

# The | Phoenix

2020-21



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“Don't let what  
you cannot do  
interfere with  
what you can do.”

- John Wooden

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**“Nothing about this year has been ‘normal’ but were you to look at the school on any given day you would have seen Prior in all its glory, with young people finding themselves and supporting each other in their educational journey.”**



## A foreword from our Headmaster

As I write this piece, one in eight students in secondary schools across the country are off school with whole year groups isolating due to Covid. We are fortunate in that we have broken up for the summer and so our students aren't missing education. That statistic gives an idea of what kind of year it has been. There has not been a week where Covid hasn't affected what we do on a day-to-day basis. This has been the same in every single school across the country. However, what has not been the same in every school is the 'can-do', supportive manner that has characterised how Prior Park has dealt with the challenge.

This has started with our students, who have been calm and focused on the business of learning. Not simply in the traditional, classroom-based, sense, but instead looking for how they can continue their learning in everything they do. This cohort of students were locked down for two months at the start of 2021, they've not been able to be physically in their House spaces and they've not had a normal sporting fixture nearly all year. Moreover, they only needed to look at a newspaper to hear that they are the 'lost generation' whose education has been so badly damaged by Covid that they'll be earning significantly less for their whole lives. It would be enough to get even the most pollyannaish student down! What we have seen though is not a cohort of despondent teens. Instead, we've seen them make the most of what they've had. They've kept themselves cheerful and they've been incredibly responsive to all

the mask wearing, hand sanitising, and desk scrubbing they've been asked to do.

In part this is down to their wonderful teachers, who have kept them on track and on task. Perhaps the students haven't been downhearted because they know that they've not been 'left-behind' and instead are ahead of where they need to be in their subjects, such as the brilliant planning and hard work of their teachers in ensuring that they've been able to pivot between online and in-person learning. The staff across the school have been wonderful at doing all they can to stay positive, from the grounds team to the caterers, from the medical team to the technicians. Everyone has been wonderful at staying focused on why we are here – to serve the young people who attend our school. To be able to be the only school around who kept games sessions going on every weekend of the year that we were physically in school, to have celebrated Mass every weekend of this past Summer Term, and to have managed to put on a Carol Service in December that knocked my socks off, is an indication of the hard work that so many people put in. Nothing about this year has been 'normal' but were you to have looked at the school on any given day you would have seen Prior in all its glory, with young people finding themselves and supporting each other in their educational journey. It has been pretty awe inspiring to see.

**Ben Horan**

# Class of 2021

Though years before ours may have had more sports matches, concerts and House dinners, the Class of 2021 flourished with just as much friendship. We grew closer as a second family, strengthened by the challenges we faced. We never stopped learning. Despite some international students heading home to over 6000 miles away, and virtual teaching spanning many time zones, we learnt just how much our teachers cared for us and our education. We learnt as we hoped to go out again, as we dealt with disappointment, as events were cancelled, and we lost some of our final rites of passage through Prior Park College.

However, there is much more to write about than to just dwell on the confusion and frustration of us as leavers during a global pandemic. Our experience of Prior extends far beyond the virus that has dictated our final years here, and we know that the lifelong friendships, passions and academic results bear testimony to our strength and resilience.

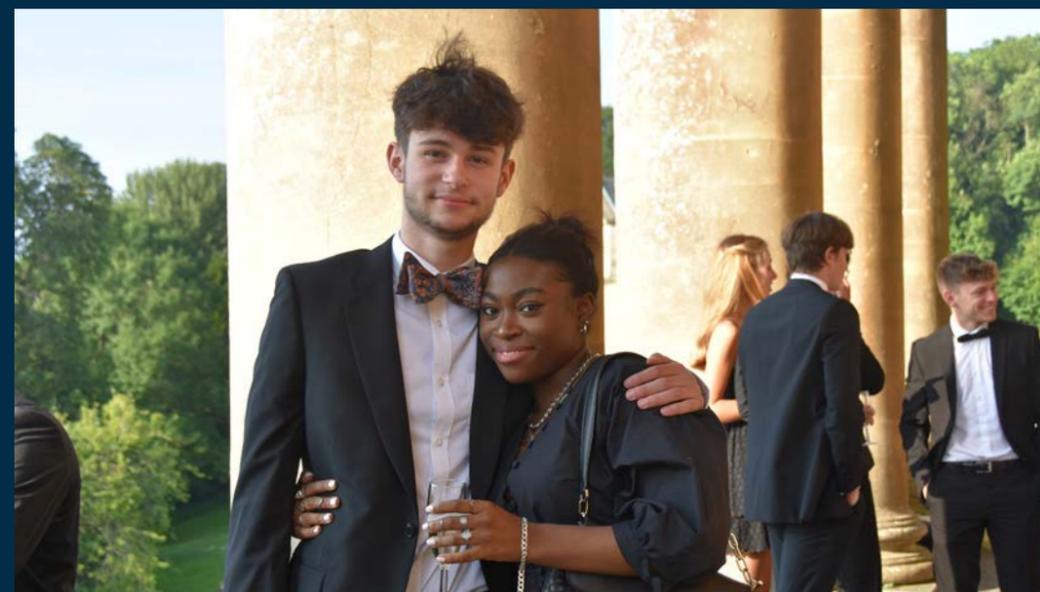
Despite most sport fixtures being cancelled, we made the most of our sporting talent through U6 Girls vs Boys Netball and Hockey matches, brightening up the pitches in Hawaiian shirts. The Carol Service in our beautiful Chapel is one of the most loved

events of the year. O Come All Ye Faithful, sung by the Upper Sixth, was most certainly the highlight of the virtual event. As we left for the Christmas holidays, we had no idea that the next time we would walk through the gates of Prior Park would be March 2021. The time missed made us ever more grateful on our return.

To leave a legacy of this unprecedented year and in celebration of the Class of 2021, we have created a time capsule, which we hope to store in the signature room and plan to reopen at our 20-year reunion. We hope to see you there so we can remember our time at such a wonderful school, jogging memories linked to the photos and items that have been locked away.

When we look back on our time at Prior, we will reminisce on the happy days and not on what we have missed. Love sits at the centre of Prior Park, and it will continue to guide us as we fly from the nest to the next exciting steps.

**Maya Everitt and Matthew Streets  
Heads of School**



# U6 appointments

## Heads of School

Maya Everitt  
Matthew Streets

## Deputy Heads

Seb Crawford  
Maisie Wilson

## Head of Chaplaincy

Niall Hudson (Burton)

## Head of Charities

Trinity Momoh (St Mary's)

## Head of Eco-Prior

Alex Martin (Burton)

## Heads of International Students

Gabriella Chiu (St Mary's) &  
Jonathan Lam (Roche)

## Heads of Peer Support

Anabelle Snow (Fielding) &  
Clemmie Mortimer (Fielding)

## Heads of House

**Allen**  
Hugh Page

## Arundell

Hero Murphy

## Burton

Tom Nesbit

## Clifford

Jack Hannah

## English

Elysia Thompson

## Fielding

Maddie Robertson

## Roche

Niall Hussain

## St Mary's

Charlie Parker

## Baines

Hannah Banks (Arundell) &  
Oliver Yerbury (Clifford)

## Brownlow

Hattie Brown (English) &  
Fred Osborne (Clifford)

# A Level results

Making comparisons with previous years happens every year when it comes to examination results. The 2021 Upper Sixth at Prior Park have faced greater challenges than any year group in memory. They have spent about a quarter of their Sixth Form out of school and have had to learn in a completely different way. Various lockdowns have kept them from school and from their physical classrooms. Instead, they've been working online, from bedrooms,

living rooms and kitchen tables.

The grades this year were assessed by the teachers at the school, and they were well earned by the students. Our students sat three sets of examinations, which assessed them on all they've learnt over the past two years. They have worked as hard and achieved as much as any year before them. They have had to cope with greater levels of uncertainty, difficulty, and challenge than any year group

in the modern era. There are, of course, some wonderful, individual success stories. However, that this year group sat exams which have properly prepared them for their next steps to university is a sign that they have all succeeded in overcoming the adversity that faced them. We could not be more proud of them.

**Mr Horan**

# Leavers' destinations

## Oxbridge

1 student: reading History and Spanish

## Medicine

2 students

## Russell Group Universities

41 students

### Courses include:

Politics and International Relations, Biological Sciences, Theology, Economics, Classics, Law, History, Psychology, Drama and English, Engineering, Languages, Chemistry, Film Studies, Criminology, Agriculture.

### Other University Destinations

Reading, Royal Holloway, Manchester Metropolitan, West of England, Swansea, Surrey, Lancaster, Plymouth, City of London, University for the Creative Arts, Falmouth, Bath Spa.

### Courses include:

Aerospace Engineering, Business, Chemistry, Liberal Arts, Animation, Drama, Computer Science, Early Childhood Studies, Psychology, Sport and Exercise Science, Textiles.

### Other

British Telecom Apprenticeship - Middlesex University  
Point Blank, London (Music Management)



# U5 GCSE results

Prior Park celebrated strong GCSE results after a challenging year for our U5 students. 100% of students were awarded 5 or more GCSEs, with 65% graded 9-7. Strong subjects, those with a high percentage of 9/8 grades included French (78%), Classical Civilisation (75%), Drama (64%) and Chemistry (62%).

A special mention must go to one of our international students, Abdulaziz Amanullayev, who took twelve subjects and was awarded the highest mark in eleven subjects, with a grade 8 in his twelfth. Hannah Wyatt also took twelve subjects with ten top grades and two grade 8s.

Mr Horan commented: "We are thrilled with the outstanding results our GCSE students achieved this year. These students sat several sets of rigorous examinations over the past 12 months, and these grades are a testament to their hard work over each of those examination cycles. Perhaps the most reassuring aspect of this whole process is just how well prepared this set of students are for their Sixth Form studies. In contrast to the tales of the pandemic's 'lost generation', this year group at Prior have hardly missed a beat since last March, and are well set to take their A Levels and BTEC courses by storm. We can't wait to see them thrive as Sixth Formers."



"What a year, and what a group of young people! I remain astounded by the maturity and resilience that each student showed in combating the uncertainty of GCSEs and the fluctuating demands of remote learning. They rose to each and every challenge.

Well done to you all, you will make an outstanding Sixth Form!"

**Mr Blaikley, U5 Coordinator**



# Academic life

I write this summary of the academic year amid a sea of packing boxes – their scrunched paper spray spills over the office as files and folders long lost to the murky depths have floated to the surface. I am deciding which are treasure to be hoarded and which are to be thrown to the hungry mouth of the shredder. The pearl in the oyster so far has been uncovering my own A Level Economics notes and getting side tracked for a while reading what my own teachers had written about my essays two decades ago. My L6 Economics classes should rest easy knowing that I

too struggled sometimes to complete my analytical chains or add enough empirical evidence to support my arguments. I managed to sort this out by a year later – I know they will too.

In education there is a lot of 'history repeating'. Our annual cycle was predictable: The September new year's resolutions, oversized blazers and scholars pins, the January mock exams, the Easter revision, exam season and then long hazy days at the end of the summer term that morphed into holidays until the results day fortnight came around. It was only

when schools closed and exams were cancelled back in March 2020 that the cycle was broken. By September, our school may have looked on the outside as it always did, but it was fundamentally different in so many ways and whilst teaching was back to face to face, those faces were now masked and in socially distant 'bubbles'.

Some might say, then, that we timed the digital roll out perfectly. In September, students were issued with their Personal Learning Devices (PLDs) which meant that, as we weren't able to hand out and collect books, worksheets and homework in

the same way, staff and students were still able to interact over their work. With students 'stuck' in various countries because of travel restrictions, self-isolation being required from time to time, and very occasionally a bubble bursting, the PLDs allowed Hybrid Teaching - the ability to teach children in person and remotely at once so that all could access the material. The staff did it with great aplomb and, as ever, I was in awe of their versatility and dexterity.

The Scholars lecture in term 1 was delivered remotely by Mr Cane-Hardy, who spoke with expert knowledge about the Bayeux Tapestry and delighted in the more gory and scandalous parts - as did the students.

We could luckily run L3 and F3 HATS club in person and managed to start the L6 lectures face to face in December with a bit of social distancing. The Christmas HATS quiz was, once again, a real highlight with festive headgear and some fabulous knowledge on show – the triumphant victors were Luke, Ned, Reuben and Will. They even managed to beat the small Sixth Form Team who turned up to support.

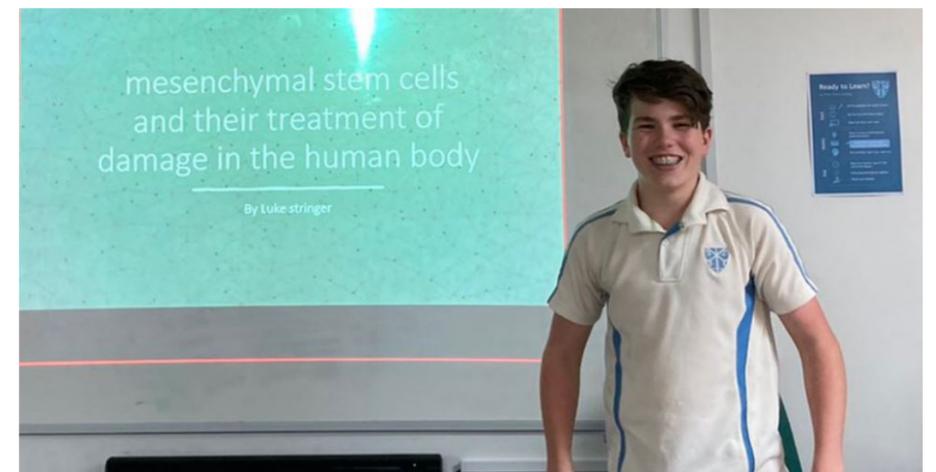
January found us remote learning full time from our bedrooms, sitting rooms, studies and kitchen tables – Prior Park Digital College reopened its doors.

There was huge uncertainty around the GCSE Maths and BTEC Business exams that were planned for early January so we

were delighted that we were able to hold them on site and the results were splendid. The U6 EPQ students also had an excellent set of results, and the Headmaster and I enjoyed virtually hosting them for a congratulations session on Teams; 100% A\*-C and 65% A\*-A. At PPC we do EPQ incredibly well, and Mrs Bryant and her team made sure that this year was no different, a bit of normality in a topsy-turvy world.

The L6 Academic Lecture series continued remotely with topics such as Black Holes & Wormholes, A Miscellany of Magnets, Body Image in the Media, Societal Expectations – Imposter Syndrome, Feminism, Quantum Computers and The





State of American Politics. Some L6 then helped the L3 and F3 to produce and deliver their own topics when we were face to face again. We heard about Enigma, Evolution, Stephen Hawking, Make Up Through the Ages, Genetic Modification, Stem Cells and Roman Food.

There have been some wonderful individual achievements this year in National and International competitions. At the start of the year we heard that James Streets and Dougal Page had been made Arkwright Scholars. Hattie Brown entered an essay writing competition through the Institute of Theology at St Mary's University, Twickenham, and received an honourable mention for her essay

'Euthanasia is Wrong'.

The Maths Challenges had to go online this year but that didn't faze our Sixth Form who scored well with a number of precious metal awards – the hat tip has to go to Emily Fang, though, who got a Gold, best in school and also wins a place in the Senior Kangaroo competition. Precious metals were also awarded by way of Silver Crest awards to Victoria Corfield and Tom Roblin in L5, and Alex Mould in F4. During March, the Headmaster and I enjoyed a remote catch up with them and Miss Lampard, discussing their projects including Oral Rehydration Therapies, the bacteria present in science labs (which led to some gruesome

looking petri dishes), and the best eco-friendly alternative to plastic straws.

The L6 Biologists, not wanting to be outdone by the younger scientists, managed some incredible results in the International Biology Olympiad. Robin Chan won Gold, placing her in the top 5% internationally, Caspar Berridge achieved a Silver (top 10% internationally) and Ben Blazewicz and Lydia Crawford got Bronzes (top 15%), plus plenty of other students achieved Highly Commended and Commended certificates.

Talking of results, an academic round up wouldn't be complete without some reflection on the Teacher Assessed Grades process and outcomes for U5 and U6 students this year. As teachers,

we needed to devise fair ways of assessing pupils and awarding grades. We needed various opportunities for pupils to show us what they knew, what they could do. Staff worked tirelessly to support pupils, and pupils worked relentlessly to revise and prepare for internal exams. Then there was marking, grading, reviewing, approving. Boxes of evidence were produced to support what we felt was a fair and reflective set of grades for the pupils in the exam year groups. My last day on site at Prior Park was the A Level results day and I've never before attended a day where the pupils expressed such joy and relief at their results.

I hope that my successor can write about individual A Level and

GCSE performances in 2022 but the only group I want to single out this year are the BTEC students who not only took exams in January 2021 and so were weighed and measured as in a normal year, but were also the pioneers of a new qualification for Prior. They took a chance on something new and it paid off! Their results were excellent. It seems clear that this vocational route through Sixth Form study suits some students really well, and I want to thank them, and the Economics and Business Department, for their hard work over the past two years getting the course up and running.

So, as the summer holidays begin to fade, I begin to think about the future - I will start the

new academic year as Head of a school in Reading. Henry Scott Holland's famous quote "How we shall laugh at the trouble of parting when we meet again" is a reflection on death for Christians but it sums up well how I feel about leaving Prior. I wish all my colleagues and students, past and present, the very best for the new academic year and thank them for all that they have shared with me. May you always remember *Deo Duce, Deo Luce* – I know that I will, and therefore a small part of me will be Prior 4 Life.

**Mrs Stotesbury, Deputy Head, Academic**

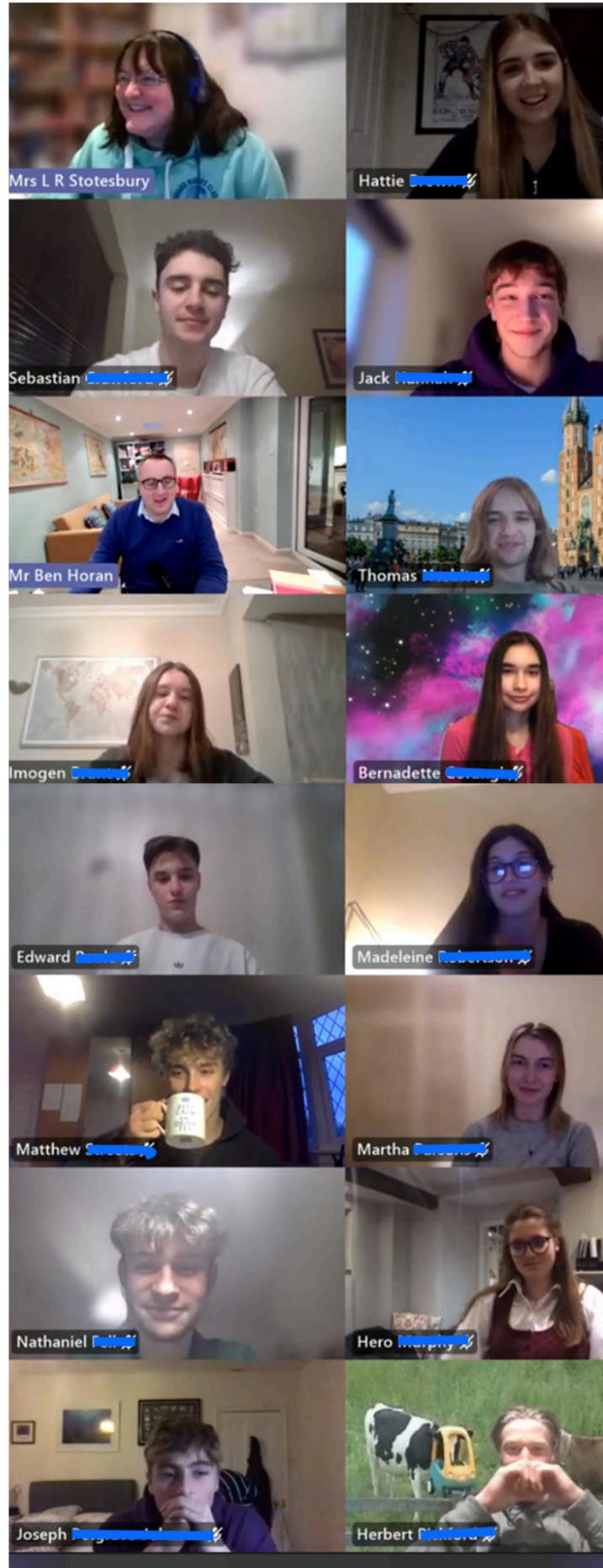
# EPQ

Completing an Extended Project Qualification requires students to be passionate about their topic, highly organised and excellent problem solvers. For the U6 cohort it also required a lot of resilience! I am always incredibly proud of the EPQ students, but to watch this group overcome the challenges of technology to deliver seamless presentations over Teams really brightened Lockdown 1. As ever, the range of topics investigated was wide ranging and fascinating with titles including:

- Should public and private institutions be allowed to harvest, keep and sell personal data?
- Why are so few women in western media being hired or recognised as film directors?
- Is the American attitude towards genetically modified crops beneficial, and should it be adopted by other higher income countries?
- What long term effects are felt by the children of incarcerated parents in the UK, and how successful are the methods for alleviating these impacts?
- Dido and Aeneas: Who is more at fault for their tragic ending?

The students were well rewarded for their hard work, with 100% awarded A\*-C grades in January 2021. More importantly, they learned a huge amount about managing their workload and the skills required to write a high quality report; skills that we hope will contribute to their success in the future.

**Mrs Bryant**



# BTEC Business

This summer saw the first BTEC Business cohort at Prior Park College collect their final programme results, alongside their A Levels. The BTEC National Level 3 Diploma was implemented into Prior Park two years ago to provide an alternative pathway for students wishing to study at Sixth Form. The more vocational award has allowed the students to be assessed in a variety of ways including a practical showcase and demonstration of the business and entrepreneurial skills they have, alongside completing research reports and sitting exams. Over the two years, the students have led a number of team building challenges (as shown in the photographs), organised and run a variety of events, both online and in school, and conducted a number of HR interviews. These students should also be commended for pioneering this course and completing it so successfully, despite the heavy constraints set by the school closure during the pandemic.

The BTEC award carries the same UCAS point tariff as 2 full A Levels. Unlike the A Level students whose results were entirely based on teacher

assessed work this year, BTEC students sat external exams in January as the country went into lockdown. Their performance in these exams and other assessed work therefore gives a true account of the grade they would have achieved under more normal circumstances. Huge congratulations must go to Niall Hudson who achieved the highest level award of a double Distinction Star (D\*D\*) which is the equivalent to two A\* grades at A Level. Rasmus Segev also achieved a Distinction Star, Distinction (D\*D), equivalent to an A\* and an A grade at A Level, and Kaan Kanpulat, who achieved a double Merit (MM) award.

The excellent results achieved by these three students have highlighted the opportunity for future students to choose an alternative path from the traditional academic A Level route, which can allow them to be assessed in a greater variety of ways, increasing their chances of success and strengthening university applications.

**Mr Jones**

# Mandarin collaboration MEAA

As part of a collaboration with The Museum of East Asian Art, L3 Mandarin students worked on a two part art and poetry project.

Students analysed and translated the poem, 'Quiet Night Thoughts' by Li Bai, which is well-known in the Chinese speaking world. The poem alludes to the moon, which is central to Chinese culture, and represents family, unity, loyalty and calm.

To complete the project, students created artwork, inspired by the poem, in the style of Chinese blue and white porcelain ceramics. The colour blue gained particular significance in the history of Chinese ceramics during the Tang Dynasty, representing healing, trust and long life.



# Echo and Narcissus

## L3 LATIN PLAY

On 28 June, seven brilliant L3 classicists piled into the classroom to attend the virtual Bristol Festival of Latin Drama awards ceremony. The competition, organised by the Bristol Classical Association in partnership with Bristol Grammar School and the Bristol Classics Hub, required teams to submit a pre-filmed five minute play, performed entirely in Latin.

We had spent several weeks meeting in snatched twenty minute sessions to rehearse an adaptation of the myth of Echo and Narcissus. Having made a group decision to go for a more 'modern' approach over a classical one, the actors incorporated several techniques they had learned in their drama lessons. These included a tableau, and having both Violet Goymer and Phoebe Rothwell play Echo, enabling a fascinating echo effect as the actresses bounced lines between them. Jude Brayton excelled as the aloof, self-absorbed Narcissus, and our four

narrators, Joseph Lawson, Reuben Ward, Charlie Howe and Rory McKerr delivered their lines with eloquence and confidence. We recruited Mr Langley from the drama department to film the play, which was performed in the Chapel. Despite having only started Latin at the beginning of the year, the pupils were able to show off many of the language skills and vocabulary they had learned.

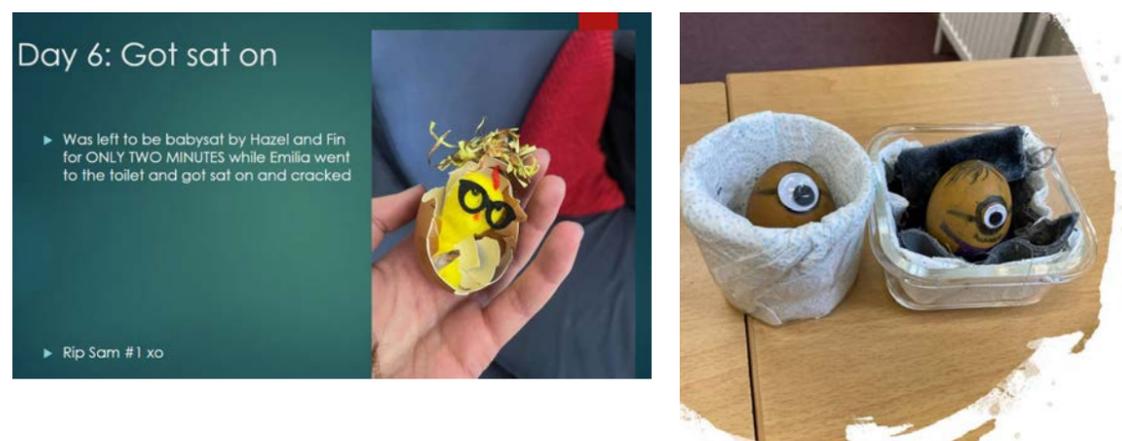
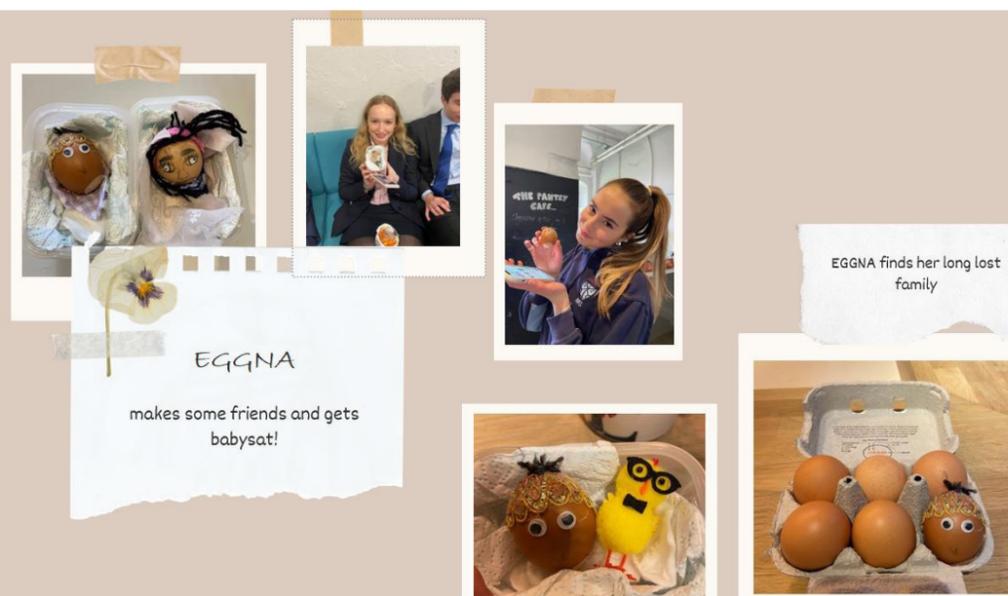
The standard of every play was extremely high, but in the end the team from Prior Park came third out of nine. The pupils were fantastic ambassadors for the school, displaying not only dedication to their rehearsals but also fantastic language and acting skills. Well done to all. Optime!

[Miss Bloomfield](#)



# Psychology

Attachment Theory is part of the A Level Psychology syllabus and, as a practical and very much hands-on experiment, students are required to take care of their own egg babies. Students personalise their egg and are required to look after it, as if it was their own baby, documenting their progress throughout the week – it proved to be quite an eggperience! Meet some of this year's egg babies.



# Maths Challenge

## SENIOR 2020

### Best in School

Emily Fang

Gold – 1 Silver – 3 Bronze – 14

### Senior Kangaroo

Emily Fang – 25 – certificate of participation

## INTERMEDIATE

### Best in School

Bolun Zhang

Gold – 5 Silver – 11 Bronze – 6

### Olympiad – Hamilton

Bolun Zhang – 8 – certificate of qualification

### Pink Kangaroo Mathematical Challenge

Yukun Lui – 74 – certificate of merit

Chun Ho Ngai – 69 – certificate of participation

Antoni Steglinski – 79 – certificate of merit

Wilson Tse – 80 – certificate of merit

## JUNIOR

### Best in School

Scott van Dam

Gold – 2 Silver – 6 Bronze – 9

### Kangaroo

Sam Peters – 62 – certificate of qualification

Scott van Dam – 96 – certificate of qualification



Emily Fang

# Biology Olympiad

## Gold (Top 5% of students internationally)

Robin Chan

## Silver (Top 10% of students internationally)

Caspar Berridge

## Bronze (Top 15% of students internationally)

Ben Blazewicz & Lydia Crawford

Other students received Highly Commended and Commended certificates.



## Biology field trip

The field trip began on a sunny Wednesday morning, the buses were filled with excited chatter and many snacks had been prepared for the 3 hour journey ahead. On arriving at Slapton Ley field centre, we were shown to our quarters and told to dump our bags and make our beds before heading down to the freshwater stream nearby to do some kick sampling led by Mr Lovat. Dr Trott attempted to measure the water temperature with his finger, unsurprisingly he got it wrong, and it soon became clear that data loggers were a much better way of measuring confounding abiotic variables. We found many interesting animals in the stream such as the caddis fly larvae that can cast a net to catch prey, and looping leeches.

The next day we ventured out to the intertidal rocky shores led by a rather excited Dr Trott. As he taught us rocky shore safety and allocated field kit such as the essential 'shoot the welly'

technique, he could not help but teach us many interesting facts about rock pool critters, such as how to sex a crab and unmentionable detail about the life cycle of a barnacle. After spending 5+ hours on the rocky shores, with luckily no fatalities (although a few near misses) we ventured back to the buses where Mrs Trott kindly, using Dr Trott's money, bought us all ice-cream.

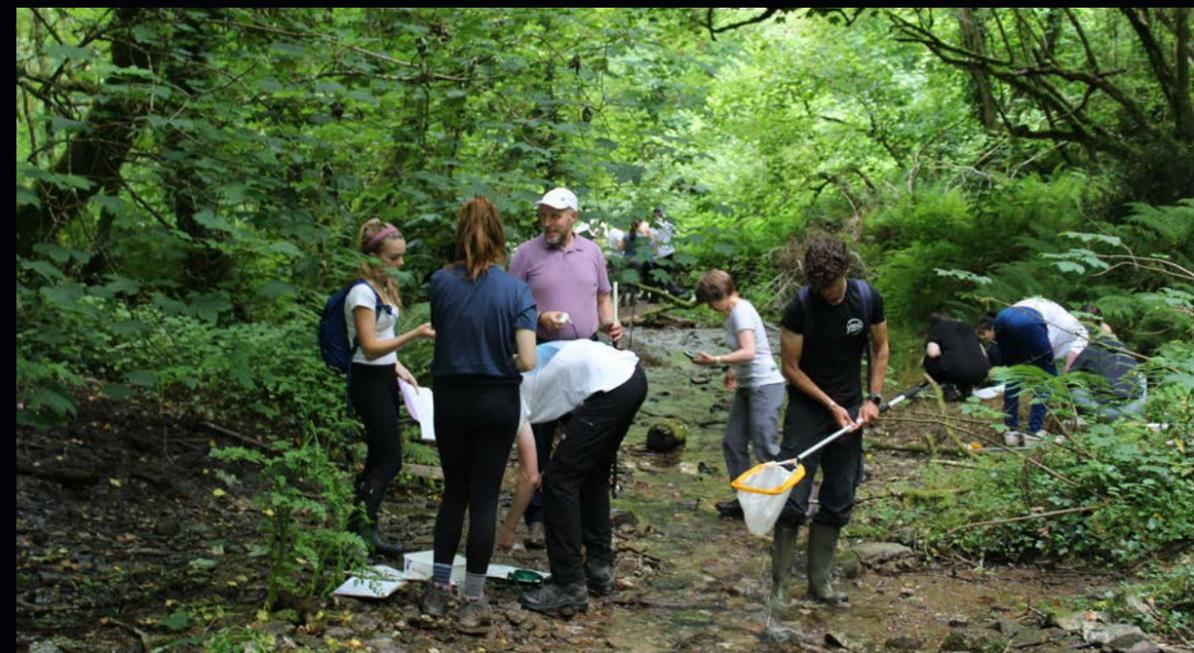
Day three we worked on our personal field trip projects. Many of us were keen to get on with them but the shores proved difficult as the sea refused to go out fast enough. Luckily, we had bought a frisbee as there seemed to be no phone signal on the rocky shore (much to our disappointment and our teachers joy). Eventually, we found the top shells we painted with a bright pink nail varnish the day before. This allowed us to estimate the population size of this creature using the capture - release - recapture technique. Once done

we were all heads down counting and measuring barnacles, dogwhelks, limpets, seaweeds, and the like. Timing was of the essence as we only had five hours before the incoming tide claimed back our study sites.

The fourth day, Mrs Trott taught us about succession of the flora along the beach shore. There were many interesting species to be found from wild carrot to the beautiful Vipers Bugloss. We also had a laugh as we discovered Mr Lovat's lunch had been eaten by seagulls!

Finally, the last day was spent finishing our project write ups and packing. There were beautiful views as we left Slapton Ley and many tired, sunburnt faces arrived back in Bath, ready for school the next morning.

**Katie Hurst (L6 Arundell)**



# Guest speakers

## 6th Form Inspire Conference

This year's conference was online and allowed our Sixth Form students to hear from four inspirational speakers, beginning with Tom Brass (Class of 1998), Emmy award winning Creative Director at Jellyfish Pictures. Tom has creatively led successful projects for the world's leading broadcasters and filmmakers and spoke with passion about making a living within the arts.

Tom was followed by another alumnus, Jack Ashby (Class of 2000), Assistant Director of the University Museum of Zoology,

who spoke about how Natural History Museums can help save the planet.

Next up was James Golding (Class of 1995), Lead Graphics Programmer at Epic Games. James has been intimately involved in architecting several areas of Unreal Engine 4, including the gameplay framework, physics, and Blueprint visual scripting system.

The Conference came to a close with Fraser Doherty MBA, who, using his grandmother's jam recipes, set up his business at 14, hit the shelves of Waitrose aged

18 and now supplies 2,000 supermarkets from Russia to Australia! In this talk, Fraser spoke about social enterprise, his approach to product development and innovation, and how to turn the ordinary into extraordinary.

## Hope Virgo

In May, we were delighted to welcome author and mental health campaigner Hope Virgo to the College. Hope gave a talk to each year group, focusing on eating disorders - explaining her challenging upbringing, what happened when she was diagnosed

with anorexia, what helped her, and how we can spot the signs that friends might need help.

Hope suggested that Lockdown may have helped to exacerbate certain issues amongst young people, suggesting that the spotlight on exercise and diet during this time could have had adverse effects with many 'wellness influencers' giving inaccurate and unscientific information that misled or misinformed their followers; "Always check the facts!"

After learning to accept that she had an eating disorder, Hope shared the things that help her and encouraged the students to talk about how they feel. She suggested they identify 4/5 people who they can talk to if they are

having a bad day, family or friends who can offer support. Hope also gave details of agencies that can help, including Samaritans, The Mix, Papyrus, and Shout.

## Elene Lizarralde

The Spanish journalist, director, presenter and writer visited the L6 Spanish class in June to talk about her first novel 'The Silence of Clara Lyndon'. The civil war, post-war and Franco's dictatorship were some of the topics discussed by Elene, which are also units of work covered within the Lower Sixth Spanish curriculum. The author also spoke about the importance of maintaining regional languages within Spain.

## Emma Craigie

Author, Emma Craigie visited the College to talk to F4 about her book 'Chocolate Cake with Hitler', a fictional retelling of the harrowing story of Helga Goebbels, 12 year-old daughter of the Nazi Party's head of propaganda. The talk was organised by our librarians and formed part of the 'Hidden Voices' project.

## Chantal Hopper

Former Paragon and PPC pupil, Chantal Hopper, visited the College to give an assembly to L3 and F3 about her career as a Lieutenant Commander in the Navy. Group Captain Robert Hart also delivered an assembly to Brownlow House about the armed forces.



## 6th Form Inspire Conference

Tom Brass, Jack Ashby, James Golding, Fraser Doherty



Emma Craigie



Elene Lizarralde

# Being educated in a pandemic

Education is one of the most important aspects in a young person's life, and having to move to online school in the middle of a pandemic isn't helpful.

A lot of the international students chose to stay at home (e.g. Hong Kong) instead of coming back to Prior for the start of the school year. They felt more comfortable at home than flying all the way back to England, and we were lucky enough to have the option of online school to continue our education, even though we couldn't physically be in school. However, online school was hard for many of us, especially those in different time zones, and it did affect us - headaches caused by staring at the screen for too long, tired eyes, losing concentration and motivation - it was testing. And with no exams to take at the end of it all, we still had to try to stay focused.

I would say that we were lucky to have the new TAG system for U6 and U5 students, replacing this year's GCSE and A Level

exams. It seems a more considerate system in such a difficult year. We still had two stressful sets of exams in March and May. I felt more confident going into the second set of exams after having the feedback from March, knowing what I needed to work on to improve. It was still challenging, but I am really proud of everyone who has gone through this crazy exam year and stayed sane! I am also grateful for the teachers who remained patient and went through any content we didn't remember when we returned to school.

Boarding in Lockdown was, to say the least, interesting. From January to March, boarders from St Mary's were moved to St Paul (there were only a few of us). We were mostly students from Hong Kong who thought it was better to stay in England during Christmas and go back to school in January. It was a unique experience that not many girl boarders get to have (trying the St Paul's showers!) After a while, we

found it is statistically proven that women tend to like hotter showers than men. We made friends and went through ups and downs together as a collective group of mixed boarders - it is quite rare to be with the boys for such a long time. I am glad that the boarders stayed strong together, despite all the potential homesickness. It was an experience that we could never forget. Having lateral flow tests twice a week was a nightmare at the beginning as it was such a horrible sensation, but I guess our noses got used to being poked after so many times.

It was an odd year but we coped with it just fine. Regardless of the outcome of our hard work, we still did fine. Sometimes I wonder, if we can go through hard times that we couldn't even have imagined before (e.g. a global pandemic), does that mean we can do anything we want? Well, basically, yes!

**Gabriella Chiu (Head of International Students)**

# Chinese New Year

Chinese New Year was celebrated in St Paul's by those students who remained at the College during lockdown. Carrie and Tony Jenkins decorated the house with the help of Chloe (L6), the unofficial 'artist in residence', who did some amazing drawings to adorn the boarding house.



# Boarding life





## Religious life

Our Prior community has lived through another year that most could never have imagined would have come to pass. But come to pass it has and, along with the difficulties and challenges, there have been many blessings. I am reminded of how Jesus lifted the spirits of those who listened to his Beatitudes at the Sermon on the Mount Mt 5: 3-11.

The Michaelmas and Lent terms saw weekly Compline in Chapel, a blessing to many, offering boarders a time of pause, reflection, and prayer. Another blessing over the past year is that

our beautiful Chapel has been seen across the globe. With the early days of the pandemic preventing us gathering in Chapel, it was brought to our screens with Mr Robertson's wonderful hymn movies. These were complex to produce, but such was the desire for them, we could not help but ask for more.

In December, it was a testament to the love our community has for our renowned Carol Service, that all the stops were pulled out to record it. Not having a Carol Service was simply not an option. So many people shared

their gifts, their talents, and gave so generously of their time to produce the Carol Service, and enable a treasured moment in our school year.

As March 2021 saw us emerging from the third Lockdown, we were able to have our Lenten Reconciliation Services in year bubbles. We continued our journey through Lent with most of our students physically back together. Online Mass and other online services have continued this past year, seeing the coming together of the whole school Mass (online) on a regular basis, with Fr Joe

Simmons SJ live streaming from as far afield as Chicago! Summer term saw us finally able to have our Sunday boarders Masses in Chapel once again.

This year there has been a tangible sense of a growing vitality within Chaplaincy across the year groups. In November, Red Wednesday was embraced, and support for the 'Aid to the Church in Need' was shown both in fundraising and prayer, with the whole school pausing at noon, as the bell called all to pray the Angelus. Our Sixth Form have been outstanding in their commitment and efforts in developing Chaplaincy across the school community with Reconciliation Services, Advent Services and Wednesday Worship. As Covid

restrictions lift, we will be able to further integrate between year groups and Houses, which will in turn develop Chaplaincy leaders in the lower school.

Our Confirmation Mass, when our thirteen Confirmation candidates were due to receive this sacrament, had to be postponed. Even though their Confirmation day was on hold, they continued in their preparation. Then the wonderful news came that Bishop Declan could attend our Chapel for them to receive the sacrament of Confirmation, and on Sunday 13th June 2021, our candidates were confirmed with their families and friends witnessing this blessed occasion.

This year's feast of St Peter and Paul on 29th June was the

first time since Ash Wednesday 2019 that the whole school had been able to gather for Mass. The grassy bank filled with pupils and staff as the Chapel Altar was placed in front of the Mansion ready for our outdoor Mass, which was celebrated by Canon Christopher Whitehead; it was a moving occasion - and the sun shone!

As we gradually begin to emerge from the pandemic and reflect upon the past 18 months, let us give thanks for all the blessings that are bestowed upon us, as we look forward with confidence to the year ahead.

**Theresa Gibson, Lay Chaplain**

# EcoPrior

## OUR ENVIRONMENT, OUR PRIOR-ITY!

What comes to mind when you think of a healthy environment? Perhaps crystal clear blue waters, lush green forests, fresh mountain air? Sadly, the current reality is waters polluted by plastic, forests burning red, mountain glaciers melting. Well, in EcoPrior, we are certainly aiming for the former: an earthly paradise. Our strategy has been, to quote our new policy, 'think globally and act locally'. We know what our world leaders need to do on a global scale, however our influence is within our own schools, and so that is where we are concentrating our efforts.

In the Michaelmas term, we achieved the EcoSchools Silver Green Flag Award, as well as increasing school-wide recycling; in the Lent term, we fabricated a formal statement of environmental policy and ran several competitions, the highlight of which was the photography contest and Creative Challenge; and, in the Summer term, we began a partnership with the Avon Wildlife Trust (we are the first school to do

this), and presented our policy to the Governors Full Board.

In addition, we ran our annual EcoWeek, the highlight being our second hand clothing sale, where we sold 152 items of old clothes (kindly donated by our own school community) and raised £152 for charity. I think this showcases not only the positive effect that even relatively simple initiatives can have, but also the underlying truth that: when it comes to environmental solutions, it's often the smallest changes – especially when made by 7.8 billion individuals – that have the greatest impact.

We have worked hard to make our community aware of current environmental crises – heat, wildfires, flooding and droughts – and we will endeavour to make our schools as physically sustainable as possible, through our new policy and the AWT partnership.

I think the title of this article, which is also our new EcoPrior slogan, says it all. Our goal has been to promote the environment in our school agenda, and

to make it a Trust-wide priority. I'm glad to say, thanks to the sheer perseverance of my team, that is now becoming the reality. As I said when Mr Tan Tootill (Estates Director) and I presented the policy to the Governors Full Board, EcoPrior is only going to get bigger, stronger and more successful over the next few years. I am pleased to say that this year we have laid the foundations.

I must offer my gratitude and all credit to my team for their endless hard work and dedication, and I just hope that they will carry all our progress forward from this year. I wish Anna Hutchison, next year's Head of EcoPrior, all the best for the next academic year. May the environment continue to be a priority across all our schools for years to come.

**Alex Martin (U6, Head of EcoPrior)**



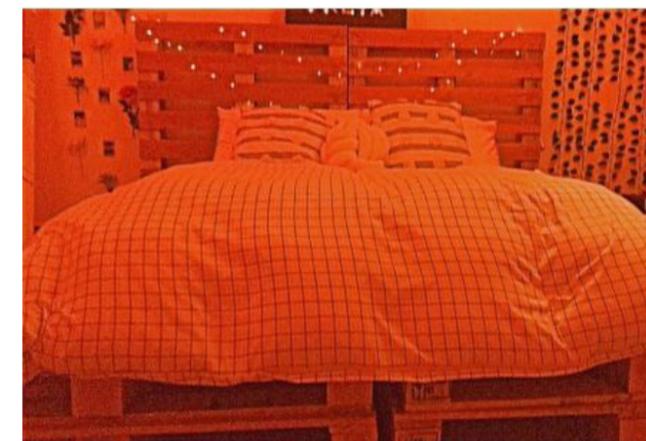
**Photography Contest**  
1st Place – Mr Bond



**Photography Contest**  
2nd Place – Georgia Doel



**Photography Contest**  
3rd Place – Samuel Harborne



**Creative Challenge**  
1st Place – Freya Preston



**Creative Challenge**  
2nd Place – Agatha Nash



**Creative Challenge**  
3rd Place – Emily Hickman

**Congratulations to the winners, and thank you to everyone who participated!**

# Charity

This academic year, the school chose to support the charity 'Mentoring Plus', a charity that, each year, supports over 250 young people aged 5-21 who face tough challenges at home and in school. This could be due to poverty, family difficulties or educational needs that are not being met in their current environment. Mentoring Plus provides mentoring for vulnerable children and young people in Bath and Northeast Somerset, training volunteers to do one-to-one mentoring sessions. These sessions make a huge difference in the community; for example, an 84% reported improved mental well-being and 81% enhanced relationships with family.

We were unable to hold a formal fundraiser and charities week this year, however, with the zealous work ethic of the Houses, we were able to raise £2000 for Mentoring Plus. Bake sales, clothes swaps and Inter-House challenges were done in order to raise this money. Having attended the Mentoring



Plus virtual Annual General Meeting, I was able to get a better understanding of how the charity works and the importance of the charity as a whole. I believe it is very important to give young people equal opportunities regardless of their background or differences, Mentoring Plus does exactly this. I would like to give many thanks to the students and teachers for their contribution towards our amazing achievements.

Trinity Mamon (U6, Head of Charities)



# Amnesty International Youth Group

This year marks the start of the Amnesty International Youth Group at Prior Park, bringing together like-minded, ambitious students across the school who are dedicated to combatting global injustice.

This group was initially started after I went to Ms Colquhoun looking for an opportunity to start an initiative that would not only help those in need, but actively educate students in human rights violations that are not taught in the curriculum. Ms Colquhoun introduced me to Amnesty Youth Groups. I went to every year group in the school doing assemblies to engage a broad mass of students resulting in a membership of 60 students from L3 to U6.

In Amnesty we aim to educate young people on international human rights infringements in

a practical way in order to fully grasp the severity of the situation. We started the year with the 'Write for Rights' campaign in which we would research specific Amnesty initiatives and then write to the relevant MP/government/police force to demand change and accountability. This campaign also involved writing directly to those affected by assaults on their human rights.

In June, we hosted the first ever Amnesty Week in school. We ran an event every day to raise money for different Amnesty campaigns and raise awareness for a variety of different issues including LGBTQ+ rights, women's rights, refugee protection and the freedom to choose. Our main event was the colour run where we hosted stalls, games and a run, open to all year groups

and teachers. In addition to this, we ran an Inter-House benchball tournament, a juniors movie night and a mufti day/bakesale. As a result, we raised £2,000, towards the campaigns for which we fundraise. In the future, we aim to find new ways to engage students of all ages and hopefully attend the Amnesty Youth Group Summit in the UK, where different groups lobby ideas to MPs and share what they have learnt.

The Amnesty Youth Group has had an overwhelming amount of support for its first year and we hope to continue spreading new ideas to help build a better, brighter future.

Bella Chicco (L6 English)





# Lockdown remote learning

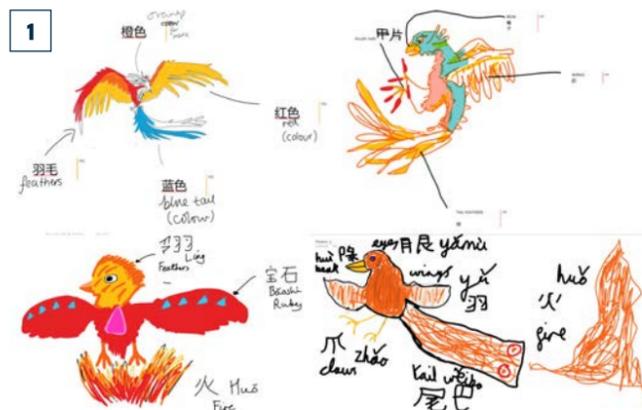
## LENT LOCKDOWN

**4 January:** As boarders were returning, and just before the Lent term was due to begin, the government announced a new lockdown, starting 6 January. Online lessons returned. The only students on site until 8 March were those boarders who had remained at school, and children of key workers.

## REMOTE LEARNING

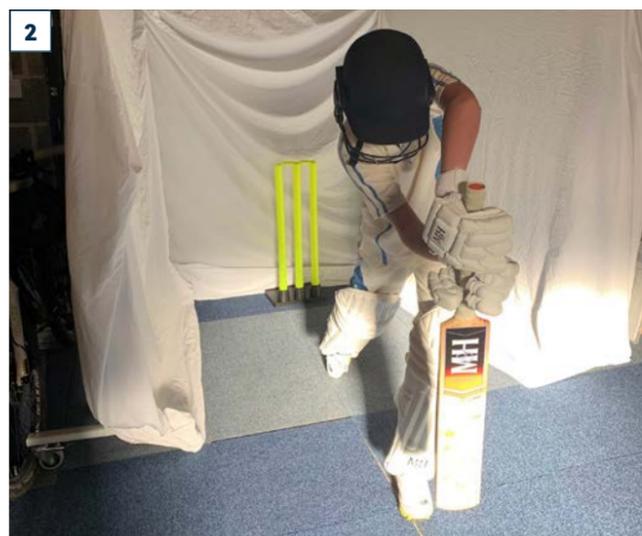
### 1. Mandarin

L3 practiced their independent learning skills and used technology to learn languages – they used online dictionaries to help them draw phoenixes which are an important symbol in Chinese culture. The results were stunning!



### 2. Pre-season cricket training

L3 and F3 students improvised and made some amazing cricket nets, both out and in door. Head of Cricket, Mr Pandya, used freshly ironed sheets for his, much to his wife's annoyance!



### 3. Junior Science

L3 illustrated animal and plant cells in a variety of imaginative ways and created some excellent models.



### 4. Psychology

U6 were learning about levels of measurement (nominal, ordinal and interval) using paper aeroplanes. Jack's plane went the furthest, and then his dog ate it!

### 5. Theology

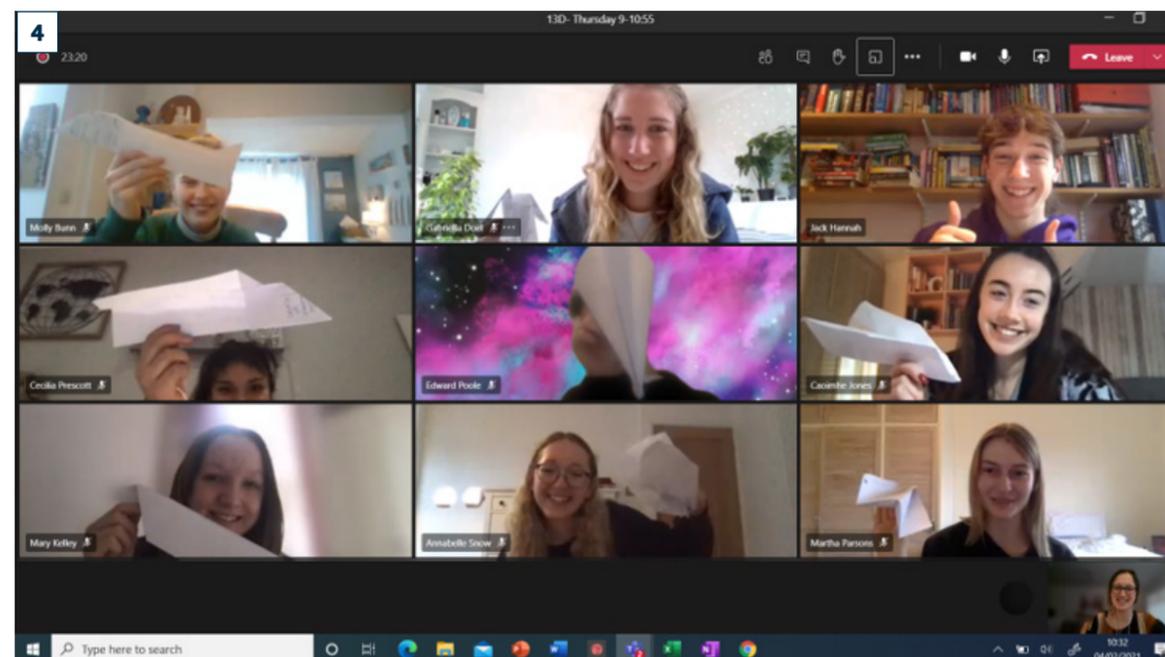
F3 students produced some striking images in recognition of Holocaust Remembrance Day.

### 6. Chemistry

No lab, no problem! Miss Lampard made use of her stove, some sugar and salt to demonstrate the differences in melting point between simple molecular and ionic compounds.

### 7. Games lessons

For the children of key workers who came to school, games lessons included building snowmen and nature hunts.



# Lockdown Letters

MARCH 2021

Students (and some staff) were asked to write a letter to their future self as a record of their experiences and feelings as we emerged from the winter Lockdown. As you can see, experiences were varied, with some students enjoying lie-ins and school from their beds, whilst others longed to see their friends and for the routines that have shaped their lives...What is clear from the letters we received was a sense of thankfulness and a desire to never again take the small things for granted.

Mrs Harris

## Letter #1

Dear Future Self,  
You don't know it yet, but you will be reading these letters towards the end of the summer term. The sun will hopefully be shining and the end will be in sight. You will have longed to be back in the classroom in front of real students, hearing them laugh and learn.  
Fast forward...  
Cricket is in full swing and tennis balls are flying at high speed. You are exhausted after the rigorous process of Teacher Assessed Grades and the emotional pressure and responsibility of these uncertain times.  
Social distancing of course continues, as you are learning to teach, socialise and live a little differently. As you write this with your dear colleague, you are filled by the energy and hustle and bustle of this vibrant place; a piano plays; the voices from Baines House filter under the dropped blind and you are so glad to be back with your friends (so much more than colleagues) in this beautiful place. The bell goes...

Take these letters as you find them...they are unedited and from the heart.



## Letter #2

Dear Lockdown self,  
I hope you never forget the era of the coronavirus pandemic,  
I wish it made you not take for granted the opportunities to meet with friends and family and are able to make many more memories in person with them.  
I have faith that you treasure the time spent getting closer to family over the lockdown and that it makes you a better person because of it.  
But most of all, I hope that things are returning to normal and that the distinctive features of Lockdown are nothing but souvenirs of the past.

Anon (L5)

## Letter #3

To me,  
Please, please, please get a bucket list written, there are so many amazing things right on your doorstep. Start doing more running, go swimming in the river, it is never too late to start doing what you want to do. Be more outgoing when restrictions are eased and go out as much as you can. Make new friends, go on long bike rides to the middle of nowhere with no idea where you are, just you, your friends and a map. Things like that, you will never forget. Do things that you have never thought of doing before (I think you'll find you really like cooking on the BBQ and baking). Spend time with your family, go to Cornwall in the summer, it will be one of the best weekends of your life - driving boats, going on paddle boards, catching fish, and cooking them over an open fire, it will be amazing!  
Just keep your head up and spread positivity.

Anon (F4)

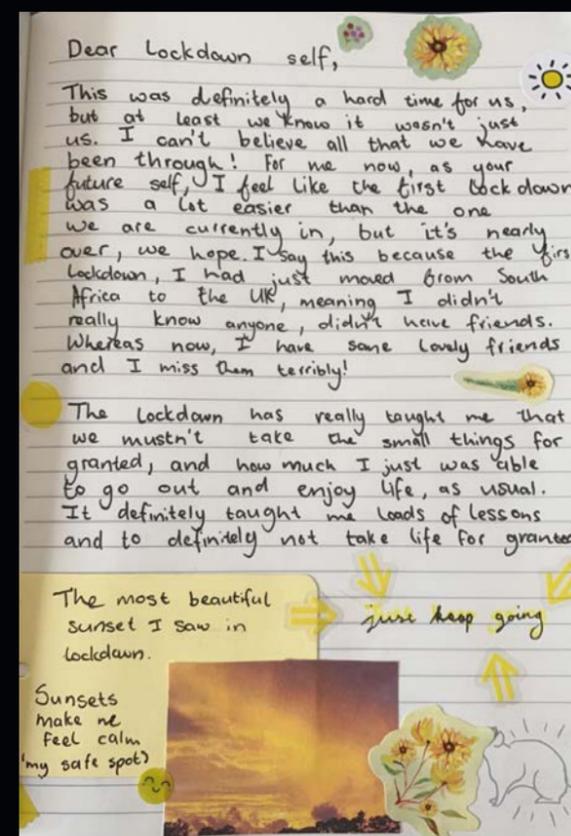
## Letter #4

Dear future me,  
Go out. I don't care how much work you have to do, how much you want to stay in your pyjamas curled up next to the fire. Think about current me, Lockdown me. I've been forced to stay inside now for almost a year, except for walking the dogs and going to Tesco's (yes, late night chocolate cravings count as an essential shop). So, I think it's only fair you drop anything you might want to do and go out!

I've had a whole year taken away from me, but I decided on March the 23rd, when the whole country shut down, that I wouldn't pity myself. Everyone was in the same boat. There was nothing to really be jealous of because there was nothing happening, it's hard to have FOMO when the only thing in the calendar is online school.

However, staying inside and doing nothing does become very tedious - when there's no big plans, you're forced to appreciate the smaller things in life. These things are now very meaningful to me. Things like smelling a freshly made batch of cookies, finding a really good Netflix series to binge or sitting around the family dinner table. Family is something I have appreciated more than anything during lockdown, being stuck inside was made okay by my parents and siblings, the only four people in the world I am legally allowed to hug. When this is all over and I can actually leave my house, I hope I remember to appreciate the small things in life as well as the big ones. But, the big things in life are pretty great, so, the main message to take from current, locked-up me is stop reading this letter and GET OUT!

Anon (L6)



## Letter #5

Dear future-self,  
It's currently the 25th February 2021. Last year, during half term, I was exploring New York City with my family. I was so scared to fly across the world with just my brother and sister. A storm threatened our departure in the early hours of the first Saturday of half term, delaying our impending adventure until the Sunday afternoon. We arrived at Heathrow airport several hours in advance in order to navigate the busy departures lounge and find our gate. My stomach ached for a sense of grounding and security as we were about to embark on our journey. Anxiety fuelled my body as I walked onto the plane, but I was also filled with excitement to see my Dad and set foot in the United States of America. Typically, I spent the flight revising Romeo and Juliet and doing maths homework. Seven hours later we landed in Newark. We straggled behind people before reaching passport control, where we faced thorough checks to enter the country. Tentatively, I handed over our visas and passports to the officer from my bum bag. I bravely turned towards the camera and placed my fingers onto a scanner. The unfamiliar people, flag and accents were intriguing despite their similarities to the British flag and our accents.  
After passing further checks, and weighed down with exhaustion, we entered arrivals. Without hesitation I dropped my bag and sprinted into my dad's arms. His embrace was warm and comforting. I immediately felt reassured. I smiled. The first

time in more than 24 hours.

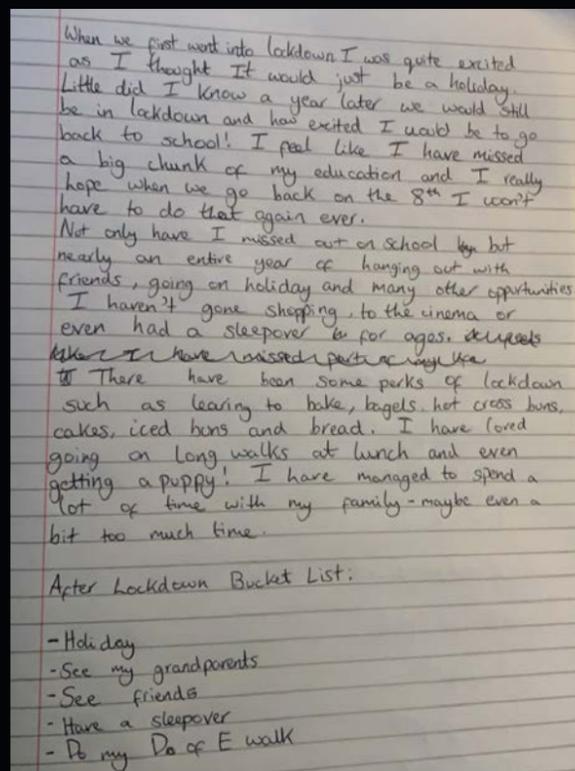
Fast forward one year, I am at home reflecting on the year, drawing upon my thoughts and feelings from that memorable trip. To some extent, overshadowed by the events that have led up to writing this letter. Despite the concerning news of a deadly virus beginning to arise across the world, we travelled the length of New York and Washington, taking everything in. Enjoying every moment.

The purpose of this letter for me, is to remind myself of the strength that I have of overcoming my fears and my ability to deal with disheartening situations. Much like the last twelve months, I experienced a titbit of what was to come during the journey to and from New York. But I also, have so much positive energy and memories associated with last February half term. Just as I have enjoyed times like that this year.

Please, please, make the most of the time and experiences you are given. Enjoy them! Because we never know what is going to come next.

Sending you lots of hugs and kisses

**Me! (L6)**



## Letter #6

Dear future-self

They say that things come in threes. Buses, people, birds... I guess Lockdowns fit into that category too. It has been an interesting one this time. The glamour of it all being new has worn off now, the list of things to try for the first time has shortened considerably. But at the same time there have been some good things this time. For one, the weather. As I am writing this, I am being gazed upon by a bright February sun, beaming at me with all its goodness. The sun is one thing that this lockdown has made me appreciate, that big ball of fire that gives light, warmth and life to the world. But how quickly the weather can change. Just a few weekends ago we were experiencing proper snow for the first time in years, with the whole world turning into a scene from *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*, enveloped in a thick loving blanket of snow. It is strange how snow makes children out of us all, innocent bundles of joy throwing snowballs or making 7ft snowman. I guess it is because it is so alien, so different to what we normally get that we feel that 'carpe diem' is the right way to go. I sometimes struggle to remember what life was like before COVID-19 before this whole situation reared its ugly head. Do you feel that about Lockdown?

Can you properly remember, or do you just say that you do? I hope that you do remember all of this, because it will make every moment taste so much sweeter, make it seem as if you could jump for joy for the sheer abundance of happiness in your life. I wonder how much life will have changed by then?

What are you doing, this weekend? Scratch that, what have you done since Lockdown has ended. You must have seen friends, but have you gone to see a rugby match, to cheer Bath on? How are Bath doing, are we battling for the title or are we scrapping to avoid relegation (if there was any this season)? Have you gone to see a film yet, or a play, or are you doing lots of running and numerous cycle rides? Don't totally shun lockdown pastimes though, board games can be just as fun, or even a family read in front of the fire. How many dog walks are you going on now, is it up to the Lockdown rate? If you're in school now, you surely can't be keeping up to that pace but make sure that you get outside a lot. That has been one of the advantages of Lockdown, I have been able to get outside pretty much every day. What I want from you to draw from this is to make the most of the freedoms you have after Lockdown but do be sure to still do the things that made Lockdown somewhat bearable, be that table football with your brother or Bananagram with all the family.

Best wishes,  
**Anon. (F4)**

## Dear future self,

Don't take things for granted. Travelling, seeing friends, playing sports and being outside. It is what makes your life fun so appreciate them when you have them. Also appreciate what got you through this time, your pets your family and the friends you talked to every day. Never forget how boring this time was and use that to live your normal life to the fullest. I have always been comfortable having alone time but this period has tested that and once I'm out I want to make the most out of social opportunities and to spend more time with my friends.

## Letter #7

Dear Helen,

When you read this, you will probably be wondering if the last year or so really did happen...well it did, and you got through it. It wasn't easy at times, and there were moments that were really low. Giving my mum a hug the night before Lockdown #1 began, and not knowing when I would do that again, was the first of some really difficult and emotional moments.

Talking to my shielding Aunt at a distance through her window whilst my uncle was in respite care to manage his pain from terminal cancer, and then two weeks later only being able to say goodbye to my wonderful uncle by watching his funeral on Zoom was devastating.

Seeing my young nephews on screen who didn't understand why they couldn't come over and play with their cousins.

On a less emotional level, but still hard...

I missed chatting with my friends at the school gate.

I missed my wonderful friends and 'work family' at Prior. Our morning departmental coffee breaks on Teams were a highlight of my week!

I missed the freedom of sitting in a café or spending an evening with friends.

Not being able to see and hug my extended family was so hard.

Masks...!!!

But it wasn't all bad...

A commute to work in my slippers with a cup of coffee that took me from the kitchen to my home office is hard to beat, especially on those dark, cold January mornings.

Being able to read my children a bedtime story between parents' evening appointments.

Seeing my children learning and interacting with their teachers online, and discovering in real time just what they are capable of.

Spending precious time with my children that would not normally have been mine to spend. Watching my daughter discover the joy of baking on her 'freedom Fridays' in Lockdown #3 (and enjoying the delicious fruits of her labour!)

The pride I felt when my son suddenly decided he wanted to learn to ride his bike and then achieved it that afternoon!

More neighbourly interactions (although at a distance) and feeling more part of a community than I had ever felt before.

The permanent presence of Daisy, our cat, on my lap during every single lesson and meeting I had. (She certainly loved Lockdown!!)

Will future me wish/yearn for this time again? No, absolutely not. But future me may yearn for elements of those moments again. The simplicity of life when stripped back to the minimum certainly had some benefits.

So, what advice do I offer to post-Lockdown Helen? Jump at the chance to see friends, even when you are tired and are not sure you can be bothered after a long day/week at work.

FaceTime your parents, siblings and in-laws more, rather than just calling or WhatsApp-ing them.

Enjoy just being...my morning coffees out on the patio amidst the birdsong and warmth of a sunny spring morning before remote lessons began were moments of tranquillity that I treasured during Lockdown #1.

Make more time for me: Run, walk, read a book - whatever the mood takes. And don't feel guilty about it!

Above all though, the simple mantra that I feel was how much of our time in Lockdown was spent is something I will strive to keep doing:

Live simply. Laugh often. Love deeply.

A bit of a cliché? Maybe. But a beautiful way to strive to live? Definitely.

Love from Helen xx



## Baines

Baines House this year was a joyous place to be, with a great set of pupils supported by a very competent set of tutors. The pupils were once again split into four tutor groups: Francis (Madame Justine), Garrick (Mr Buckley, joined during the year by Mr Penrose), Pope (Miss Evans) and Ward (Mr Burt). They quickly formed friendships, identities and friendly rivalries with the other tutor groups, including the weekly quiz - most often won by Ward, although sometimes by Garrick, and the outstanding House Music in May, where the overall winner was Ward. Sports Day in June was a late chance for some more tutor group fun, and it was Ward who again took the top spot with some excellent performances and a very slick relay win.

Remote learning in the early months of 2021 brought its challenges but this did not deter the Baines pupils from throwing themselves into the various projects and competitions on offer. Baines Crufts competition saw some animals almost as talented as their owners and some excellent video entries were received. After much deliberation, the judging panel decided that the awards would go to Hansel Pickford (Most Entertaining, and probably the first time a sheep has won Crufts!), Scout Sullivan (Most Obedient) and Pippin Jefferson (Best Video Production). The pupils' resilience during this

period was commendable and their enthusiasm for the EcoPrior video project, the 'Photo in the Snow' competition, the 'Paint the Tutor' competition - with an entry from Layla being given a particularly high score by the judges in the Sixth Form - were testament to how well this group of pupils adjusted to the difficult times we faced at the start of 2021.

The End of Year House prizes for contribution to the House, their kindness within the tutor group, and their enthusiasm for all that Prior has to offer went to Elena, Joachim, Jude and Phoebe F, and the Spirit of Prior award for Baines House went to Ruby Walsh. All pupils who were with us for the full academic year managed to earn the Bronze Award for receiving 25 merits across the year, and 18 pupils went home with a Silver Award for receiving 50 merits. Four pupils struck Gold and received the award for being given a whopping 75 merits across the academic year - our congratulations go to Anoushka, Hannah, Reuben and Joseph.

It has been a pleasure to get to know the pupils of Baines House in 2020-21 and I look forward to seeing them grow and thrive as they progress through the rest of the school!

**Mr Healy, Housemaster**

## Brownlow

'Never, ever be late to the oars'! This was the motto used by one of my university friends, Ian Holdcroft, COO and Co-Founder of Shackleton Clothing, when he rowed across the Atlantic with his team in what turned out to be a gruelling and life defining challenge. It is these words, and the story behind them, which has had an ubiquitous influence on the Brownlow community, guiding them to their destination as they have navigated and sailed their way through their Year 8 journey. Teamwork, kindness, caring for others, getting the small things right and being the best version of themselves were essential qualities that each shipmate needed to develop and showcase in a year that will forever be remembered in the annals of teaching history.

Along the way, many great memories were formed and shared, from common room parties to tutor challenges, epic table tennis rallies mixed with high octane table football contests, tactical chess battles and those who chose a good book for their downtime. Amidst it all was the sound of joy and laughter on a daily basis.

A range of assemblies were delivered by both myself and a host of guest speakers, with topics covering social and interpersonal skills, current affairs, misogyny, College values and even life in the armed forces.

House Music provided one of the major highlights of the year, with some excellent individual and group performances that lit up the stage. As the summer

term reached its conclusion, the end of year celebration proved to be a great success, with Ultimate Activity Camps working alongside the Year 7 & 8 staff to provide a host of fun activities for the children.

That the children have performed and behaved so well is a great testament to their resilience and character. Just as they learn from their mistakes, I hope that they will celebrate their achievements and that they will head into Year 9 imbued with optimism, confidence and a better idea of who they are. Well done Brownlow House, good job!

*Semper Virtute Constans*

**Mr Pandya, Housemaster**



# Allen

We, in International Allen House, are built different #gentlemen. We have great fashion and chat. We win, but not always on the scoreboard. We do this by wearing top hats, scarves and having the wolf as our spirit animal. We are truthful (mostly) and try our best (more often than not). We do this to be respectful to our College and the environment, to look out for others and ourselves, and to be the best House in the school.

Despite going through some of the hardest months in recent history, the gentlemen of Allen House really took the last year by the scruff of the neck. At the start of the academic year, we welcomed one of the newest additions to the Allen House team: Rashid Mohammed, a boy in Ghana, who Allen House supported by fundraising to help him attend his school. We did this through rigorous competition, a triathlon format where individuals

would run, swim or cycle as far as they could to reach the goal. Upon completion of the triathlon, we had raised enough money to look after Rashid for the entire academic year. We intend to support Rashid in the years to come.

In welcoming new members to the house, unfortunately, we have also said goodbye to Mr Valdueza and Dr Blackwell, both of whom have been fundamental to all in Allen House in the last few years. They will be remembered for their kindness and support by each and every one of us.

Finally, we'd like to say a huge thank you to all of our tutors this year, who have been there helping their students get through the toughest of times in the best way possible. *In Spiritu Et Veritate.*

**Hugh Page, Head of House**



# Arundell

Despite the constantly shifting sand that we have all coped with, it is a testament to the girls that they have carried on and achieved so much in this year of 'Bubbles'. We have only been able to come together and celebrate as a House in outdoor events or remotely, so it is remarkable that the spirit has been maintained and the House heart still very much beats. I have been flicking through my notes on the year and I wanted to share some of the highlights with you.

Sporting successes continued with the girls retaining their Fisher Road Relay and Sports Day titles. They looked fantastic in their bright yellow tops and could easily be seen blazing a trail round the various events. On a more individual level, many of our top sports players continued to train and excel in their own sports, including cricket, tennis, athletics, hockey, and swimming.

Music lessons survived the pandemic and congratulations to those girls who completed their various vocal and instrumental grades. I was lucky enough to be in the Chapel to hear Kristel Langkilde

(U6) sing for her advanced performance certificate, and she was outstanding. Many of the U6 musicians also took part in the superb Leavers' Concert.

The girls have excelled academically, trained as peer mentors, raised money for charities, completed Duke of Edinburgh awards, won Art prizes, been in the paper, written winning essays, and all this amidst lockdown and restrictions. Wow!

The new Arundell House Crest was created this year. It is based on a beautiful drawing penciled by Hannah Banks (U6). The crest depicts the orchids that grow on the Mansion slopes, a star with our House motto *Respice stellas*, and is in the yellow and gold House colours. It is lovely to think that this crest will become part of Arundell history.

We have had a memorable year, welcoming new girls from afar and we look forward eagerly to 2022, when we reach the heights of a truly International House of 70.

**Mrs Kate Trott, Housemistress**

# Burton

This year was always going to be difficult for the House. The well-loved traditions that have run throughout my time in Burton were sorely missed not only by those, like myself, that have been around since Form 4 – to which outings to Bristol's Showcase Cinema and turbulent House Music rehearsals have been a yearly staple – but also by the newcomers that, for two years now, have lost out on a large portion of their integration into the House system.

Fortunately, despite the considerable interruptions that we have faced, Burton House has had an overwhelmingly positive year, with many welcome changes and adaptations bringing the boys together and paving the way towards a bright future for those to come.

Led by the initiative of Mr Hull, the House has undergone an appreciated redecoration both in appearance and in ethos. The Common Room itself, with a fresh coat of paint, some stylish burgundy lampshades and a considerable reorganisation, has taken on a new and welcoming appearance which is sure to be enjoyed for years to come. Equally, the incorporation of the key values of Courage, Strength

and Love, which are symbolised by three portraits visible on entrance, sum up a concrete ethos which the House now finds itself.

On top of this, it has been great to see how the boys have maintained the spirit of community despite the physical separation of the year groups. The 'Unprecedented Shield' served as a way for all the year groups to congregate, with special considerations going out to Giles Pickford (F4) and Thomas Roblin (L5) for their numerous contributions. Similarly, the staggered Fisher Road Relay event, where Burton took a close second, allowed for many of the boys to experience that sense of community that was missed by the absence of many of the social events this year. Overall, our proudest achievement has been a victory at Sports Day despite losing many of our L6 Sportsmen to DofE, which highlights how the Burton positive attitude always shines through, even at the end of a difficult year.

**Tom Nesbit, Head of House**



# Clifford

It has been what can only be described as a turbulent year for the whole of Clifford House, and to say that COVID has been disruptive throughout is an understatement. However, we have powered through, being led by our brilliant new Housemaster, Mr Conlon, who has kept the House as complete as it could be hoped for, despite the limited contact between different year groups. Keeping the house together has involved multiple challenges, competitions and Kahoots, including an U6 masterpiece educating the rest of the House on the real history of Clifford.

The House's real cohesion and true colours were most evidently displayed by our spectacular victory in the Fisher Road Relay. Strong victories from the Form 4s and Lower 6s, followed by third places from the rest of the House, meant we tied with Burton on points (thank you for showing up this time Robbie D). However, our total time was significantly faster than Burton's and so the Fisher Cup is now rightfully ours - to have beaten our rivals next door after four long years is very satisfying.

My deputy, Reuben Jackson, and I also decided to test the intellect of the new Form 4s coming into the

House to see if they could not only carry the House on the sporting field, but also in the classroom. We can confirm that they are up to the task after defeating all the cryptic crosswords we set them.

One moment this year that I'll never forget is when I received the green light from Mr Jones and Mr Conlon to be Santa Claus for the Clifford Christmas celebrations. I think they enjoyed it a lot more than I did, but I hope the tutor groups enjoyed the visit and their presents.

Clifford to me isn't just a place to come before and after lessons. After the last 5 years it has become not just a House but a home. It is a safe space to which I attach some unforgettable memories and it is a place in which I have undoubtedly found friends for life.

It's been an honour to have led the House in my final year and I wish you all my very best.

Always be ready.

**Jack Hannah, Head of House**



## English

**E**lysia has been a role model for the younger years and has done an incredible job as Head of House, leading the English House girls this year. During lockdown, Elysia kept the girls positive and made sure she kept them going through tough times, organising a Remote Cooking/Baking session and, more importantly, leading the House to victory and the Unprecedented Shield. Elysia has been a role model for the younger years and has done an incredible job as Head of House.

**N**ewborn. This year was an exciting year for Mrs Holder as she welcomed Teddy Holder to the world. Teddy is the newest addition to English House and I know he will be our number 1 supporter.

**G**et-togethers. The girls have still managed to come together and share memories, this may be tutor innings, Christmas House Events, Mrs Holder's Virtual Baby Shower. The girls have made memories this year.

**L**aughter. This has not stopped throughout this year. Social distanced House events have still

seen plenty of laughter from the girls as they all get involved with the different activities, including Musical Chairs and Gingerbread House Making.

**I**nter-House Competitions. The girls have worked so hard to compete for their House, be it the Unprecedented Shield, House Cross Country or Sports Day. The girls have won those pink English House tops with pride and have given each competition their all.

**S**taff. English House would not be the same without its amazing staff. They have all been incredible tutors for the girls, helping to guide them through the uncertain times - they have been there throughout.

**H**ouse Spirt. No matter what has been thrown at these English House girls, they have not lost their House Spirt. This has shone through. Their determination and kindness has been key and has helped lift the House Spirt when most needed.

**Miss Duncan, Acting Housemistress**

## Fielding

Another strange year beckoned in September as we headed into Year group bubbles. Responsible for F4 Girls, Fielding House was still also my priority. We continued to keep that sense of House identity to a large extent thanks to the Fielding tutors: Ms Bloomfield, Mrs Prynne, Ms Duncan and Dr McGowran. Remote assemblies and competitions were also an excellent way to nurture that sense of cohesion.

Our Head of House, Maddie Robertson, began the year with an online competition which investigated the different characters of the House and offered the girls a bit of fun. For the first time in its history, we launched a competition to devise a Fielding House crest. Carole Laverick from the PPA judged the competition and Kira Tenk (L6) produced the winning design. The white quill represents the works of Henry Fielding, the author, the scales of justice remind us of his work with prison reform and his setting up of the first police force,

the Bow Street Runners. The carnations represent the girls in the House and are associated with love and friendship.

The year followed its normal pattern by and large, whether we were remote or physically in school. UCAS applications, the Fisher Road relay, Sports Day all happened and, although Arundell won Sports Day (they were brilliant!), I have to commend Fielding for their dedication and have-a-go spirit. Special mention should go to Alulla Schoeman, Amelia Cattanch, Daisy Downey, Amy Emberson and Freya Millhouse.

We missed having the dinner, but some of U6 Fielding were able to meet up in the final week of term and share pizza and some bubbly. They have been an amazing year group who will be sorely missed; however, I will treasure memories of this group for years to come.

**Mrs Mallon, Housemistress**



# Roche

Returning to school in September, the House was ready for another great year together until the move to year group bubbles. The boys really stepped up to the challenge and rose to the occasion. Led by the Upper 6th, they managed to continue our House tradition of raising money for charity, with our Krispy Kreme doughnut sale raising over £200.

Although many of our House assemblies and meetings have been held via Teams, we have managed to meet in our year groups for 'House Breakfasts' over the duration of the year. This has been such a delightful way to spend some more time with the boys and catch up. They have been in great spirits and being fuelled with waffles certainly helps!

Quizzes, competitions, Taskmaster style events and Draw With Rob tutorials kept the Lockdown assemblies varied and hopefully brightened up the Lent term. It would have been very easy for the mood of the House to dip during this time, but their resilience and determination shone through.

Returning for the end of the Lent term was a great relief, and the boys got stuck into school life, keen to make the most of their time in school and finish off

with the Fisher Relay which saw the U6 team take the win.

The summer term is always busy, with lots of exams for all year groups. However, our tutor group innings provided some welcome relief from the busy school days. Cricket season saw 8 boys from the House representing the 1st XI, from L5 to U6. We eagerly await their future sporting success.

The closing weeks of term saw some opportunity to utilise the beautiful outdoor setting of the College for an open air House event. This was the first real chance to get the boys together and proved to be a fantastic way to mark the end of the most challenging year. A grand BBQ, Heads and Tails and a very competitive Egg and Spoon race added to a wonderful afternoon together and proved that the House passion has thrived, even through the difficulties of the past year.

**Mr Holmes (Housemaster)**



# House afternoon

After so many months of year group 'bubbles', on Wednesday 23 June, each House came together for an afternoon of House led activities, refreshments and an assortment of food...



# CCF

This year has been testing in the cadet arena but what we have seen in abundance is resolve and determination to deliver training and opportunities, despite the challenge of having to work at times in a virtual arena.

A specific highlight of mine, through virtual training, was seeing the cadets participate in numerous 'Taskmaster' challenges. Cadets attempted to complete a series of fun and unique challenges, with contingent staff acting as umpires and the work mainly being judged by me with points awarded according to cadets' performances. Much fun and ingenuity was demonstrated throughout and, although not an endorsement, a social media 'like' from C4's Taskmaster creator Alex Horne was well received.

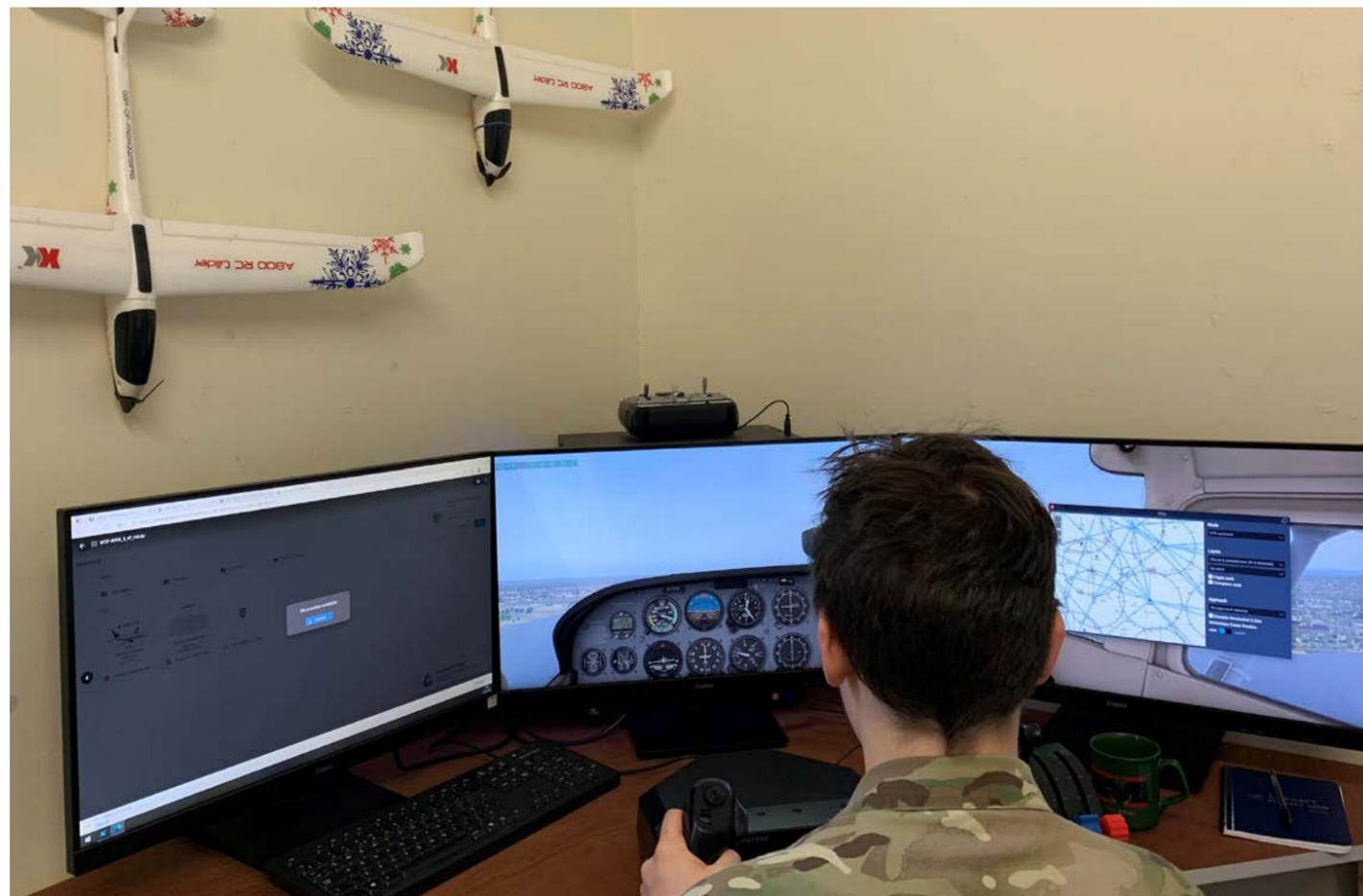
Our senior cadets from both sections have excelled, with first class commitment, service and leadership. They have taken on the mantle of organising the training for our Rowallan recruits and they have done this with aplomb - resourceful, humorous and kind-hearted and with oodles of perseverance.

As we approached the end of the summer term, and after an absence of many months, it was fantastic to see our flotilla of lasers, dinghies and our Wayfarer back on the water at Chew Valley. New equipment

(delayed by Covid) finally arrived, with the last pieces being received literally on the final day of term. This puts us in a very good position for sailing next year. When permitted, we have conducted training at Prior Park College. Our drones have been seen and heard at altitude on Monument field most lunch times, and gliders (often seen, yet not heard) and our flight simulator remain favourite activities. The portable range has been whacked on numerous occasions with pellets during marksmanship training, and competition remains fierce across both sections, the Scorpion Air Rifle and CZ 200 Air Rifle. We have held field days instructing First Aid, Skill at Arms and Weapon Handling. Fieldcraft has taken place on the school grounds - staff are always startled and bemused when cadets appear from the foliage or from an observation post!

The school collaboration between CCF and DoFE has many merits and has proved successful. Many of the exciting CCF activities cadets can undertake, such as marksmanship and sports training, can also count towards their DoFE - twice the fun!

**Major Jenkins**



# Duke of Edinburgh Award

Some sixty-five years ago, HRH Prince Philip established The Duke of Edinburgh's Award. It was with great sadness that back in April we were informed of his death. Prince Philip's dedication and commitment to the award in both the UK and globally was truly remarkable and our students dearly remember their awards and adventures.

We are immensely proud of the dedication, effort and achievement of all our participants and staff in this challenging year. The volunteering commitment of at least an hour a week continued with gusto with Prior students donating a social value of £6,151.60 of their time to local causes during 2020-21 – a remarkable achievement!

Covid restrictions also meant that DofE participation this year was with a difference, with expeditions limited to the local area. A massive well done to our Bronze students (74) who completed their expedition during a very hot couple of days. Congratulations to those who also completed the Silver Expedition and Award across the Mendip Hills, an area of truly

outstanding natural beauty. Will we ever learn who was responsible for the missing cooking gas and the occasional misnavigation?

Our Gold participants, both current and legacy (42) jumped feet first into the year. Over several days in June, the students experienced kayaking, dry caving at Burrington Combe and climbing in the Mendips, in addition to expeditions locally and in Congressbury and the Mendips. Activities ended with a day exploring East Bath in a competitive orienteering challenge followed by a traditional celebratory picnic.

It is absolutely wonderful to see the impact Award participants have made over the past year. Congratulations to those who completed their award and keep up the good work, and to our volunteer staff Managers, Leaders, Assessors and Helpers, thank you. To those still working on their award at the minute, you have our full support!

**Mr Jenkins**





# Junior Music Days

This year featured not one but two Junior Music Celebrations, in October and June. The day for Baines and Brownlow was dedicated to whole-House singing, dancing, groups and solos, culminating in a spectacular show judged by a celebrity panel of Prior Park L6 Music Tech students and performed to a full 'bubble'-House. Alongside the established soloists, this was a chance to see and hear bright new talent - an ideal preparation, for all these younger students, for the legendary Senior House Music which lies ahead of them.

Mr Robertson



# African studies

Once again we welcomed the charismatic and inspiring Ghanaian, Kwame Bakoji-Hume, from African Activities, for a sunny morning of high-energy African drumming, dance, storytelling and song. As part of the College's Summer Activity Week, this was a perfect way for all of L3 to spend the morning and thrilled the air around the entire teaching block too!



# Gamelan

For a whole week, JWC rang to the exotic chimes of the Javanese Gamelan, with its fascinating variety of gongs, bells and other metallophones. Prior Park was fortunate to host this wonderful resource thanks to the generosity of Bath Spa University and their expert Gamelan coach Sophie Batchelor. Sophie led a huge range of classes from L3 to L6 into their first steps of this great art form, which demands immersive collective concentration, careful listening and counting, as well as removal of shoes in respect for the spirit of the instruments!



# L6 Funk Band

Surely one of the most successful Lockdown ensembles, the L6 funk band led by Mr Sackett and Miss Prosser continued to rock away weekly throughout the darkest days of Covid, with a dazzling array of talent from multi-layered vocals to rhythm and lead guitars, sax, keys, bass and drums. As the summer term neared its end, this band got a chance to share its music with two large and appreciative audiences as well as the rest of Bath, giving a pair of lunchtime concerts on the Mansion steps.



## MAX MONTANARO

To the long list of outstanding Prior Park guitarists is now added Max Montanaro, who spent Lockdown continuously honing his jazz skills. This year he auditioned for, and was subsequently awarded, the guitar post in the prestigious Wiltshire Youth Jazz Orchestra, a top band based in Bradford-on-Avon. And soon after, Max learned that he'd been accepted onto the National Youth Jazz Collective Summer School, a stepping stone to wider recognition at the highest level for ambitious young jazzers.

Mr Robertson





# Christmas carol service

With immense determination Prior Park kept alive the annual magic of the candlelit Carol Service, with its rich variety of beautiful choral numbers alongside much-loved Christmas favourite carols. Drawing on all the technical and musical expertise of its staff and the excellent cooperation and commitment of the school, two services were created: one a complete live choral service for U6 in the Chapel, the other a full-length recorded video carol service. For a week, various 'shoots' were scheduled to take place, including a marathon day when all the readings were filmed - a 13 hour shoot - and

the following day, when every year group had an opportunity to sing a hymn in the Chapel, as well as both Senior and Junior Chapel Choirs. The end result was truly an occasion to lighten the bleak mid-winter and an impressive souvenir for future viewers. Given that this would be the last time that Mr Roland Robertson was going to be choir master, it was an even extra special service.

Watch the Carol Service here: [youtube.com/watch?v=oQNwwZQe\\_84](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oQNwwZQe_84)

[Mr Robertson and Mr Langley](#)

# Music results

## MICHAELMAS 2020

### Associated Board of The Royal Schools of Music

Gabi Chiu	Singing	Grade 8	Pass
Louise Cattanach	Flute	Grade 7	Pass
George Campbell-Jones	Horn	Grade 6	Distinction
Thomas Zagni	Trombone	Grade 5	Distinction
Nick Greene	Trumpet	Grade 5	Merit
Misha Jensen	Theory	Grade 5	Distinction
Oliver Zagni	Trumpet	Grade 4	Distinction
Emily Midwinter	Flute	Grade 4	Pass
Sophie Gendle	Piano	Grade 3	Pass
Daniel Corfield	Violin	Grade 3	Merit
Alexander Mould	Clarinet	Grade 3	Merit
Alexa Sullivan	Piano	Grade 2	Merit
Cailean Wilson	Piano	Grade 2	Merit
Tessa Hart	Piano	Grade 1	Pass

### Trinity College London

Tallulah Stephens	Singing	Grade 8	Distinction
Jack Kerrigan	Trumpet	Grade 7	Merit
Thalia Harward	Singing	Grade 6	Merit
Shreya Sivaloganathan	Violin	Grade 5	Distinction
Robert Dymond	Trumpet	Grade 5	Pass

### Rockschool

Misha Jensen	Guitar	Grade 8	Distinction
Thea Sprawson	Drumkit	Grade 6	Merit

## LENT 2021

### Associated Board of The Royal Schools of Music

George Whinney	Violin	Grade 3	Pass
Thomas Zagni	Piano	Grade 3	Merit
Charlie Howe	Piano	Grade 2	Merit

### Trinity College London

Natalie Chan	Piano	ATCL (Diploma)	Pass
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## SUMMER 2021

### Associated Board of The Royal Schools of Music

Hannah Clements	Flute	ARSM (Diploma)	Distinction
Ariane Milewski	Singing	Grade 7	Merit
Lucinda Liu	Piano	Grade 4	Pass
Oliver Zagni	Piano	Grade 2	Merit
Oliver Campbell	Piano	Grade 2	Merit

### Trinity College London

Eleanor Dymond	Clarinet	Grade 7	Pass
Euan Murray	Singing	Grade 6	Merit
Ewan Hipperson	Singing	Grade 6	Merit
Lola Evans	Singing	Grade 5	Merit
Fergus Sanghera	Trombone	Grade 2	Pass

### London College of Music

Eleanor Brown	Music Theatre	Grade 6	Merit
Amelia Cattanach	Music Theatre	Grade 5	Distinction
Eliza Tjolle	Music Theatre	Grade 4	Distinction

### Rockschool

Milena Apostu	Drumkit	Grade 1	Merit
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### Trinity Rock & Pop

George Whinney	Drumkit	Grade 3	Merit
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# Grand leavers' concert

As the Delta variant continued to disrupt our end of year events, this classic summer concert still managed to go ahead in the much-loved traditional way, even including the interval drinks on the lawns overlooking Bath. The audience, Covid-restricted in numbers to only U6 and the family bubbles of the performers, still gave the soloists a rousing reception. It was a special summer sunset also for Mr Robertson, as he himself joined the leavers:

**Hannah Banks (Eb trumpet)**

Trumpet Concerto by Neruda (first movement)

**Gabi Chiu (oboe)**

Gabriel's Oboe by Ennio Morricone

**Alexander Martin (alto sax)**

Village Place by Allen Vizzuti

**Thomas Nelson (violin)**

Adagio from Violin Concerto by Vivaldi

**Kristel Langkilde (soprano)**

Deh vieni, non tardar! from Marriage of Figaro by Mozart

**Maisie Scotland and Maisie Wilson (sopranos)**

Slipping Through My Fingers by Abba

**Tallulah Stephens (soprano)**

Don't Rain On My Parade From 'Funny Girl' by Merrill and Styne

**Oli Tometzki (baritone)**

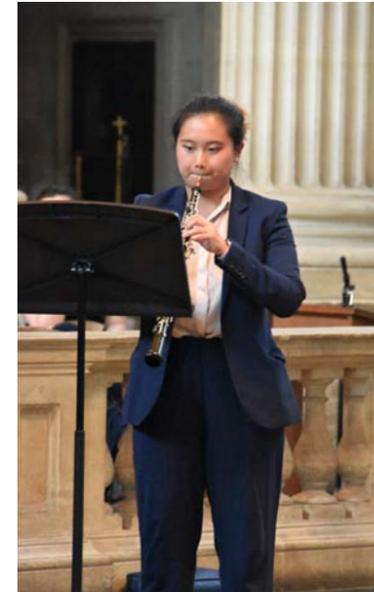
You'll Be Back From 'Hamilton' by Miranda

**Maisie Wilson (soprano)**

Wishing You Were Somehow Here Again by Andrew Lloyd Webber

**Fred Osborne (guitar)**

Comfortably Numb by Pink Floyd



# Femme

## L6 DRAMA

In a year when the chance of seeing any live performance on stage was virtually zero and virtually displayed and watched, when the College had to cancel several planned productions due to two bouts of Lockdown, it was something of a relief to finally be able to welcome real audiences - albeit a bubble exclusive audience - to a live theatre event again.

Lower 6 drama students, who had already shifted focus due to Lockdown, offered up a slice of Artaudian Theatre in the guise of the innocently titled 'Femme.' This devised work centered upon the text of Medea by Euripides but actually was more an essay on 'l'experience feminine' as the group explored, through montage, physicality, non-verbal language and spoken text, themes as diverse as suppression, rejection and revenge. The whole point of Artaud and his theories on theatre is that the spectator must be the final arbitrator of

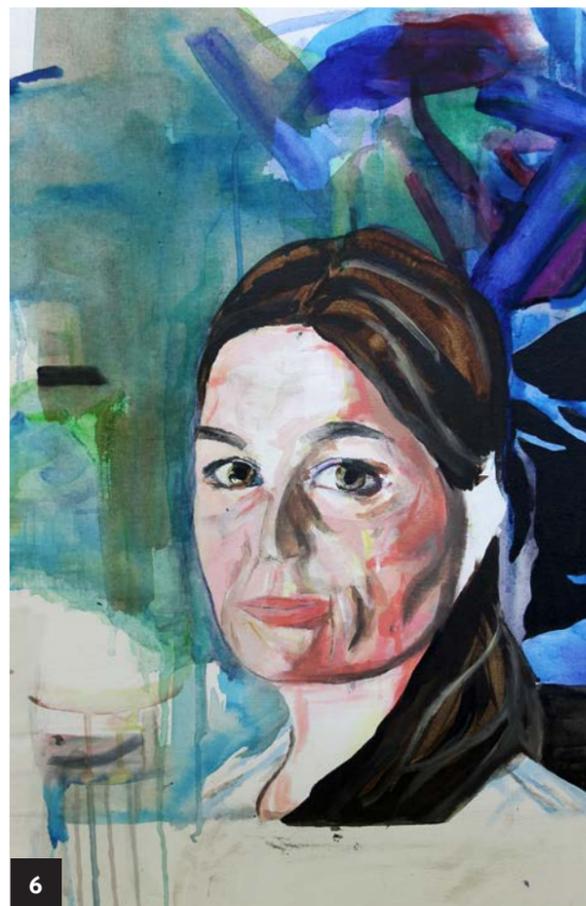
reception. It matters little to nothing what the performer intended, it is how the ideas, images, motifs were accepted and interpreted by the audience that really matters.

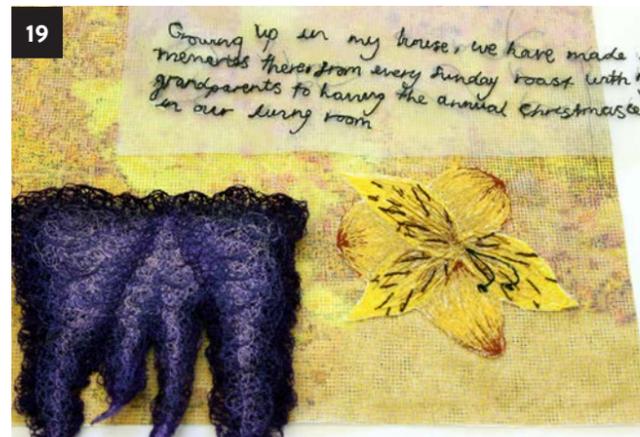
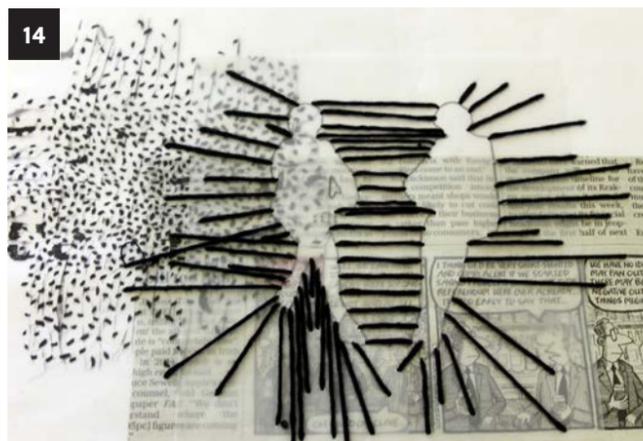
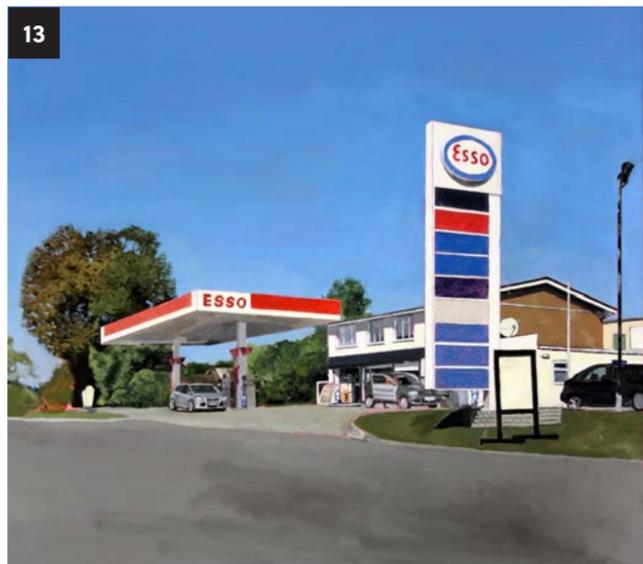
It is a very challenging type of theatre and not for the faint-hearted - as Artaud himself put it, 'the audience should leave feeling that their senses have been assaulted.' No comfortable, subjective easy ride for our L6, then. In such an ensemble piece, it would be wrong to single out an individual performance. Instead, I will acknowledge the ritual, giving thanks for the sacred nature of performance. This was an impactful, intelligent, startlingly brave piece of work by a group of talented and committed young people. Outstanding stuff.

**Mr Langley**



# Visual arts





- 1 **Florance Dawson** GCSE
- 2 **Sasha Raktskii** GCSE
- 3 **Vera Wong** GCSE
- 4 **Imogen Burton** GCSE
- 5 **Alex Mallon** GCSE
- 6 **Olivia Taylor** GCSE
- 7 **Alejandro Sanchez Baron** GCSE
- 8 **Emma Hallam** GCSE
- 9 **Amelia Lavington** GCSE
- 10 **Melody Au** GCSE
- 11 **Alys Redman** A Level
- 12 **Charlotte Coop** A Level

- 13 **Freddie Osborne** A Level
- 14 **Katie Ashbee** A Level
- 15 **Cecilia Prescott** A Level
- 16 **Daisy Wells** A Level
- 17 **Minty Lean Rachou** A Level
- 18 **Jemima Adams** A Level
- 19 **Molly Bunn** A Level
- 20 **Jessie Parsons** A Level
- 21 **Rasmus Segav** A Level
- 22 **Letty Allen** A Level
- 23 **Maisie Scotland** A Level



# Rugby

Despite the Covid restrictions in place during the Michaelmas term, rugby in a different format actually happened at Prior Park! Within the Governing Body's guidelines, we trained and played (non-contact) internal House/year group bubble fixtures. The participation was high, partly due to the 'love of the game'

and students missing their fix of rugby, but also the need to get outside and do some physical activity!

Most Saturdays on Monument Field, we had two main rugby sessions, firstly the L3, F3, F4 & L5 training in the earlier slot of 12.30pm and then the U5, L6 & U6 in the later slot of 2pm. This

schedule continued when the Inter-House competitions (St Paul's v St Peter's) played in the Senior Houses, and joint Year 7s and Year 8s paired into House teams. The competitions were run over three formats: 7-a-side, 10-a-side and a 'kick out game' – all touch rugby, all with rolling subs and all refereed by Prior

rugby staff. For the early competitions, parents were not allowed on the touch line but when they were allowed to return for the last two weekends of term, it provided an atmosphere that had been sorely missed.

Unfortunately, the rugby 7s fixtures ended up being cancelled but it will only heighten the

appetite for rugby in September 2021, when we all hope to be back to a fully functional programme. I will say that when the game was forced to non-contact during this period, it did open a door to a new audience. I believe the rugby authorities are now acknowledging that fact and, going forward, there will be school rugby fixtures

for students who love rugby but prefer the non-contact side of the game, playing touch rugby fixtures alongside the more traditional format. Room for everyone, girls and boys – watch this space!

**Mr Hull**

# Hockey

No fixtures, no problem.

In the most difficult circumstances, and with every challenge that was blocking normal life, we were so fortunate that some form of hockey was allowed. It felt that at Prior we grabbed that opportunity. The numbers who participated were up, there were more after school clubs, and players at those clubs, boys and girls (within bubbles) played equally together. We had numerous County and Regional representatives, and not one but two Prior Park students represented England junior age group internationals. Where some things stuttered or ground to a halt, it felt that hockey at Prior Park thrived and moved forward.

Congratulations to our representative players. Charlie Milsom represented the West Panthers U13 squad and won the Repton Cup. Toby Day has been selected for the Regional Performance Centre (a year young) and is one step away from national representation. Hugh Page and Jack Webb have been

selected to represent England for their respective age groups, U18 and U16. Jack also captained the England U16s. For these boys, the amount of motivation and discipline to get to this level is huge, let alone in the year we have had, and when preparing for their A Levels and GCSEs respectively. It speaks volumes for their character, ability and most importantly the love and care they have for their hockey. Both boys are fully deserving of their junior international caps and are an asset to the College, to their families and England.

This is also a good opportunity to congratulate and celebrate our leaving U6 hockey players, who have contributed so positively and whole heartedly over the course of their time at Prior. I sincerely hope that their experience has given them enough encouragement to continue and that it won't be the last time they pick up a stick.

**Mr Jackson**





# Netball

This has been a different year for Prior Park Netball but I am proud of all the girls and their efforts. Even though we did not have the opportunity to play matches, the girls still worked hard on their netball and made some good improvements in the short amount of time.

Every Saturday, the girls would turn up and play internal matches, as well as practicing their core skills. The U12 and U13s worked hard on their match play and they should be praised for their commitment each Saturday. Our U14s and U15s did very well in games lessons and Saturdays. They had some great competitive matches, including House matches where each girl was determined to win for their House. Moving on to the Seniors, although they did not get to play any matches this term, they still turned up to games lessons, ready to learn and wanting to improve their netball ready for the 2022 season. Their positive energy was infectious and it was great to see so many girls out playing and enjoying matches.

On to our 1st team and a special mention must go to this year's leavers, it is such a shame they were not able to play in their final year. Alys Redman captained the girls and she was supported by Hero Murphy as the vice-captain. Alys is a great role model for the girls, on and off the court, and she

has been an integral member of the 1st Team, playing in the WD position. She impresses every game with her smart play and key interceptions. Hero has been our starting GK and has, without doubt, dominated the defending 'D' every game. Charlie Parker has been great for the first team playing in the 'C' role. Her dynamic movement through the court and her ability to get into space has made her a key member of the team. Elysia Thompson joined the first team last year and she has impressed throughout, making great improvement with her continuous work ethic and positive attitude. Finally, Jessie Parsons who, despite being injured this season, was involved in the netball programme throughout her time at Prior Park and has been an integral member in our attacking GA. Over the years, Jessie has worked so hard on her shooting and movement in our attacking 'D' and has had some outstanding performances in that position.

I must say a big thank you to all the netball staff, including our Team Bath Coach Kim Commane. Without them, we would not have been able to run our netball programme.

**Miss Duncan**





# Tennis

It was fantastic for the girls to get back to summer term sport and they started the tennis term with great enthusiasm! It didn't take long to shake off the cobwebs and all of the girls embraced the first half of term which focussed predominantly on return to play, technique development, and internal match play, which replaced the usual Saturday school fixtures.

Shortly before half term started, the fixtures began, with matches against Kingswood and Wells Cathedral and the start of the U18 National School Finals qualifying event. After half term Prior Park also played Dean Close, Clifton College, finishing with the return fixture against Kingswood.

There have been some great highlights in this short but busy term. The Boys U13 and Girls U15 Team won their group in the LTA Schools Team Tennis event and now progress to the County play offs which will take place in September. The U12 Girls A team had an unbeaten season in all their school fixtures, which is fantastic in their first year at Prior Park. The Girls U18 team qualified for the National School Finals in Nottingham and came 11th in the event. We are also very proud that Hannah Smith competed in this year's Junior Wimbledon doubles event. A fantastic achievement for Hannah!

In addition to the fantastic results achieved this term it has been wonderful to see the players enjoy being back on court and making the most of all the training and competitive opportunities they have received.

**Mrs Scollo**





# Cricket

I have been fortunate to have visited a number of beautiful places around the world, but right up there with exotic beaches in India and snow-capped mountains in Chile, is the 1st XI cricket pitch at Prior Park College. To have cricket played again on this magnificent stage across all the different year groups has been both immense fun and a real joy to behold!

The 13a, 14a, 14b, 15a, 15b and 2nd XI teams all maintained a

100% win record, with a number of good individual performances across the board. The 2nd XI won a nail-biting match against Kingswood, which kept spectators on tenterhooks until the very last ball! The rest of the teams have played with panache and style, with a brand of cricket that we want them to keep developing and playing.

The girls' cricket teams were also in action, taking on tough

opposition in the form of KES, who won both matches. Someone who deserves a special mention is Connie Osborn, who is the opening bowler for the 'boys' 15a team and who has bowled superbly well all season.

The 1st XI found themselves in a strong position against Kingswood before rain intervened. Captain Rory McConnell struck a very impressive 78 not out against Monkton Combe,

but in the field we were poor and we came off second best. The team bounced back against Wells Cathedral though, thanks to a tremendous innings of 96 by Ethan Teale.

PPC Cricket Week provided much entertainment and joy for players and spectators alike. The cricket pitch was bathed in sunshine for the first half of the week, and in the glorious surroundings of the College setting the

1st XI recorded victories against Colston's and the XL Club. An internal match between the U6 and the L6 saw the older boys take the spoils. As the weather turned, so did our fortunes, as a strong MCC side dominated proceedings against by now a rather weary group of players. Rain prevented the final match of the week against the staff team, but by then we had already seen a number of highlights and outstanding

performances, particularly from some of the younger players on debut. A special mention must go to James Pitman (L5), who scored his maiden century for the 1st XI, (105), against the XL Club.

The future for cricket at Prior Park looks bright and exciting.

**Mr Pandya**

# Co-curricular

In Congleton near Macclesfield there is a bridge, the locals call it "Snaily Bridge". This 'roving bridge' allows the towpath to cross the canal without the horse ever having to be unhitched from the narrowboat it would have been pulling. The horse would walk to the left, carry on up the ramp, cross the bridge and turn

back to the towpath on the other side, still facing the same way.

Both simple and genius, and how very elegant and creative.

"Creativity involves breaking out of established patterns in order to look at things in a different way." (Edward de Bono). Covid-19 forced us to be creative this year; it forced us to look at

things in a different way, including the co-curriculum.

We have seen many students enjoying our Saturday Morning programme. Football has taken a hold on the school, with plenty of students joining the Saturday morning sessions. New mobile goals have been purchased and there are plans afoot to play

fixtures against other schools in the next academic year, as we will for Basketball and Badminton.

Our Archery, Golf and Sailing teams really took off this year. There was a group of over 20 keen golfers hitting the links in Bradford-on-Avon every Saturday, sending golf balls all over the county. We had a committed crew of sailors cutting through the water at every opportunity in our school boats on the Chew Valley lakes, and

our determined troop of archers never missed an opportunity to release some arrows down the range and towards the targets that seem to get further away by the week.

Although we didn't have the Lent term we would have liked, we did still manage to make a remote co-curriculum happen. There were weekly meetings for most of the clubs and activities, plus interviews with sports stars, Task Master challenges and

weekly sporting challenges. It was fantastic to see staff adapt to the challenges that 2020-2021 threw at us. However, the real stars of the show have as ever been our students. They have been able to enjoy art, music, drama, design, poetry days, sports, DofE walks, CCF yomps, Chess Grand Masters, trips and, of course, a few academic lessons on the way.

Mr Bond



# Sports Day – June 2021

## WINNERS:

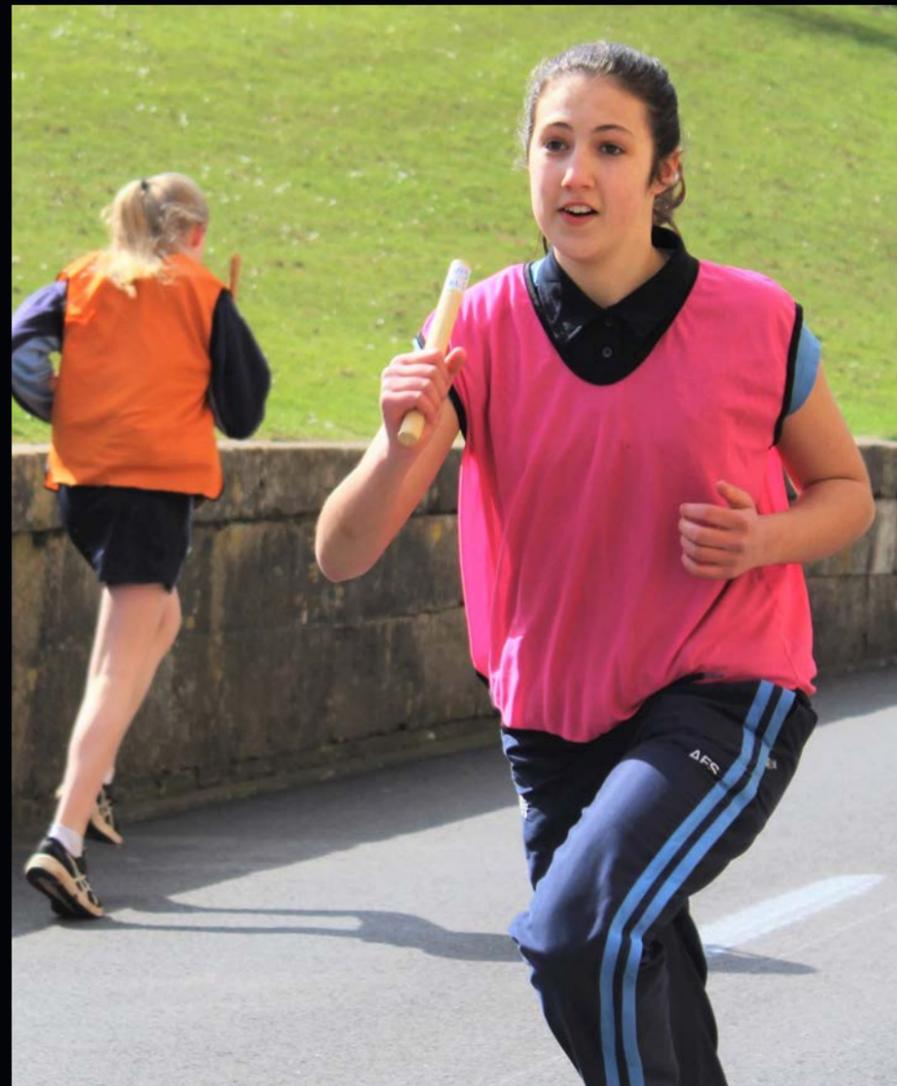
Baines House – Ward  
 Brownlow House – Rice  
 Senior Girls – Arundell House  
 Senior Boys – Burton House



# Fisher Road Relay

## WINNERS:

Baines House – Ward  
Brownlow House – Alexander  
Senior Girls – Arundell House  
Senior Boys – Clifford House



# Academic staff list 20/21

## Senior Management Team

<b>Mr Ben Horan</b>	Headmaster
<b>Mrs L Stotesbury</b>	Deputy Head Academic
<b>Mr S Cane-Hardy</b>	Deputy Head Pastoral
<b>Mr M Bond</b>	RM Assistant Head (Activities)
<b>Miss E Wickham</b>	Assistant Head (Compliance)
<b>Mr K Chard</b>	Assistant Head (Director of Studies)
<b>Mrs I Burton</b>	Assistant Head (Pupil Intervention)
<b>Miss N Cordon</b>	Assistant Head (Teaching & Learning)
<b>Mr C Gamble</b>	Assistant Head (Tracking)
<b>Mr D Sackett</b>	Assistant Head (Wellbeing)
<b>Ms V Bailey</b>	Librarian
<b>Mr S Bell</b>	ICT
<b>Dr J Blackwell</b>	History, Deputy Head of Sixth Form
<b>Miss S Bloomfield</b>	Classics
<b>Mr M Blaikley</b>	Mathematics, Assistant Exams Officer, U5 Year Group Co-Ordinator
<b>Mr M Bishop</b>	Head of History
<b>Mr M Bond</b>	Assistant Head, PE & Sport
<b>Mrs K Bond</b>	Design Technology, Art and Design
<b>Mrs A Bonney</b>	PE, Science
<b>Mrs L Bryant</b>	History, Head of EPQ
<b>Mr J Buckley</b>	Co-Ordinator of Photography
<b>Mr S Burt</b>	Head of Geography
<b>Mrs I Burton</b>	Assistant Head, English
<b>Ms W Callen</b>	Careers Advisor
<b>Mr S Cane-Hardy</b>	Deputy Head Pastoral, Head of Boarding
<b>Mrs C Carson</b>	EAL
<b>Ms J Caunt</b>	Learning Development
<b>Mr K Chard</b>	Assistant Head, Head of Chemistry
<b>Mrs A Colquhoun</b>	Theology, Head of Sixth Form (Academic)
<b>Mr J Conlon</b>	Housemaster – Clifford, English, History
<b>Miss N Cordon</b>	Assistant Head, Geography
<b>Ms H Cox</b>	Learning Development
<b>Mrs H Currie</b>	Librarian
<b>Miss K Duncan</b>	PE, Head of Netball
<b>Mrs J Eatwell</b>	Economics & Business
<b>Mr S Edwards</b>	Economics & Business
<b>Mr J Elliott</b>	Mathematics
<b>Miss F Evans</b>	Psychology
<b>Mr M Ewins</b>	Mathematics
<b>Mr R Faulkner</b>	Head of Design & Technology
<b>Mr J Fitzpatrick</b>	Economics & Business, Careers Coordinator
<b>Mrs M Galache-Brown</b>	Modern Languages Assistant
<b>Mr C Gamble</b>	Assistant Head, Head of Physics
<b>Ms A Gravelle</b>	Textiles
<b>Mrs H Goodman</b>	Theology
<b>Mr R Gwilliam</b>	Director of Sport
<b>Ms S Haddon</b>	LDP
<b>Mr A Haines</b>	ICT Manager

<b>Mrs K Harris</b>	Theology, PSHCE Coordinator
<b>Mrs S Hearn</b>	Head of Classics
<b>Mr J Healy</b>	Housemaster – Baines, Mathematics
<b>Mrs S Holder</b>	Housemistress – English, DT
<b>Mr D Holmes</b>	Housemaster – Roche, Design Technology
<b>Mr S Howe</b>	Examinations Officer
<b>Mr T Howes</b>	Science
<b>Mr P Hull</b>	Housemaster – Burton, Director of Rugby
<b>Mrs M Huntley</b>	English
<b>Mr J Jackson</b>	PE, Head of Hockey
<b>Mrs J Jones</b>	Head of Mathematics
<b>Mr M Jones</b>	Head of Economics & Business
<b>Ms L Justine</b>	Modern Languages Assistant
<b>Ms L Knibb</b>	SENCO Learning Support
<b>Miss R Lampard</b>	Head of Junior Science & Chemistry
<b>Mr D Langley</b>	Director of Drama
<b>Mr A Lovat</b>	Housemaster – Allen, Biology
<b>Ms B Main</b>	Head of Eurasian Studies
<b>Mrs A Mallon</b>	Housemistress – Fielding, MFL
<b>Mr T Maxwell</b>	Head of Theology
<b>Dr K McGowran</b>	Head of English
<b>Mr D Moore</b>	Design Technology
<b>Mrs M Mudie</b>	Biology, Coordinator of Initial Teacher Training
<b>Mr R Pandya</b>	Housemaster – Brownlow, PE, Head of Cricket, Head of Minor Sports
<b>Mrs S Peacock</b>	Drama
<b>Ms A Pope</b>	LAMDA
<b>Miss D Prosser</b>	Music
<b>Mrs H Prynne</b>	Classics
<b>Mrs L Redman</b>	Head of Academic & Curricular PE
<b>Mr R Robertson</b>	Director of Music
<b>Miss K Ryan</b>	Head of MFL
<b>Mr D Sackett</b>	Assistant Head, Assistant Director of Music
<b>Mrs S Scollo</b>	PE, Head of Tennis
<b>Ms S Seville</b>	Head of Visual Arts
<b>Mrs L Seward</b>	Housemistress – St Mary's, PE
<b>Dr G Smith</b>	Chemistry
<b>Mrs L Stotesbury</b>	Economics & Business, Deputy Head Academic
<b>Mr P Stroud</b>	Head of English as an Additional Language
<b>Mrs K Trott</b>	Housemistress – Arundell, Biology,
<b>Dr R Trott</b>	Head of Science Faculty, Head of Biology
<b>Mr E Valdueza</b>	MFL
<b>Mr A Watkinson-Trim</b>	Theology
<b>Mrs H Watson</b>	Geography
<b>Miss E West</b>	Art, Photography & Learning Development
<b>Mrs R Wilson-Brown</b>	Modern Languages
<b>Miss L Young</b>	Mathematics, Head of Sixth Form (Pastoral)

# Staff farewells



## Roland Robertson

Roland Robertson retires from the Prior Park College music department after 25 years of dedicated service, having brought his love of music to countless students, staff and parents. Perhaps central to this was Roland's passion for choral singing, and a position in the Chapel Choir has remained one of the most sought-after roles for students. Roland's vast knowledge of liturgical repertoire, along with the never-ending search for new material, has meant the choir remained fresh and, perhaps Roland's greatest gift, the learning never stopped. Trips and tours saw the Choir sing in magnificent locations: St Paul's, Westminster Cathedral, St Mark's in Venice and St Peter's in Rome have certainly been highlights.

Large scale choral occasions were not limited to the Chapel Choir as for many years, the Choral Society performed great works in our very own chapel - Handel's Messiah, Bach's St John Passion, Mozart's Requiem, Verdi's Requiem, to name a few.

Roland took the decision to elevate what had been a leavers,

soiree into the Grand Leavers' Concert and, in doing so, gave many U6 students the amazing opportunity to perform with a live orchestra. This I know is something students have cherished. Some students have also been lucky enough to be musically directed on stage by Roland, whether in a musical or an opera. Roland is also a phenomenal accompanist and has worked with almost every student entering an exam, playing in a lunchtime concert or preparing a recital. The insight he gives to these young performers has helped many through tricky occasions and on to great success.

In the classroom, Roland proved himself time and time again an outstanding teacher, especially of A Level music. His teaching and guidance have allowed many to progress onto the top universities and conservatories, and he constantly encourages those who are looking to become the next generation of musicians. Roland leaves the College to move to Cambridge. From all at Prior, past and present, we wish you and your family all the very best, and to Roland, choral director, conductor, accompanist, organist, boarding tutor, spin bowler, teacher, leader and friend, adieu, bon voyage and thank you for all the music.

## Mr Sackett

## Judith Eatwell

Judith is retiring from Prior Park College this summer after 22 years of service to the school. In this time she has brought a wealth of experience and knowledge of Economics and Business that has benefited the department, of which she has been Head during her tenure. She has also been a tutor in Fielding house for 21 years, during which time she has supported hundreds

of students and helped in the creation and running of several House events. Judith also set up and ran numerous Prior Park initiatives and events over the years, including the New York trip that has become a much anticipated rite of passage for Sixth Form students.

Judith has always maintained high expectations and aspirations for all she has taught and tutored, and has offered a huge amount of pro-active support. As a recent example, Judith not only quickly adapted to be able to deliver online lessons and video calls with students during the period of lockdown, but also continued her support throughout the summer term for those unable to return when school resumed.

Judith will be sorely missed by the friends and colleagues she has made at Prior Park, and by the students who always speak so highly of her. We wish her the very best for her retirement, where she will hopefully be able to pursue her new hobby of golf when not spending more time with her family and grandchildren.

## Mr Jones





### Laura Stotesbury

The word 'geek' was a term of derision for many years. It was a playground taunt, thrown towards those children who had slightly strange passions and obsessions. In recent years though, intellect has become more prized and lauded. An adapted version of the third beatitude can now be seen on t-shirts, buttons, and posters; *'the geek shall inherit the Earth'*. If Laura Stotesbury's career is anything to go by, then this is certainly true. To listen to Laura talk about Economics is an amazing experience. The way in which she brings the subject alive in every lesson is a remarkable testament to her ability as a teacher, and it is that ability as a teacher which has made her such a wonderful Deputy Head (Academic) over the past few years.

Laura joined Prior as Head of Economics in 2015 and quickly made her mark, rising to the position of Deputy Head in short order. Her passion for teaching is infectious, and she has engaged with the latest research to allow teachers across Prior to continue to improve their craft. She's never one for a fad (of which education has many), instead focusing on what things look like in the classroom, how innovation makes lessons better, and helping students to achieve. Laura was instrumental in shifting Prior towards a far more digitally literate curriculum, and this ensured we were able to meet the challenge of Covid head on.

As a school leader, Laura is always focused on solutions and that is a wonderful thing to be

able to lean on in tough times. She's always able to laugh at herself and at the sometimes absurd nature of the challenges that leading a school throws up. What I shall miss most about her though is that she is a leader who puts the young people we serve at the heart of every decision that we make. This sense of service comes from her deep-rooted faith. Prior is losing a wonderful teacher, and a committed servant of the young people we are fortunate enough to educate. Laura leaves us to take up the position of Head of St Joseph's College in Reading, where she will thrive. We will miss her, but we are well aware that as a lifelong Bathonian, she will be back to see us from time to time.

### Mr Horan



### Maria Huntley

Maria is one of those teachers whose impact extends far beyond the classroom. The refusal of each of her tutor groups to let her go at the end of every year is testament to the quality and depth of the relationships she builds. She is a mother, I mean older sister, erm, I mean sister to students and staff alike. She has compassion at her core and is always ready to listen and walk alongside colleagues and students no matter their circumstance or concern. She joined the college in 2014 and has served the English department, Fielding and English House, and numerous D of E groups, but her true legacy extends far beyond the confines of the school, as it is her warmth, kindness and joy that live

on in all those who have had the privilege of knowing her. Maria, you will be missed beyond what even your own erudite words can elucidate. The school, the students, and the staff alike owe you a debt of gratitude, and collectively we wish you joy and sunshine in your next ventures.

### Mr Blaikley



### Trudi Brimson

Trudi started as Technician to the Chemistry Department in 2003. From the outset it was clear she was a very able chemist, hard-working, and a team player. Her wide experience has brought creative new ideas. Her eye for detail has kept us all on our toes, especially in the areas of health and safety and, when Val O'Neill, a past Senior Science Technician retired, Trudi stepped up and seamlessly took on this mantle. Over her 18 years at this college, she has assisted many new teachers and technicians in finding their feet, always prepared to give of her time, even when dealing with heavy workloads. Students have also very much benefited from her meticulous preparation of practicals and her support when needed. Trudi was a stalwart in the support given to the science faculty in delivering the long-standing Annual Science Fair, which saw as many as 300 Year Five students participating in hands-on science over a three day period. Trudi now moves on to be a part-time technician at the John Cabot Academy in Bristol which will allow her to be nearer to family and especially

her grandchildren. We wish her every success in her new venture and thank her for all her excellent work and friendship.

### Dr. Trott



### Laura Michelson-Cooney

Throughout her time at the college, Laura has been the unsung hero of the Junior Science and Chemistry departments. Laura has never failed to support academic staff in their delivery of their intended practical activities, not only preparing them, but often stepping in for whole class demonstrations too. Laura's contributions have enabled pupils from Lower 3 to Upper 6 to experience high quality practical science. She has also been instrumental in inspiring pupils at the Paragon with the 'bangs' and 'whizz's' experienced in a secondary school laboratory. Laura has facilitated the daily running of the department, nothing is too much to ask. Laura leaves the college for a future in the classroom herself. We wish her the very best of luck as she begins her PGCE in September. Prior Park's loss is the wider education sector's gain. Thank you Laura, you have left huge shoes to fill.

### Miss Lampard

### Dr James Blackwell

Dr Blackwell joined Prior Park in 2015, working as both Assistant Head of Sixth Form and Assistant Housemaster alongside his responsibilities as



a History teacher. In the classroom, many students have been inspired by the impressive depth of knowledge he imparted to them, inspiring many to progress to study History at GCSE and A Level. As Assistant Head of Sixth Form, his expert knowledge of the UCAS process has supported many students in being granted places at prestigious universities across the country. James has also been a stalwart of the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme, supporting Gold expeditions in both the Mendips and Lake District, as intrepid adventurers from Prior Park develop vital independent life skills. His caring nature and encyclopaedic knowledge about aspects of history will be missed; best of luck at your new school.

### Mr Bishop

### Anna Gravelle



Anna Joined the Visual Arts Department in September 2019. With a wealth of experience as a Textiles Artist, and a career in television behind her, Anna enriched the creative life of the department with her expertise.

A keen advocate for Textiles as a form of expression, her love for her subject shone through into her teaching and planning at all levels. Anna's time here at Prior Park coincided with all of the challenges of Lockdown and remote learning, but she rose to these with great professionalism and determination to support students to achieve their best. We wish Anna all the very best for her future role in Higher Education.

### Ms Seville

### Kate Ryan



Kate joined us in September 2020 in the midst of Covid to run our Modern Foreign Language department. Teaching languages from behind a face mask is challenging enough but her lovely Irish lilt and Irish colloquialism have meant conversing with her at all times has been an MFL class. Kate is an excellent teacher and I've had the pleasure of watching her teach inspiring French and Spanish lessons this year. She has incredibly high expectations of her students and as a result they really rise to the challenge and do very well indeed.

Kate has been a truly kind and caring tutor to the girls in L5 English. She has brought a sense of fun and laughter to the L5 bubble and the MFL department with her cow puns and 'keep a cow apart' signs which have ensured that social distancing has been maintained in a novel way.

Our loss is QEH Bristol's gain and we wish her well. Ba mhaith liom dea-ádh Ms Ryan!

### Mrs Stotesbury



### Rhiannon Lampard

After a splendid career as a Prior student, Rhiannon returned as a teacher in September 2018 and flung herself with full gusto into Prior Park life. While developing excellent relationships with students, Rhiannon got stuck into netball, singing in Choral Society, DoE expeditions and countless other activities, whilst working towards QTS. Energy, empathy, determination and ambition became Rhiannon's watchwords, and she quickly achieved her first promotion as Junior Science coordinator. The post of Head of Chemistry followed twelve months later. Rhiannon was a trailblazer during the first lockdown, and I for one followed much of how she worked online. At one point, she suggested activities for her tutor group involving planting old bits of various food plants, and I joined in whole heartedly. I now have more celery than I contemplate eating or using!

I think I speak for everyone who knows Rhiannon when I say that she will be sadly missed and Bristol Brunel Academy's gain is seriously our loss. Rhiannon, I want to wish you every happiness in your career, in your marriage to Matt, and in all your other plans.

**Dr Smith**

### Elías Valdueza-García

Elias joined Prior Park College in 2018 as a newly qualified teacher, having already succeeded in undertaking eclectic and diverse professions such as his time spent as a ski instructor in Austria, and as a qualified vet in his home of Leon in Spain. From the beginning, he has impressed both the staff and student body by his dedication and passion for teaching, and for the everyday care he shows all young people. Elías' students and tutees adore him, which was evident in the many well wishes and messages he received at the end of the academic year.



His scope of influence has extended beyond the MFL department and into Allen House, where Elías has played an important role in the boarding community. Elías coached hockey, led day trips and was even known to perform in a duet or two alongside Mr Anthony Lovat, with his guitar in hand!

Colleagues and students would like Mr Valdueza to know how much he will be missed and how grateful we are for the work he achieved with us. We wish him the very best of luck for the next exciting stage of his teaching career at Harrow, Hong Kong.

**Miss Ryan**



### Mark Minghella

Mark joined Prior Park College as Director of Digital Teaching and Learning in September 2018, bringing with him a wealth of experience not just of teaching computer science and IT, but also of rolling out complex projects such as 1:1 student devices and using cloud-based platforms like Microsoft 365. Mark was therefore the ideal person to spearhead our fledgling Personal Learning Device (PLD) initiative; his previous experience in the International School in Washington DC providing an invaluable touchstone for this critical project.

Mark was also an inspirational teacher in the classroom, quick to establish a humorous yet challenging approach with all of his students and not afraid to apply unconventional methods to his lessons – most notably the use of balloon animals to teach logic gates in programming!

**Mr Haines**

# Celebrations



### Theodore Stanley Holder (Teddy)

Born 20 March 2021, 8lb 13oz.



### Mr & Mrs Burt

Married 31 July 2021.

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Tel: +44 (0)1225 835 353  
Email: [reception@priorparkschools.com](mailto:reception@priorparkschools.com)  
[priorparkcollege.com](http://priorparkcollege.com)

*11–18 Day & Boarding HMC Established Co-educational Catholic Senior School*

