
 Kostiantyn Riabyi - Initial Grade Guitar - passed with Distinction
 William Griffin - Grade 1 Trombone - passed with Distinction
 Rory Downie - Grade 2 Clarinet - passed with Merit

Trinity Rock and Pop

Toby Jia - Initial Grade Drums - passed with Merit
 Bryan Lau - Grade 1 Drums - passed with Merit
 Jonny Walker - Grade 1 Drums - passed with Distinction
 Timipre Ebimami - Grade 2 Drums - passed with Merit
 Tomi Edu - Grade 2 Drums - passed with Merit

MTB

Fabian Reis - Grade 2 Cornet - passed with Distinction

Trinity Rock and Pop

Gabriel Bowder - Initial Grade Drums - passed with Merit
 Edward Lee - Grade 2 Drums - passed with Merit
 Nick Wang - Grade 2 Drums - passed with Merit
 Barney Titmus Mather - Grade 3 Drums - passed
 Freddy Mulvany - Grade 4 Drums - passed with Merit
 Tony Jiang - Grade 7 Drums - passed with Distinction

MTB

Kit Witheridge - Grade 3 Trumpet

Rock School Ltd

Daniel Yu - Grade 5 Drums - passed with merit
 Tony Jiang - Grade 2 Electric Guitar - passed with distinction

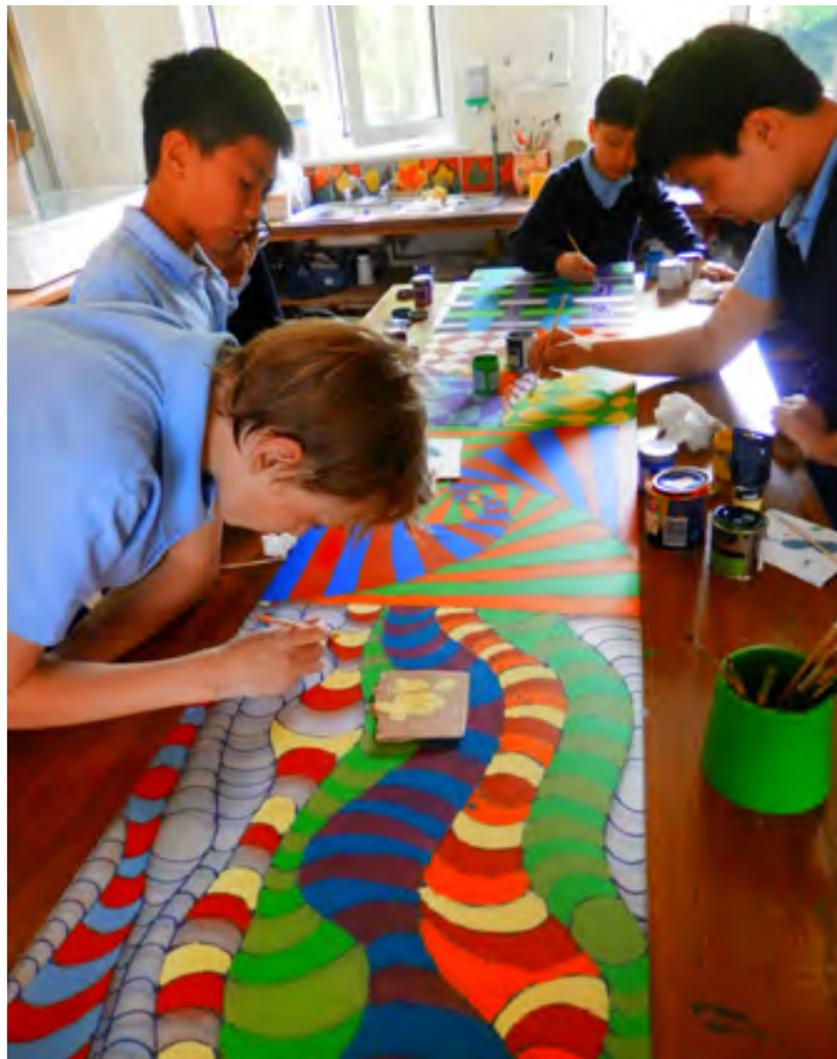
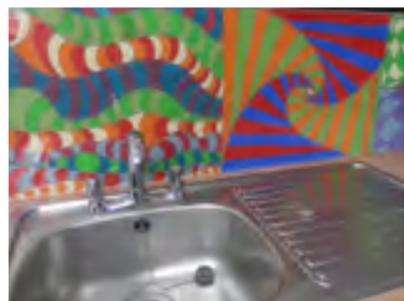


Art Review

A year in Art

Senior boys Year 7/8 Optical Art Project

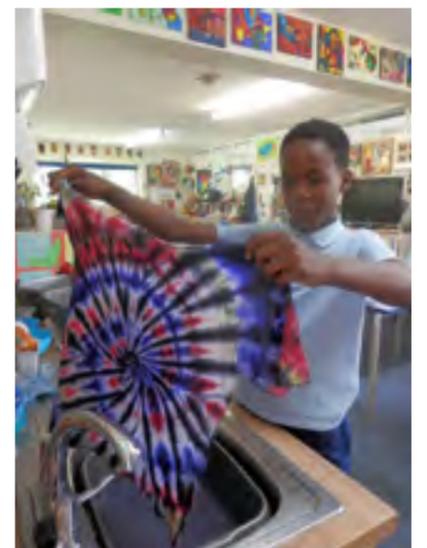
After looking at the work of Varasely from the 1940s the boys drew their own Op Art designs on each side of a cube they had draw out on card. A few of these designs were enlarged for a joint painting on glass to go behind the Art Room sink as a splashback.



Weekend Art Workshop Tie Dye Tshirts



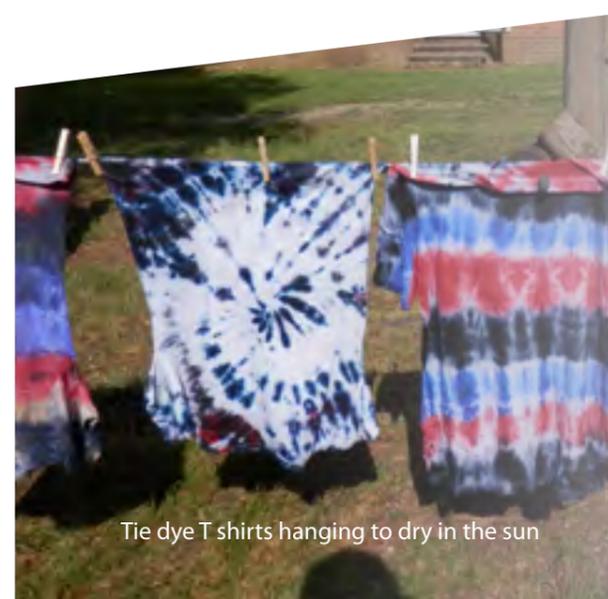
David, Alex, Edward, Eugen, Grigory and Gabriel



Tobe

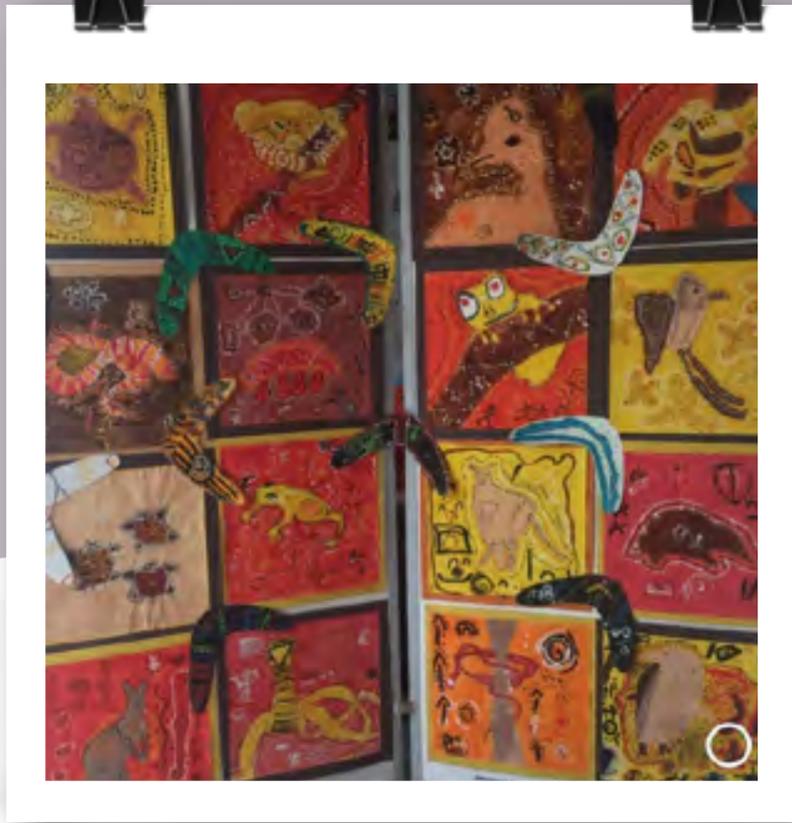


Ollie and William



Tie dye T shirts hanging to dry in the sun

Aboriginal Art Lower School Project



Aboriginal style dot paintings by Year 3/4



Jeremy's sketchbook pages and dot painting



Dzhabrail sketches and painting Australian animals

For this work we looked at Chihuly, an American glass artist who makes incredible large scale sculptures.



George, Henry, Jonny and David with their Chihuly inspired swirl sculptures made by painting onto acetate and cutting into shapes before spiking onto a wire rod

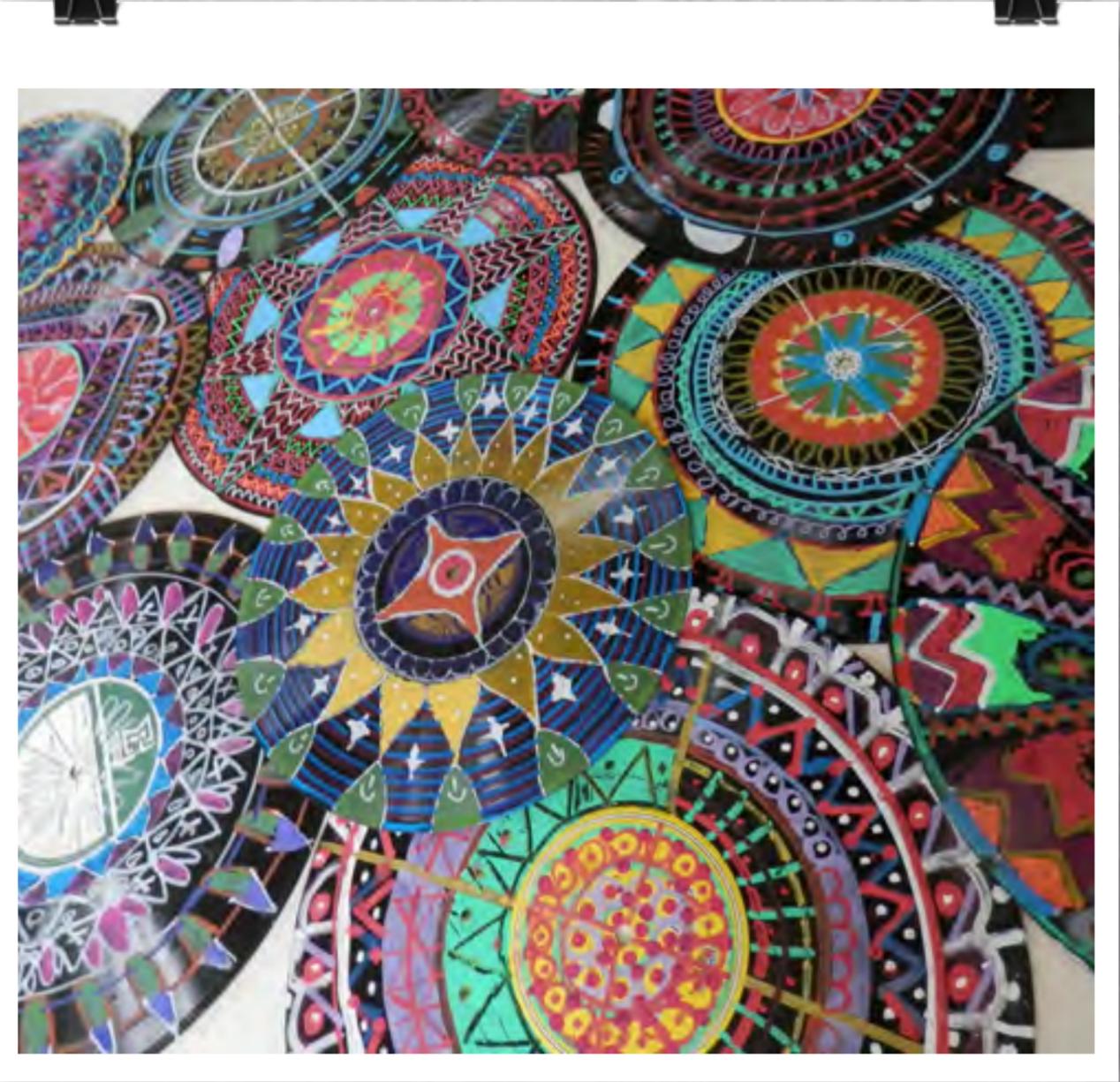


Form 6 proudly present their work on display

Clay HH Building Project

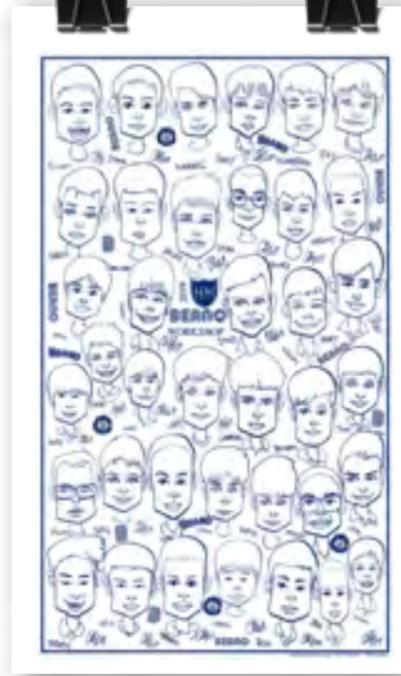


Year 7 The boys drew parts of buildings around the school then used their sketches to design a piece in clay



Mandala designs on Vinyl records using fluid paint marker pens. Year 7 work

Beano Comic Workshop with Kev F Years 3/4



Forms 7 and 6 had a comical day under the inspiring tuition of Kev Sutherland, a long-time illustrator for the Beano amongst other magazines (Star Wars, Dr Who). Kev is also a talented caricature artist and each of the 38 boys taking part received a personal sketch as a keepsake.

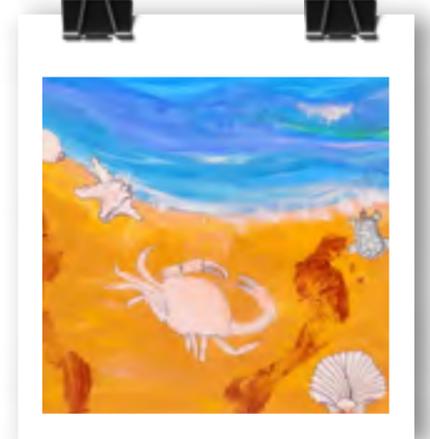
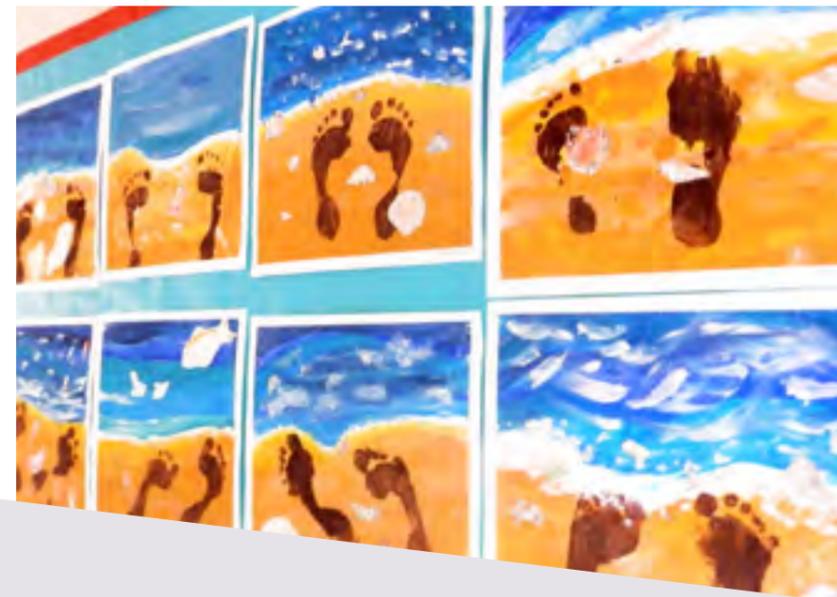
The two groups invented their own name and masthead for a comic, sketched ideas for stories and, by the end of the session, Kev had collated and printed their designs to present each of the pupils with their own A5 comic book. It was a lively and laughter-packed day, thoroughly enjoyed by all those taking part.



Kev's caricatures of the boys made a super T towel design which raised £180 for charity

The boys learnt how to draw a comic strip

Year 5



Beach multi media work with colour study paintings and collage seashell sketches

Year 3/4



Oil pastel resist painting with a little sparkle Ice Lollies



Design and Technology



A new batch of projects was the highlight of this year, with some old favourites thrown in for fun. It has been very interesting to see how the patience of the younger boys has increased their willingness to keep going in order to get a high quality finish. As they become more able to control tools I have introduced spoke shaves and planes, which they love using.

Form 7 enjoyed making sailing boats, minimalist Nativity scenes, wooden Australian Aborigine pebbles, napkin rings and more fish. Form 6 moved on from the skills used in these to working on projects that required more attention to detail, such as a stacking block game. The bug hotels took a little longer than anticipated so we have postponed the end of these until September. A large quantity of copper tube salvaged from a hot water system was turned into wind chimes, before they moved on to tangram and sliding block puzzles, to help develop coping saw skills and the use of jigs. Forms 4 and 5 started the year by using acrylic the traditional way (we don't have a laser cutter yet, so those who remember cutting, filing, smoothing and polishing acrylic at school will know what I am talking about) to make a frame for dowel "logs" in a tumbling animal game. A couple of lessons to spare, we had a go at making some

wooden jewellery. Then came a term well spent improving presentation skills, learning how to create titles, write text legibly and annotate drawings and photos in design work. This term we have been working on a bagatelle/penny arcade style game, using iterative design to test and improve each step of the game's creation. Working prototypes are heading home for decoration (prizes for the best).

Form 3 began the year with mechanical systems, looking at the different types of mechanisms and building card models to see how they worked. Some of these were small and really tested fine motor control! Using this knowledge and a standard two-way rotation model, a "mechanical do nothing machine", based on a Charles and Ray Eames product, was developed. We then moved on to electronics, learning about discrete components and how to make working

circuits, to make a moisture sensor for pot plants. We also had a go at creating a vacuum-formed case in polystyrene. Finally, with Form 1B, they had a go at creating a set of key fobs and a wall mounted rack for home.

Forms 1 and 2 had their minds on Common Entrance for a good part of the year, but we managed to cover many topics. Sustainability was our first, in which we considered how to reuse throwaway plastic items in new products, including torches and cufflinks. Following this, the modelling and testing of a prototype table-top game provided a team challenge, before we moved on to the manufacture of a timer using a standard PCB with a vacuum-formed cover. With so many exams, we were tight for time in the summer term as the leavers worked on a balancing game. For those who were interested, and who could fit in a little time

around play rehearsals, a very busy cricket fixture list and a full leavers' programme, I also managed to include the infamous stool.

Whilst many boys have achieved a great deal and enjoyed their time in the workshop, a small number stand out – and I then have to make a difficult choice when awarding prizes. This year, Edward Yates, a prolific young maker of boats, wooden fish, napkin rings and paper lamps, won the Junior Design and Technology prize. He has also been inspiring others in lessons, by suggesting ideas they could try out, and demonstrating technique to those with less experience. Toby McCorquodale Cruise received the intermediate prize for his continued commitment and thoughtful work during and outside lesson time. His interest in everything going on, especially when any tools or machines are being pulled apart for

maintenance, will help him move on to much greater things. Finally, Ludwig Spies, who is off to Bryanston next year (he is looking forward to their huge workshops full of heavy machinery) was awarded the Senior Design and Technology prize. He has been a committed and enthusiastic student, always seeking to develop new skills and to use them to help others.

These three are by no means the only ones who continue to enjoy all aspects of Design and Technology at Horris Hill. The new studio will no doubt inspire them as we work to better (though not necessarily bigger) things next year.

Whilst reading the introduction to an Aikido handbook, as you do, this paragraph gave me an idea.

"As a new student you have made a commitment to study Aikido; a commitment we hope you will pursue

*with sincerity. The process of learning this art is a journey and on it you will experience new ideas, physical challenges and no small degree of frustration. Just remember, all of us have stood where you are now standing – at the beginning. We understand how it feels to immerse yourself in a new environment that is exciting, confusing and even somewhat intimidating."*¹

Think "studio" rather than "tech lab" – but I shall not say any more until the next issue!

1. From "Welcome to Aikido", Central Aikido Student Handbook; see centralaikido.org/resources/handbook.pdf

Mr Jonathan Salisbury, Head of DT

LAMDA

By the Summer term we had over 40 boys involved in LAMDA classes, and the results of the exams have once again been tremendous. Congratulations to all our students! Take a look at the table that follows for the full picture. The year finished with a presentation of work to parents and peers, and we plan to have a second evening in the coming year for the ones we couldn't fit in! It was heartening to see the boys' passion and real commitment to their dramatic pieces, and it is striking

how drama brings out so much from the boys. A vital lesson to take away from the evening is that drama is for everyone, not just those who find acting comes more naturally to them. We have some truly superb and committed LAMDA teachers who work with the boys at Horris Hill: Beth, Pieter and Ciaran all deserve our heartfelt appreciation.

Mr Peter Shaw, LAMDA Co-ordinator



LAMDA results

Chenchen Guo	Acting Grade 1 – Solo	Autumn 2018	Merit
Ismail Khalid	Acting Grade 1 – Duo	Autumn 2018	Merit
Fabian Reis	Acting Grade 1 – Duo	Autumn 2018	Merit
Henry Titmus Mather	Acting Grade 2 – Solo	Autumn 2018	Merit
Adam Narfeldt	Acting Grade 2 – Solo	Autumn 2018	Distinction
Kostia Riabyi	Acting Grade 2 – Solo	Autumn 2018	Distinction
Joshua Awolesi	Acting Grade 3 – Solo	Autumn 2018	Merit
Barnaby Titmus Mather	Acting Grade 3 – Solo	Autumn 2018	Merit
Digby Tollit	Acting Grade 3 – Solo	Autumn 2018	Merit
James Cartwright	Acting Grade 3 – Solo	Autumn 2018	Distinction
Troy Gumbrell	Acting Grade 4 – Solo	Autumn 2018	Merit
Hugo Tollit	Acting Grade 4 – Solo	Autumn 2018	Merit
Marcus Scales	Acting Grade 4 – Solo	Autumn 2018	Distinction

William Platt	Acting Grade 1 – Solo	Spring 2019	Merit
Harry Woods	Acting Grade 1 – Solo	Spring 2019	Merit
Gabriel Bowder	Acting Grade 1 – Solo	Spring 2019	Distinction
Daniel Yates	Acting Grade 1 – Solo	Spring 2019	Distinction
Charles Chu	Acting Grade 2 – Solo	Spring 2019	Merit
Tomi Edu	Acting Grade 2 – Solo	Spring 2019	Distinction
Koyin Majekodunmi	Acting Grade 2 – Solo	Spring 2019	Distinction
Daniel Yu	Acting Grade 2 – Solo	Spring 2019	Distinction
Timipre Ebimami	Acting Grade 3 – Solo	Spring 2019	Distinction
Matthew Howard	Acting Grade 4 – Solo	Spring 2019	Distinction

Eugen Spies	Acting Grade 1 – Solo	Summer 2019	Distinction
Eric Yue	Acting Grade 1 – Solo	Summer 2019	Merit
Kevin Zhao	Acting Grade 1 – Solo	Summer 2019	Merit
Max Eze	Acting Grade 2 – Solo	Summer 2019	Merit
Rmaan Khyra	Acting Grade 2 – Solo	Summer 2019	Merit
Fabian Reis	Acting Grade 2 – Solo	Summer 2019	Distinction
Nick Wang	Acting Grade 2 – Solo	Summer 2019	Merit
Alexander Buckley Fairey	Acting Grade 3 – Solo	Summer 2019	Distinction
Christopher Nicholson	Acting Grade 3 – Solo	Summer 2019	Distinction
George Denison-Smith	Acting Grade 3 – Combined	Summer 2019	Distinction
Ludwig Spies	Acting Grade 3 – Solo	Summer 2019	Merit
Kit Witheridge	Acting Grade 3 – Combined	Summer 2019	Distinction
Charlie Woods	Acting Grade 3 – Solo	Summer 2019	Distinction
Joshua Awolesi	Acting Grade 4 – Solo	Summer 2019	Merit
Henry Bhagobati	Acting Grade 4 – Solo	Summer 2019	Distinction
Freddy Mulvany	Acting Grade 4 – Solo	Summer 2019	Distinction
Barnaby Titmus Mather	Acting Grade 4 – Solo	Summer 2019	Merit
Harry Xu	Acting Grade 4 – Solo	Summer 2019	Merit
George Bowder	Acting Grade 5 – Solo	Summer 2019	Distinction

Autumn Term

Junior Production: Who Pushed Humpty Dumpty?

A giant egg, marching soldiers, nursery rhyme characters and a Prime Minister all took to the stage in this year's Junior Production of 'Who Pushed Humpty Dumpty?' And what a treat it was! Political satire interspersed with 'egg'cellent jokes brought the house down as boys donned wigs, dresses and unfeasibly large hats to keep us all entertained. Bertie Corbett, surely a star in the making, delivered a stunning performance as the rancorous King Humpty Dumpty, ably supported by his obsequious Prime Minister, Edward Lee. There were plenty of suspects when the audience was left musing over who had the best reason for finally pushing Humpty off the wall. Was it feisty Little Bo Peep (Edward Yates) who, with her flowing locks and knowledge of rural estate management, was quite the part.

Or was it Old Mother Hubbard (Ismail Khalid), complaining convincingly about her decreasing pension as a result of Humpty Dumpty's personal home improvements. Jack and Jill (Chenchen Guo and James Lee) and the Old Woman in a Shoe (Harry Woods) all gave well delivered, eerily accurate warnings to the pompous Egg King. The people's conscience, Princess Snowflake (Alexander Meager) held her father to account and all came right in the last scene when both she and dashing Prince Half Heart (Jack St Aubyn) proclaimed that all wrongs had been righted following Humpty Dumpty's unfortunate downfall. Special mention must be given to the Toy Soldiers (Jeremy Hao, Ben Adlam, Grigory Tsutskarev, Eric Yue and Fergus Brindle) led by the Captain of the Guard

(Dzhabrail Albakov) who are all stand-up comedians in the making! Last, but not least, the articulate Royal Messenger (Rory Watson) wearing a tongue in cheek 'Twitter' logo on his tunic.

However, the biggest thank you must go to the incredible Mrs Chatfield and her team for the outstanding costumes (Humpty Dumpty's deserved an award!) and brilliantly crafted script. A truly 'cracking' production!



Spring Term

Middle School Production: The E.S.S. Koa

CAPTAIN HOLT AND THE PURSUIT OF RUBY GARNETT

This year's Middle School production was a bespoke written Musical, by Director of Music, Richard Frost, with full band, video link calls, custom built sets and headphone style microphones for all the main cast. The following reports have been made by the Earth President at the time, President Frost.

"March 25th 2941, 6pm. It is the launch of our brand new premier ship of the fleet, the Earth Star Ship Koa. Captain Holt and his crew are on board and will be introduced to the VIPs by our Announcer, Dave. A good man who sings 'Let's get ready to rumble' superbly, getting everyone in good spirits. Duties then fall to second in command, Commandeer Paxon Averatt to take the VIPs through their paces before, during and after 'Take Off'. Captain Holt is introduced to the crew but then Admiral Buckley calls to give the crew a new mission, to find the Ruby Garnett. We set off to collect the new Doctor, and then look to pursue the Ruby Garnett.

Reports reach me that Count Kaceton is around and is trying to infiltrate the ship. Surely this can't happen on our flagship?"

"March 25th 2941, 8:04pm. The ship has collected their Doctor and the crew are welcoming him with open arms. Lieutenant

Giga-Bite, Lieutenant Xander Buckley, Lieutenant Commander Oak Gratton and Sub-Lieutenant Pylo Mason try to get to know the Doctor and complain about their various problems on the ship ('You've gotta help us out doc') and with their lives. I do hope he can help them, it is important the crew are all happy. At this point, the Captain and Commander enter and prepare the ship for the arrival of their special guest who has been selected to help them in their quest to find the Ruby Garnett. To Captain Holt's great surprise and horror, this 'expert' is his estranged brother, Jaxtyn Holt. Commander Paxon reveals that Admiral Buckley had confided this in him in preparation, while Jaxtyn tries to convince his brother he has changed, but Zeric remains unsure if he can Trust Him. Eventually, but still with a great deal of trepidation, Captain Holt accepts his brother's help and the crew of the E.S.S Koa set off on the final part of their New Mission to the planet Zalphonia to visit the Zalphonites. The Admiral has assured me this Jaxtyn fellow is the best man to help, and this is the best crew to sort this problem. I do hope he is correct. Earth cannot afford for Kaceton to get a hold of this Ruby!"

"March 26th 2941, 1:32am. Admiral Buckley has just informed me of a most disturbing conversation he has had with Captain Holt. Apparently, the Admiral has discovered there is a traitor on the ship, who intends on betraying the crew and



taking the Ruby for themselves. Captain Holt finds this information extremely distressing, and, after finishing the call with the Admiral, begins to question his own judgement and abilities as a captain, whilst contemplating which member of his crew could be the traitor showing this level of Deception and Betrayal. In the end, he decides to continue with his plan, see how it plays out and keep an eye on the Doctor, who is his chief suspect. I'm putting a lot of faith in Captain Holt, I hope I'm not let down by him and his crew.

In the meantime, back on the bridge, Xander and Giga are discussing Xander's recent promotion to Chief of Security. Xander is still feeling unworthy of his promotion, while Giga is wanting to ask questions about how to be more human and the human impact of his feelings on doing his job properly. Oak and Pylo also join in the conversation, along with the Doctor, who is always keen to deflect from questions about himself. The crew seem to trust him and are happy to divulge their Secrets to him. Eventually, the ship arrives at Zalphonia and the Captain and Commander returns to the bridge to communicate with the Zalphonites."

"March 26th 2941, 2:22am. An away team has been selected by the Captain, and they head down to the planet to visit this new alien race. When on the planet, the Zalphons introduce themselves to the crew, and Gabe Zalphon, their leader, questions the crew regarding why they are here. Following Jaxtyn's advice, Zeric tells them about their peace-keeping mission and not Ruby. Jaxtyn also puts in a good word for the crew, which seems to win Gabe over, and convinces Gabe that his intentions are pure, who eventually agrees to lead the crew to Ruby Garnett (The Zalphon Jam).

As they near the cave, Gabe Zalphon says only three would be allowed in the final cabin, and, after a discussion, it is agreed the Doctor, Jaxtyn and Zeric are the agreed three. When the three are in the cave, Jaxtyn finally reveals his plan, the Doctor is a robot made by him to take the blame for Zeric's death (My Time Is Now). Jaxtyn takes the Ruby to combine with the ring that he already has and kills Zeric.

He then gets the Doctor to shoot him in the leg in order to look like he struggled in the fight. Jaxtyn leaves the cave and tells Paxon about the Doctor killing Zeric, but shows him the Ruby. Jaxtyn urges the crew to return to the ship with him and flee, completing the mission, but Paxon insists on going into the cave. He finds the Doctor stood over the body of the Captain. Gabe tells the Commander about a rumour: within the cave lies a spirit who has extraordinary powers. They manage to extract this spirit who brings the Captain back from the dead, and Zeric says to return to the ship quickly (Ruby Garnett).

Back on the ship, the crew are mourning the death of their beloved captain, when, suddenly, Captain Holt appears with the help of Gabe, Paxon, the Doctor and Ruby Garnett. Paxon tells Giga to arrest the Doctor as he is a badly programmed robot. Zeric reveals the truth and before Jaxtyn can attack him again, Xander steps in to fight, and beat, Jaxtyn. The mission is brought to a satisfying conclusion (V.E.T.S (reprise)) and it appears the danger has been averted. Some of the events in these reports are quite extraordinary, but Captain Holt is a good man, so I trust him. The only negative from this mission was that we didn't manage to capture Count Kaceton, who remains at large.

This is Earth President Frost, signing out".

What a fabulous way to end the Spring Term! This year's Middle School production, 'The E.S.S. Koa', was a triumph. From the costumes to the set, from the stylish acting to the high energy choreography, this was a show to remember. There were upbeat songs a-plenty, accompanied by a professional band, and our attention was often divided between what was happening on stage with images and film being beamed onto the wings. We were introduced to captains and admirals, evil counts, commanders, doctors and aliens, all of whom had their lines and moves honed to perfection. It was a great show and the audience left the auditorium humming and bopping.

Summer Term

Senior production: Bugsy Malone

The sports hall was once again transformed on the morning of Saturday, July 6th. Fat Sam's nightclub – aka Speakeasy – was the scene for some hoodlum rivalry. In the vicious world of lemonade and cola distribution, Fat Sam's gang (relying on the traditional custard pie) were being threatened by Dandy Dan and his mobsters with their altogether far more effective splurge gun. Fat Sam just had to get his hands on that new weapon!

We were treated to some suitably thuggish mobsters in the hands of Adam Narfeldt, Marcus van Koetsveld, Max Scannell and of course Freddie Cowling who played the unfortunate Doodle. He got his just desserts (a custard pie or three) for dropping his splurge gun. Their boss was elegantly acted by Troy Gumbrell, the very essence of suave brutality. As for Fat Sam's gang, Emeric Bensoussan, Chris Nicholson and Charlie Woods tried to

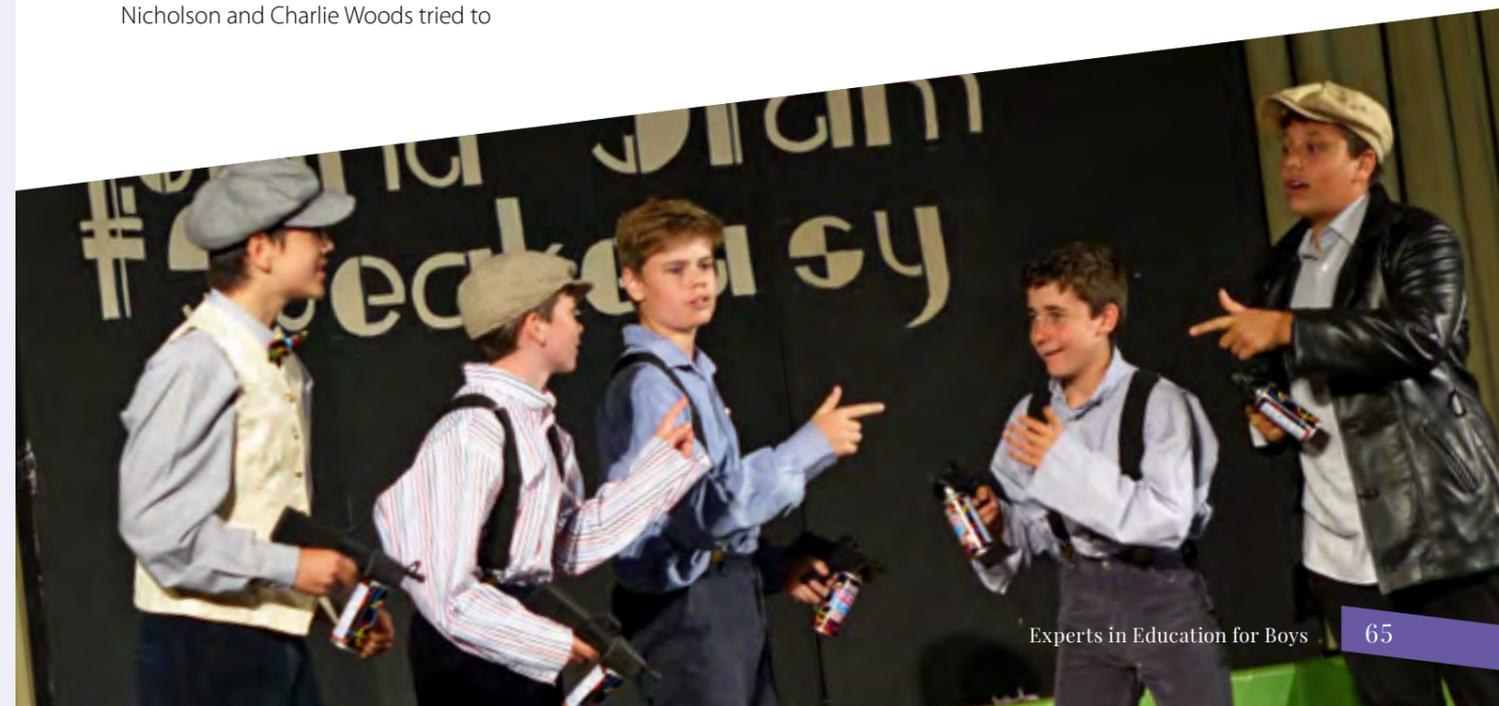
convince us that they had some brain power – "dumb bums we ain't" – but to little avail. Hugo White gave a cracking performance as Fat Sam, dealing as best he could with his motley crew.

Throughout the play the cast gave a thoroughly enjoyable performance, and jumped into their roles with energy and a great sense of fun. We enjoyed the comic duo of Rory Downie and Sam Popo as the two incompetent policemen; Zhenfeng Kan bounced onto the stage as the keen reporter Seymour Scoop; and Charles Edu gave a moving performance as the ever-hopeful Fizzy, for whom "tomorrow never comes". Your reviewer shouldn't really single out any particular performance, but surely we will all remember the charmingly sinuous movements of Tallulah and her band of dancers. They were played magnificently by Oliver Cartwright and the redoubtable Hugo

Tollit, Charlie and Ralph Ricketts and Harvey Vere-Whiting.

Matthew Howard was superb as the fresh-faced Blousey. He acted with simple and graceful charm, and sang with the sweet innocence that suited the role. Throughout rehearsals, Hugo Knight acted with confidence and charisma. Sadly he was ill on the performance morning – his understudy (Mr Shaw) took inspiration from Hugo's interpretation of the role, and hopefully brought some of Hugo's charmingly cheeky style to the stage.

Hugh, Barnaby, Ludwig and William kept the sound and props moving along without a hiccup. We take our hats off to all concerned for a morning with lots of fun, laughs, buzz and frivolity. Well done to the whole cast!



Director of Sport Review

Opening up our sport management system I see that over the year, we have had formal competitions and fixtures in 13 different sports. A good number of boys here at Horris Hill have managed to compete in all of these, and still achieve great things in their academics. The wealth of opportunities for boys here at Horris Hill has never been better. This year saw us compete for the first time ever in a formal fencing fixture, ably led by our own in house specialist, Mr Andrew Gillott.

Whilst the 1st XIII rugby team had a superb season on our circuit and on national tour, our 1st XI cricket team have quietly gone about their way to finish an excellent cricket season. Whilst their match reports will never amount to the lyrical genius offered by Mr Frost in his 2nd XI accounts, they do point towards a group of boys who are passionate about their cricket, inside and outside of school. My thanks on behalf of the boys to all those who have fostered the love of the game in all boys here at Horris Hill and I too will now be looking at the scorecards of these leavers from afar and hope to see them continue to thrive in this and all sport.

This year has been the first year where a specific and dedicated Sports Scholarship program has been executed and our candidates for these awards have felt the benefits of looking after their physicality and developing in strength and power.

We were delighted that Barnaby Talbot-Williams and Freddie Moore were awarded Sports Scholarships to their senior schools. One of the best answers I've heard to an interview question during one of these senior school assessment days came from this group. When asked why he wanted to be awarded a sports scholarship to a school, the answer came quickly and simply to say, I just want to play more!

Horris Hill never looks better as a sporting establishment than in the Summer term and standing in the middle, umpiring games; you have the opportunity to look up and see what is on offer. I am constantly inspired by what I see and I think the boys are too. Our heartfelt thanks to the grounds team for all they do to prepare us the best wickets possible, and more broadly keeping our sporting facilities looking as good as possible!

The swell of enthusiasm for sport amongst boys has never been higher and I look towards a sport like squash as a demonstration of this. Boys playing on their own and managing their own games during free time is just wonderful to watch. Seeing full cricket matches being played during free time, entirely arranged by boys reminds me of my schooling back in South Africa where we used a wooden plank off a desk and a dustbin for wickets and of course a taped-up tennis ball for reality. 'The more you do, the better you get' is an adage the boys will have heard a lot from staff and this certainly seems to be on the up. Sporting outcomes at Horris Hill will have its cycles but I can say with a great degree of certainty that the love for sport at Horris Hill is as high as ever and long may this continue.

Mr Paul Hayes, Director of Sport



Football

1st XI

What looked like a good team on paper gave us the sense that we could do something with the season. A few new faces as always and a good number of boys who played football outside of school is always a good gauge on the passion for the sport within the players.

An early win against Thorngrove in something of a goal fest gave us further reason to feel upbeat. Scoring 5 goals in one game requires strikers who can do exactly that and this has been something that we have missed in previous seasons.

We acquitted ourselves fairly well against better teams in Pilgrims' and Papplewick although the latter may have gone our way had we started better and not made a few critical defensive errors. These results took the wind out of our sails to a large extent.

We went to a Daneshill and Pangbourne triangular desperately looking for some confidence and were pushed off the ball in midfield by Daneshill who were more streetwise than we were. Losing this game, we needed something from the afternoon and we managed to just that with a good display against Pangbourne who looked better than the 4-0 defeat we dished them up.

Midseason is always the time to see us shift focus slightly and look towards the IAPS 6's. We played 5 games, with 2 losses early on and then managed to play some very fine football to win the next 3 and take home a bit of silverware as the plate champions.

Moving back into 11 a side football we then went to a Pangbourne Triangular. This turned out to be a very special



afternoon with the boys involved in a mini tournament involving a range of other U13 teams from Daneshill and Pangbourne. Fantastic interplay going forward and assured defence saw the team score several high quality goals and secure 3 wins and 1 loss across the afternoon.

The highlight of the season has to be our game against Elstree. It turned out to be a very close affair but it showed just what we are capable of when our tails are up in the air. Neither team really dominated the play early on and we certainly did not look composed on the ball, trying to play faster than our feet could move.

Despite this, aggressive play from the right of midfield led to Charles Chu slotting the first goal for Horris Hill. A defensive mishap at the back led to a penalty for Elstree which they converted with ease. 1-1 at the half and it was all to play for.

Early on in the second half, we were found wanting again and Elstree went ahead and our heads dropped notably. A fortuitous strike late on in the game led to a keeper error and the ball slipped through for our equalizer. Suddenly, and somewhat frustratingly, our tails were now up and we wanted to play football. If only we could play the entire game as such, and indeed the entire season.

Congratulations to the boys on a tough season with very few wins to show for their efforts. It's a funny situation when momentum swings against a team and this certainly seems to have been the case here.

PBH



2nd XI

The 2nd XI made a rather slow start to their season as it took some time to get the right players into the team. This was a shame as we lost a string of matches that we could have won. Once the team was settled, we began to make better progress and looked a much stronger side.

In goal Marcus Scales proved himself to be a strong shot stopper. On the right of the defence Oliver Cartwright showed a good turn of speed. On the left Oscar Revell covered huge amounts of ground and although his sense of positioning was at times interesting, he made many vital tackles and clearances. In the middle of the pitch the Ricketts brothers played in a forthright manner and provided a strong spine for the team. Nathan van Neerven probably made more progress during the course of the season than anyone and by the end of the season was terrifying opposition defences; fittingly he scored a hatrick in the final match of the season. As captain Rory Downie set an excellent example for his team both in practice sessions and in matches. As an attacking player he struck the ball sweetly and scored some super goals.

I think our most pleasing result was a very tense victory at Cothill. That afternoon we had a much changed team and after a slightly shaky start, losing an early goal, we managed to score a couple of times to go into half-time 2 – 1 ahead. For almost the whole of the second half we had to defend and we did so determinedly and as a team. Cothill had many chances but somehow we always managed to frustrate them and get a man in the way.

MPW



3rd XI

The U13C team had a super season winning 7 matches and drawing 3 with only one loss. The boys had a huge amount of fun and their coach did too! We had Hugo White flying down the right wing and Rmaan and Juan flying down the left, the opposition did not know where to turn with Rodrigo and Daniel Yu controlling things in mid-field!

Our solid defence with Hugo Tollit, Nicholas Jin and Tony Huang and some great goal-keeping from Hugh Williamson-Jones helped secure a very memorable and successful season. Well done all the boys, they should be very proud of their efforts.

AWR





4th XI

After the long, hot summer break, a number of our squad did not return at the peak of physical fitness it must be said. The first few weeks of term were rather a shock to the system for many and it took us a while to fire on all cylinders. We started off as unfit, disorganised rabble but we developed into a lean, mean, well-organised machine.

We played 9 matches over the course of the season and we won 5, drew 2 and lost 2 which is a great set of results.

Some great goalkeeping from Hugh Williamson-Jones and George Denison-Smith kept us in a number of matches and some excellent outfield skill by Henry Bhagobati is also worth a mention.

Well done on a successful season.

PJLS

5th XI

It is said that great football teams need to lose sometimes in order to improve. It is also said that that which does not kill you makes you stronger. By these measurements, the 5ths ought to be one of the best teams in the world. We succumbed to a 12-0 defeat to Papplewick in our first game. By the time they had notched up a double figure deficit against us, we were trooping back to the half-way line much in the manner of Napoleon's troops returning from a winter holiday in Russia. Indeed, towards the end of the game, I don't think all the forwards could summon the optimism to walk to the half way line, preferring to remain in the penalty area ready to attempt to repel invaders once again. Our next game went better, only losing 3-0 to Elstree. By the end of the season our over-drilled and over-experienced defence were able to keep a clean sheet against Cothill. Given the trajectory of the season, if the majority of the team were not leavers we could expect to win all our matches next year.

ACG



U11A

It has been a long and tough football season for the U11As, but one where great promise has been shown. We may have only won four from our twelve matches, but most of the games saw a very close result, losing only by the odd goal, and being in most of the matches that we played in, as demonstrated by our Goal Difference of only -7. Consistency of selection was a key to the season, with all the players knowing each others games very well by the end of the season. Gabriel "David Seaman" Bowder, despite being the youngest member of the team, put in some sterling displays in goal and pulled off some great saves. I look forward to seeing his progress next year, and I hope we will hear his voice even more on the pitch. Kevin "Tony Adams" Lee and Beltran "Sergio Busquets" Menendez gave numerous solid displays at the back, always being prepared to dive in front of the ball to prevent a shot going in. Tobe "Paulo Di Canio" Odogwu and Oscar "Steve McManaman" Moore were the most creative players and demonstrated a great amount of flair all season, creating numerous chances for their teammates. Fergal "Alan Shearer" Byrne was the surprise find of the season, and most improved player. His tireless work upfront created many opportunities for the team to launch

attacks and his selfless work allowed others to score when in a better position. Maximilian "Patrick Vieira" Eze added a great deal of power and strength to the team, demonstrating what a good player he can be on many occasions. Finishing the season with 18 goals is a fantastic effort from midfield and he should be very pleased with his debut Horris Hill season. Freddy "Rio Ferdinand" Mulvany captained the team tremendously all year. He has developed some excellent leadership skills over the course of the season.

The highlights of the season have been an impressive 'backs against the wall' victory over Pilgrims' 2-1 early on in the season as well as a more convincing win in the triangular tournament at St Francis, where some of the football played was simply scintillating stuff. The best performance of the year came in the first half at Summer Fields, where, despite going behind twice in the match, the scintillating football was reminiscent of Barcelona at times as we raced into a 5-2 lead. They have been a pleasure to coach this year, and I thank them all for their efforts throughout the season. Well done boys.

RPF





U11B Football

The U11Bs endured a tough football season, coming up against a succession of strong teams and finding it hard to keep them out and score goals past them. Our best performance came in our penultimate match against Summer Fields, who always do a good job of matching our standard to ensure a competitive game. Here is the match report, which gives a flavour of our season as a whole:

We arrived at Summer Fields in torrential rain; not the sort of weather for a lengthy warm-up or pre-match pep talk. Digby led the team for a quick jog and stretch, Mr Moss promised not to shout instructions from the sidelines and the game got underway. Early signs were good with some slick passing, despite the conditions, though this did not lead to any clear-cut chances. Instead, Summer Fields managed to create a couple of their own. Their striker ghosted beyond our defence, received the ball and only a good save from Toby Jia kept him out. Shortly afterwards a long-range effort bounced just in front of Toby and skidded past him for Summer Fields to take a somewhat fortuitous lead. This was an all too familiar situation, but to our boys' credit they continued to press forward with some good passing and were able to take a number of long range shots. These brought out some decent saves from the opposing keeper, but did not result in an equalizer. At half time we were one - nil down.

The half time message was to keep playing as we had done, try to take more shots from closer range and the Bs would get the goals that their performance deserved.

Too often we have started the second half poorly and lost the game in five sloppy minutes, but the opposite was true today. William Griffin quickly got into a good position on the right and put in a low cross. William Platt - finally listening to the encouragement to get into the box - slotted home a cool

finish to level the scores. William P was playing with confidence, mixing skill with clever passes. Soon after the first goal he picked the ball up from the edge of the box on the left, beat a defender and blasted the ball past the keeper. Another goal inside the box!

Suddenly we were ahead - a rather unfamiliar sensation this season - and unsure as to how to proceed. Summer Fields rallied well, buoyed by vocal home support and a strong run by the left wing (and some weak attempts at tackling) led to an equalizing goal. This served to shake any complacency our boys were feeling and we responded positively. William P again found space on the left, this time outside the box, and unleashed a curling effort which, despite the keeper getting a hand to the ball, nestled in the top corner. Again, Summer Fields attacked and came close, with Toby Jia pulling off a good save from a free kick. With not long to go they pressed for another equalizer, leaving space at the back. A clearance found its way to Jaime Zamacola, who (against instructions) was lurking just inside the opposition half. He surged forward and finished calmly. This gave us a precious two goal cushion for the last five minutes. Summer Fields were able to score again, but it was not enough and the final whistle went just in time to save Digby the embarrassment of missing with only the keeper to beat.

This was an exciting and close match, though we played the better football. It was immensely satisfying to see our boys making good decisions for themselves, picking passes and not being afraid to shoot. It was even more satisfying that this resulted in a victory for the team. Man of the match was William Platt for finally scoring and doing so in such style, not to mention following advice to get further forward before pulling the trigger.

SJM



U11D

Arriving new to Horris Hill this term, I was soon made very happy when I discovered which football team I'd be coaching. The boys in the U11D team were a real delight to coach and made a great deal of progress throughout the season.

At the start, they were not too sure about how the term would be and it is fair to say did not have too high hopes. However, they soon gelled as a team and played with a fighting spirit that grew and grew throughout the season.

We had six fixtures. Despite losing 4 and winning 2, it was a real success because the goal difference in the 4 lost matches was always very narrow.

With regards to fixtures there were 4 highlights for me. 1) Having lost against Thorngrove originally, when playing again we won. 2) Playing against Cheam, who started off looking as if they would beat us convincingly after scoring a goal in the first few minutes, succumbed to our "Don't give up" determination. We scored the next 4 goals, winning a really gripping match 3-2. (Do the maths and you can work out that we scored a home goal!) 3) Beating our own U11Cs in a triangular tournament. 4) The best match of the season was against Twyford. There is nothing better than to play a really even match with opportunities for goals on both sides. They were a strong side and looked like they would do well, but I had confidence in the boys that they would deliver - and boy did they do that. Although we lost 1-0, they fought hard against a physically bigger team, showing real grit. Finally in the last ten minutes we wore them down and had a few shots at goal but unfortunately their goal keeper was rather good!

Forgetting the results, I must reiterate what a pleasure it has been to coach these boys this term. They have been full of beans, always ready to try hard and they have made a great deal of progress.

Awards go to the following boys: Most goals scored by Justin Hao. Most improved players go to (runner up) Eugen Spies and Xerxes Gulabani. Hardest player to get past: Daniel Yates. Boy most likely to be in every position at all times and still not out of breath: Aeneas Sexton. Player of the season: Fabian Reis.

All boys deserve a special mention and should be really proud of their achievements.

PNB

U9

Two good matches against Pilgrims' provided a rich learning experience for the first competitive session. Many lessons were learnt turning defeat into a draw. Well done Harry (Captain) for sweeping the pitch and for taking many 'on target' shots at goal.

Bertie was rightly crowned Boy of the Match for some brave goalkeeping under pressure and in an oversized top against Twyford. In defence there were some good solid clearances although eye and boot coordination were not quite there yet. Energetic runs from Harry and Rory took the ball from one end of the pitch to the other but work was needed to finish the attack with the ball in the net.

Overall, plenty of fun and hard work leading to much improved play.

DJSW





Rugby



With the rugby season ever expanding, training had been taking place weekly since the start of the Michaelmas term.

The season, as is tradition now, started with a trip to the Wellington College festival. Three good wins, a draw and a loss meant that the boys learned as the day went on and also gave us heart that the extra sessions had helped with the season's preparations. The final match against Eagle House was the best display, culminating in a 20-5 victory and some really exciting rugby being played.

The next two fixtures saw us play Pilgrims' and Papplewick before heading off on tour. The Pilgrims' game ended in a hard-fought victory, but missed tackles and many many handling errors left us feeling that there was much to work on. Papplewick was a far better game for Horris, running out 35-5 winners and playing some scintillating rugby at times. Tries were shared amongst 7 players.

Following these fixtures the team embarked on the annual rugby tour, starting with a match against Winchester House. The opposition were desperate to gain revenge after last year and although we played well at times, their drive and desire outdid ours and we simply didn't win enough ball at the breakdown. When we had ball in hand we were looking dangerous, but in the second half I believe that we only had the ball twice in the 25 minutes.

Following the 20-10 loss to Winchester House we carried on to Brambletye (after watching the BaaBaas v Argentina

at Twickenham) who put us up overnight, adding the experience for the boys. This match was possibly one of the best of the season. Brambletye were big in stature and aggressive. The lessons learned from the day before stood the boys in good stead however and we won the majority of breakdowns and ended up running out 25-15 winners in a tense match. Finally we played Edgeborough in a fairly one sided match, but special mention must go to Oliver Cartwright who scored two tries and was outstanding in defence.

After the Christmas break the team continued in the same manner, winning two comfortable games against weaker opposition, however they were perfect to get the team back into the competitive nature of rugby again.

Then illness struck!

In a school the size of Horris Hill when we lose several key members of a side it can impact heavily. During this period, we were at times as many as 8 'first pick' players down and had to call in U12 players to make up the shortfall. The timing couldn't have been worse with us facing Pilgrims', Twyford and Summer Fields in that period!

Having said all that, the drive, determination and skill that the players showed in this period was outstanding. All the games ended in losses, but Pilgrims' was by one try, Summer Fields by 2 tries and Twyford by a last gasp try

with the final play of the match. This spell was frustrating in a results sense, but it showed that the depth of the schools' rugby had grown and had we been able to put out the full squad, we could easily have beaten three very good sides.

Full strength resumed after this period and comfortable wins against Papplewick, Farleigh and Daneshill all led up to the final fixture of the season at Newbury RFC. In the words of 'the young' Mr Shaw, 'It was a Sky Sports Classic'. This is the second year that the school have played Newbury under lights on the main pitch at the rugby club and the occasion seems to bring the best out of the players. Rory Downie picked up man of the match after a fine display against 'his' clubs side, but mention must also go to Emeric, Rufus Watson, Barney Talbot-Williams and Freddie Moore who were outstanding all evening. The game ended in a 15-15 draw, the fairest result for two teams who had displayed courage, respect and humility throughout the evening.

Thanks must go to Hugo Knight who was an outstanding captain, he led the side with strength and maturity, he epitomised the ethos of the side and it was noticeable when he was away.
 Played – 18
 Won – 11
 Lost – 5
 Drew – 2

NPB

U13B

Sadly, 2 of our 5 fixtures were cancelled due to inclement weather so we had 2 away fixtures at Papplewick and 1 away fixture at Summer Fields. We shared the spoils with Papplewick and were narrowly beaten by a very strong Summer Fields side. Many of the team were not hugely keen on their rugby to say the least so I was impressed that a number gave it a go and tried hard in training and in matches. Particular mentions go to Oscar Revell for his excellent right hook, to Tony Huang for his scintillating runs and to Hugo White for being a very confident and competent leader.

PJLS

U12A

I don't think I have ever come across a more diverse group of boys than what the U12A rugby team offered. There was some really raw ability within this group and boys early season training showed that 4 or 5 of the squad could run with the ball with good effect. It was clearly going to be the type of season where encouragement and enthusiasm were going to be desperately sought.

That said we came across some teams who were very good and had played the game for many more years than some of our boys and their ability to play a team game and trust the players next to us was something we were left trying to emulate.

As far as success go, I believe the boys continued to enjoy the games despite the losses that came their way. There were significant improvements made in several departments although the most improved player over the season would have to be Charles Chu who took giant leaps forward playing at full back and developing an ability to affect several try saving tackles within a game. George Bowder held the midfield together with his tireless work alongside Ned Cleland's superb distribution but we will look to encourage the evasive running of Olowatoni Shogbola next season to best affect the game.

Rugby is clearly a game where cohesion and bravery are key and with further developments in skill, we hope to foster this in the seasons to come.

PBH

U12B

This was an enjoyable term of rugby for the U12Bs. Although the boys didn't taste victory as often as we might have liked, but the boys did try hard and did make progress throughout the season. When on full form, Nicholas Riley was wonderfully fast and scored the odd try out of nowhere. Sam Shi was our warrior and it took the bravest of opposition to bring him down. Most improved players go to Timipre Ebimami and Daniel Yu. However, player of the season goes to Richard Ovey. Whether in training or in matches, he was by far the pluckiest player. Someone twice his size did not faze him: he would always get stuck in and was an example to all.

Well done boys for this season of rugby.

PNB



U11A

I had a fantastic season with these boys and the improvement they showed was remarkable. Considering they had only drawn one match the previous year to improve to 10 wins, 2 draws and one loss was quite amazing. They were led by Oscar Moore, their Captain and Fly Half, but this was a whole team affair. Max and Dino would give us our go forward but in the forward, Arthur, Fergal and Alfie were there doing the hard work. Freddy Mulvany helped get the ball out to William and Digby on the wings and Beltran added our Spanish flair to proceedings. It was a remarkable team who I am very fond of, I am even going to try and coach the next year as the U12s! If Mr Hayes lets them...

AWR

U9

A remarkable thing about U9s rugby is the difference in both the size and speed of boys of the same age. At the start of the season, most of our opponents were approximately eye height and we were able to secure a series of close but rewarding victories against Papplewick, Woodcote, St Gabriel's and Pilgrims'. Over Christmas our opponents doubled in size and ferocity. This extract from the match report at Daneshill gives a flavour of what we were up against: "Enormous credit is due to every warrior who, having come second in a crunching encounter, reassembled their limbs into approximately human shape just in time to jump in front of the next train thundering down the line. At one point, half the team was in tears at the restart but played on regardless. Jack St Aubyn gained most of the pitch in one run while Edward Lee and Alex Meager teamed up to allow Alex to squeeze a try over the line in the dying minutes. Scoring in the last moments of a gruesome defeat is commendable, showing extraordinary determination and bloody-minded disregard for the score." On the whole, this was a very exciting season with a great deal of experience to learn from for next year.



U10A

Our U10s are a team of players with great potential. I predict they will be an all-conquering 1st XV in a few years' time and I will quietly think to myself that the foundations were laid in the 2018-19 season. Tobe Odogwu was talismanic all season and the team were ably led by William Griffin. It did feel as though we peaked in December and never quite hit the same heights in the new year. Most of our games were close and it was tough to narrowly lose quite a few of them, though hopefully this will make the boys more resilient in the long run. By way of summing up our season, here is the match report for our final game, played against Ludgrove:

This match was a microcosm of our U10 season and as such a fitting end to it. The boys showed a lot of promise, particularly in the first half, but weren't able to sustain this and familiar failings resurfaced in the second half, which ultimately cost us the match.

The first half was an excellent advert for prep school rugby, with two teams playing at an even level, hard, but fairly. Tries were traded at regular intervals and although it was Tobe's name on the scoresheet for all three of ours, they were the result of positive team play. Ludgrove were able to score right at the end of the half to even the scores so the match hung in the balance. There was room for improvement and at half time Mr Benwell reinforced the message that has been drummed into the boys all season about closing the opposition down in defence and getting the ball into space in attack.

In the second half, as Ludgrove, buoyed by the try they had scored just before half term, took the attack to us, we reverted to (bad) habits with our tackling - either too high or lacking commitment. This allowed Ludgrove to secure a lead. We continued to see plenty of the ball and our rucking was good, but another bad habit - a tendency to bunch up - meant that it was all too easy for Ludgrove to defend against us. This was compounded by our refusal to pass the ball and indeed to put ourselves into space to receive it. Familiar frustrations! In practice we have started to break these habits, but under pressure and tired in matches, it is proving harder. Abubakir did well to pounce on a loose ball and score a consolation try, but the second half very much belonged to Ludgrove and the final score was 20 - 35 them.

Cricket



1st XI Cricket Report

Traditionally our fixture card suggests we start the season with two tough matches against Twyford and St Andrew's. This laid down the bench mark for where we were at for the season and after two narrow defeats, there was an ominous feeling that all the promise and hard work that had gone on before the season may come too little. We sat down and had a good look at those games and targeted specific areas to improve on.

This made all the difference!

Focusing on the process and the love of the game rather than the outcomes saw us turn things around quite dramatically with a superb win against a very good Pilgrims side away. Freddie Cowling and Rory Downie shining this afternoon with a 50 for Rory and a 5 wicket haul for Freddie. This was the sign of things to come and wins against Brockhurst and a winning draw against Woodcote House were very positive afternoons. Again we looked to Eltree for a real test of where we were at and whilst pitch lengths have been under some discussion more broadly, we stuck to our recipe and bowled well to remove key batsmen at regular intervals. I am sure the highlight for many was Rory Downie reaching his century in a dominant display of batting! Nervous times to be parents and huge admiration for this knock!

The season was not without setbacks as we went through. It was a great pity for Harvey Vere-Whiting that he missed the best part of the season through a foot injury and Rory Downie, moments before he was about to reach his half century against Oratory, fell foul to a dislocated knee which

saw him miss out on a few games. What you do when these things happen often defines a team and it was great to see others step in to fill the gaps that were left.

Most certainly the most exciting game of the season came against Papplewick in the heat of a Summer Saturday. Bowling them out for 56, we thought things should come relatively easily in the chase but boy were we surprised. A superb bowling attack saw us lose almost all of our well recognized batsmen, leaving our tail to scrape 30 runs off some very economical and aggressive bowling. Charlie Ricketts and Hugo Knight showed the patience of saints to steer us towards the win.

Seeing a team arrive at an away fixture and the way they go about those 20-30 minutes prior to the game says everything about the team in my opinion. What summed this group of boys up for me was the way they went about their training and desire to get better. Seeing them take it upon themselves to warm up each other up and work together to get the best out of each other suggests exactly why they have had such a successful season.

My thanks to Nick Compton for his support for the team and for the wider program here at Horris Hill and to Richard Hindley for his ongoing work here at Horris Hill.

Lastly, a sincere thank you to the captain of the team, Barnaby Talbot-Williams who has led with clarity and precision and one whom boys have trusted to show the way. Well done gentlemen on a very successful season!

PBH

Cricket Teams



1st XI Cricket 2019



2nd XI Cricket 2019



U11A Cricket 2019



U11C Cricket 2019



3rd XI Cricket 2019



U9 Cricket 2019



U11B Cricket 2019



U11D Cricket 2019



3rd XI

We have had a lot of fun and played some pretty decent cricket too. Hugo White led from the front as our Captain and would bat at 3 and usually open the bowling. He even produced the odd 50 when in the right mood. Rmaan was one of our key players and turned into a pretty decent batsman by the end of the season. He was accompanied often by Hugo Tollit at the crease and with Joshua following shortly afterwards. Luke and Barnaby would open the batting for us and usually get us off to a good start. All the boys have done brilliantly and made their coach very proud.

AWR

U11A

The U11As have had a testing season, winning a respectable number of matches, yet also coming up against some far stronger teams. This has been no bad thing as it has shown how good it is possible to be, without resulting in too many demoralizing losses. There have been a couple of these (against Elstree and Cothill), but there have also been some strong wins (against Brockhurst, Woodcote and Farleigh). Everyone in the regular team has contributed significantly on at least one occasion and can look back on matches where they have played very well. It took a while, but we were able to develop a settled team of eleven regular starters who all knew their roles within the team, who were comfortable with these roles and so able to develop them. Oscar Moore was our stand-out player, on a different level in terms of skill and technique, but everyone else showed that they have potential to be equally fine players and made progress. The greatest challenge has been

putting the team first and overcoming the individuality that can sometimes erode team spirit. Cricket is a stern test of emotional control and just occasionally we have been found wanting. Freshest in the memory is our final match against Papplewick. It was a real nail biter as we looked to defend a total of 111 runs. Some excellent bowling saw us chip away at the wickets, but Papplewick's score crept inexorably towards ours. In the end Papplewick snuck the victory, much to our disappointment. Once this passes I hope that these players will realise how much they can learn about themselves and about playing the game from this experience. They will certainly be stronger for it. It has been a tough season, sometimes frustrating and exhausting, but I for one would not have swapped the opportunity to travel this journey with these players for anything in the world.

SJM

U11B

The season started like any other; grey clouds, super keen boys, too many cricket balls to count, too many names to learn and one new member of staff who was keen to impress in his first season.

Our first game got off to a rocky start with a defeat to St Andrews. The boys were helped by the experience of Digby Tollit opening the bowling, but, despite his great efforts, Horris Hill were chased down in under 15 overs.

Then after a week of solid training in nets and the boys learning how easy it was to score singles, we went on a three game winning streak that had the whole school talking. Who were this group of cricketing gods who got the runs and wickets? Was it a patient and glorious innings like Joe Root or boundary fest like Jos Butler and stump bowler who has more swing than Frank Sinatra on Broadway or even the match report writing genius of Matchin Tendulkar?

No.

The boys just found their ways and played in all 3 games like it was going to be their last.

Every bowl greeted with applause, every ball greeted with a cheer of joy this was it, this is what the parents had come to see nothing could stop us now.

But sadly 3 of our boys made it into the A team a – very proud moment for all as they stayed there for the rest of the season – which is what the B team is all about producing boys to play at a higher level.

After a mid-season rebuild the boys sadly lost 3 games on the trot with games that were close and some that were too far for us to catch, not to mention the rain that came across this great land like the end of the dry season in the desert.

The Bs had to start again and by the time we found the winning format it was too late; the season was coming to an end only 5 matches left.

Changes were afoot; Toby MC went from opening bowler to opening batsmen along with all-rounder Kevin Lee stepping up to open also. A change for the bowler's as well as The Acloque

boys opened the bowling from either end. Spanish overseas players like Michael Caso improving every week behind the stumps and with the bat and Beltran Menendez as a 1st change bowler and big hitter in the mid order and Fabian Reis coming in as a C Team player to then come and open the batting at the end of the season. Could not help us get that allusive win which our cricket really did deserve.

Sadly, the boys went on for the rest of the season, coming in second place. This is not a negative thing for me, not at all. It was very positive and I was very proud to call Horris Hill under 11B team as my first one at the school. Thank you to all boys that played over the year well done to all.

Go Well and I'll look forward to winter nets ... I'll be there, will you be there?

LMM

U11C

The Cs this year confirmed very early that they would be an all-bowling team. Over the winter James Cartwright had transformed his action into a dependable furrow of line and length, Fabian Reis and Alfie Watson took many speed demon wickets, Justin Hao was promoted to the sultanate of swing and Luka Nishimura, Captain David Jenkins and even wicket-keeper batsman Frank Zhou became firm favourites at the bowler's end. Our batting season was a little roper. We had some fine individual displays, most notably from Frank who brought homerun style batting to Horris Hill, but on the whole we posted very low totals. Calling was our nemesis for much of the season. Although we improved over time, at one point most of our wickets were falling while batsmen tried to decipher the complex semaphore and mixed messages they were receiving from each other. One player developed a reputation for shouting "No" loudly and clearly whilst hurtling pell mell down the wicket, having at least understood the importance of being clear and heard. Fortunately we were so consistent in the field that we were usually chasing very low totals and managed to take the scalp of every C team we played against. This was a very enjoyable season and it says a great deal about the strength and depth of sport at Horris Hill that we are able to field such a competitive team through Cs level.

ACG

U11D

This has been an enjoyable term of cricket for the U11Ds. We have had five matches and they have helped us along our learning trajectory towards becoming better players. The final match against Papplewick was by far our best result. It was fantastic to see Jaime Zamacola, Paco De Juan, Jose Eze take some great wickets. However, the best wicket was a fantastic backwards catch and leap to the ground made by Henry Butter – made even better by his cheering parents supporting from the shade. Our batting improved, too, throughout the term, with Toby Jia and Jaime Zamacola as our top batters. We need to work on our bowling, but Rome was not built in a day! One of my lasting memories was explaining the game of cricket to some of the new boys, who had just started this term, as we set off for our first match. The boys have made great strides in their cricket this term and should be proud of their achievements.

PNB



U9

A good season for the boys with steady improvement as they concentrate on their roles focused upon working as a team and thinking about how to outwit the opposition.

The team are developing batting skills to hit fast-paced balls and sixes. Bowling fewer wides remains a test.

The boys intercept and stop the ball with consistency and sometimes catch the ball. Throwing skills are extremely good; they can throw with accuracy over a long distance and with speed.

I am pleased with the motivated and determined attitude of them all, especially when staring defeat in the face. I compliment Edward for his assured, positive, reliable and strategic performance as captain.

DJSW



Hockey

It was a very exciting season for the 1st XI hockey team this year. Many players were extremely experienced players, with more than a few playing for local clubs, something that always helps the team. However, just before our first match against Elstree, key player Freddie Cowling took a nasty blow to his head, which left the team reeling. However, a slight tweak to the formation, moving into a Christmas Tree formation, helped solidify the team in defensive situations, whilst allowing players to spring forwards to support the attack. We took this formation to the Tri-Wizard tournament against Brockhurst and Moultsford, on the quick but slightly smaller Brockhurst pitch that suited our game. Just in front of George Denison-Smith in goal, Rory Downie, Charlie Ricketts and Hugo Tollit provided the base of the team, with Max Scannell and Freddie Moore providing energy in midfield supporting Hugo Knight up front. This formation, however, really allowed captain Barnaby Talbot-Williams as much time on the ball as possible, something that was key to the performance of the team. During this tournament, Hugo Knight scored

4 goals, including a hat trick in the first game, Rory Downie smashed in two penalty corners and Freddie Moore also managed two goals. However, this was the tournament that Barnaby Talbot-Williams really stamped his authority, being the dominant player, not only for Horris, but throughout the whole tournament. While he scored in the first game, it was more his domination in midfield, controlling the games with great maturity that helped Horris come out on top, and impressed so much. Our final game of the short season was against Cothill, where the team produced another incredibly impressive display. Every outfield player, apart from the unlucky Charlie Ricketts, managed to score at least one goal in the match, including Max Scannell and Hugo Tollit who scored their first ever competitive hockey goals. It was an extremely enjoyable team to coach, and one I hope will go on to bigger and better things at their next school, from a hockey perspective.

RPF



U11A Hockey

This was certainly one of the most skilful U11A hockey teams I can remember. The spine of the team was Dino Bartosik and Oscar Moore who were ably supported by Fergal Byrne, Digby Tollit, Kevin Lee and Max Eze. We had great wins against Avondale, Brockhurst and Cothill and lost to Elstree and Moultsford. We also played in the Wellington College hockey festival which was a real treat. The player of the season was undoubtedly Freddy Mulvany who was fantastic between the posts.

PJLS



Tennis

As usual we had a good programme of coaching provided by Manydown Tennis, which many boys took advantage of. Much tennis was played in freetime by boys from all areas of the school and many ladder matches were played.

There were some very challenging weather conditions on match days. Our first match was against Elstree. The U11 match was cancelled, while the 1st VI played their whole match in heavy to

very heavy rain. Elstree were much the better team and we struggled to establish ourselves in the match.

The U11 team was invited to play on grass in a doubles competition at the Oratory School. We began under a grey sky but had the chance to play for a while before the rain made the grass too slippery and play was abandoned. Nevertheless, it was a good experience for the boys.

We finished the season with a match against Thorngrove. The U11 team put in a good performance and came out on top showing some promise for the future. The 1st VI had a very close fixture which went down to the wire with HH taking the last match to win the match 5 – 4.

Christopher Nicholson was awarded his Tennis colours.

MPW

Athletics

We had a busy time in the track and field this term; we started off with athletics heats which gives me an idea of who should be in the squad and also gives boys a baseline from which to improve. Our first fixture was the Caldicott athletics meeting where we competed against the hosts, Summer Fields, Papplewick, Ludgrove and Elstree. We then moved on to the Radley Athletics meeting where some 15 Prep schools took part. Next was the Regional athletics championships at Eton; a particular mention to Max and Jose Maria Eze who both made the final of the 200m and Max won bronze in the 100m. We finished the season with sports day; well done to the Victor Ludorum winners: Rory Watson (Year 3), Edward Lee (Year 4), Jose Maria Eze (Year 5), Max Eze (Year 6), Kit Witheridge (Year 7) and Freddie Moore (Year 8).

PJLS



Swimming

Swimming at Horris Hill is highly seasonal but we have enjoyed the support of Newbury District Swimming Club for some of our top end swimmers, allowing them to train throughout the year and thrive as a result. Kostia Riabyi, Bryan Lau, Richard Ovey and Digby Tollit are amongst our most dedicated swimmers and boys and staff equally have huge admiration for the tireless work they put into their sport. These boys went off to the IAPS regional qualifying event at Brockhust in February and swam amazingly to fall

just a few seconds outside of qualifying for the national finals at Crystal Palace Olympic Stadium.

On a much smaller scale we enjoyed hosting our own swim fixture vs Elstree who always offer a stiff competition. We were thrilled with the boy's swimming on the day and those senior swimmers really shone on the day to take the win. Special mention must go to Kostia Riabyi who whilst being injured for much of the season, has offered his services to the team and contributed

out of the water whilst he has been kept from getting into it.

The whole school enjoyed the Colour Swimming Gala and the competition was a nail biting one with Yellow and Green neck and neck all the way into the final round of relays. Some superb outstanding swims from Green saw them surge ahead and take the win and contribute to a Green resurgence in the overall colour scores across the entire school.

PBH



Squash

Squash at Horris Hill has always enjoyed great popularity and this year has been no different. The progress of the boys has been remarkable. We have had a huge number of boys playing the game for the first time this year and to look at them now, you would not say that this is the case. The Autumn term saw a very talented group of players take to the court and play a 'king of the court' styled tournament. The term was won with 8 rounds being played and Freddie Moore coming out on top beating Hugo Knight by just one point. The Spring term saw the return of a few players who had been off prioritizing exams and the competition ramped up to another level.

Hugo Knight remained in contention throughout but it turned out to be a two horse race between Freddie Moore and Barnaby Talbot-Williams with Barnaby coming out on top this time.

The Summer term is less than ideal for the sweat fest that is squash but if the boys want to play, we go with it! A development group took to the courts and fought it out and showed just how much progress boys can make over the space of a year. Ben Brady, Fergal Byrne, Jaime Zamacola and Charles Edu were outstanding and fought to the bitter end with Ben coming out on top and the end of 5 rounds. Well done Ben.

Unfortunately we were only able to fit in the one external squash match vs Pinewood this side of Christmas but acquitted ourselves superbly showing the strength of squash within the school.

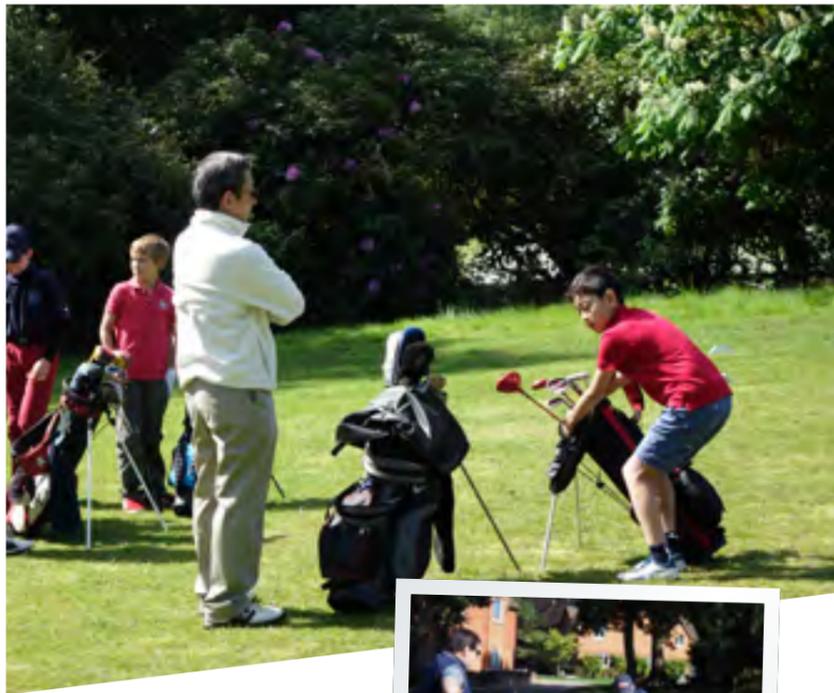
I suspect many parents will have been asked the question this summer if they can purchase a squash racket and it is so exciting to see the sport embraced by the boys to such an extent. Roll on the Autumn term so we can get on court again!

PBH

Golf

We are hugely blessed to have our own golf course at Horris Hill and it is good to see many boys making the most of it. This year we have had regular fixtures against: Cothill, Cheam, Ludgrove, Pinewood, Brockhurst and Thorngrove and have had some great successes, the most notable was beating Cheam away. Many boys have had the chance to hone their skills in the weekly coaching sessions run by our visiting P.G.A. professional Tim Butler; my thanks to Tim for all the work he has done with the boys. We have had 2 Parents and Sons' golf days this year and the winners were Kevin Zhao in the autumn and Ned Cleland in the summer.

PJLS



Climbing

During the wintery months sixteen lucky boys have been able to avoid the chill and go climbing and bouldering at Reading Climbing Centre – a world-class facility, not too far from Horris Hill. Above all climbing teaches self-discipline and trust, both key skills a growing boy needs to develop into the lovely young men we aspire for them to be.



Cross-Country

Christmas is a distant memory and the dark nights and the wind and rain of January and February often make for a bleak few weeks. To make matters worse, the boys know it is also cross-country season. It is startling how many boys mysteriously pick up an injury or catch the flu on the eve of school cross-country. Fortunately Nurse Mark is wise to virtually all the tricks!

Colour Cross-country is always a highly anticipated day in the calendar and the day finally arrived. The weather was bright and crisp and green managed to sneak the win just.

As ever, we hosted our Cross-country meeting and welcomed 12 schools to compete in a 5 man relay team around our 1km short course. It was a hugely

exciting event, thanks to all the staff and boys who helped and well done to all the runners. We also had away fixtures at Sunningdale and Ludgrove; the boys enjoyed running through ditches and over fences and generally getting muddy!

PJLS

Sailing

On October 4th the Reading Andrew Simpson Watersport Centre hosted the first Independent Schools Inland Regatta at Burghfield Sailing Club. With an Under 11 and an Under 13 category on the same day, many of the competitors were excited to be racing against those with whom they're not normally on the water with: some of the pupils were experienced lake sailors whilst others had never sailed inland before!

Six Horris Hill boys took to the waters (William, Arthur, Toby, James, Oliver and Charlie) four races and finishing positions more variable than the skies that remained a stagnant slate grey until late in the afternoon when the sun burst out to welcome our winning crew, Oliver and Charlie, in the Under 13 Feva class. Well done.

The wind was light 6 to 8 knots southwesterly and a bit shifty. Whilst staying dry side up was not an issue, to race well the boys had to keep an eye on the wind direction whilst keeping the main sheet tight and the tiller in the centre position. Overall a successful, interesting and lively day with a lot of laughter and smiles all around.

We look forward to the 2019 regatta and hope to see some familiar faces in the other crews. The day wouldn't have been possible without the team at ASWC and Burghfield Sailing Club, many thanks to all of the volunteers and race officers involved.

DJSW



Skiing

IAPS Skiing Championships, Passo Tonale, Italy, March 2019

IAPS has been running the prep schools ski championships in northern Italy for a decade, and this year we decided to enter a team for the first time. It is an amazing event: 28 schools and over 300 children descend on the small ski resorts of Tonale and Ponte di Legno to the north-east of Milan for 4 days of skiing and racing.

In a nutshell, the event is a mix of a traditional school ski trip (albeit one taking place in the middle of term which the boys were very keen on!) with race training and the races themselves.

We squeezed as much skiing and fun into the week as possible. After their 4 hours of training and racing with Annalisa their ski instructor, including the greatest fun of all, the ski-cross course, we ended most days skiing together before hot chocolate on the mountain then looking out for the best ice cream in Ponte. After some amazing food at the hotel there was a fun programme of activities in the evening, although the highlight was being taken out for pizza by Mr Watson.

The Horris Hill team consisted of 4 Under 13s, Rufus Watson, Alex Buckley-Fairey, Charles Chu and Oscar Revell, and 4 Under 11s, Xerxes Gulabani, Alfie Watson, Digby Tollit and William Milroy-Goulding. Although the sun was shining, the conditions were seriously challenging, with some of the iciest pistes I have ever known. The boys coped with the tough conditions admirably, and after a day's training with our instructor Annalisa, headed for the qualification races. The set-up is professional, with a starting tent, and proper timing equipment, so it all feels very authentic. I was impressed that the course was a real challenge for the children, but also very safe: clearly a lot of thought goes into getting this right,

and all the children were able to ski safely, and some pretty fast. All the boys skied well, but Oscar, Rufus, William and Digby qualified for the Championship race the following day, whilst the other boys qualified for the Plate.

In the final races, again all the boys skied well, with Rufus and Oscar particularly impressive, finishing in the top 10% of the competitors. For a first outing at this event this was impressive.

Plans are already afoot for 2020, with 16 places already booked, and we are working hard on designs for new Horris Hill skiing team kit!

PJB



Fireworks Night



In what has become a must-see in the school calendar, the annual Fireworks and Barbecue Night for the school and the extended Horris Hill family was a resounding success once again. The night was clear but cold, and if those in charge of the barbecue coals didn't quite have the best seats in the house, they certainly had the warmest. The whole event was a triumph and the display lit up the sky in a manner to rival those of New Year in Sydney or London. My thanks go to the parental team of firework lighting and launching professionals who gave us all such a magnificent display.

EJB-G



Horris Hill Day

On Saturday 25th May, we were delighted to welcome all current and new pupils and families as well as forty Old Boys for our annual Horris Hill Day. This year we were joined by a special guest, former England cricket player, Nick Compton.

Many of our Old Boys took part in a Cricket match. At mid-innings all Old Boys enjoyed the fete stalls run by our

current boys - everything from a putting competition, jousting with pillows and splat the rat - all good prep school stuff! The proceeds for the stalls went to Home Start, West Berkshire, raising £715. We were delighted that Grace Ryder, the Scheme Manager, was able to join us.

The cricketers returned to Top Field and others enjoyed watching our current

boys and families in the Mothers v Sons rounders match and a hotly contested Colour Triathlon won by Green. Tea and cake completed what was a truly special day celebrating all things Horris in this, our 131st year.

Horris Hill day 2020 will be on Saturday 23rd May. Please do put a 'save the date' in your diaries. It would be lovely to see you.



Message from the Chairman of the Foundation, Roddy Gow OBE, OB 1955–1960

The chance to review progress with the Horris Hill Foundation provides an opportunity to reflect on what has been achieved over the twelve months since the Foundation was formed after Horris Hill Day 2018.

The good news is that with the help of many of you, as well as current parents and members of the Foundation and completed with the exceptionally generous donation by the David Brownlow Charitable Trust, we have reached the fundraising target for the Theatre and ground has been broken in preparation for construction – the hard hats have arrived! This is a terrific achievement and our thanks to all of you who have contributed.

In bringing this project to fruition we should recognise the enormous support of Marina Lund, Alex Roe and rest of the Board of Governors.

As I wrote in the inaugural Society and Foundation newsletter at Christmas, the Foundation's purpose is to support the school over the long term. To achieve this, the Foundation's Board has expanded over the past six months to include

parents and Old Boys covering a spread of over sixty years. Working closely with the Horris Hill Society, our joint approach to reconnecting with the school's community has helped to bring old friends together again and raise awareness of the key funding objectives.

We have held many successful events in the UK and overseas. These have included a soiree in Hampshire, a drinks in Hong Kong and a dinner in New York. My sincere thanks to all those who hosted and attended these events.

Our attention now shifts to the no less important and ongoing project to ensure the funding of bursaries to enable talented children to be enrolled at Horris Hill and benefit from an education that would otherwise be unavailable to them.



Theatre

In July the Headmaster announced the news we all had been hoping for: the building of the Theatre would commence this summer with the expectation that it will be completed June 2020.

Once the school broke up for the summer holidays, the home team quickly set about moving out the DT equipment to its new home, ready for Vale Southern, our contractors, to come on site.

A purpose-built Theatre for Horris Hill boys and the local community was the vision of Chairman of Governors, Mrs Marina Lund, and the Headmaster.

The Appeal was launched in March 2016 and, as with all fundraising and building projects, has been quite a journey with highs and lows. Beginning with the selection of architects, Jonathan Tuckey Design, then planning permission, an appeal brochure and webpage, the first two years were busy. By May 2018 due to the generosity of many including the Chairman, one of our governors, Alex Roe, the Mackay family and a wonderful Spring Ball we had raised £600,000 but it gradually became clear that costs had gone up despite a rigorous value engineering exercise by the new bursar, David Palmer.

To help achieve a higher target the Chairman of Governors announced the establishment of the Horris Hill Foundation, chaired by Roddy Gow (OB 1960), and the appointment of myself, Molly Tollit, the Headmaster's wife, as Director of Development. With this, fundraising took on a new energy, literally as well as metaphorically with the boys and staff doing a fun-run in the torrential rain, sponsorship for which the Greenham Common Trust kindly fund-matched. With a particularly generous donation from the



family of Harry Xu (OB 2019) and others, we approached £1million.

Thanks to kind invitations from alumni families, the Browns and the Staffords, the Headmaster travelled to Hong Kong and New York to reconnect with our alumni based overseas and discuss the project with potential donors. Our friends at the Hong Kong event raised a remarkable £300,000, with particular thanks to the Chen, Gulabani, Huang and Shi families. Back in the UK, past and current parent and professional chef, Gee Cartwright, ran a cookery demonstration in aid of the appeal and, through current parent, Micki Hacking-Tabor, BNY Mellon gifted two seats on one of the official boats which follow the Oxford and Cambridge boat race to go to the highest bidder. Current parents generously gave to a raffle and bought tickets which was pulled at a drinks at Woolton House, courtesy of Rosamund Brown. A further generous fund-matching pledge of £100,000 was enthusiastically taken up by our current parents and the Aben family made another substantial pledge. The parents of the Leavers of 2019 under the stewardship of past parent, Sophie Knight, followed the example set by our alumni families who had gifted a bench to Henry Riches - the mastermind of the Leavers' plays for almost thirty years who retired in the summer of 2018 - and clubbed together to gift a bench. As we drew near the £2million mark it felt like it could really happen but there was barely a week to go before the project would have to be delayed by yet another year with all the extra associated costs. This was a tense time!

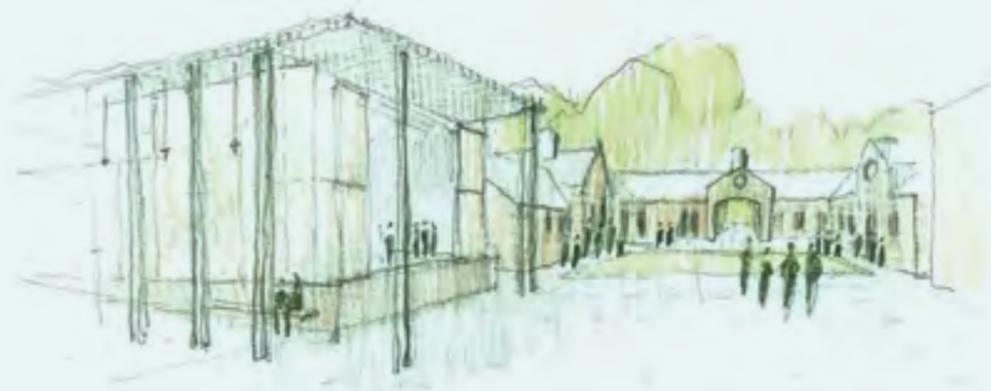
Then the David Brownlow Charitable Foundation stepped forward. Lord Brownlow and the CEO of the DBCF, Alexander Barfield, had attended the Spring Ball where they were able to see

the school first hand and get a sense of what a theatre would mean for us. After that Lord Brownlow donated £50,000 immediately which he then followed up with a £500,000 donation. Set up in 2013 by Lord Brownlow CVO DL, the DBCF is a UK registered charity which supports causes across the UK, predominantly in Berkshire and is dedicated to enhancing the lives and wellbeing of individuals and communities where there is an element of disadvantage, through personal development such as education, the provision of new equipment, or the improvement and regeneration of their community. Lord Brownlow has granted £10million to charitable causes over the past 10 years both personally and through his charitable foundation. It has always been the intention that this project would be used by the local community so we were particularly pleased that this, our largest single donation, has come from a foundation whose focus is supporting those who live in our area. In gratitude the theatre will be named the David Brownlow Theatre.

We very much look forward to welcoming donors to the official opening next summer and seeing the huge benefits this new creative space will bring the boys, beginning with the Leavers' play 2020.

Finally, the success of this project has been down to so many of you. Every donation, whatever its size, got us past the finishing line. As the Headmaster said in the opening Staff meeting of the Autumn term, it is more than a building, it is a symbol of the gratitude, value and trust in which our Parents, past and present, Old Boys and Friends hold the school. We are humbled by your generosity. Thank you for playing a part in its future.

Molly Tollit, Director of Development





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