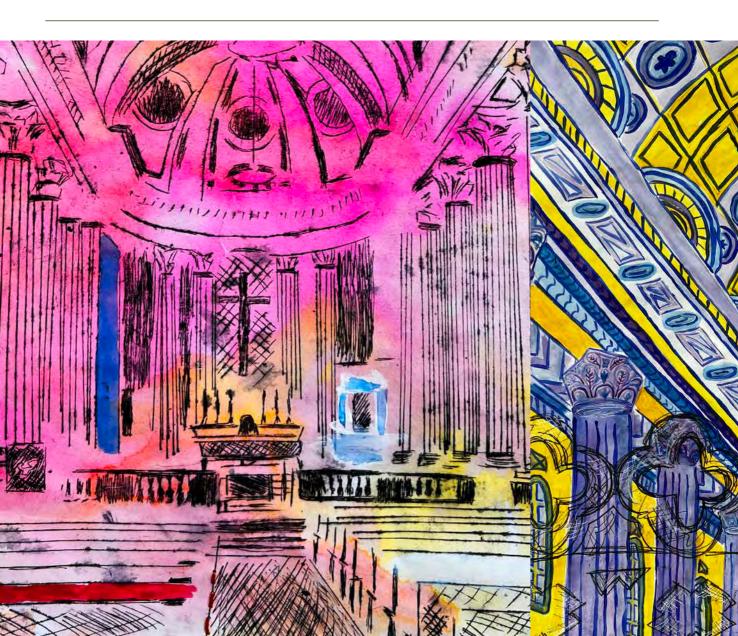




## THE PHOENIX





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- work by Charlie, Cici, Josh and Freya
- Additional photography
- Oscar Talbot, Wilson Tse, Alvin Lo.

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Senior House Music

Scholars' concert

Summer concert

Fisher Road Relay

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#### Cover

F4 Chapel art, featuring

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When I reflect upon the vibrancy of life here over the past twelve months, I am staggered by what the young people have managed to accomplish.

### A foreword from our Headmaster

The title of this school publication is The Phoenix. References to this mythical bird abound in ancient and mediaeval writings, with an excellent poem on the topic coming from the Exeter Book, a Tenth Century codex of Old English Poetry. There is a beautiful line from this poem, which I cannot help but reflect upon when I think of Prior: 'so this bird, old according to its years, is young and clothed in flesh anew.'

The College is certainly old in terms of its years. The Mansion we still use each day was built in 1742, some 280 years ago. Students have been educated on this site for 192 years. The wonderful thing about working in schools though is that each year, our school, 'old according to its years, is young and clothed in flesh anew.' Schools are made by their buildings, by the staff that work in them, by the parents that support them, and by their alumni who attended them. However, what gives schools their character, their energy, and their spark, is the young people who

attend them. It is those young people who, each year, start the school anew.

This year has been no different. The mediaeval poem declaims that the bird 'knows that after the fury of the flame there is renewed existence, life after extinction.' We have had a few years of 'fury' and some of what we would have normally done in our school was, for the duration of the pandemic, shut down.

The energy and enthusiasm that the students of Prior have brought to life here has been extraordinary and our existence has been 'renewed.' When I reflect upon the vibrancy of life here over the past twelve months, I am staggered by what the young people have managed to accomplish. The centrepiece of Prior's

renowned pastoral care has been our Houses and it was this year that allowed our students to get back into their House spaces, and House communities. To rebuild, or in some cases just build, relationships which had been stymied and held back by the restrictions imposed

upon us. The young people did not disappoint. To walk around the school on the House Afternoons at the end of this Summer was to see love in action. Communities which were founded on shared experiences and common values. There was joy in the faces of the students as they spent time together. This joy could be seen in every sports fixture, in every drama production and musical performance that the students took part in. You could even see joy in the face of this year's Upper Sixth as they waited to go into the Exam Hall – the first time that they'd been asked to do this in their years at the school. They were ready for the challenge and I'm sure they thrived. Whatever the challenge was over the course of this year, it was our students who 'renewed' the College after the 'fury'. They did it, and our school was 'clothed anew'. It has been a privilege to witness.

**Ben Horan** 

#### **U6** appointments

**Heads of School** Isabella Chicco Sebastian Morley

**Deputy Heads** Libby Blane Lydia Crawford

Heads of House Allen Max Montanaro

**Arundell** Katie Marden

*Burton* Charlie Little

**Clifford** Dow Sivell

*English* Lily Peake **Fielding** Ray Safarova

**Roche** Ben Murphy–O'Connor

**Baines** Louise Cattanach Sam Ewen

**Brownlow** Hannah Clements Louis Wright

Head of Chaplaincy Taylor Milsom

**Heads of Charities** Charles Hall Lily Peake

**Head of Eco-Prior** Anna Hutchison

#### Heads of international Students Milena Apostu Amelia Rodrigues

Heads of Peer Support Louis Wight Iona Wilson

Head of Social Robert Dymond

#### **College Prefects**

Eleanor Dymond Zachari Hayward-Rogers Ariane Milewski Sami Mitchell James Streets Kira Tenk Leo Togher

<image>

Students will be embarking on courses as diverse as Korean Studies, Policing, Engineering, and Philosophy Another year has flown by. We started with a fun social event on the cricket pitch. The 'It's a Knockout' style tournament saw everyone getting stuck in, and we knew at that point we would have a great year ahead.

**The Sixth Form** 

The Michaelmas term was exceptionally busy as ever, with university applications dominating the thoughts of the Upper Sixth students. They have received so many fantastic offers from Imperial College London, UCL, King's, and McGill in Canada, along with unconditional offers from Falmouth and Plymouth amongst others. Students will be embarking on courses as diverse as Korean Studies, Policing, Engineering, and Philosophy. One student has secured a competitive apprenticeship with BAE systems. We are so proud of them all! The term also saw the return of the annual Fancy Dress Social, which was a big hit after a couple of years hiatus.

As ever, students were lucky enough to hear from a fantastic variety of speakers as part of their General Studies programme. Highlights included moving speeches



from Nelson Mandela's bodyguard, and a woman who has lived with AIDS for many years. An extreme skier wowed us all with her daring exploits, and we had a sombre warning from an ex-cricket professional about the dangers of gambling. This year, Abdulaziz Amanullayev and Euan Hatvany in L6 were elected as members of the Bath Student Parliament and attended multiple meetings to address a range of issues pertinent to young people in our area. Peer mentoring has continued successfully, and we recently set up academic mentoring by the L6 students too, which is going really well. The summer term was busy, planning the Ball, Leavers' Dinner, and other traditions such as Bubbles on the Bridge. As always, saying goodbye to our departing Upper Sixth students will be bittersweet. We are so excited to wave them off into their exciting futures, but will miss them desperately and are already looking forward to those special reunions here on site!

**Mrs Colquhoun** 

















### **Class of 2022**

What a year at Prior Park! After the uncertainty of the past couple of years, I know U6 was raring to go.

The competitiveness felt at this year's House Music was unparalleled to previous years, and that competition manifested in one of the best ways, showing off Prior's talent.

Charities Week was another incredible example of school spirit and leadership from the Upper Sixth. Whether it was an English House concert, St Paul's cycling, or a plethora of bake sales, we brought passion and school spirit.

Coming to the end of school, after an exciting and occasionally hectic year with the added pressure of exams, the Class of 2022 felt a mixture of joy, excitement, and a bit of fear. Fear of leaving the place that has been such a steady constant and for what the future may hold. Our time at Prior has been a journey that has built enduring friendships and nurtured individual talents. We have been able to build long-lasting memories that we should all cherish, so many to remember. On leaving, we are filled with pride, anticipation, and aspiration for the future, but also sadness and emotion, as our friends and fellow students move on to the next phase of their lives. We have every confidence that we will all live happy lives for which Prior Park has prepared us well.

Isabella Chicco and Seb Morley (Heads of School)

#### **A Level results**

#### Congratulations to our U6 on an impressive set of A Level results.

High achievers this year include Misha Jensen and Josh Humphriss, who both gained four A\* grades. Misha is going to study Music and Sound Recording (Tonmeister) at Surrey University, a course aimed at exceptional students primarily interested in engineering and music. Josh will study Maths at Warwick. Nine students received straight A\* grades.

Many subject departments performed well: Design & Technology had 54% A\* and 77% A\*/A. In Drama, Theology, and Art, all students were awarded grade B or higher.

Several students have gained places at overseas universities, in the Netherlands, Australia, Canada, Spain and the US.

Mr Horan commented, "This year group's education over the past few years was hit by the pandemic. However, this cohort was, in many ways, incredibly lucky. Aside from the nationwide lockdowns, they were able to remain in school and be taught in person for their Sixth Form years. Many peers in other schools were not so fortunate. Our students benefitted from outstanding teaching, being led, and monitored, by excellent Heads of Departments, and they were led by a brilliant Head of Sixth Form, who was able to keep them on track throughout their disrupted and turbulent two years.

We could not be prouder of what these students have accomplished. Most of all though, we know that each of these students is far more than the sum of their grades. The individual stories that lie behind each of these successes are inspiring, and we wish them continued success for the future."











#### **GCSE** results

Prior celebrated some tremendous GCSE results, scoring a 97% pass rate on Grades 9–4. A special mention must go to Victoria Corfield who achieved an outstanding eleven grade 9s, and to Sacha Wakefield, Ellie Stringer and Thomas Roblin who each secured nine 9s out of their ten subjects. Mr Horan said: "2022's Lipper Eifth have

Mr Horan said: "2022's Upper Fifth have produced a stellar set of results, of which

they can and should be incredibly proud. They worked extremely hard, under trying circumstances. They were supported by their parents and their teachers in their endeavours, and the hard work has paid off. An enormous well done to them all and we look forward to seeing them start their Sixth Form journeys."

#### **Academic life**

"Well, Sir," mused one of my particularly philosophical L6 physicists last week, "I think that went quite well." "Really?" I asked, surveying the disaster zone on his desk with equal alarm and puzzlement, "Your experiment?" "No, not that, the year," he said. "I was just thinking it's been, like, proper Prior again this year." I was stunned - students amaze you like this quite often - this elegant precis was the most apt, heart-warming thing I'd heard all year, and it summed up my own sentiments perfectly; after all the last two years have thrown our way, it really has felt like 'proper Prior' again, and it's been simply brilliant.

Behind the scenes, for example, fantastic work has gone into the curriculum. To me, one of the things that makes Prior, Prior, is its curriculum, deliberately broad and taught to inspire – not 'grind to the test' – to help students find 'their thing' and make the most of it. September will see two brand new subjects launched to further broaden that curriculum at F4 – Music Production and Business – and substantially revamped content in all subjects at KS3 (L3–F4) with a big emphasis on engagement and richness of experience.

Delivering those rich experiences in the classroom this year, teachers have embraced a return to practical learning. Psychology, for example, saw the return of Prior's trademark 'egg babies' as students studied attachment and parental behaviours first hand and, perhaps, started to get some idea of the trials and tribulations of parenthood!

For the L6, there was a new way to look at the mathematics of skewed distributions, using, believe it or not, their feet rather than their heads!









In the Science faculty, practical learning truly rose to new lows, -196°C to be exact, as many L5 and L6 students found a new way to combat the high temperatures of the Summer term by getting hands-on with liquid nitrogen in their Physics and Chemistry classes. They learned about the chemistry of nitrogen, the Leidenfrost effect and the conductivity of metals at super low temperatures. On particularly hot days, though, perhaps their favourite use of all that high-tech equipment was to make beautifully cool, room filling, artificial clouds, possibly one of the most expensive, but definitely most scientific, ways to stay 'chilled' in the summer heat. Our future software

engineers, coders and cyber security consultants have also been hard at work in the Computer Science department. Special mention must go to Josh Humphriss who, under the first class tutelage of Mr Gibbons, developed possibly the most exciting A Level project ever (to a small subset of people including myself, that is). Josh created an incredibly technical rewrite of a school's timetabling algorithm to allow for more efficient use of rooms and resources. This is, as I well know, an extremely advanced optimisation problem that requires serious mathematics and coding well beyond the A Level specification. Rising to the challenge, Josh was able to create an algorithm that we think began to rival the efficiency of the commercial system we use to timetable the College. Also in Computer Science, our entire KS3

took part this year in the national Bebras Logic and Computational thinking Challenge, with a number of Gold awards (representing the top 10% in the country) across the three year groups. And Academic competition 'bounced back' admirably elsewhere in the school, too, with good showings in the Chemistry and Physics Olympiads and particularly strong results in various Maths Challenges this year. Special mentions go to Daniel Lui for a rare Gold award in the Senior Challenge, along with gualification in the Senior Kangaroo. Both represent serious national achievements. It was also fantastic to see eight Gold awards at Intermediate level, including Chun Ho Ngai, who also picked up 'Best in School'. At Junior level, Reuben Ward brought it home with one of three Gold awards and 'Best in School' at that level.

We've seen great success, too, in Visual Arts,





with Louise Cattanach winning a coveted place on the Royal Academy's 'attRAct' programme, a sought-after, year long programme offering opportunities for students about art and the creative

**Our Academic Scholarship Programme and** academic societies have bounced back bigger and better than ever this year.

Ta de

to think and talk critically industries. It's also been brilliant to see students being creative in other areas. Our F3 Mandarin students, for example, were particularly keen that I check out the display they, on their own initiative, had created. It would, they said, help me 'conquer my possessive

pronouns'. After a quick Google of what exactly a possessive pronoun was in Mandarin, I must say that their work was wonderful. Special credit must also go to Layla Wakefield for her exceptional display on sea creatures, a beautiful fusion of artistry and language.

Still on the theme of getting back to 'Proper Prior', our Academic Scholarship Programme, under

the exceptional direction of Mr Watkinson-Trim, and academic societies have, do forgive the alliteration, bounced back bigger and better than ever this year. In lunchtime meetings and lectures, students found plenty to stimulate their imagination and sharpen their analysis, kicking off with our meeting Professor Dima Damen in the Academy Hall in the Michaelmas term. Professor Damen is a world-leading scientist working in artificial intelligence, computer vision and machine learning, and her Scholars lecture focussed on the positive impact of technology, an optimistic antidote to the gloom laden "robots are going to take over" narrative of much of our modern media.

We also welcomed the astronomer Colin Stuart F.R.A.S., award-winning astronomer and author of many books and articles for The Guardian, New Scientist, The Wall Street Journal, and others, to hear about the latest research

on the sun. For a different perspective, we gathered in the Chapel to hear from Lt. Col. Stuart McDonald MC about the harsh realities of the modern battlefield. Having served in Iraq and Afghanistan, Stuart spoke about the moral issues of modern warfare where an operator at a computer many miles away can cause death without warning or possibility of escape.

Scholars also enjoyed a phenomenal Oxford trip this year, with some fifty students touring an Oxford College, the Natural History Museum, the Pitt Rivers Museum, and the Ashmolean Museum.

Our many chess lovers were particularly thrilled this year as we welcomed chess legend James Sherwin to the John Wood Chapel. His extraordinary contemporary knowledge of top-level chess was

matched by wonderful anecdotes of meeting, playing, and often counting as close friends some of the greatest chess players of the 20th century.

Special mention must go to Milena Apostu, a stalwart supporter of chess at Prior, whose international success we have followed with pride. Bagila Komekbayeva is another internationally rated player who has been an inspiration to other players of note including Ava Morris, Alex Mould, Alfie Parkin, Khalid Karimu, Charlie Howe, and Jude Brayton.

The Astronomical Society is another academic society where things are, apologies, looking up this year. Special mention goes to Ellie Stringer who presented a fascinating discussion of astronomy and time travel, in terms of light-travel-time and

relativity, and Samuel Humphriss who presented on the Space Shuttle. We also welcomed alumnus Dr Julie McEnery from NASA to the Round Room to present on her work.

So, my first go at summing up some of the best bits of the year's academic life has been, as you might guess, a tremendous exercise in editing! It's also been incredibly heartening. As I think back over the inspiring lessons, competitions, experiments, academic societies, lectures, lunchtime sessions, and trips, not to mention amazing behind the scenes work, I can't help but smile. It has indeed been proper Prior again, and then some.

**Mr Gamble** 





#### **EPQ**

32% were awarded **A\* grades, 96%** A\*-C grades and one student achieved full marks.

themselves to complete an extended project in their L6 year. In January, 32% were awarded A\* grades, 96% A\*-C grades and one student achieved full marks with her study of Transgenerational Epigenetic Inheritance: Lamarck's Return? It was wonderful to see their hard work so well rewarded. The students made the most of the opportunity to study a topic outside the usual A Level curriculum and produced a wide range of fascinating titles including:

25 U6 students challenged

- Is vaccine hesitancy a threat to achieving herd immunity against COVID-19?
- Should humans consider Mars as a potential home of the future?
- Should Aung San Suu Kyi still be entitled to keep her Nobel Peace Prize?
- Has the 'War on Drugs' encouraged negative race

relations in America? Does Picasso's Guerni-

ca provide an accurate depiction of the Guernica bombing?

\_

Beyond an impressive knowledge in their chosen topics, the students developed valuable project management skills during the process of the qualification. When asked to reflect on key lessons they could apply to their future studies they suggested:

- Accept that not everything is going to work perfectly
- Experiment with different time management techniques so you know what works for you and can avoid procrastination Allow yourself time to
- rest because work done when you are tired will not be of high quality

Useful reminders for us all! **Mrs Bryant** 

Should we abolish faith schools? Introduce a universal basic income? Support comedians' right to cause offence? These were some of the tricky questions that our teams explored in the imposing arena we call the Round Room during the Lent term. Judged by myself, Mr Chard and Mrs Colquhoun, and featuring a number of brilliant encounters, this year marked a welcome return to House Debating. The first debate, which played out in front of a packed house, saw a fine Allen team play an impressive trio from English House. Subsequent matches introduced us to the teams that would go on to define the style and tone of the '22

season: from the nuanced and measured approach adopted by an incredibly strong Burton House team, to the dynamic and polished Arundell. Roche and Clifford also delivered fine performances and showed the breadth of talent across their respective houses.

By the time we got to the semi-finals, at which point Burton, having so nearly won their first round matches, went out, there were four teams left standing: Allen, Clifford, Arundell and Fielding. The two semi finals were closely-fought affairs, but in the end Arundell and Fielding emerged victorious. For the final, the judges were joined, following a tradition started some years ago, by the best individual performer from previous rounds: this year it was Caspar Berridge (Burton) who helped us try to pick a winning team in what was one of the highest quality debates any of us can remember seeing. Taylor Milsom, Katie Marden and Hattie Coxall played Ray Safarova, Victoria Corfield and Charlotte Bowler: both sides were brilliant but in the end it was Fielding who took the trophy. We will miss those U6 debaters who leave us this year, but it's clear that there are already many younger debaters ready to fill their impressive shoes.

**Dr McGowran** 











#### **Park Life magazine**

This year's themed edition of Prior Park's student magazine looked back to the 'roaring' 1920s and, more directly, at the 2020s, nodding to the 'Lost Generation' through its exploration of young people's restlessness and simultaneous yearning for a place in an ever-changing world. Our student contributors were united by this theme, providing a dynamic yet contemplative response to the question; are these the new 'roaring 20s?'.

Thank you to all the writers, artists and photographers who contributed to the magazine.

Iona Wilson (U6)

Park Life was entered into the Shine School Media Awards 2022. In June, Dr McGowran, Iona Wilson and Darcey West attended the Finals in London.

The magazine was awarded Highly Commended in two categories: Best Magazine Cover and Best Magazine Design.



#### Library

Books, according to the educationalist Rudine Simms Bishop, are 'Windows and mirrors and sliding glass doors'. This brilliantly reflects the ethos of the Library at PPC: a place where students encounter books that mirror their own lives whilst also allowing them to step into other worlds and new experiences.

One way in which the Library offers a window on the world is through our celebration of key dates that are of particular significance to our students. Throughout the year we have marked Mental Health Awareness. Armistice Day, Holocaust Memorial, International Women's Day, Chinese New Year, International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, the Platinum Jubilee, Pride Month, and Refugee Awareness. These dates have been an opportunity for the Library to develop its stock and promote literature on these subjects.

to have three visiting authors this year, each offering a different view of the world – performance poet MiKo Berry, and YA authors Jess Butterworth and Bali Rai. The Librarians support Baines tutors with tutor reading - a weekly session in which tutors read aloud to their groups. Ms Bailey's lunchtime Story Club is another time for our students to celebrate their love of reading and writing, and the Staff and Parent Reading Group, which meets termly, reminds us that it's not just young people who benefit from stepping through the sliding door of a good book. To ensure that all students can see themselves mirrored in our Library collection, we have worked this year to develop our stock of books exploring a range of issues affecting them. L3 and F3 students did paired reading work on the Carnegie

We've been lucky enough

Medal Award shortlisted books, giving them a taste of the very latest quality YA literature. The Book Fair in March, organised with the help of Mr B's Emporium in Bath, was another chance for students to get close to literature for teens.

As well as welcoming students from all year groups and providing a quiet place for independent study, the Librarians have enjoyed taking the Library to the wider school. This year Ms Bailey has run Mindfulness sessions for Sixth Formers, whilst Mrs Currie has run a 'Reading for Wellbeing' course as part of the P4L programme.

Anyone who has been into the Prior Park Library knows what a spectacular view it has over the landscape gardens and the city of Bath. We hope that every book on the shelf offers an equally fascinating view of the world.

**Ms Bailey and Mrs Currie** 



**ARE THESE THE NEW ROARING 20s?** 

A stand-out entry, Park Life has a cover that stopped us in our tracks. The engaging and minimal design applies a highly individual house style that works to inform the reader.





#### **Sixth Form Inspire!**

The annual Sixth Form Inspire! Conference took place in October and students listened to five speakers from very different sectors, each with their own story to tell:

Ben Smith, who completed 401 marathons in 401 days, talked openly and honestly about his early struggles in life, and how they drove him to complete his marathon journey. Neda Shadanlou is an award-winning creative director and director, and one of Britain's Next Creative Leaders in Campaign Magazine 2018. Rupert Oldridge (Bass6), is an official world champion beatboxer and founder of The Beatbox Collective. Rupert is an entertaining, charismatic, and high energy compere and encouraged members of the audience to showcase their skills on stage and to a live audience! Maria Torres is a music artist manager and Prior Park alumna, and Talan Skeels–Piggins, 2010 Winter Paralympian and the first paraplegic to race a motorcycle in an able–bodied race.













### Theology Webinar with Eva Clarke

During one of my theology lessons, we joined a live webinar with a Holocaust survivor called Eva Clarke. We listened to the story of her mother, Anka's, experience of the war and how it affected their lives.

Eva Clarke was born in Mauthausen, a former Concentration Camp in Austria, on 29 April 1945.Her parents were both Jewish. Her father, who was from Germany, came to Prague in 1933 where he met Eva's mother. After they were married, they were both sent to Terezín Ghetto where they spent three and a half years. After that, Eva's father was sent to Auschwitz Concentration and Death Camp. Eva's mother, not knowing the dangers and even worse conditions in Auschwitz,

volunteered to go to the camp to stay with Eva's father; but they never saw each other again.

Eva's mother, Anka, was pregnant with Eva when she got to Auschwitz, but it wasn't obvious then. Anka spent ten days in Auschwitz, before being sent to work in a factory in Freiburg for six months. After that, Anka was sent to Mauthausen Concentration Camp and on the journey, she gave birth to Eva.

Eva's birthday turned out to be a very lucky escape. Had it been the day before, both she and her mother would have been put in the Gas Chambers, but Mauthausen had run out of gas. The day after Eva's birthday, Hitler committed suicide. Six days later, Mauthausen Concentration Camp was liberated.

Drawing on her experiences, Anka had many lessons and wisdoms to impart. She said that the only people who can forgive are the dead, but she would never blame the younger German generation. Eva said that the Holocaust had probably given her a greater insight to the lives of other people, especially those who are persecuted, and has made her more tolerant, accepting, and appreciative of other people. Eva said (answering the question, 'Why is it important to remember the Holocaust?') 'It's important to remember because it happened. It happened, and it stands totally on its own."

Anoushka Campbell-Jones (Form 3)

### **Religious life**

Thankfully, we have been able to enjoy an almost 'normal' school year, returning to much of our pre-Covid lives. I sensed a deepened feeling of thankfulness for those things we may have previously taken for granted, with our young people embracing life at Prior.

Our Upper Sixth were outstanding in their efforts in further developing our student-led Chaplaincy across the school community. They led Wednesday Worships, supported the development of our Junior Chaplaincy, and created our 'PPCChaplaincy' Instagram. 'Tuesday Talks' proved a particular hit, as staff members shared their thoughts and insights.

In addition, many students across the school have supported the faith life of our community by giving their time and commitment to the ministries of Music, Reading, Altar Serving, Eucharistic Ministers and more besides. So much generosity of Spirit!

Michaelmas saw the Chapel once again filled with our community for whole school Masses and Wednesday Worship. In December, the Alumni choir joined with the Senior Chapel Choir to sing for the Alumni Mass. Our U6 Chaplaincy committee got 'Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes' underway across the school with dozens of shoeboxes collected by 'Samaritan's Purse' to be dispatched across the globe. Then, always a highlight of the year, our treasured Carol Service concluded what had been a busy and happy start to the academic year.

The Lent term continued in a similar vein, with lots going on. Our Bath foodbank collection and CAFOD Family Fast Day formed part of our way of fulfilling the three themes of Lent; Prayer, Almsgiving and Fasting. Our Almsgiving and Fasting trees were both adorned with Lenten commitments from across the community.

Visiting priests joined us for our Lenten Reconciliation Services. Having not been able to celebrate the Lenten Service for the past two years, we were able to enjoy this moment in the heart of our school, filling it with prayer, music, and each other! The Senior Chapel Choir, led by Mr Nicholls, was outstanding, as were our wonderful readers as they shared and reflected upon some of Jesus' moments of prayer during the Easter Triduum.

The summer term began with fifteen students from the Paragon coming to Prior to receive their First Holy Communion. Then in June, we celebrated the Baptism of one of our Form 4 students. The following week on the feast of Corpus Christi, Bishop Declan came to the Chapel to celebrate our Confirmation Mass where 24 Prior Park students received the sacrament. Then in July, Brownlow House went on their retreat to the Marian Retreat Centre in Nympsfield, for a day of reflection, faith, and fun.

To conclude our year, the sun shone for our Leavers' Day Mass. A beautiful day in every way, where even the Chapel Brass shone, having been restored during the summer term! Overall, a very happy and blessed year. Finally, in the words of our Chaplaincy patron saint, St Teresa of Avila: "Trust God that you are where you are meant to be."

Theresa Gibson, Lay Chaplain









#### Chaplaincy

My aim was to approach chaplaincy from a new and refreshed perspective, so it felt more relatable to students, and they saw it as something positive. Ultimately, the committee and I aspired to make chaplaincy 'cool'.

With this goal in mind, we decided to utilise social media, specifically Instagram, concluding it the best method to engage with pupils at Prior. I had the idea to create a weekly witty and entertaining series called 'Tuesday Talks'. This consisted of me interviewing a teacher, asking them light-hearted questions surrounding their faith and perspectives on religion. For example, "If Jesus could drive any car what do you think it would be?" or "If you could go to dinner with any gospel writer, who would you choose?". We also interviewed a teacher with an alternative perspective on religion, and asked questions on topics such as religious experience and atheism. Through this series, we hopefully communicated to the pupils that chaplaincy

is for everyone, regardless of your faith or position towards religion. The emphasis is instead on community. I am delighted that the series was received with such a great response from current students and past alumni from Prior. I have thoroughly enjoyed being Head of Chaplaincy this year, and hope that students continue to approach chaplaincy with a welcoming and progressive mindset.

Taylor Milsom, Head of Chaplaincy















#### Aid for Ukraine

On 24 February, Russia invaded Ukraine, causing the largest refugee crisis since World War II.

Ms Colquhoun, working with Chernobyl Children's Lifeline, asked for donations of humanitarian supplies, particularly items for mothers and children fleeing the conflict (nappies, baby milk, toiletries, paracetamol, etc).

The community did not disappoint, and boarders spent the following weekend sorting and collating the many boxes of supplies before they were transported to a depot in Southampton, and on to Ukraine.

In March, a Ukrainian contact of the school asked if students would like to donate gift items for child refugees, such as pencils, colouring books, toys, something to play with and something to keep them busy - a present from one child to another. Items were bagged and labelled according to recipient's age and gender. Over 40 boxes of gift bags were loaded on to a minibus and taken to the contact's warehouse before the onward journey to Poland.

A huge thank you to all those across the community who donated.







### **Charities**

This year's school charity was Loving Humanity, a charity that aims to combat poverty by providing at cost period pad micro factories to some of the poorest communities in the world. The charity's aim is to restore dignity where it has been lost. Their team in Jordan manufacture washable nappies and washable period pads which they distribute to refugees and those in need.

Organising fundraising activities over this academic year would not have been possible without the rest of the Charity Committee: Mr Lovat, Thomas, Aisha, Alejandra, Ava, Benjamin, Lily, and Sean. We met weekly and would discuss new ideas for future fundraising events or what we wanted to convey in an upcoming assembly.

Our first committee fundraising event was a bake sale on the day of House Music. With our new PayPal system in place, we sold out by the end of the lunch break! We then organised a Sixth Form raffle with prizes such as Amazon gift vouchers and a box of chocolates. Houses also organised their own fundraising events throughout the year, for example, the Roche Raffle, which had prizes of revision books and 1-1 lessons with sports teachers, which proved popular and raised significant money for the

school charity.

Seasonal fundraising events included Christmas Jumper Day and a Valentine's Day delivery service, where individuals paid £1.50 for a bag of sweets/chocolate to be sent to someone they were fond of. Charities Week at the end of the Lent term is when all the Houses run a variety of fundraising activities such as throwing wet sponges at teachers, pillow fights, bake sales, Baines Easter egg hunt, and car washes. All helped to raise a grand total of  $\pounds7,348$  for Loving Humanity.

Charles Hall, Head of Charities



















# St Mary's

Wow – what an amazing adventure this year has been in St Mary's boarding house. With every bed full it has been a busy year of new experiences, new friendships, laughs, shared ups and downs, and lots of fun. The start of the year saw us all get to know each other with flower crown making, tours of our beautiful city of Bath, ice breaker games, and a whole House quiz. The girls quickly settled and started to call St Mary's 'home'.

It was amazing to see how friendships had solidified and blossomed by the time the Christmas Party arrived in December, where the girls competed in teams with everything from dance-offs and karaoke to a Santa hunt. Awards were given by the Upper Sixth, with girls winning illustrious awards such as messiest room and most early nights! Sincere awards were also granted, namely our Woman of the Term, which was awarded to Patricia Isidro, and richly deserved.

Such fantastic events as the House Christmas Party would only have been possible with the help of our dedicated House Committee, led by Amelia Rodrigues with compassion, kindness, and a great sense of fun. I want to thank each member of the Committee for their hard work all year to ensure student voices were heard, and to make the House the best it can be.

The Lent Term seemed to whizz by and, before we knew, we were hunting for Easter eggs and crowning our second Woman of the Term, won by the very deserving Luna Lui.

In addition to the whole House events, a highlight of the year has certainly been the year group 'in-ings', where the girls enjoyed a social evening together with their year group. This is always a time of much laughter, much fun, and much food... We have also seen the introduction of the hugely popular half-term boarding, where girls enjoyed many activities including escape rooms, cinema trips, go karting excursions, and sushi nights.

Ultimately, it is the girls of St Mary's that have made the year as special as it has been – it is truly a privilege to be their Houseparent.

**Becca Wilson-Brown** 

# **St Paul's**

We have hugely enjoyed our first year as House Parents.

During the Michaelmas term, our trip program and House activities totalled thirty in number, including, paintballing (ouch), a tour of the Roman Baths, indoor climbing at Bristol, Halloween fun, and a river cruise along the Avon Canal.

Our resident team, supported by the house activities committee, also contributed to many in-house events, such as an introduction to chess, table tennis and football tournaments, karaoke, carpet balls, and KAHOOT!

On occasions it was also nice to create events and space for all the Sixth Form boarders. Any activity involving food always seemed a winner, cheese tasting a favourite night!

In the Lent term, the boys' clear favourite activity was the Go Karting experience in Bristol. Other highlights included a prison experience to Shepton Mallet (all inmates returned), Hollywood Bowling, and a trip to Cardiff's Museum, Castle and shopping malls.

Carrie continued with home baking lessons, pizza making, waffles, crêpes,

and ice cream nights – Carrie's events are always more popular than those run alongside, eg shoe polishing. Other activities included dodgeball, which made a popular return, crazy golf, cinema visits and task master (a race for glory, completing many fun tasks imaginatively).

Then came summer term, zorbing, tennis and rounders tournaments, a Skyline walk (a 6-mile circular walk, just a short stroll in the skyline hills above Bath, through idyllic meadows and ancient woodlands, with ice cream to finish!) Thorpe Park was the firm favourite, so much so, we went twice!

Another pleasing aspect this year has been seeing the boys venture into the local community, attending activities and clubs like swimming, orchestra, badminton, rugby, and football.

Thank you to everyone associated with boarding for making all things possible, thanks especially to the boys who have made it the most satisfying and memorable year.

**Carrie and Tony Jenkins** 













### **International Student Voice** Competition

Every year, the Heads of EAL at five prestigious Bath schools each choose three international students to represent their schools in a public speaking competition. The venue rotates between Kingswood, Monkton, the Royal High, Stonar and Prior Park, and this year it was Prior's turn to host. Representing Prior were Rocio Morgado Espada (L5 Fielding), Diego Clares Paredes (L5 Clifford), and Nathaniel Ngai (L5 Roche).

The quality of the talks is always excellent, particularly when one bears in mind that for these students, English is their second – and in some cases their third or even fourth – language. This year

they were simply outstanding, and the task of deciding winners was no mean feat for the judges, Dr McGowran and Mr Watkinson-Trim.

The evening started with the junior competition (L5 and younger), which included a range of fascinating talks, from The Dangers of Stereotyping to How to Choose a Profession. Rocio's talk on What I Have Learned Since Starting at Prior Park in September was heartfelt and very well delivered. Diego gave a slick presentation on Cool Facts about Space, and faced some tough questions from the audience. First prize went to a most impressive talk on Utilitarianism from a Y9 girl at

Kingswood. After a short interval, the senior competition (U5 and 6F) significantly raised the already high bar. We heard about Social Media & Body Image, Successful Women in Economics, and a talk with the most intriguing title: Why a Man Robbed Two Banks with Lemon Juice on his Face. First prize went to a particularly impressive talk from a Year 11 student at Monkton on Hero Worship. Second prize went to our very own Nathaniel, whose talk on Political Correctness was hilariously devised, and delivered with comic aplomb.

**Mr Stroud** 

F4 students competed in their own brilliant **EAL Speaking Competition**. Eight students took part with talks ranging from, 'Is it good or bad to have siblings?', to 'Happiness and how it works' and even 'How to become rich with cryptocurrencies'. Congratulations to the winner, Sophie, who explained why 'Colours are not as innocent as we think they are'. Well done to all who took part.







#### **International Diploma**

This year saw the launch of an exciting new initiative, the International Diploma. Inclusivity and curiosity are at the heart of the diploma and students relished having the opportunity to connect with other members of their community.

The three main aims of the diploma are:

- To remove existing barriers between different groups of people within the school community, particularly overseas and UK students.
- To develop our students' curiosity and give them the life skills to learn how to be comfortable interacting with anyone they meet.
- To be proactively inclusive, leading the way in international mindedness for the future health and success of our world.

enjoyed completing the tasks, which included learning how to introduce yourself in another language, and interviewing students from a different country and who they had never spoken with before. For the final part of the

about their diploma journey.

An example from an overseas student:

> "Due to the diploma I needed to get out of my comfort zone and talk to people I'm usually not friends with.

they are all amazing in their own way and it reminded me of a really important saying "never judge a book by its cover".

Participants thoroughly

diploma, students write

It turned out that

**Mrs Carson** 

#### **Congratulations to the** first set of award winners!

#### **Bronze** award

Noah Bailey Santiago Torras Serrano Nikko Wong Adrian Shum Ethan Cheung Lucinda Liu Freya Bradford Chloe Ashbee Sophia Wyatt Finnlay Bailey Sharice Leong

Daniel Liu Ian Chan Annabelle Goymer Hazel Chu Ava Marston Alejandra Sanchez-Baron Harry Adams Michael Wilding

Silver award Isabel Lam

Wilson Tse

Aisha Kareem

#### **Gold** award

Daniel I i Simon Fu Sofiyyah Karimu Charlotte Chow Maya Trillhaas Hannah Wyatt

"I've always stuck to my little circle of local students and been afraid of going up to people I have not talked to before, because sometimes it can be a bit intimidating walking up to a group of international students if they are all talking in their own language.

An example from a UK

student:

This scheme has helped me branch out to other members of the school who I had never met and who are from different parts of the world. The diploma has given me opportunities that I would not otherwise have been given."

#### A Level biology trip

An early start one Saturday morning in June, saw 19 intrepid biologists set off in minibuses to the far South-West of Wales for their A Level biology field trip. Our destination was Broadhaven Youth Hostel. Enroute, we stopped off to visit a remote stream to make a start on the aim of the trip - to gain hands-on experience of different coastal habitats and learn appropriate ecological sampling techniques. The freshwater environment allowed us to learn and practise the kick-sampling technique, only then to be amazed by the minibeasts we caught living in this freshwater environment. It proved to be a good start to our adventure due to ample sunshine, a visit from wild, but very friendly ponies and the

excitement of netting many interesting creatures, with an elver (baby eel) gaining most attention.

The next couple of days we learnt the theory behind the nature of sand dunes and rocky shores before setting off to the coast to put theory into practice. The sand dunes at Freshwater East were abundant with wildflowers and the fine day gave us plenty of time to appreciate the idea of succession and practise identifying a myriad of specialised plants, including the pioneering Marram Grass and the majestic Viper's bugloss. The rocky shore at Dale proved very popular despite torrential rain and wind. We scrambled over seaweed or barnacle covered rocks, laden with sampling kit and the all-important packed

lunch. Strange looks from passers-by were due to us lying belly down in the rain using the 'shoot the welly' technique to ascertain the zonation pattern as one moved from low to high tide. Once data was collected for the individual projects, there was time for a quick ice-cream or plate of chips at the local café before returning to Broadhaven. After supper we headed down to the local beach to do our bit for the environment with a litter clean. We then burnt the midnight oil to complete project write-ups before returning to school the next day.

Many thanks must go to the ever-enthusiastic Mr Lovat and Mrs and Dr Trott for organising this very worthwhile trip.





### Mandarin trip to London

In January, Mandarin students from F4, L5, U5 and L6 travelled to London. They visited the British Museum with particular interest in the East Asian gallery, looking to find Chinese language in the artefacts. Then the students explored Chinatown trying some authentic Chinese food including Peking duck, jellyfish, and chicken feet!



### New Designers Exhibition

After a two year wait it was great to take our amazingly talented L6 Product Design Students to the prestigious New Designers Exhibition at the iconic Business Design centre in Islington, London.

New Designers is the UK's leading graduate design show and the most important event for emerging designers. The exhibition celebrates the work created by top graduate product designers, architects and graphic designers from the UK's leading universities. It is a highly respected and successful platform which brings together new design talent, industry and consumers. The purpose of the trip was not only to inspire students to undertake challenging and innovative projects for their A Level coursework, but also to give them an insight into the different careers and pathways in the vast and wonderful world of design. It was a fantastic day out with students really inspired by what they saw.

**Mr Faulkner** 





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**Brownlow trip to Cornwall** 

In June, Form 3 travelled to Cornwall for their two day annual trip to the Eden Project. After a steady drive down, we arrived at Kingsurf Surf School in Mawgan Porth just before lunch. Due to a forced change in accommodation, we were able to secure the students surf lessons in the afternoon. With the sun shining and 2-3ft waves, the students spent well over two hours catching waves and doing some epic wipe-outs! Once changed, we made our way to Treyarnon Bay Youth Hostel which was to be our

base for the night. After feasting on a tasty BBQ and playing outdoor games, the students went for a beautiful sunset walk along the southwest costal path to Constantine Bay.

After a good night's sleep and a hearty breakfast, we made our way to the Eden Project where students were briefed and split into two groups. One group set off to explore the amazing Biomes whilst the other took on a design and team building activity, having to create storm shelters using limited resources. After lunch the groups swapped over and prizes were awarded at the end of the day. There were some very interesting shelters! Time flies when you are having fun, so as the rains came in, we ran to the coaches and made the long journey back to Bath. A special mention must go to the legendary Mr Moore for putting together a truly amazing trip and one which took full advantage of what mother nature can offer.

Mr Faulkner









Eden Project photo competition winner Coco Summers





**Eden Project Drawing competition winner** Layla Wakefield

## **Slapton Ley**

During the last week of June, the entire Baines House was taken down to Devon to stay in a small village called Slapton.

Before we left for our residential trip, we were told who was going to be in each dormitory. This was nice as I got to spend lots of time with my friends and was able to grow a stronger bond with them.

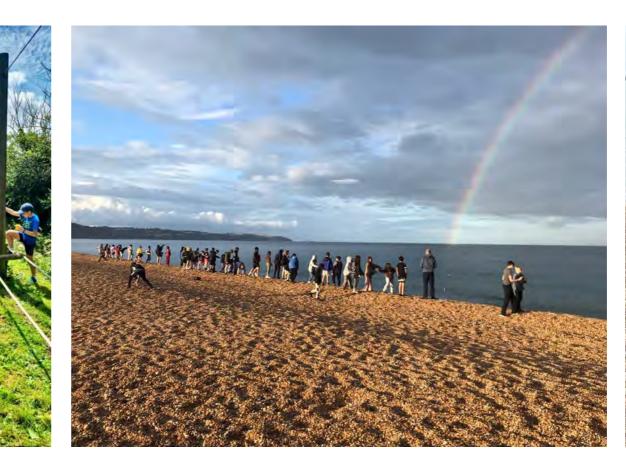
During our trip we had many cool activities. Some were made for teaching us lessons about our environment, some were for enjoyment and building our social skills, and some were to get to know each other more and strengthen relationships within the year group.

The trip was a lot of fun, but my two favourite activities were bushcraft and survival skills and low ropes/ team challenges. I really enjoyed bushcraft survival skills because my friends and I were able to make our own dens and protect ourselves from our leader pouring water on us. I also managed to use a flint & steel for the first time; I even managed to help others get their first flame.

The reason why I loved low ropes/ team challenges so much was because my partner and I were having fun together whilst going around the course. We learned two moves which were the fists of friendship and the ninja squirrel. During team challenges, my group were zooming through all the puzzles, even managing to find another way to do a shape puzzle.

Whilst on long walks we discovered lots of geographical and inspirational knowledge of our landscape; we learnt that the sea was slowly eroding England. These walks were also a good opportunity to talk to each other and strengthen relationships. I had a great time at Slapton.















#### Duke of Edinburgh Awards

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Almost 70 young participants started their DofE Bronze journey or neared the completion of their DofE Gold award this year

pants started their DofE Bronze journey or neared the completion of their DofE Gold award this year and throughout the year, participants continued to receive Certificate of Achievement awards. Our DofE manager also continues to support legacy participants who look to complete awards after many years of absence. This year's Bronze cohort

Almost 70 young partici-

This year's Bronze cohort conducted their practice over the Mendips, where the weather was as kind as the terrain. Our Gold group opted for the stunning beauty and more challenging terrain of the Brecon Beacons – those familiar with Brecon will know the weather can be less than helpful.

When it came to the assessed expeditions, the challenges tested all. Bronze participants enjoyed glorious weather and stunning scenery as they completed walks around Monmouthshire. Our DofE Gold cohort headed north to the Lake District National Park, the weather was very kind, perhaps too kind (heatwave), but participants certainly enjoyed some spectacular scenery. Finally, to all who have

Finally, to all who have contributed to DofE this year, thank you.

**Mr Jenkins** 











#### CCF

Our CCF Navy Section has been very buoyant (excuse the pun!) and very active. Taking advantage of the College's close proximity to Bath city centre, training has taken place on the River Avon, ideally situated for stand up paddleboarding and novice kayaking. Whilst at Chew Valley lakes, we have seen a significant upgrade in boats, adding Argos to our fleet so the section can enjoy sailing.

The adult volunteers have certainly been busy with professional development with section officers gaining valuable qualifications to enable these activities. Visits were conducted to Britannia Royal Naval College (BRNC), commonly known as Dartmouth, always a popular visit, along with mountain biking in the Forest of Dean and a field day of fun on the water by Dundas Aqueduct. The recurring theme is teamwork whilst building self-confidence at each activity.

Within our CCF Army Section, shooting remains the most popular activity, from firing the BSA Scorpion Air Rifle at Prior Park, to the L144A1 Cadet Small Bore Target Rifle (CSBTR) in Speedwell, Bristol. The L98A2 Cadet GP Rifle (GP - General Purpose) is the advanced rifle used by the Army at Warminster Ranges, with shotgun shooting at Hullavington added to the mix.

The Army section also spent 48 hours on exercise living in the field, refreshing the basics of personal camouflage, how to move as an individual in the field, and then working together as a section in the field, with some eventually commanding their own section. We had team patrols by day and night, with a mock ambush situation at night – a most exciting, challenging exercise and experience for all at Hullavington Airfields.

Other contingent highlights have been the teambuilding day in Moors Valley, very wet, and paintballing at Hunstree, very competitive! The contingent has received great investment from the Ministry of Defence and the support from our cadet NCOs and adult staff volunteers has also been invaluable, thank you to all.

**Mr Jenkins** 



























## Baines Healthier Charity Tuck Shop which was conceived and run by the studente. This priced even \$200 for

What a year we've had in Baines House with a superb group of students. It's incredible to think that the set of maturing young people which left Baines House for the summer holiday at the start of July have come so far since last September in terms of confidence and personal responsibility, not to mention growth in feet and inches!

**Baines** 

We've had numerous merit awards across the group and two notable Headmaster's Commendations – one for the excellent presentation on Chinese New Year in February; the other for the fantastically well organized and delivered Queen's Jubilee Fete which took place the day before school broke up for the May half term. These were both examples of pupils throwing everything into an idea they'd had, which took them well outside their comfort zone and resulted in stunning success.

One remarkable feature of Baines House this year was the Baines Healthier Charity Tuck Shop which was conceived and run by the students. This raised over £200 for the school charity, selling only products which were either healthy, or had some form of healthier ingredients than the standard tuck shop fare. The students learned a good bit about running a small business and pricing strategies as well.

While we had a very enjoyable ten pin bowling trip in Bath in October, the highlight of the year for Baines House was the Residential trip to Slapton Ley in Devon at the end of the year. This was an excellent week which saw the students take on a combination of teamwork tasks, woodland adventure and personal challenge, and resulted in new friendships, existing friendships being cemented and new personalities emerging. You can read more about this trip on page 36.

Mr Healy















## Brownlow

We started off the year by being introduced to the new location for Brownlow, which was formerly the cricket pavilion. In the first few weeks we had many assemblies by different members of staff and parents about the meaning of each letter in the word Brownlow, which really showed us what the House was all about. We also learnt our House mantra from Mr Pandya, which is "Never, ever be late to the oars".

After a busy first half term, we were lucky to have a trip with the Wiltshire Outdoor Learning Team, and had a great day doing activities such as rock climbing, den building, archery, and a scavenger hunt. Our first term went very quickly.

In the new year, we enjoyed House Music, which More won, and had lots of fun learning and singing our tutor group songs and dances. House Music sparked rivalry and competition between the tutor groups, however, exams loomed and the most dreaded week of the year - test week - arrived. Once tests were completed, Brownlow faced the annual Fisher Road Relay, the highly anticipated race around the school. After that, we were ready for a well-deserved Easter break.

Brownlow ran several events during the summer term, such as student's personal challenges (fundraising for the school charity), and the Brownlow MasterChef competition (a joint of lamb was the winning dish.)

The year ended with a fantastic trip to Cornwall, where we enjoyed surfing, saw the breathtaking Eden Project, and had a relaxing retreat. A massive thank you to all the tutors and our Housemaster, Mr Pandya, who has been with us every step of the journey.

Alfie Parkin and Alexa Sullivan

## Allen

Allen House started the year with a walk from Marshfield to Prior along the Cotswold Way dressed in top hats, scarves, and the Allen House flag. The sun shined as bright as our outfits. House Music is a perennial highlight, and we cheered our mighty Head of House, the effortlessly cool Max Montanaro, to victory in the individual competition. Our group song was bonkers and our whole House rendition of 2–4–6–8 Motorway by the Tom Robinson Band was a timely tribute to the nation's supply chain network.

In sport, George Thompson (U6) organised an Inter-House basketball tournament (in which Allen House were finalists) and a charity 5-a-side football competition. Our U6 team won their category in the Fisher Relay and there were performances galore at Sports Day.

Fundraising, and the House poker tournament, organised by Remy Lean, was a fan favourite with top prizes of Nando's vouchers making it a high stakes competition. Will Seward and Arturo Jacob managed the House tuck shop and their work enabled us to hire laser tag for a House event, and bought a leavers' meal out for the U6 before their study leave. In addition, it raisedmore money for charity and created a lively atmosphere in House.

We have continued to receive termly updates from Rashid Mohammed, our honorary Allen House member in Ghana. Luke Harrison-Ekers worked hard to organise a Form 4 social recently involving pizza and enthusiastic dancing; Lower 5 enjoyed a glorious evening of Spikeball in the spring sunshine and all of Allen House enjoyed a private screening of James Bond: No Time to Die during Michaelmas term.

The Allen House kazoo orchestra conducted regular morning rehearsals before standing up in assembly, on a grey, wintery Friday morning, to blast out Sweet Caroline on seventy plastic kazoos.

Allen House introduced combat pillow fighting – one-minute rounds with points awarded for a head or body shot. It quickly proved popular with the Allen boys, and we were very grateful for the support of Mr Horan and Mr Cane-Hardy as Allen House scaled it up for a charity week whole school event. It raised money but also, importantly, put smiles on faces.

Leo Togher ran an impressive series of 'Togher Talks' and I am delighted that Harry Adams has taken up the baton, kicking off his 'Harry's Happy Hour' lecture series with Jaques Du Toit, formerly at Bath RFC. Finally, we encouraged reading in House this year and every Allen boy completed a book review over Easter which is compiled into a compendium that, I hope, shall inspire future generations of readers.

Mr Lovat

**The Howler Prize** *Music and the arts* Ollie C (F4) George C–J (L5) Wilson (L6)

**Gentleman Award** Acts of kindness Euan (F4) Reuben (L5) Alec (L6)

#### **Spirit of the Pack** *Strength of character* Luke H-E (F4)

Cass (L5) Sasha (L6)

Akela Academic Achievement Award Jonathan (F4) Simon (L5) Daniel (L6) White Fang Award Physical endeavour Luke (F4) Joe (L5) Harvey (L6)

**'Dog'gedness** *Effort* George W (F4) Daniel (L5) Conor (L6)























## Arundell

Every year, I am amazed by the girls, and 2022 has been no different. They have juggled numerous activities with rigorous academic demands and busy schedules. They challenge themselves constantly and are full of energy and fun. They have been singers, dancers, athletes, artists, musicians and thespians, and on the way, they have built spirit and friendships.

Katie and Taylor have been inspiring and, with the other U6 girls, they have led the House with real class. The U6 have set the bar very high in everything they have done, and I thank them for their ambition, integrity, and the warm air of kindness that they have instilled.

Memorable events include the House Music performances, with Hannah playing her superb flute solo, and everyone taking part in the brilliantly choreographed whole House song.

The girls won the Fisher Relay, with Gigi as the fastest girl ever (4

minutes 10 seconds) and the U6 team of Louise, Lydia, Taylor and Katie beating the girls team record in a staggering combined time of 17 minutes 40 seconds.

In Debating, the team reached the final for the first time and narrowly lost to an impressive Fielding side.

These moments stand out in the memory but so too do the smaller things; charity bake sales, the simple pleasure of 'Toast Tuesday', ice skating with friends, and sitting on the lawn for assembly with an ice lolly in hand. These are the things that bring a smile and give the girls the space and time to just 'be'.

I finish with fond farewells to Miss Prosser and Mrs Watson, two great tutors who will be much missed, and of course to all the girls that joined us for this special Arundell year. You've left your mark. Thank you, :) Mrs T x

**Mrs Trott** 













## **Burton**

Burton House has really thrived this year in all events, regardless of the results. However, we did win sports day, despite Clifford being very confident that they had won!

I know that all the boys really enjoyed House Music. This year we performed 'Call Me Maybe' by Carly Rae Jepsen for our House song, which was great fun from the first rehearsal to the final performance. We also won the group song with our amazing band from the L6 who performed 'Fire That Burns' by Circa Waves.

Burton won the Fisher Road Relay in the Lent term. The whole House was determined to win, and everyone played their part and contributed in some way. Mr Hull was also very determined to win this year, so it was great to be able to celebrate in Burton, rightfully retaining the trophy. We came a solid second in the Senior Maths challenge too, which is a very good result and I'm sure the boys can win it next year.

This year has been Mr Hull's last as Housemaster of Burton as he is moving onto a new job with the RFU. He has done an outstanding job throughout his time as Housemaster, and I know all the boys greatly appreciate the work he has put into the House over the recent years. We wish him all the best in his new job.

It has a been a great year in Burton with multiple highlights throughout, however, for me, House Dinner was one of my favourite events. I wish all the boys the best and remind them to keep winning trophies and retaining them.

Charlie Little, Head of House



# Clifford

After years of disruption and separation, Clifford House was able to return to normality this year. A lot changed through Covid, with a new Housemaster and tutor team, as well as two year groups who hadn't yet experienced Clifford House in the flesh. However, as proven by our dominant success in House competitions and how well everyone has integrated between year groups, it is clear that the Clifford spirit is as strong as ever.

Early in the year we won the overall prize at the House Music competition, with outstanding performances from the talented members of Clifford: Misha Jenson's mind-blowing guitar solo, the group band and Seb Morley's seductive performance of Let's Get It On, and finally the whole House song, Land Down Under. I was very proud to see how the members of Clifford stepped up to the mark with enthusiasm and drive, showing their allegiance to the House. This was a true highlight for me and for many of the U6 boys who had dreamed of this moment since first joining Clifford!

The Clifford pool table is the

centre of the house. However, due to extensive use over the years it has developed its own unique course, with sloping pockets and ripped felt. It was time for a new one. The Sixth Form Clifford Pool Competition was invented to bond the Sixth Form in Clifford, but also to raise money for a new table. This was a highlight of my year, getting to know L6, who will be taking the torch next year and carrying on our legacy. So, it was only right that Rob Dymond and Ned Hannah, our next Head of House, came out victorious. I'm sure Ollie Corry in particular is excited about the new table.

I speak on behalf of the U6 when I say how important Clifford House has been in our time at Prior. A place of safety and support with amazing tutors and Housemasters, a place of sanctity and fun. Growing up with the same 16 boys, from Form Four to Upper Six, is a truly unique experience and bonds have been created that will last a lifetime. Clifford is a truly special place.

**Dow Sivell, Head of House** 















## English

We have had such a wonderful year in English House. Celebrating all our House traditions has put the fire back into the hearts of our English girls and staff.

We started the year welcoming all the parents into the house for tea and cake at our summer picnic. The room was filled with freshly baked cakes made by the girls. This event is so important as it helps us to get to know everyone and allows parents to see where their girls are spending their days.

This year at House Music, the English girls ditched their pink tutus for caps and tracksuits and performed 'I'm your man' by Wham. I am always so amazed at how well these girls can dance – they get up there after a couple of hours of rehearsal and seem to be able to move in ways which would take me years to learn.

January brought our first House Dinner in three years, meaning only our 6th Form had ever attended one before. The girls chose the theme 'enchanted forest' and were very strict about everyone wearing long evening dresses. They looked like royalty. The Mansion was decorated from top to bottom with a foliage backdrop and we even had a smoke machine at the entrance.

My favourite event of this year was the charity House Concert. Seeing our girls on stage performing songs as a group and individually made my heart burst with pride. Not only did we laugh, we also witnessed raw talent from everyone involved. We had soloists, group songs, whole House songs and some girls even performed songs they had written themselves. The girls sold homemade tie dye t-shirts, cupcakes, sweets, and ran a bar. I want to say a huge thank you to all the parents who donated to our raffle as we were able to raise over  $\pounds950$  for our school charity, Loving Humanity.

Finally, I want to say a huge thank you to this year's U6th and especially our Head of House, Lily. Each one of you has led the House with so much love and kindness, you make us so proud.

Mrs Holder



## Fielding

After two years of disruption to the House and its events, this year, thankfully, followed the well-trodden path with its familiar traditions. In September we welcomed all our students, but particularly our new students, some of whom had travelled across the globe to be with us, from Kazakhstan, Chile, Germany, Spain, France, Hong Kong, and Mexico. Writing this now, in June, seems strange, as these girls are now so much a part of Prior and have enriched us all.

The tea party in September kicked off some of the traditional events, followed by the much-anticipated House Music competition with all its rehearsals, pizza inning, camaraderie and bonds built between year groups. This year the U6 did a terrific job and choreographed and produced a professional piece by Little Mix called 'Salute', which took the crown in the whole House competition. Special mention also goes to our group song with Victoria, Natalie, Tansy, Raykhonakhon, Ariane, and Kitty singing 'Leave the Door Open' and of course, Emma, who sang and played a beautiful rendition of Cold Play's 'Viva La Vida' in the solo competition.

As Christmas approached, the House was decorated, the Hutch-

ison tree was put in place, and off we went down Ralph Allen Drive to the ice rink in Bath. All the girls enjoyed the atmosphere, the smell of Christmas and afterwards, a warming hot chocolate.

The Lent Term means 3 things: Debating, Charity Week and the Fisher Road Relay. Fielding excelled in the debating (yet again!) with the brilliant team of Raykhonakhon, Victoria and Charlotte, ably assisted by Alix and Ava and won the Final, opposing the motion that 'Comedy should not offend,' against a competent and able Arundell team. Perhaps not as successful sporting-wise in the Fisher, but our team and House spirit was very much in evidence. As they say, it's not the winning that matters, but the taking part and Fielding girls took part.

The dinner in the Summer term was a joyous yet emotional event as we prepared ourselves, with one last bash, to say goodbye to this fabulous group of Upper 6 students. They will be sadly missed next year but I know that they will achieve great things in the future. Au revoir et à bientôt, mes filles!

**Mrs Mallon** 

## Roche

Like the title of this publication, this year has felt like a Phoenix rising from the ashes. After the challenges of the past two years and so much time spent away from the House, it was so good to get back to being together again.

Some of our early house activities were focused on getting the boys to know each other. The initial 'scavenger hunt' was a great test for both new and old pupils.

House Music is always a firm favourite. Our House song, 'Rock your Body', saw the boys singing and dancing, almost as good as Justin Timberlake! George (U6) stood out in the solos. Having only started playing piano eight months earlier, he performed his own stunning jazz composition. He also joined the group, with Ben M'OC, Dougal, James, and Ben H, belting out an amazing version of 'Beggin" by Måneskin.

For Charities Week, six family group teams came up with fundraising ideas. The plans varied in style and sophistication, but the boys raised a grand total of £1,044 for this year's charity.

At the end of the Michaelmas term, the whole House went ice skating in Bath. 'A mixture of styles' is perhaps the best way to describe the skating but having not run a House trip for some time, it was so much fun seeing the boys laughing and joking with each other. We returned to house, feasted on snacks, and handed out the secret Santa presents the boys had bought for each other.

House Dinners are always special occasions. With some great technical assistance from our old Head of House, Max (PPC 2020) and some newly purchased decorations, the dining hall looked stunning. Games, speeches and good fun followed, and the boys were amazing company throughout the whole night.

From our Debating team's (Abdulaziz, Ethan, Cass) brilliant performance to the third place in the Inter-House maths challenge (Daniel, Nikko, Miro and Nick), we have some superb academic performances.

Our sportsmen have also continued to shine. Santiago, represented the 1st XI hockey team in the national cup competition. Stanley, Jack, and Dylan, Form 4, had some superb performances with the U14 Hockey team. Sam, Dylan, Azan, Stan (F4), Ethan, Nick (L6) and Ben (U6) all represented the school at the Roslyn Park 7's tournament. Will (L5) represented the 1st XI Cricket team, along with new cricket superstar Nick (L6). James (L5) has won countless regional and national titles over the year in Biathlon and Swimming, including the South West and Midlands Open Water Champion, and National U15 Biathle Champion. He is set to represent GB in October and we look forward to seeing how he gets on. However, the sporting pinnacle event of the year was undoubtedly the tug of war. Inspired by the F4 team win earlier in the day, the L6 had a point to prove. The boys certainly delivered, whitewashing the other teams and showing their dominance, much to the delight of the onlooking crowd. A brilliant way to finish the year.

Mr Holmes













### Master Builders and Interior Spaces, the F4 Visual Arts Exhibition

'Master Builder' is a term that suggests creative leadership, independence of ideas, and the creation of something unique. This year we celebrated the many 'master builders' of F4 in an exhibition showcasing their work over two terms.

The collection of work was a culmination of skill,

learning, artist research, refinement and development, inspired by the topic "interior spaces". After being introduced to processes, including etching, monoprinting, rubbing, drawing, collage, surface design and embellishment, students created a wide range of individual outcomes using the Chapel as their primary subject. That was it... they were the master builders. The outcome of the project was a varied and colourful testament to the creativity of our Form 4 artists, and a fitting tribute to our beautiful Chapel.

**Ms Seville** 





### Artist in residence: Rachel Wright

Rachel is a former Prior pupil (Class of 2003) who specialised in painting at the Cardiff School of Art and Design, where she received a First Class Honours, before returning to Bath to continue her passion for painting.

She began her tenure as artist in residence at Prior Park in August 2021. Over three months, Rachel completed almost fifty beautiful oil paintings that capture both life at the College and its stunning architecture and surroundings. Rachel also held an oil painting workshop for keen Prior artists, introducing them to the technical challenges of this difficult medium and helping to develop their understanding of colour.

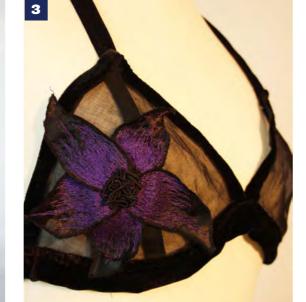
To conclude her time as artist in residence, an exhibition of Rachel's work took place in Academy Hall on 25 November.



### Visual arts GCSE





















Amber Peake
 Daisy Downey
 Layla Kanpulat
 Jessica Metcalfe
 Emily Pugh

6 Evie Rayner-Bentman

7 Emily Pugh
8 Harriet Martin
9 Evie Rayner-Bentman
10 Nigel Chan
11 Henry Barker

### Visual arts A Level





















1

2

3

4

5

Kira Tenk

Chloe Wang

Tansy Cheung

Maddie Wagstaffe

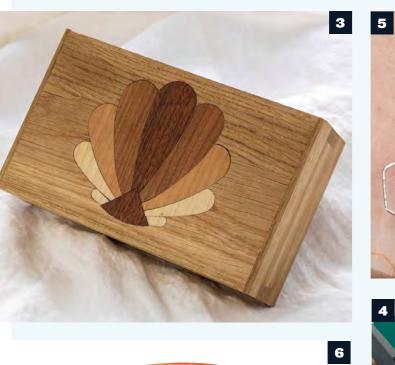
Lily Peake





### **Design & Technology** GCSE





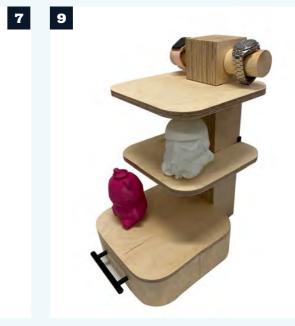




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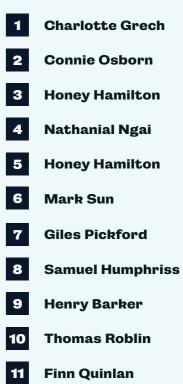
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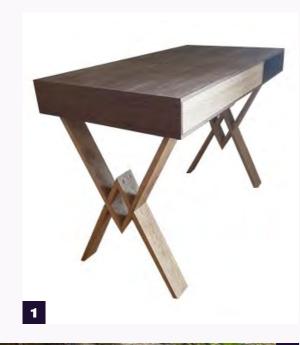


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## Design & Technology A Level











- 6 Kira Tenk
- 7 Kira Tenk

8 Sebastian Morely



5 Harry Passingham







### **Junior Drama: The Wedding**

February saw the Julian Slade theatre transformed into a wedding chapel – the setting for a farce written by Dougie Blaxland. The young cast, made up of director Mrs Burton's Junior Drama Club, divided into 'bride' and 'groom': the former, new moneyed types, headed up by Hattie Coxall's Ivor Packet and Sophie Gendle's Sylvia Packet, with a lively supporting cast of related Packets: Hannah Gendle, Georgia Doel, Tessa Dixon, and Ruby Walsh. On the other side of the aisle, the aristocratic Charmings, were very much led by matriarch Violet Goymer, whose husband, Will Mould, was left trailing and trembling in her wake.

Anoushka Campbell-Jones and Phoebe-Aurelia Rothwell played the Charming daughters; the groom, the 'perfectly straight-toothed' Charles Charming, (Emily Hickman), his best man, Hugo Fitzmungo (Luna Parsons) and his bride, Sally Packet (Eliza Tjolle), rounded off the wedding party. Officiating in fine style were Jude Brayton as the Vicar and the organist Mrs Crump (Joachim Pickford).

As events unfolded we were also treated to a guest appearance by the Headmaster and Mr Cane-Hardy in wedding regalia, and then, as a series of revelations upset the order of service, identities were revealed,

roles were reversed: Laci O'Sullivan (aka the first Mrs Charming), private detective, Daisy Dalloway (Sophie Gittens), police detective Simon Civil (Reuben Ward), and finally the Reverend White (Cormac Page), helped to unravel the threads and then knit everything up again into a happy ending – well, for most of them. This was an old-school farce and there was something especially appealing in watching these energetic young players tackle it with such skill and flair. I'm sure we'll be seeing many of them appear again over the next few years.

Dr McGowran















### **GCSE** Drama

In the days leading up to our GCSE drama practical exams, the department held Open Dress Rehearsals so students could perform in front of an audience. It was lovely for family and friends to watch students take to the stage, in most cases for the first time in years.

Monologue and duologue performances ranged from emotive pieces to comedy sketches, all of them showcasing an impressive depth of performance. Students depicted the great tragedy of 'Medea' and 'Electra' as well as the complexity of humour in 'Day in the death of Joe Egg' and 'Top Girls'. It was great to see our young performers bring such dedication to the stage and we look forward to their future performances as they take the lead in upcoming Sixth Form productions.



It was great to see our young performers

#### our young performers bring such dedication to the stage

### **Medea film**

Medea is an ancient Greek tragedy written by Euripides, based upon the myth of Jason and Medea, first produced in 431 BC. The play revolves around Medea's desire for revenge against her unfaithful husband Jason, leader of the Argonauts. Her revenge manifests itself throughout the play, and she ultimately murders her children to alleviate her suppression.

What interested me wasn't the plot, but instead the external factors and prevalent themes in the play which forced Medea to become a child killer and symbol of female empowerment. As the director, I decided to collaborate with other A Level theatre students to present the play through the lens of a more contemporary society, allowing them to connect to these relevant themes and issues.

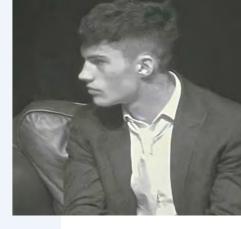
Embarking on any Greek Tragedy is a challenge, but the multifaceted nature of the character of Medea within an oppressive patriarchal Greek society makes this play complicated and hard to interpret. Originally, the production was to be presented as a live performance within the Julian Slade Theatre, but due to COVID restrictions, we eventually decided to present it as a cinematic piece.

In the development process, there was an emphasis on collaboration in all forms of theatre. Working together with sound and lighting stage manager Harry King, we attempted to challenge audience members through all theatrical elements.

Finally, after a six month, onerous editing process, and with the substantial aid of Mr Langley, we were able to present the film to an audience within the Julian Slade Theatre. Iona Wilson delivered a powerful yet carefully constructed portrayal of Medea, with Honor Patterson and Taylor Milsom also presenting strong performances as the Women of Corinth and King Creon, as well as Keira Barry performing the important role of the Nurse.

Embarking on the role of becoming a director was certainly challenging and frustrating at times, but also an enriching and satisfying experience, and I am so grateful for the enduring support and efforts from all students and theatre makers who took part.

Seb Morley (U6)















# Return to the Forbidden Planet

After a couple of aborted take-offs, the USS Albatross was finally cleared for lift off in March, exactly two years after Little Shop of Horrors was grounded. Return to the Forbidden Planet is the definition of a juke-box musical, taking popular songs of the day (in this case, classic hits from the 1960s) and squeezing them into a somewhat contrived plot.

The real pleasure of this show is that the plot is based loosely (very loosely) on a reworking of The Tempest, which itself was the inspiration for the 1960s B-Movie The Forbidden Planet. Shakespeare himself is not spared the parody; Captain Tempest (Seb Morley) "what light for yonder airlock breaks", and Ariel (Kiera Barry) "I'll put a girdle round the ship in 40 minutes".

Amongst the cod Shakespeare, the battle between the aforementioned Captain and the ship's cook, Cookie (Ben Humphries) for the love of Miranda (Emma Hallum) ensues, and tensions arise between her now estranged parents, Gloria (Emma Kerrigan), who is also the ship's science officer, and Dr Prospero (Sachin Padiachi), who now inhabits the forbidden planet and is slowly going mad thanks to his mind-expanding X Factor potion. These leading players

were admirably supported by a wonderful cast as they all sang and danced to great hits including Good Vibrations, Teenager in Love and Born to be Wild. Mention also to the incredible band glued together by Max Montanaro, George Aylmer-Kelly and Ben Murphy O'Connor, and the great efforts of the stage crew led by Dow Sivell and Louis Wight.

Of course, any production needs its directors, and thanks goes to Dave Langley (Director), Dave Sackett (Musical Director) and Danielle Prosser (Asst Musical Director and sax player extraordinaire).













### Junior House Music

Well done to Juliet (L3 Garrick), who won the soloist prize after impressing the judges with her rendition of 'Naughty' from Matilda.

Garrick's Boomwhacker group won the small groups category with their very original rendition of 'Do Re Mi'.

Tutor groups from Baines and Brownlow combined for the group acts. Ward & Alexander performed 'Shake It Off'; Garrick & Wood fired paper aeroplanes into the audience as they sang 'Another Brick In The Wall'; Pope & Rice brought the animal kingdom (including dinosaurs) to life with 'Hakuna Matata'; but it was Francis & More that were the big winners with their rendition of ABBA's 'Dancing Queen'.





















### Senior House Music

After last year's abscence, it was great to have House music back! The winners were:

**Solo** Allen House

**Group** Burton House

House Song Fielding House

**Overall winner** Clifford House













### Michaelmas concert

The music department's Michaelmas Concert is a great platform to showcase the hard work of various college ensembles, alongside some of the highlights from the senior House Music competition.

The Brass Ensemble got us underway with Bizet's Toreador Song and were then followed by the Junior Singers sprinkling some Christmas magic with their rendition of Jingle Bell Rock.

Two new ensembles made their debut at the concert. The new look Wind Quintet played Waltz by Agay and the Junior String group played Ballo Furlano by Mainerio.

These performances were interspersed with House Music solos from Emma Kerrigan, Misha Jensen, George Ayler-Kelly, Robbie Nesbit and Bella Chicco. The College Orchestra then performed Grieg's Homage March and Mussorgsky's, The Old Castle, before giving way to the winning House Music group song, Burton's rendition of Fire That Burns by Circa Waves, which rounded off a splendid evening of music making.

Mr Sackett



### **Scholars' concert**

On a sunny April evening we packed into the glorious setting of the John Wood Chapel to enjoy some of the finest solo musicians in the school performing a fantastically eclectic programme, ranging from Purcell to Queens of the Stone Age, and including a stirring rendition of Stars from Les Misérables (sung by Euan Murray), which left many a damp eye in the audience. The concert was my first to host and accompany since arriving at Prior in February and was a wonderful opportunity for our Music Scholars to showcase their solo performing skills to their peers, parents and myself.

#### Performers

Lucas Wong (L3) Anoushka Campbell Jones (F3) Sam Burton (F4) Euan Murray (F4) Charlotte Gent (L5) Emma Kerrigan (L6) Ariane Milewski (U6) Misha Jensen (U6) Natalie Chan (U6) Max Montanaro (U6)











## Band night



















### Summer concert

'Ladies and Gents this is the moment you've been waiting for' – Opening with the electrifying sound of the brand new Baines Choir stomping and smiling their way through this rousing item from 'The Greatest Showman', our Summer Concert was a marvellous display of the wide range of musical ensembles on offer at Prior.

Our Wind Ensemble galloped their way through the William Tell Overture, The Senior String Quartet conjured images of battles with dragons with

the theme from 'Game of Thrones', and the Chamber Orchestra demonstrated their multi-talented wind section with 'The Toy Symphony' – written to include nightingale, cuckoo, quail, toy trumpet, drum and rattle. Carson (F4) and Alfie (F3) gave dauntless solo performances to the packed Chapel – Carson filling the matchless acoustic with the soaring second movement from Mozart's Bassoon Concerto and Alfie giving his first solo organ performance. The audience

were also treated to our

African Drummers, Junior Strings as well as Phoebe and Anoushka (F3s) holding the Chapel in enthralled silence at their rendition of 'Slipping Through My Fingers' from Mamma Mia.

The evening's demonstration of fine ensemble skills closed with an accomplished set from the Senior Chapel Choir, showcasing their winning set from the Mid-Somerset Festival, and concluding the evening with the appropriate 'Sing, Sing, Sing'!

Mr Nicholls





Ladies and Gents, this is the moment you've been waiting for.

### **Music exam results**

Michaelmass 2021 Associated Board of the Royal School of Music			
	Trombone	Grade 6	Merit
Thomas Zagni Samuel Humphriss	Trumpet	Grade 5	Pass
Reuben Ward	Piano	Grade 5	Pass
	Piano	Grade 3	Merit
Thomas Zagni Alexa Sullivan	Piano	Grade 3	Merit
Reuben Ward	Violin	Grade 3	Merit
Elinor Hart	Piano	Grade 2	Pass
Charlotte Abercrombie	Flute	Grade 2	Pass
Alfred Parkin	Cello	Grade 1	Distinction Pass
Louis Wight	Cello	Grade 1	Pass
Trinity College London			
Jack Kerrigan	Trumpet	Grade 8	Distinction
Ralph Banks	Trumpet	Grade 7	Merit
Milo Ward	Drumkit	Grade 1	Distinction
Lent 2022			
Associated Board of the Royal School of Music			5
Louise Cattanach	Flute	Grade 8	Pass
Alexander Mould	Clarinet	Grade 4	Pass
Euan Murray	Violin	Grade 3	Merit
Alexa Sullivan	Piano	Grade 3	Merit
Juliet Stanbridge	Singing	Grade 3	Pass
Tessa Hart	Piano	Grade 2	Merit
Kimberly Law	Piano	Grade 2	Pass
Summer 2022			
Associated Board of the Royal School of Music			
George Campbell-Jones	Horn	Grade 7	Merit
Nathaniel Ngai	Viola	Grade 7	Pass
Daniel Corfield	Violin	Grade 4	Pass
Alfred Parkin	Cello	Grade 3	Merit
Phoebe Rothwell	Violin	Grade 2	Pass
Nexus Law	Piano	Grade 1	Pass
Trinity College London			
Emma Kerrigan	Violin	Grade 8	Distinction
Emma Kerrigan	Singing	Grade 8	Distinction
Robbie Nesbit	Singing	Grade 6	Merit
Lucinda Liu	Piano	Grade 5	Pass
London College of Music			
Ewan Hipperson	Music Theatre	Grade 8	Distinction
Honey Hamilton	Music Theatre	Grade 6	Distinction
Eliza Tjolle	Music Theatre	Grade 5	Distinction
Sofie Hull	Music Theatre	Grade 3	Pass
301617011	IVIUSIC I Neatre	Grade 3	Pass
Rockschool			
Daniel Stone	Drumkit	Grade 3	Merit

### **Grand leavers' concert**

E.M Forster wrote that 'The human mind is not a dignified organ, and I do not see how we can exercise it sincerely except through eclecticism'. That eclecticism which made up all that was so exceptional in our U6 musicians, was on fine display at this year's Grand Leavers' Concert. The Harla Trio began our evening with their characteristic suave style, with a set of tunes in the marquee overlooking the fine vista of Bath in the scorching July sun. Our U6s continued to dazzle as we moved into the chapel, with the welcome return of our professional string ensemble as well as the college's own

1984 Garlick harpsichord to accompany our fine soloists. What a particularly Grand year of musicians they have been. We will miss them and wish them all the best for their futures.

**Mr Nicholls** 

















#### Performers

**The Harla Trio** Ben Murphy-O'Connor, Max Montanaro and George Alymer-Kelly

Hannah Clements (Flute) Cantabile et Presto by Enesco

**Ariane Milewski (Piano)** No. 5 from Musical Moments by Rachmaninoff

**Eleanor Dymond (Clarinet)** Clarinet Sonata in E flat Op167, mvt. 2 by Saint-Saëns

Jack Kerrigan (Trumpet) Trumpet Concerto in E flat mvt. 1,2 by Neruda

Louise Cattanach (Flute) Alla Forlana ma Presto from Sonata in D Major by Quantz **Gus Hamilton-James (Voice)** Non lo dirò col labbro from Tolomeo by Handel, Shenandoah, trad.

George Aylmer-Kelly (Piano) Longing by George Aylmer-Kelly

Misha Jensen (Electric Guitar) Electric Sunrise by Plini

**Sebastian Morley (Voice)** Unchained Melody by North & Zyet

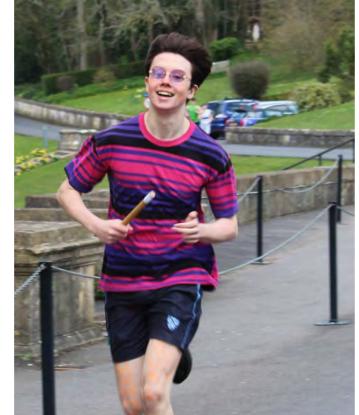
**Bella Chicco (Voice)** The Winner Takes It All by ABBA

Max Montanaro (Voice and Guitar) In The Flowers by Max Montanaro















### **Fisher Road Relay**

Senior Girls

Senior Boys Burton

New course record: 4:10min

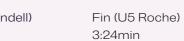
Louise C (U6 Arundell) 4:12min

U6 Arundell Team New girls team course record: 3:25min 17:40 min

Charles H (U6 Allen)

Arundell **Special Mentions** Gigi (L5 Arundell)

Jack (L6 Burton) 3:19min





### Hockey

The 2021/22 season saw continued success for all our teams at local, county, regional and even national level – both girls and boys – indoor and outdoor.

However, no result or performance can compare to being able to play a sport you enjoy with your friends. Genuinely, what a joy it was to be back playing regular hockey.

Summing up the girls' hockey season in a few short sentences is no easy feat considering the fine set of results and progress. The girls won 50% of their fixtures from 1st XI down to U12B, with over 150 girls representing the College and training at least twice per week.

This was the highest win ratio in the last 5 years. The U14As qualified for the West Regional Finals, the first girls team to reach this stage outdoors in 5 years.

The boys' hockey season was another year of success – some fantastic results, team performances, individual accolades, all with a new coaching team.

The biggest shout out goes to the 2022 boys' 1st XI, who only lost one game, drew four and won ten. In a handful of games, we were so far ahead on the scoreboard, the game was never in doubt. In truth a lot of games were closer, tighter, edgier affairs. However, the mark of this team was that when pressure mounted, the determination and quality also peaked. It certainly was a privilege as much as it was a pleasure to coach this group. None more so than the National Plate semi-final that was hosted at Prior Park versus Newcastle-under-Lyme School.

In 32 years of playing this sport, it was, in my opinion, the best school hockey fixture I have witnessed – 500 pupils and staff surrounding the pitch, living and breathing each touch with us. For pupils and staff to see these players demonstrate their pride, quality and skill level was an extraordinary moment.

Unfortunately, we lost on penalties. But I am hoping the emotion felt, the energy forged, and the respect the boys earned from their peers, staff and teammates will overshadow the scoreline and live long in their memory.

I say to each boy or girl that plays hockey or sport at Prior – every time you step onto a pitch or pull on your playing shirt for the College alongside your friends is another opportunity to create a memory. Thank you for the past six seasons. Never forgetting, always remembering.

Yours in hockey,

**Mr Jackson** 

#### Honours

Boys 1stXI 2022 England Hockey National Plate semi-finalists

England Hockey National Plate Regional champions

West Hockey Regional U18 Indoor runners-up, Avon Hockey County U18 Indoor champions

Boys U14A – West Hockey Regional U14 semi-finalists, Avon Hockey County U14 runners-up

Girls U14A – Avon Hockey County U14 champions

#### Girls

Half colours Tash Clark, Anna Hutchison, Olivia Owen

#### Full colours

Libby Blane, Louise Cattanach, Eleanor Dymond, Katie Marden, Amelia Owen

#### Boys

Half colours Henry Allen, Toby Day, Ned Hannah, Will Knight, Ben Menko, Robbie Nesbit, Conor Quinn, Oli Squire

#### Full colours

Will Butters, Rob Dymond, John Lowrie, Freddie Talbot, Oscar Talbot, Jack Webb











### Rugby

It was great to get rugby back on the school calendar. After a year of no fixtures, this season was a hugely successful one in terms of participation and results.

The 1st XV had a great final season for me and Mr Faulkner. Selection was a bit tricky as there was solid competition in many positions, but this made the players value their shirt and not take their position for granted. We also had a few key players injured throughout the season, which put pressure on the team. Out of the thirteen tough fixtures, we won four, lost four by only a few points (should have won these), and were competitive in the remaining five. For the first time since I arrived at Prior, I was able to introduce two different attacking systems, which really challenged the opposition and made for an

attractive all court game. For the final game of the term against KES, we had a fully fit, determined squad, and we beat KES for the first time at 1st XV level for eight years. The U16A team also won their KES fixture. They had an unbelievable season. Having lost narrowly in their first game to Monkton, they went on to win all their remaining fixtures – it was such a shame that first match slipped out of their hands as it would have been a great unbeaten season.

The same happened with the U13A team, their only loss was against KES in an extremely close match.

The U15s and U14s had great numbers and for the first time we could have put out three teams in each age group – both A teams had positive seasons. With strong A teams throughout and large participation numbers, the future is looking bright!

The team spirit this year was remarkable. For example, when one of our U15A players was verbally abused, the team responded with respect to the game, themselves, and the referee. They stood their ground but didn't react, and rallied around their teammate – it was a touching moment.

All the B teams were competitive throughout and massively contributed to the overall success of this rugby term. It was the best win ratio since 2006 and feels a good time to move on.

Thank you to all the players, rugby staff, catering team, transport, medical team, and ground staff. I have thoroughly enjoyed my eight years at Prior and I will miss you all so, so much!

Mr Hull





#### **Rugby awards**

*Junior half colours* William Barker, Aubyn Georghiades & William Mould **Rosslyn Park** 

U18s

School

School

U16s

School

Castle School

For most of the boys, it

Won: PPC 17-5 Colyton

Lost: PPC 12-24 Uppingham

Drew: PPC 19-19 Gresham's

Won: PPC 40-33 Barnard

Won: PPC 19-10 Fulham Boys

Grammer School

was their first time at the

tournament and a lot were

surprised at the scale of the

event – it's the biggest rugby 7s tournament in the world!

*Junior full colours* Liam Oughton, Alfie Straw, Theo Hull & William Taylor

**Senior half colours** Will Knight, Finn Marshall, Ned Hannah & George Thompson

Senior full colours George Maxwell, Ben

Waters, George Jennings & Charlie Little





Lost PPC 5-19 Blundell's School

#### U14s

Won: PPC 31-7 The King's School, Gloucester Won: PPC 38-17 Reddam House School Lost: PPC 7-41 Blundell's School

#### U13s

Lost: PPC 10–30 Campion School Won: PPC 25–15 Welland Park Academy Lost: PPC 25–30 West– bourne House School Won: PPC 35–5 Orleans Park Won: PPC 35–5 Leicester Grammer School





### Netball

This year, we have played over 100 netball games. We may not have had the greatest number of goals in those 100+ games, however the girls have always given 100% and that is all I can ask for. If you've done your best, you've won, so I can report we have had a winning year of netball!

The teams have produced some fantastic results, the U12A's got 3rd place in the KES tournament and our U12B team got a good result against St. Mary's Calne. Our U13 teams got some good wins throughout the term, against Warminster and Wells Cathedral School, but there were also times when they narrowly lost out.

Our U14s trained hard throughout the year and really pushed themselves in training and matches. Jessica Shaw (Team Bath Netball Player) loved working with these girls, and it is clear they have so much potential. They were captained by Amelie P and Jess S-C, who led by example on court.

The U15s have come so far as netballers. They got some great results but more importantly, improved so much as players. I know Mr Bond and Mrs Seward absolutely loved having the girls and it was fantastic to see their progress.

Now on to the Mighty 2nd Team (U16A). These girls have been phenomenal week in and week out. They have only lost 1 game all season and produced some fantastic results, beating all local rivals. I am looking forward to seeing their potential next year, well done on a fantastic season.

Finally, the 1st Team has come so far and has made Mrs Bonney and I so proud. There were some tough matches, however they never gave up. The group of 9 had not played as a team before January but they quickly made unbreakable bonds and it is true when people say, 'Teamwork makes the dream work.' It has been an absolute pleasure to coach these girls. Special mention to Freya Millhouse, Player of the Season, and Katie Hurst, winner of the Netball Cup.

**Miss Duncan** 

#### Senior full colours

Katie Hurst and Freya Millhouse

#### Senior half colours

Amelia Own, Olivia Owen, Katie Marden and Monique Theobald

#### Junior half colours

Tessa Dixon, Phoebe Faulkner Delilah Nahome Gooden, Coco Peake and Lilli Moore

*Junior full colours* Ruby Walsh, Georgia Doel, Isla Townend









### **Tennis**

The tennis season kicked off in the Michaelmas term, when our U15 girls' team competed in the LTA National School Team Tennis age group finals in Bolton. The girls fought some closely contested matches, finishing in third position. In January, our pre-season training began and whilst playing on the Astro was sometimes very cold and windy, it certainly stood Prior Park in good stead for what was going to be an action-packed summer term of tennis.

Our U12s had a very quick introduction to tennis before their first fixture in week one! As a year group they have had a positive and enthusiastic approach to tennis which has been reflected in the excellent results they have achieved this summer term.

Our U13A team were unbeaten all season and our U13B team competed well against some tough opposition. The U13 girls' and boys' teams, who competed in the LTA Schools Team Tennis qualifying event this summer term, also achieved some great results. The boys secured a convincing win against Beechen Cliff, narrowly losing to Colston's. The U13 girls beat Colston's and now progress to the regional finals.

Our U14 teams had a mixed season but achieved convincing wins over Warminster and Monkton, demonstrating great skill when they pushed themselves. Our U15A had a fantastic term with an unbeaten season and the B team showed great resilience and tactical skills, demonstrating huge progression from the previous year.

Our U18A girls were on phenomenal form, with a thoroughly deserved winning score card across all matches. A special mention must also go to our scholarship players, who have produced some fantastic results this year.

Izzie Britton made the finals of the U14 Nationals, which gained her a qualifying place for the first ever U14 Tennis Europe event at Wimbledon where she reached the semi-finals. Izzie was also selected to represent Great Britain in the World Summer Cup. Arthur Attrill was selected to represent Great Britain in the U16 boys' team which competed in Luxembourg, and Charlie Swaine, Nehir Tuna and Alex Farmanbar all competed in their first international events. Sophie Napp and Ava Morris won the LTA Avon County Schools

Doubles event, and Sophie reached the finals of the Year 7/8 singles. Finally, our U18 school team comprising of Hannah Smith, Hazel Vernon, Thea Sprawson, Nehir Tuna, Gigi Ifill and Maria Nicol competed in the U18 National Schools finals where they came third, a school record.

Mrs Scollo

#### Junior half colours

Sophie Napp, Ava Morris, Anoushka Campbell–Jones, Phoebe Faulkner, Violet Goymer, Delilah Nahome Gooden, William Taylor, Felix May, Theo Hull, Noah de Thierry and James Way.

#### Junior full colours

Nehir Tuna, Ruby Walsh, Georgia Doel, Tessa Dixon, Isla Townend and Alex Farmanbar.

#### Senior half colours

Katy Marden, Freddie Talbot and Oscar Talbot.

#### Senior hull colours

Libby Blane, Hannah Smith, Hazel Vernon, Thea Sprawson, Amelia Owen, Olivia Owen, George Shields, Thomas Reynolds and Sebastian Morley.















### Cricket

It's been a great summer of cricket and it makes me truly happy to see so many students playing cricket in the summer sun. On the performance side, the U12s and U13s have improved throughout the season, and I hope that they will build on their learning next year. The U14s have talent in their ranks and will, I am sure, continue to develop next year. The U15A team deserve a massive big-up/respect/ high five for going through their season unbeaten, which I think has been the case since they started in Year 7!

Charles Dickens may have described the seniors' performance as a tale of two halves. Before half term, things were not good! I felt like crying, I lost sleep, I needed a hug from Big Greg! But from despair comes hope, and the second half of the season was very good for the 1st XI. But don't take my word for it, let me hand over to a couple of the 1st XI players, Henry Allen and Ethan Teale, for their view from the boundary...

'The 1st team cricket has had an up and down season with a rocky beginning, only winning 2 out of 8 games. Over the course of the season, under the captaincy of Rob Dymond, the team had over 25 players with over 8 debuts, including Connie, the first girl to play at this level for Prior Park. Every game, we improved as individuals and progressed as a team. There were some outstanding fielding performances from Will Howells and Nick Greene, who himself took 3 wickets against the XL club. I think many people would agree it was an amusing season with Will Goymer and his "run out", and the tradition of a debutant telling a joke after a wicket, with some pretty good ones this year, some

here. The season was capped off beautifully with an undefeated cricket week. On Monday, the 1st XI beat Colston's by 6 wickets. After some early dismissals courtesy of the captain,

of which I cannot mention

Ethan Teale, the middle and lower order were dominated by Finn Grant, who ended with 5 wickets to his name. The chase, led by opener Henry Allen (61\*), was an easy one for the boys, chasing down the target of 96 in just 21 overs. The XL were bowled out for the win next, highlighted with the strong innings of F4 Luke Stringer, striking 117 in just 96 balls supported by Ben Menko (50\*) and Ralph Banks (57). We finished the week with a hard-fought draw against the MCC, with handy bowling figures from Connie Osborn and Ethan Teale.

Next year is looking very promising with many young players eager to have a game. On the other hand, we have a few veterans who are leaving and need mentioning – Rob Dymond, Finn Grant, Ben Waters, Zach Hayward–Rodgers and Finn Marshall.

Congratulations to all those who played, we look forward to next season.'

Mr Pandya

#### **Basketball**

Basketball continues to grow at the College, during games lessons, Saturday Active and our increasingly popular after school club. The highlight of the year was the down-to-the-wire finish against Marlborough College. The U18 boys held off a much bigger Marlborough team to claim the win. It was a real team effort with all twelve play-

ers contributing to the victory. In addition, three L6 students, Marco Chan, Carson Hung and Alec Chiang received Headmaster's Commendations for their help with their U16 game and their wider contribution to the sport.

This year also saw the return of the popular Inter-House basketball tournament with underdogs Roche, led by 6ft7, first XV rugby player Archie

Watts (U6), defeating rivals, and reigning champions, Allen, in a much-anticipated contest. While the games perhaps lacked the discipline and finesse of a first team fixture, seeing boys who have never played before taking to the court to represent their House in front of a large crowd of supporters is always enjoyable.

**Mr Edwards** 



#### **Badminton and** table tennis

Badminton is an emerging sport at Prior, with much interest amongst all the age groups, boys and girls.

Our two matches this year were a double header against local rivals Monkton Combe. The first was at Fortress Prior, where, after a series of singles and doubles matches, we came out 9-7 winners.

The rematch turned out to be a different story though, as a clearly rejuvenated and better focussed Monkton Combe squad were able to turn the tables on us and run out 20-7 winners. Honours even.

A big thank you to Alvin and Alexia for captaining their respective teams so well. A special mention must also go to Jacob Faulkner (L3), who has won several badminton tournaments at district level and is surely a force for the future!

Table tennis is also now on the scene and again it was

Monkton Combe who were our opponents. The first match was a close affair, with Prior coming out on top, 4-1. The rematch was a different story though and Prior ran out as comfortable winners by virtue of a 13-6 margin. Congratulations to Hugh Roberts, Louis Huyton, Oliver Squire and Marco Chan for their skill and composure on the table.

Mr Pandya

#### Football

'Mr Ewin's blue and white army' – the familiar cry from the 1st XI when their mentor, trainer and inspirational leader ran onto to the pitch! This team played 5 matches, won 3 and drew 1, until their last match against the mighty QEH of Bristol.

A comfortable double over Downside was followed with a draw and then a great win over Kingswood. 18 goals in

4 matches, this team was flying. Of course, the rule in the jungle is that there is always someone out there ready to take you down and, against QEH, that was indeed the case. The scoreline really did not tell the full story and I hope our players were not too despondent as they had a very successful season, led by Lewis Dowling who was a standout player.

There were also matches for the 2nd XI, the 16A, 13A and 12A teams; who between them notched up another two wins. With a large chunk of players (U6) leaving, we will be looking for the younger players to step up. Football is alive and kicking!

**Mr Pandya** 













### Sports Day winners

*Baines House* Pope Senior Girls English

Brownlow House Alexander *Senior Boys* Burton













### Academic staff list 21/22

Mr J Fitzpatrick

#### Senior Leadership Team

Mr B Horan	Headmaster	
Mr S Cane-Hardy	Deputy Head Pastoral	
Mr C Gamble	Deputy Head Academic	
Mr M Bond	Assistant Head (Activities)	
Mrs I Burton	Assistant Head (Student Intervention)	
Mr K Chard	Assistant Head (Director of Studies)	
Miss R Childs	Assistant Head (Tracking)	
Miss N Cordon	Assistant Head (Teaching and Learning)	
Mr D Sackett	Assistant Head (Well Being)	
Ms E Sandberg	Director of Operations and Finance	
Miss E Wickham	Head of Compliance	
Associate SLT		

Mr M Jones BCom Mr M Blaikley MA

Tead	chin	g S	taff	

Mr R Faulkner

Deputy Head Academic	Mrs H Goo
Assistant Head (Activities)	Ms S Hado
Assistant Head (Student	Mrs K Har
Intervention)	Mrs S Hea
Assistant Head (Director of Studies)	Mr J Healy
Assistant Head (Tracking)	Mrs S Hol
Assistant Head (Teaching and Learning)	
Assistant Head (Well Being)	Mr D Holm
Director of Operations and	
Finance	Mr T Howe
Head of Compliance	Mr P Hull
	Mr J Jack
	Mrs J Jon
Digital Learning Lead	Ms L Just
Assessments Officer	Mr M Kerr
	Mrs L Knik
	Mr D Lang
	Mr A Lova
Head of Chemistry	Ms B Main
Librarian	Mrs A Mal
Head of MFL	Mr T Max
Teacher of Science	Dr K McGe
Classics	Mr D Moo
Head of History	Mrs M Mu
Coordinator of Textile Design	
PE	Miss N Nu
History, Head of EPQ	Mr R Pand
Coordinator of Photography	
Head of Geography	Miss O Pa
Careers Advisor	Mrs S Pea
EAL	Mr N Penr
LDP	Ms A Pope
Head of Sixth Form (Academic	Miss D Pro
Theology	Mrs H Pry
Housemaster- Clifford,	Mrs L Red
English, History	
LDP	Mrs S Sco
Librarian	Ms S Sevil
MFL	Mrs L Sew
	Dr G Smit
PE, Head of Netball	Mr P Stro
Economics and Business	Ms L Suth
Mathematics	Mrs K Tro
Psychology (Subject Leader)	Dr R Trott
Mathematics	
History	Mr A Watk
Head of Creative Design Facul	ty Mrs H Wat

WI O FICZPACITOR	& Enterprise Activities
Mrs L Galache-Brown	
Mr J Gibbons	Head of Computer Science
Mrs H Goodman	Theology
Ms S Haddon	LDP
Mrs K Harris	Coordinator of PSHCE, Theology
Mrs S Hearn	Head of Classics
Mr J Healy	Housemaster-Baines,
Wir o riealy	Mathematics
Mrs S Holder	Housemistress- English,
	Design & Technology
Mr D Holmes	Housemaster – Roche,
	Design & Technology
Mr T Howes	Science
Mr P Hull	PT Instructor, Housemaster Burton,
	Director of Rugby
Mr J Jackson	Head of Hockey
Mrs J Jones	Head of Mathematics
Ms L Justine	Modern Languages
Mr M Kerr	Ecoomics & Business
Mrs L Knibb	SENDCO and Head of LDP
Mr D Langley	Director of Drama
Mr A Lovat	Housemaster – Allen, Biology
Ms B Main	Head of Eurasian Studies
Mrs A Mallon	Housemistress - Fielding, MFL
Mr T Maxwell	Head of Theology
Dr K McGowran	Head of English
Mr D Moore	Design Technology
Mrs M Mudie	Biology, Coordinator of Initial Teacher Training
Miss N Nugent Willis	Science
Mr R Pandya	Housemaster- Brownlow, PE,
	Head of Cricket
Miss O Parr Med	MFL
Mrs S Peacock	Drama
Mr N Penrose	Design and Technology
Ms A Pope	LAMDA
Miss D Prosser	Head of Academic Music
Mrs H Prynne	Classics and English
Mrs L Redman	Head of Academic and Curricular PE
Mrs S Scollo	PE, Head of Tennis
Ms S Seville	Head of Visual Arts
Mrs L Seward	PE
Dr G Smith	Chemistry
Mr P Stroud	Head of EAL
Ms L Sutherland	English
Mrs K Trott	Housemistress - Arundell, Biology
Dr R Trott	Head of Science Faculty, Head of
	Biology
Mr A Watkinson-Trim	Theology
Mrs H Watson	Geography

Business, Coordinator of Careers

### **Staff farewells**



#### Dr Graham Smith

The facts: 24 years service teaching Chemistry. 5 and 3 years as a Tutor in Allen and Brownlow respectively. 14 years as Housemaster of Clifford. Half a term as Acting Director of Studies survived an inspection; that was enough. Leadership and support of trips to Berlin, The Battlefields, New York, and numerous Geography Field Trips.

On the sports field he supported and lead teams in Hockey, Cricket, Rugby and Football. He 'performed' in two Band Nights and many Science Fair Chemistry Shows - he still has his toga, "just in case". The colour: Graham is a true and loyal friend to me and many staff.

Throughout his time at Prior, he has shown himself to be a man of great moral authority and has helped instil a proper sense of right and wrong in so many students. Graham has been an outstanding chemistry teacher, bringing theatre to his lessons and leaving his students with confidence in ideas and the ability to think and problem solve for themselves.

Whilst his House Assemblies may be the stuff of legend with students, staff may remember him better as the crossword guru, his

love of jigsaws, or having an unsurpassable Candy Crush score. I will remember him as a friend, an amazing and truly supportive colleague and as a Devi Gnasher. Graham, you will be much missed at Prior. **Mr Chard** 



#### Kate Bond

Kate Bond leaves PPC after twenty years outstanding service to Design, Technology and Visual Arts. Initially a teacher of Resistant Materials, Kate gravitated towards her love for Textile Design by founding a Textiles department and, over the last decade, enriched by her Master's level studies, Textiles has flourished.

Kate oversaw the move to St Peter's and her aspirational approach has created a subject boasting facilities and teaching of the highest calibre. Many of Kate's students have progressed to prestigious courses and careers and they hold her in great affection. For some years, Kate has been building her own Biophilic Design Studio which has gone from strength to strength. As she leaves to devote

herself to this full-time, we wish her every success and offer much gratitude for all she has given us. **Mrs Seville** 



#### Paul Hull

Paul joined us from Dean Close School in September 2014 and took up the role Director of Rugby. Prior to his time at Dean Close, Paul worked within professional rugby. Paul, a fullback during his playing days, was capped four times for England during the 1990s and was a one-club-man appearing in 289 first team games for Bristol before retiring in 1999. He then entered the coaching world where he is one of only a few coaches to achieve Level 5 status. Starting as Bristol's academy manager he went on to become head coach and had a spell as Assistant Coach of England Saxons. With all this experience Paul has had an incredible impact on the rugby program at Prior, getting the very best out of the players and giving them the belief that they can achieve more! After 4 years Paul was appointed as Housemaster of Burton House. During his time in the role Paul has had a huge impact on the young men of Burton House. Not only has he transformed the look and feel of the house, but he has utilised his experience in professional sport to create a tight team who support and challenge each other to be the best version of themselves. He has created a unity and belief within the house which allows every student to be

heard and celebrate their own personality, skill and talent. Because of this, the House has been very successful under his stewardship. Success has come in all areas of the school from debating, Fisher Road relay, sports day, House Music through to the maths challenge. Burton boys never fail to put their best foot forward! Paul will be missed but we wish him all the very best as he steps out of education to take up an exciting role of Head of Professional Game Match Officials for the England Rugby Football Union.

**Mr Faulkner** 



#### Hannah Watson

Hannah started at Prior in 2015 and slotted in admirably, part-time at first but latterly taking on a full teaching load across all the year groups. Her lessons were always meticulously prepared, and displayed great imagination and a real sense of joy in learning. Hannah attended many field trips and was very generous with her time away from her family. She was also a great mentor to trainee teachers on placement at PPC, with many future geographers benefitting from her experience.Hannah was a stalwart of Arundell house, with responsibility for the Year 9 girls. Her tutor group were always well cared for with a strong mixture of love, discipline, and encouragement. She also contributed to Duke of Edinburgh and girls' games. While it is sad that Prior Park College and teaching in general

are losing a top-rate practitioner and colleague, the legal profession will gain a determined and dynamic professional with an eagle-eye for detail and a clear sense of justice. Mr Burt



#### Lisa Seward

Lisa has had a jam-packed time at Prior. She is a passionate, fun and thoughtful colleague and PE teacher, taking a lead on the delivery of gymnastics and organising several sports days. Lisa was instrumental in developing the Sports Leaders Award programme, where she established wonderful links with Three Ways School, giving opportunities for our students to work with the students there. Lisa was an incredibly organised and caring House Mistress of St Mary's. Many former boarding students would return to visit Prior Park and seek Lisa out with heartfelt thanks.We will miss Lisa's professionalism and great company, and we wish her much success in her new job at Stonar School.

Mrs Redman



#### John Jackson

It has been a pleasure and a privilege to work alongside John since he joined Prior Park in 2016. John is adored by staff

and students alike. He has been an integral member of the PE department, not only to hockey. John is an outstanding teacher of curriculum PE, a natural when it comes to cricket, and a role model and mentor for our Sports Scholars. To witness John coaching hockey is a wonder to behold. His passion for his sport is unrivalled. What is most impressive is John's innate ability to get the best out of all the students he works with, whether they have been selected to play for England or are new to hockey. For John, reaching National competitions has not been a rare occurrence. John has contributed greatly to the wider life at Prior including being a much-loved tutor in Allen House, and a live in boarding tutor. John builds a strong connection with the students he works with and I know they, like all of us, will miss him greatly.

**Mrs Bonney** 



#### Sarah Haddon

Sarah Haddon has been a long-standing teacher within our Learning Support Department. Sarah has contributed widely to the development of the department, and the academic and pastoral wellbeing of the students she teaches. Sarah's ability to build relationships with her students has been testament to her teaching style. Sarah will be remembered for her nurturing and gentle approach, her patience and overall kindness to the students she has taught. **Mrs Burton** 



#### James Conlon

I think all of us here know James to be a caring, dedicated, conscientious member of staff. We've clearly been very lucky that he chose to hone his teaching skills here at Prior Park, and that he's stayed as long as he has. He's contributed in so many ways to the school and its community: in the English department as a muchloved and talented teacher, in Clifford House as a thoughtful and creative Head of House, in the boarding house supporting and looking after the boys of St Paul's, in CCF and DofE. Beyond this, he has also helped to develop the Friday afternoon football sessions that so many members of staff have taken part in. He goes to a school in Derbyshire where he will join the Senior Leadership team as an Assistant Deputy Head: we wish him all the very best for his future. **Dr McGowran** 



Danielle Prosser

Danielle joined the music department at the start of 2019. It seems amazing that someone has managed to make such a huge impression in such a short time. Danielle has taught across all the year groups. Having designed a new curriculum for the junior

years, she went on to support the GCSE through TAGs, and more recently she has led the A Level music course in the role of Head of Academic Music. In addition, Danielle has directed a number of groups including Junior Singers, Wind Ensembles, and of course the 'bubble formed' L6 Jazz Funk Band. Danielle is also a superb sax player. She has helped support the Big Band and was often found jamming in the John Wood Chapel with a bunch of students and/or staff. Danielle played a leading role in the production of the musicals, supporting me in musical direction and playing several very cool sax solos! Danielle has been a residential tutor in St Mary's and a tutor in Arundell. The care she showed for the students is the definition of above and beyond and she, and her faithful companion, Treacle, will be a hard act to follow. **Mr Sackett** 



#### Nick Penrose

Nick joined the Design & Technology department in February 2021 as a two-term maternity cover for Sukey Holder. Nick is a vastly experienced teacher who has taught across the state and independent sectors. It was obvious to see from his interview that he was going to be a big hit with the students. His gentle and caring nature was evident from the outset and allowed him to build an excellent rapport with the class he was teaching. A strong classroom practitioner, he has brought out the best

in all his students both inside

and outside the classroom. In his role as head of boarding at a prep school he taught across many subject areas which makes him extremely versatile across a school like Prior. These attributes didn't go unnoticed, which is why he has stayed with us for two further terms, teaching PE, Art and Textiles as well as within the PSHCE program. Despite only being with us for a short time, Nick was invited to nearly all of this year's house dinners by our sixth form students. Completely unheard of, but highlights the positive impact Nick has on the students. He is incredibly highly thought of by both students and staff and will be missed. We wish him all the best as he takes up a DT post at Ralph Allen School. Thank you Nick! **Mr Faulkner** 



#### Lucy Knibb

Lucy took up the role of SENCO in 2021 during lockdown, adapting quickly to the school's online provision and building relationships with the students through her warmth and humour. As an LDP teacher and SENCO, Lucy worked hard for our students to ensure that they were supported. In her time at the college. Lucy's passion and creativity were also a huge asset to the Textiles and Art departments. Lucy leaves us to pursue a career as an Art and Textiles teacher a little closer to her home. **Mrs Burton** 









**Celebrations** Clockwise from top left

Miss Zoe Stevens married Mr Paul Curd *30 July 2022* 

Miss Rebecca Childs married Mr Tom Lennon *4 June 2022* 

Mr Scott Edwards married Miss Chloe Lavelle 1 August 2022

Miss Emma Humphrey married Mr Lee Hulbert 5 July 2022

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we do with them.





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