

THE HARROVIAN

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LONDON'S COMMUNITY KITCHEN

This year, boys in the Lower Sixth have had the opportunity to engage in a new branch of Shaftesbury Enterprise by volunteering at London's Community Kitchen (LCK). Each week, three teams visit the LCK centre on different days and assist in whatever capacity they are needed. While they are there, boys carry out a variety of tasks that help execute the LCK's service to the community, as it looks to provide free food for vulnerable communities in London.

London's Community Kitchen principal ethos is 'Zero Waste & Zero Hunger'. The LCK system creates a sustainable model that reduces the amount of food that would otherwise go to waste and serves it to over 10,000 Londoners who are battling with food insecurity. This mission is what drives the important work that is done by the LCK and fuels their efforts to fulfil their belief that it should be an absolute human right to have access to free or affordable food across the world.



Harrovians volunteer at the centre on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, and their work helps to ensure that the centre is able to provide food for the community. On Tuesdays and Thursdays, the volunteers help make food bags to be distributed as a part of LCK's Help Harrow programme. This programme delivers groceries to schools, care homes and individual people. Along with the bags are pamphlets with recipes for different dishes that can be made from the ingredients. Help Harrow serves to create a borough-wide, co-ordinated approach to support residents who are unable to access support, advice or food supplies.

Boys also restock the various fresh and ambient foods that are provided in the bags. The supplies for these bags are received through many different channels, including HelloFresh bags. At the centre, boys unpack these bags and separate the contents into different tubs. The different produce and other ingredients that are sorted from these bags are then used to make the food bags that are distributed as a part of Help Harrow and LCK's Free Surplus Food Market.

Perhaps the most exciting day of volunteering at the centre is on Fridays, when the centre opens its Free Surplus Food Market. After restocking and packing different food items throughout the week, the centre opens its doors for people to come and collect different fresh vegetables, basic packaged provisions, ready meals, breads, meats and any other food item that has been donated to the kitchen. Those in need will

walk past different stations, where they are greeted by our volunteers offering them different food items, which they are able to take based on their own preferences. The high volume of people who visit the market highlights the need for, and the effectiveness of, the community kitchen, underlining the importance of such a set up.



LCK acts as a sustainable model that supports people, and the environment, and encourages and instils these values in us, the young people who are fortunately able to give back by volunteering at the centre. It is incredibly fulfilling to be in a position to make meaningful, positive change by working today for a brighter and better tomorrow.

HOUSE INSTRUMENTAL COMPETITION

6 February 2023, Speech Room

On the Monday preceding half-term, one of the most anticipated events in the School's music calendar took place, the House Large Ensemble Competition. Shells, Removes, performers and members of the School community filled Speech Room and were treated to an evening of some magnificent instrumental playing from the 11 Houses on show that evening.

Opening the evening's proceedings were Moretons who played *Pixar Movie Favourites* arranged by Michael Brown. Leading a great number of musicians on stage is no easy feat and Andre Ma did this with great aplomb as he seamlessly navigated the ensemble through the twists and turns of each section in the medley. The impressive intonation and sound created by the group conveyed the correct mood of each part and drummer Charlie Allday solidified the strong unity and rhythm in the ensemble. There was some fine ensemble playing on show throughout and their first place well deserved.

Newlands then played 'The Ecstasy of Gold' from *The Good, the Bad and the Ugly* by Morricone. The ensemble did a fantastic job of navigating a challenging opening that felt bare and sparse. In addition to this, the brass and woodwind sections must be commended for creating a rousing sound and coping with the trickier elements of the melody. Once again, some excellent drum kit playing was on display as Barimah Adomakoh provided a solid rhythmic foundation alongside some creative improvisation.

West Acre treated Speech Room to *Look to the Sky* by Antonio Carlos Jobim. Playing from memory, the ensemble immediately caught the attention of the audience with their masterfully intricate rendition of a bossa nova classic. The rhythm section was effective, balancing extremely well with the solos from the violin, piano, flute and saxophone. It was undoubtedly a classy performance that brought a unique and soulful sound to the Speech Room stage. West Acre were duly awarded an equal third place for their fantastic effort.

The Knoll then played *I'm Still Standing* by Elton John, bringing a powerful tempo and intensity to the Speech Room stage. Lead expertly by Enhe Hu whose unique, energetic and precise conducting style drew praise from the adjudicator, the ensemble demonstrated great commitment in a performance that was rhythmically strong, playing the well-known tune of the piece in a manner that was loud and proud. Though the adjudicator commented on a desire for a greater dynamic range, the group must be commended for producing a warm and lively sound.

Elmfield played *Test Drive* by John Powell. The Elmfield ensemble produced a beautifully resonant sound, with the woodwind section creating in a wonderfully lyrical tone throughout. Although there may have been room for more dynamic range, the ensemble was praised for their clear and strong sense of pulse during the performance.

Lyon's played *I Want it That Way* by Andreas Carlsson and Max Martin. Starting off with a nice mezzo piano sound, precise input from the bass drum and the rest of the band created a well-harmonised balance among the players. As the performance drew to a close, the key change sustained the energetic nature and Nicholas Tam must be applauded for his exquisite violin solo to round off the piece.

The Park played *Harpichord Concerto No 5 in F minor*, BWV1056 by Bach. On show was a great virtuosic display by the masterful Kieran Leung, accompanied by a lovely string ensemble who listened carefully to the solo on the piano. The ensemble was remarkably tight rhythmically, keeping the attention of the audience for the whole of their performance.

Druries played *Pirates of Caribbean* by Hans Zimmer accompanied by Brian Chang. Having already arranged the piece, Chang played a delightfully agile and difficult cello solo. Despite being economical in size, a collection of very good individual performance ensured that the ensemble captured the swashbuckling and adventurous nature of the piece. A sense of danger was well conveyed by the percussionists' driving rhythms and the performance concluded with a bombastic finale.

Bradby's played *Palladio* by Karl Jenkins. The string and woodwind sections effectively and elegantly played the repetitive motif that frequently built up to a crescendo, and the ensemble's performance was filled with uplifting melodies and convincing solos. With the adjudicator commenting on the need for a little more energy in the ending, the ensemble still managed to capture the grace of the repeated chord progression and well-known melody.

The Grove's performance of *Heart of Courage* by Thomas Bergensen was another compelling recital. Conducted majestically by Fergus McKie, the ensemble blended all the instrumental families with great aplomb. To add to this, there was a fantastic bass drum and timpani effect creating a feeling of grandeur, which was well received by the audience. Following this epic performance, The Grove were duly awarded second place, but they should be commended for what was a brilliant performance.

To round of the evening, *The Head Master's* played Allegro from *Concerto for four violins in B minor* by Vivaldi. Another very impressive performance with a fantastic richness to the sound produced. There were some exceptional individual performance from the members across the whole performance, demonstrating great dynamism to overcome the complex and intricate interplay and play the highly technical movement with great dexterity.

Following an expressive and clear adjudication from Mr Cropper, DNW thanked the boys, staff and House Masters for their hard work in making such an event possible. He pointed out how the older boys who organised and led each ensemble with ease and composure ought to be congratulated for undertaking a task which is by no means easy. Thanks must be given to Mr Martin Cropper and DNB for organising all three classes in the House Instrumental Competition.

SOLO COMPETITIONS

Unsurprisingly, the Solo round of this year's House instrumental competition was filled with virtuosic performances from boys who without doubt had spent many hours working on their pieces. Yuk-Chiu Lai of *Newlands* played Beethoven's ominous and stormy 'appassionata' sonata to take third place. Druries came in at second – Mark Liu's interpretation of Mozart's K310 sonata was played with brilliance and crisp articulation. First place went to Anson Ching, *The Grove*, playing Glinka's transcription of *The Lark* with tenderness and excellent technique.

SMALL ENSEMBLE

This year's Small Ensemble Competition saw a rare joint third place, shared by West Acre and Newlands, playing *Libertango* and *My Tender and Affectionate Beast* respectively. Second place was awarded to Lyon's, who played an engaging and thoughtful Beethoven piano trio. The Head Master's took first prize, with very talented and technical performances from three musicians playing a hidden gem of a trio for piano, flute and violin by Bonis, which the adjudicator thoroughly enjoyed.

COMPUTER SCIENCE SOCIETY

*Yuk-Chiu Lai, Newlands, and Cyrus Chang, Druries,
'The secret behind Instagram recommendations'*

Several keen computer scientists gathered in Physics Schools 2 on a chilly Thursday afternoon, spiritedly awaiting our first Computer Science Society lecture of the Spring term. The lecture was given by two Fifth Formers, Yuk-Chiu Lai, *Newlands* and Cyrus Chang, *Druries*. They discussed how social media uses algorithms and policies to attract users, covering three basic features that are used to lure users into spending hours of scrolling through content.

Instagram is a photo- and video-sharing social networking service owned by Meta. Being the fourth-most-popular social media platform (alongside two other Meta apps, Facebook and WhatsApp), the key behind this huge network of users became one of the most fascinating research topics for passionate computer scientists. Our speakers identified three Instagram features contributing to its success, with the first one being personalised feed. These custom feeds allow you to see content that algorithms determine to be the most related to you, based on your posts' quality and engagement triggers, and even posts from your followers and your relationship with them.

Another brilliant feature in Instagram is the 'explore page' and 'search' function. Have you ever wondered how social media knows what interests you the most? Similar posts on sports, politics or gaming seem to appear in your explore page more frequently as you search out related topics. This is all due to the word-embedding technique and two powerful, open-source database systems that Instagram uses: PostgreSQL and Cassandra. Yuk-Chiu explained that word embedding groups

words based on their similarity and synchronisation, and assigns an embedding space between these words. This embedding space is so rich that arithmetic operations can be performed. For example, calculating 'King - Man + Woman' would give you the embedding for 'Queen'. Using such embeddings, posts related to keywords on your search bar will customarily pop up. They can be further accessed depending on your interest, something gauged through the 'like' and 'share' functions, or the frequency of you revisiting. With such features, users tend to get carried away, being fed compelling content, often spending hours scrolling through them. Instagram may even find potential customers for a specific product, and focus on advertising to them.

The final feature leading to Instagram's success is their spam and cyberbullying policy. With the two huge databases mentioned above, their software has created a list of blacklisted words that are banned from being used in the posts or comments sections. In some occasions, the blacklist might apply to private chats between users to prevent potential crimes. Another problem Instagram faces is spam accounts. Chang stated that of the 2.2 billion accounts, approximately 8% are fake or spam, while another 30% are inactive, with the remaining 1.2 billion being active monthly users. Having to deal with 179 million spam accounts, Instagram limits one user to a maximum of five accounts. If duplicated posts or comments are being posted, the database will alert the program and sanctions will be assigned, with the highest being a lifetime ban from Instagram. Social media also encourage users to report posts that go against the community guidelines, as they will be automatically deleted when many reports are received.

The lecture ended with the speakers answering questions from the enthusiastic audience. With the assent of CMC and fellow secretaries, the first Computer Science Society lecture was concluded with a round of applause.

FESTIVAL OF CULTURE

The History and Significance of the German-Speaking World

The German-speaking world, known in German as *Der Deutschsprachiger Raum*, is made up of Germany, Austria, Lichtenstein and part of Switzerland. It has played an integral role in European history and has experienced its own share of tumultuous events throughout the centuries. This article discusses the rise and expansion of the German language and the cultural, economic and political influence of the German-speaking world on European history.

The German language has a long and complicated history. It has been around since the 5th century AD but rose to prominence in the 19th century. During this time, a process of standardisation occurred, which saw the language expand to other parts of Europe, namely Austria, Switzerland and Lichtenstein. This expansion was strengthened through the introduction of a unified orthography and the promotion of the language through German literature, music and visual arts. Additionally, the rise of nationalism in Europe during this period played a role in the expansion of the German language. By the early 20th century, German had become the primary language of communication in many countries, with an estimated 80–90 million German speakers in the world. This expansion has continued, and today German is one of the most widely spoken languages in the world.

German culture has had a profound influence on European history since the Middle Ages. This influence can be seen in many aspects of European life, from the language and literature of the region to the political and social structures of society. The German-speaking world has had a major impact on the

development of culture in Europe, largely through philosophy and literature. The works of German writers such as Friedrich Dürrenmatt, Herman Hesse and Thomas Mann feature important socio-political commentary of the 20th century. Perhaps the greatest literary figure of the German-speaking world, Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, is seen as the central representative of the Romantic movement in Europe. During the 18th century, the German-speaking world contributed significantly to the philosophical Age of Enlightenment in Europe. German idealism, represented mainly by philosopher Immanuel Kant, scrutinised the difference between perception and reality. Other influential philosophers of the German-speaking world include Sigmund Freud, Karl Marx, Carl Jung and Arthur Schopenhauer, whose ideas have revolutionised the way we think today.

Religion in Europe has been significantly impacted by the spread of Lutheranism, one of the largest branches of Protestant Christianity. Lutheranism comes from the theology of the 16th-century German monk Martin Luther. His efforts to reform the practice of the Catholic Church pioneered the Protestant Reformation. Today, there are close to 900 million Protestants around the world.

Germany played a major role in the Industrial Revolution, introducing new technologies and processes that helped to develop the modern industrial economy. Germany is the so-called home of the automotive industry. The invention of the car came from Germany in 1886, as Carl Benz patented his revolutionary invention, the Benz Patent Motorcar, a passenger car with an internal combustion engine, giving birth to the world-famous brand Mercedes Benz. Since then, the car industry has developed into a powerful force of the German economy. One in every five cars sold worldwide is from a German car brand. Moreover, Germany's influence on European politics has been significant, with the nation's leadership playing a key role in the formation of the European Union.

ORIENTAL SOCIETY

Tony Shi and Joseph Li, both The Grove,

'The new culture movement: How WWI led to the birth of new China', 4 February

The Oriental Society was addressed by Tony Shi and Joseph Li, both *The Grove*, in a joint lecture titled 'The new culture movement: How WWI led to the birth of new China'.

Over the last century, China has evolved at a remarkably rapid rate, with the population tripling and the GDP growing by more than 50-fold. It has now transformed into a global superpower. However, it was not a smooth rise as it was also a time of great tragedy and corruption. China was known as the "Sick man of East Asia".

Li began by outlining the significance of WWI for the birth of the new Chinese government after the collapse of the Qing Dynasty in 1911. China was a poor, vulnerable and unstable nation, experiencing rebellion and internal conflict, plagued by foreign spheres of influence. In 1916, China joined WWI with the Entente, offering 140,000 workers to France and a further 200,000 to Russia. People who volunteered to work towards the war effort were offered very high salaries, which attracted lots of workers. Many were killed working the most dangerous jobs on the front lines with only hoes and shovels to protect themselves. Even after the war, some Chinese workers remained in France, carving gravestones and recovering bodies.

During the war, the Japanese drafted an ultimatum called the Twenty-One Demands after their victory in the first Sino-Japanese war. The terms were designed to diminish Chinese sovereignty by demanding power over major cities and control over raw materials and mining complexes. Most aggressively, Japan demanded that Japanese advisors in the Chinese government should have complete control over finance and law enforcement, and full control of Fujian. This was too harsh for China to accept; sovereignty was crucial for China as it was desperate for power. These harsh terms were eventually edited to the demands later known as the Thirteen Demands, which would be signed by Yuan Shika. While originally a secret treaty, China revealed the details to the Western powers, hoping for help. In reality, it merely displayed how weak China was; it was being slowly split up like a cake by foreign powers.

Furthermore, China made a strong stand at the Paris Peace Conference regarding the sovereignty of Shandong. Despite twice being forced to affirm Japan's control over Shandong as part of the Twenty-One Demands, China still hoped to get it back. It was the cultural backbone of China because Confucius was born there. However, most great powers were not supportive, so China had to give way to the Japanese. This caused outrage in China, especially among the youth at the time. This sparked the May Fourth Movement in 1919, which was a patriotic movement primarily initiated by Chinese students protesting on the streets all over the country to express dissatisfaction with the government. The pressure this created influenced China not to sign the Treaty of Versailles to avoid a larger uprising. The police only reacted in June when 1000 students were arrested, which triggered even greater outrage and encouraged the working class in Shanghai to go on strike to join the protests. This paralysed China's economy. Out of this chaos, ideologies such as Marxism and anarchism began to sprout among intellectuals as they looked upon the Bolshevik revolution in Russia as a role model. The Chinese Communist Party (CCP) was founded on 1 July 1921 and the meeting elected Chen Duxiu as the first leader.

China in the early 1900s was extremely fragmented with territories controlled by warlords after the collapse of the Qing dynasty. After the leader of China, Yuan Shikai, died in 1916, his Beiyang army split the country into warlord-controlled segments. There was a huge power vacuum over who was the legitimate leader of China. Therefore, the nationalist party at the time, called Kuomintang (KMT), launched the Northern expedition in 1926 to contest the Beiyang government. This is also the first time we see a united front as the KMT united with the CCP to end the warlord regime in China. They focused their attack on overthrowing the warlord Wu Peifei. This was a great success for the KMT, as Wu's army was pushed northward and Nanjing and Shanghai were both taken on 26 March 1927. After the takeover, the KMT decided they did not need the Communists anymore and conducted the Shanghai massacre. Chiang Kai-Shek murdered 50,000 members of the CCP, ending the united front. However, some escaped to the southeast of China, including Mao. This is when the Red Army was formed, starting a civil war. The Nanchang Uprising marked the start of a 20-year civil war. The Red Army was repeatedly suppressed by the KMT. Chiang constantly launched campaigns, which became less popular towards 1930 due to the impending threat of Japan. Eventually, Chiang was overthrown, as both sides decided to pause the civil war and the Second United Front was formed to face the imminent danger from Japan. After eight years of bloody fighting in the Second Sino-Japanese War, the nationalists' image was ruined, since they were reluctant to fight the Japanese. This was a brilliant opportunity for the CCP as they promoted strong resistance against the Japanese, protecting civilian houses. The CCP grew from 40,000 members to around 3–4 million men by the end of the war in 1945. They controlled one-quarter of the land in northeast China. Chiang looked for support from the US for targeting major cities. Mao,

leader of the CCP, decided to give up the cities and focus on rural land to avoid major conflicts and preserve troops. Soviet support was crucial to the Red Army as they supplied weapons that allowed the capture of large cities such as Harbin. Mao wished to preserve people rather than land, allowing the Red Army to equal their numbers to that of the nationalists. Finally, following the Yellow River Crossing Campaign on 21 April 1949, the capital was captured. The nationalists were forced to flee to Taiwan on 7 December. After all this struggle, the People's Republic of China was announced by Mao Zedong on 1 October 1949.

Next, Shi expanded upon the early modern culture change leading up to the New Culture movement. The cultural background of China had remained unchanged for more than 2,000 years and the ideas of great philosophers such as Confucius and Mencius were still prominent. Those less wealthy found that the only way to achieve social advancement was to get into the government through the imperial examination. The exam consisted of several rounds of rigorous essay writing based on Confucian ideology. Though the works of Confucius were full of wisdom, people began to ignore new Western studies of science and mathematics. The New Culture Movement began to criticise this defunct and obsolete cultural system. There were attempts at cultural reform, such as the 100-Day Reform in 1898. The imperial examination was scrapped, universities established, science and mathematics introduced, and rapid industrialisation encouraged. However, this revolution was put down by Empress Ci Xi as she still had true power in the Qing court. In contrast, the revolution that followed was successful as, in 1911, the Xin Hai revolution prompted the end of the Qing dynasty. At this point, Yuan Shikai was in power but other warlords looked upon him with envy and China was soon swept into sporadic civil wars.

In this context, Lu Xun was born and went on to become the main figure of the New Culture Movement as his writing awakened a whole new generation. He experienced first-hand Imperial China and the loss of his family's wealth. First, he went to Japan in 1906 to pursue the new Western studies of medicine, as did many other Chinese intellectuals. His views changed abruptly when he realised that the people of China were intellectually feeble and spiritually weak. The best way to reform was through literature and the arts. In 1917, Lu Xun was invited to write for the New Youth magazine, which published articles by Mao Zedong. Lu Xun was at first reluctant to write because he thought the people of China were trapped as if in an iron house, sleeping and about to suffocate. Why wake them up and cause them agony before they die? He was eventually persuaded that there was still hope that, even if only a few wake up from their slumber, they may one day break the iron house. He went on to write many influential short novels such as *A Diary of a Madman* and *Outcry*, awakening the diminishing spirits of the Chinese people and helping them escape the old, obsolete culture. Shi finished the talk with a powerful quote from Lu Xun's short story *My Old Home*:

'I thought: hope cannot be said to exist, nor can it be said not to exist. It is just like roads across the Earth. For actually the Earth had no roads, to begin with, but when many travellers pass one way, a road is made.'

MODEL UNITED NATIONS

Wycombe Abbey, 28–29 January

Jesus took the disciples as far as Bethany before his ascension. We travelled to an abbey after the loss of our leader to spread the word of diplomacy. After Judas dropped out and Thomas' appendix burst, the seven pilgrims travelled to Wycombe Abbey. The team was Daniel Aspandiarov, *Newlands*, Rishaad Bhushan, Julian Herschel, both *The Grove*, Jamie Jevons, *Lyons*, Ethan McCullagh, *The Park*, Ben Shailer, *Rendalls*,

and Captain Robert Young, *The Grove*. Without a Master-in-Charge, politics began long before the conference. Luckily, SMK came to save the day with his organisational miracles. It was a good day for Canadian doctors as SWB accompanied us to the first day in the Abbey. For him, it may have been “sleeping and reading with very little booze”, which, if you inverse the sleeping, was perfectly accurate for us too. The Harrow team split into three out of four councils. Many reunited in the Disarmament and International Security Committee. One was in the Security Council, and two in the unknown and unusual Arctic Council.

The DISEC Committee began the event by debating the topic of the Iran Nuclear Agreement and, following compelling speeches from both sides, passed one of the two discussed resolutions. The committee then moved on to the militarisation of space, which became a thrilling debate. The highlight was Russia claiming Pakistan was trying to form an intergalactic empire. The DISEC then culminated with the militarisation of AI, a highly intellectual and fiercely contested topic; disappointingly, no resolution passed. The committee was then in session for the final time to discuss the more serious topic of Harry Windsor’s “book”, which resulted in a unanimous vote to send Harry on a permanent expedition to outer space. Let us only hope that it is not too cold for his todger.

The UNSC initiated the debate surrounding nuclear weapons in South Korea. There were ideas of deploying peacekeepers to North and South Korea with precisely ‘40 scientists,’ although the majority ridiculed the idea. A notion then fell to the delegate of France to declare all-out nuclear war, which was met with a room of shaking heads. After an apparent waste of time, the council thought reform was worth discussion. All nations proceeded to vouch for wider representation within the council by appointing one more permanent member from Latin America, South Asia, Africa and the Middle East. Then the controversy of Israel versus Palestine entered the conversation and, in the interests of peace, the council chose to split up the land – with the Gaza Strip falling to Palestine, in addition to a few other areas surrounding it, and Israel keeping a large chunk. As well as this, increased border control would be enforced by UN peacekeepers to stop arms from escalating tensions. Finally, the council returned to South Korea, creating a resolution to prevent specific arms manufacture; however, it felt entirely inconsequential. Although the delegate of the United States technically “won” the conference, the delegate from Mexico won the anonymous poll of the best-looking candidate in the council – thus another win for Harrow.

The Arctic Council is technically not even included in MUN, but Wycombe Abbey thought it worth covering, and Harrow thought it worth winning. Every delegate entered with a thousand words or two that managed to say very little before delivering a speech with roughly the same effect. Then, circular conversations insulted Russia’s “dubious actions” in Ukraine and the war’s impact on the council. Namely, the council does not actually meet anymore. Having discussed the above without an answer for about an hour, we continued to talk about very little. These meaningless discussions, I think, embodied diplomacy so much that one could mistake it for the actual thing. The next day, discussions developed a task force as a solution, and the council had to form a paper. Pedantic delegates brought up ideas of task forces, sub-councils, and tasked sub-task forces with little explanation or thought; however, the least thought-through clause implied that the innocent Arctic nations had all committed human rights violations. Due to Norway’s (Harrow’s) harsh stubbornness, the paper never passed with unanimity. Our weekend had been a waste. Nothing was achieved, though one of the judges called it the “only good decision anyone had made”. Thus, Harrow clearly prevailed.

In the evening, a dance that would make even St Andrew reel occurred. The Caledonian Society must fear the competition from Wycombe Abbey’s MUN, because the Highland Ball,

lasting many hours, seemed to make up for all the delegates’ lack of sporting commitments. The exchange of a look here or there became the exchange of dance and numbers. Every Harrovian displayed dancing diligence in their swinging dinner jackets except McCullough, who tactically fell into mutual love with the delegate for RAIPON, who pacified her opposition in the Arctic Council thenceforth. Though few saints marry, lions cannot be tamed. Thus, we spun our way back to Harrow for the night with warm aches in our muscles and hopes in our hearts.

The second day was as successful as the last, if not more, for the delegates with ‘W rizz’ on display the night before. The new and notably competent MJM accompanied us. But unfortunately, dear reader, I have already covered the content of both days in the former stanzas, so there is little more to feed your hungry eyes – maybe a match report or a letter suggesting putting nicotine in diffusers, but I think that is next week’s.

One can relate to printing errors, so one can also forgive the writing of ‘Russian Federation’ and two girl’s names on the Arctic Council’s Best Delegate certificates, yet that does not explain why the two other delegates were handed the awards that we clearly deserved according not only to our arrogant minds and every delegate in the conference but also according to one of the chairs. The final note is of congratulations as the DISEC chairs worked the printer and out came two certificates saying either ‘Julian Herschel’ or ‘Daniel Aspandiarov’. We congratulate both and the three beaks who came for organisational salvation.

SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY

‘Veganuary, does the science support a plant-based diet?’, 26 January

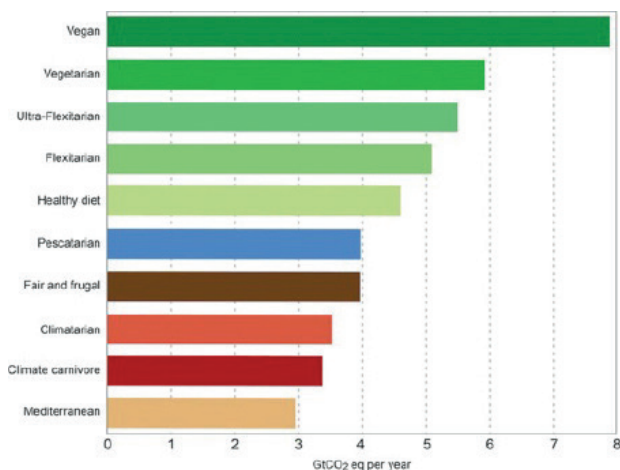
The Scientific Society welcomed Dr Shireen Kassam to speak in the OH Room on the scientific research behind veganism. Dr Kassam is a consultant haematologist at the King’s College Hospital Trust and specialises in treating lymphoma. She has been a vegan since 2013.

Dr Kassam started the lecture by revealing shocking facts to the audience. Humans have turned planet Earth into a farm. The global mass of farm animals (e.g. pigs and cows) is now 22 times that of wild animals. Farm animals account for a shocking 60% of all mammals; wild animals contribute only 4%. Farming is now causing the sixth extinction crisis in the world; the butchering industry slaughters 80 billion land animals per year. Likewise, humans consume 2 trillion fish per year, depleting three-quarters of the world’s fisheries. Despite these massive numbers, about 1 in 8 people are still malnourished globally (that’s 104 Harrow boys for perspective!). A billion people still lack food, even though we produce enough for two planets. The meat industry also requires significant space: 85% of the land used for feeding in the UK is all dedicated to grazing animals or producing crops that feed them. Sheep, which occupy 22% of all farmland, only provide 1% of food to the population. Most meat comes from factories (70%); thus, we can repurpose more land to sequester carbon by eating less meat.

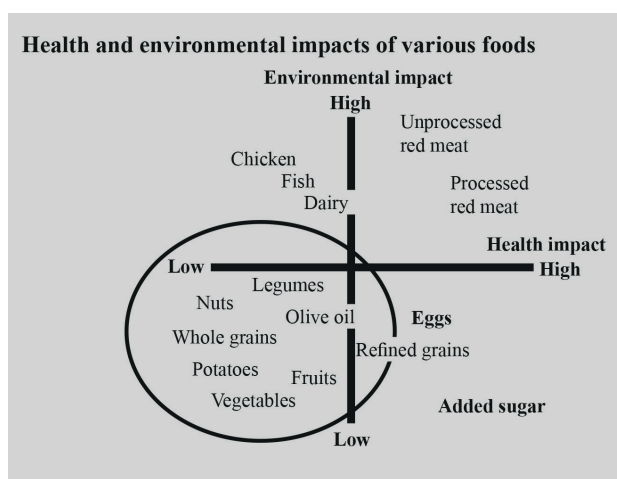
There are some more shocking facts about meat production. 477 gallons of water are needed to produce 1lb of eggs; 900 gallons are needed to produce 1lb of cheese; 2500 gallons are needed to produce 1lb of beef. Animal agriculture is responsible for 91% of the Amazon’s destruction, and it is the leading cause of species extinction, ocean dead zones, water pollution and habitat destruction.

Dr Kassam then went on to talk about the number of calories that meat gives us. Despite the vast space required to produce animal products, meat only provides 18% of our calories and 37% of protein globally on average. Antimicrobial resistance is also a significant problem in animal agriculture, killing 1.3 million people in 2019. We use 70% of our available antibiotics in animal agriculture, making antimicrobial resistance the 12th

leading cause of death (higher than HIV and malaria). Three in four of the world's new or emerging infectious diseases come from animals, and this causes 3 million deaths annually. Sars-Cov-2 was the most recent zoological jump, and the spreading avian flu reminds humanity of its predicament. From an environmental perspective, a vegan diet is the best as it releases the least volume of greenhouse gases. Meat-based meals are 14 times more destructive than plant-based meals to the environment, creating 35% of all greenhouse gas emissions. Even if we eliminated fossil fuels immediately, emissions from animal agriculture will still make it impossible to limit warming to 1.5°C and very difficult to achieve the 2°C target.



Afterwards, Dr Kassam mainly focused on the health benefits we would have if we all went vegan. If everyone “ate like the UK”, we would need seven planets to feed the whole population. Unhealthy diets are responsible for 26% of deaths globally and 31% of premature deaths in Europe. In 2022, all forms of malnutrition have increased (hunger to obesity). Bad diets are killing more people than tobacco. In the US, only four conditions contribute to 60% of hospital admissions: hypertension, heart failure, obesity and type 2 diabetes (all diet-related illnesses). A healthy and sustainable diet would be 85% plant-based, with one portion of red meat, two portions of poultry, and three eggs per week. This diet will save 11 million premature deaths every year. There are other benefits to a sustainable diet. For example, 40% of cancers could be prevented. A sustainable diet will also reduce greenhouse gas emissions by up to 50% and land use by up to 62%. The British Dietetic Association confirms that well-planned vegan diets can support healthy living for people of all ages. The Blue Zones (places where people live the longest on average, usually living past 100) on Earth all follow similar diets. The diets are all 95–100% plant-based, with little to no meat and dairy products.



Dr Kassam then educated the audience about the five healthy lifestyle factors. These are: never smoked, healthy weight, healthy diet, physical activity and moderate alcohol. The most impactful factor is a healthy diet. People looking to live a healthier life should have a high intake of vegetables, fruits, whole grains, unsaturated fats and omega-3 fats. They should also have a low intake of red and processed meats, sugar-sweetened beverages, trans-fat and salt. Statistical studies have shown that the best-quality diet reduces cancer deaths by 30% and cardiovascular deaths by 33%. Implementing all five healthy lifestyle factors can reduce 65% of cancer deaths and 82% of cardiovascular deaths. A vegan diet will also reduce blood cholesterol levels by about 60%. On average, vegetarians have lower body weight, less chance of diabetes, fatty liver, gallstone, stroke, and medical expenditure, according to the Tzu Chi study in Taiwan. Based on the UK biobank study, vegetarians have a 14% chance of getting cancer.

In the past three years, scientists have also conducted studies about Covid-19. A healthy plant-based diet lowers the risk of Covid-19 by 10% and the risk of severe Covid-19 by 40%. Nearly a third of Covid-19 cases could have been prevented if everyone followed a plant-based diet. The UK government has also estimated that the NHS would save £30,000,000,000 (£30 trillion) if everyone went vegan.

To conclude the lecture, Dr Kassam showed us more evidence to prove that more and more countries are trying to promote plant-based diets. She also revealed evidence that a plant-based diet with other healthy lifestyle factors can reverse pre-diabetes. She then persuaded the audience to act for their health and the environment before concluding the lecture. The Scientific Society is extremely grateful to have received such an educational and entertaining talk from Dr Shireen Kassam.

SHELL MONOLOGUES

22 January

Sunday 22 January saw the final of the Shell Monologues competition. Shell Drama divisions hosted internal preliminary rounds for all boys last term and the 15 finalists came together to perform their pieces on the stage of the Ryan Theatre before a small audience and our adjudicator. We are most grateful to adjudicator Miss Bethan Davies (English teacher at John Lyon School and past English and Drama beak here at Harrow) for her constructive feedback and comments on the range of engaging and enjoyable performances given by the finalists.



Our winner Maxi Jones, *Moretons*, performed *About a Goth* by Tom Wells and receives a Speech Day prize.

Runners up: Hector Llewellyn Palmer, *Lyon's*, and Edward Shek, *Druries*,

Thank you, and a congratulations to all those involved.

INTERMEDIATE MATHS CHALLENGE

The results from the Intermediate Maths Challenge, which involved just over 200 Harrovians in the Lower School shortly before the half-term break, have now been released. It was an excellent year for Harrow, with 182 boys earning certificates, including 45 Bronze, 71 Silver and 66 Gold, which are earned by the top 10% of entrants nationally. The top scorers in the School were Kevin Zhu, *Bradlys*, and Andy Li, *Moretons*, who each earned a very impressive 130 out of 135 (the second-highest possible score). A total of 59 boys have qualified for a follow-on paper in March.

If you fancy challenging yourself with a riddle, try this problem from the 2023 paper:

I roll two standard six-sided fair dice. At least one of the scores obtained on the dice is 3. What is the probability that both of the scores on the dice are 3?

SHAFTESBURY ENTERPRISE

A New Online Problem Solving Programme

Professor Rama was asked how old he was. He replied, "If you divide my age by 2, 3, 4, or 6, there is always 1 left over, but if you divide it by 7, there is no remainder." How old is Professor Rama?

With this question, SCL kickstarted the newly established Online Problem Solving Programme. This Shaftesbury Enterprise initiative is spearheaded by SCL, in collaboration with Dr Simon Singh (the renowned author) and Dr Junaid Mubeen (Countdown champion) from Parallel Circles. In the programme, 52 Year 6 and 7 tutees from across the country joined a group of 16 Lower Sixth mathematicians to explore mathematical puzzles. There were five 45-minute sessions in total, held every Wednesday evening starting from 11 January.

The programme was a huge success. It prioritised discussions, proofs and exploration, and, as one of the Lower Sixth participants, I felt that our tutees were genuinely excited when they discovered a new bit of maths for themselves. By making these sessions investigative rather than instructive, tutees engaged with proofs, alternatives and generalisations, often stumbling across new ideas. This allowed a better appreciation for the beauty and ingenuity of maths, which is often drowned out by the repetitive number-crunching of classroom exercises. Maths doesn't have to be boring; I think the sessions elucidated this very well and inspired many bright minds along the way.

The topics in each session ranged from number theory to geometry to coin puzzles. SCL went completely crazy in the last session, with some witty (and perfectly non-rigorous) solutions to seemingly impossible problems. For example, how do you move one matchstick in the setup below to make 4 triangle?

If you have no idea how to solve this, you're being too mathematical. As a hint, think about my precise wording: why is it '4 triangle' instead of 'four triangles'?



I learnt a lot from the tutor's perspective too. As Dr Simon Singh remarked, being a tutor is doubly hard because you need to possess not only an impeccable understanding, but also amazing explanatory skills. Participating in the programme has helped me in both aspects. I also enjoyed meeting the tutees. Even though we communicated over Zoom, they were constantly engaged and enthusiastic (certainly more than I was during online lessons). Their positive energy made these sessions much smoother than I had anticipated.

Many thanks to SCL, TMD, Dr Simon Singh and Dr Junaid Mubeen for putting this together. Everyone who took part took something away, and we hope this programme will become an annual occurrence.

HERE AND THERE

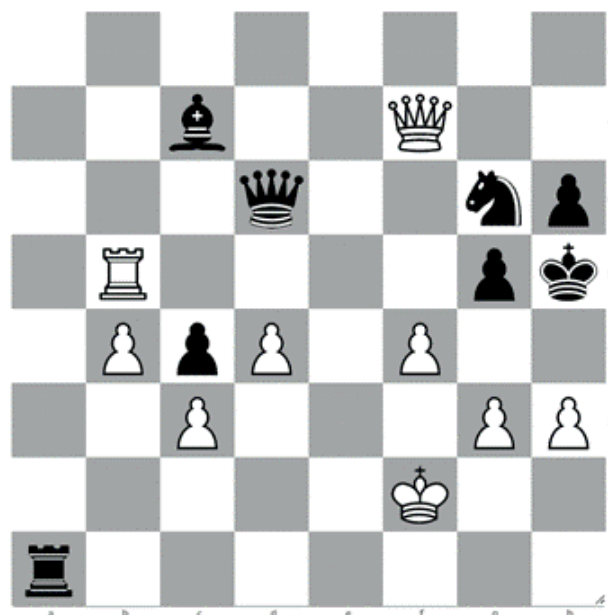
Dylan Winward (*Lyon's 20183*) competed in the US Novice National Debating Competition and received a speaking trophy, ranking as the third-best best freshman in the United States.

Giancarlo Urselli, *The Grove*, entered a national judo black belt examination at High Wycombe on Saturday. In his preliminaries, he beat two opponents with a powerful throw-and-pinning combination. These two wins qualified him for a *batsugan* attempt – a traditional Japanese system of promotion that allows belts to be awarded on the spot if three opponents can be defeated consecutively, without rest, with the maximum possible score. This is quickest and hardest way to earn the black belt, requiring great skill and composure; Giancarlo was successful.

CHESS

The weekly puzzle set by JPBH. Submit your solution by email (jpbh@) to enter the termly competition.

White to play and mate in 2 moves.



Last edition's answer: 1. ... Qg2+ 2. Kh4 Qxh2+ 3. Rxh2 Rxh2#.

Interested in chess? Come along to Chess Club, 4:30 – 6pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays in MS 5. All abilities welcome!

METROPOLITAN

THE UNDERGROUND

Ratt was level-headed and precise but couldn't remember a time he'd been this exhausted. He sprinted through the dark alleys of the Underground, his muscles threatening cramps, filling with toxins. He dared not sacrifice speed for a glance at his pursuer.

The Slugger pressed onwards, his boots stamping relentlessly, his veins flaring with neuroenhancers, and his metal claws screeching as they carved the ground beneath them.

Ratt swerved into a back alley with precise timing and sloppy footwork, knowing he'd made an important tactical maneuver as his pursuer crashed his towering frame into the concrete street corner.

The Slugger screeched, chemical fumes darting from his metallic mask. His eyes, blood-red and glaring, located and locked onto Ratt. As his head stopped spinning, he looked past his prey to the insurmountable wall at the end of the alley. It blocked any avenue of escape. Beneath his mask, he smiled, chuckled, and then coughed before resuming his hunt.

"YOU'RE DEAD RATT!" he bellowed, contorting his claws into those of a pouncing cat.

As soon as the Slugger had uttered the word "dead", Ratt knew he had the upper hand. Finally, he slowed to allow himself a moment to turn his head, internalizing the Slugger's position and velocity.

The chemofreak charged but Ratt was already in motion. Leaping upward, he pushed off side of the alley, then the back, then drew his battle-axe from its sling and brought it down into the shoulder of the Slugger.

The drugged-up idiot stumbled backwards, hunched over and groaning, feeling at his torn trapezius. Having landed, Ratt returned his axe to its natural position behind his back and pulled his 8-round junkerpistol from its holster.

"Face my Zeal half-wit," he demanded coldly.

The Slugger looked up to meet the barrel of the gun.

"Zeal? You really named your gun y-"

Ratt fanned the hammer and watched all 8 bullets decimate the Slugger's already hideous face. The headless body fell backwards and collided against the floor with a thud.

"Waste of cerebral cells..." he murmured to himself as holstered his weapon and began strolling out of the alley. "... but then again he probably didn't have many to begin with."

FATHER SEAL

Father Seal drew in a great clump of thick moor air. It chundled down his throat like strawberry preserve. He stood swaying gently like a tree. His posture was immaculate. He held his bible with a concerning desperation so that it hurt his belly bump. He looked quite satisfied.

The oarsman, however, found his spoon of air and dew sickly sweet. It's unbounded joy usually provided him with courage enough to hum old gallic tunes and provide stories of scandal and intrigue for bewildered honeymooners and half-dead old men alike. Today, however, it only provided him motivation enough to curse at the priest in his boat who refused to sit down. Father Seal, who was now periodically and quite purposely being thwacked by an oar on his slim sinuous legs, smiled to himself.

The small ferry collided with the sodden bank. Father Seal had smugly sat down mere moments before the quite purposeful collision, meaning that, despite the oarsman's curses, he didn't plant his face into the mud. The oarsman swung his oars in a way that wetly smacked Father Seal on his left cheek. Taking this as his cue, as though he were a fine actor, he leaped out of the boat and without good reason saluted the oarsman.

His feet were, perhaps, too firmly planted on that lovely, pleasant English mud. In fact, his fine leather shoes almost instantly sank into it. "is this Llanfodgdthgwib, fair and gentle oarsman?". "Anglesey" he said. "well...". The oarsman, with the lust of a man half as festering as himself, jabbed his oar into Father Seal's shin, and gracelessly careened back into the lake. "Ow!". The ferryman was rowing with furious passion, ramming his stick into the wet mud, like pounding the corpse of a roadkill fox. He looked back at Father Seal, who by this point was crying in a mud-pudding ball, and, without his fine welsh groaning accent, exclaimed in cockney "and I'm from bloody hackney, you pig!".

AN ODE TO THE CHICKEN

Sometimes too long is 2c,
I do have places I'd rather be,
I have but one love true,
One thing I would much rather do.

Sweeter than a summers day,
More temperate than the buds of May,
It does fill up me,
And it is a delight to see.

It fuels me on the winter's day long,
Even when I have the answers all wrong,
If from all things I could be pick'in,
It would be that Hill Caff chicken.

SUDOKU

Persevera per severa per se vera
"Expert Level"

	4							7
		6				8		
			3		4	1		
8			7	1				
7			9					
5	6	2						
					7		5	2
				2				
	8			5			6	

OPINION

CORRESPONDENCE

Letters to the Editors

DEAR SIRs,

You know when you buy something for an okay kind of reason or even sometimes for a very good reason.

Well, if you are anything like me, you may have low expectations of said purchase before you actually get to form a genuine opinion, by actually using it or listening to it or reading it and so on.

I'm not certain why all the negative thoughts seem so strong, maybe because I want the item in question to be so wildly impressive and a lot of the time it just ain't. For example, I had such high hopes for ain't and now I ain't so sure.

Okay, the other day I received an internal Harrow email informing me, well the whole School actually, that Lucy Ashe was about to have her debut novel, *Clara and Olivia*, published.

Well, me being me, I was instantly tempted. I knew nothing of its story but I don't take much persuading about anything these days.

I, of course, had the whole business destroyed in my mind, long before Blackwell's got their paws on my order.

Well, I need not have concerned myself. The book is genuinely top drawer. I don't want to review it, but a few observations would include: it's a serious page turner. That only seems to happen when the author seriously knows how to write, how to feel, how to judge and they also seem to have an innate sense of, well, well if I could put my finger on it, I would tell you.

The book screams the small screen at some stage too. I don't watch much television these days, but exceptions will have to be made.

I also like the way that an intriguing atmosphere decorates the pages. Whole sections of it seem to just hang in the air.

You feel like you could just step in amongst it. Plath's *The Bell Jar* and Orwell's *1984* have sections that create a stunning atmosphere that I could also drift around the universe with.

Yours sincerely,
NEIL PORTER

DEAR SIRs,

I am writing about something that has been on my mind since Queen Elizabeth's death last year.

You can draw a multitude of similarities between Elizabeth and our previous Queen, Victoria; they were extremely long-serving monarchs who defined eras. They were both 'great' Queens. They both had associations with the School; Prince Albert actually presented a Speech Day, and Elizabeth II visited the School in 1957.

After Victoria died in 1901, Harrow sentenced its boys to forever wear black neckties (wearing black after loss was typical of the Victorian-gothic era). Since then, our necks have been draped with the mourning flags of a queen who never reigned over any of us.

After Elizabeth's death, I feel that the School needs to make a new change to student fashion. I am, of course, advocating to make our tie blacker. A blacker tie is not only an interesting novelty, but it is something that would be remembered forever, and would define our era through uniform.

I know that there are dyes out there that can deflect a higher or lower amount of light, and I am sure that manufacturers would be happy to supply the School with a blacker black.

I hope that the School's Uniform Committee can discuss the possibilities of making our tie blacker and get straight to co-ordinating with Billings & Edmonds and The Outfitters to enforce this policy.

Yours in blacker mourning,
ARTURO SAVILLE, RENDALLS

DEAR SIRs,

I am writing concerning the recent scandalous deforestation outside Physics Schools and the planned destruction of Physics Henge (the stone sculpture in the green space outside Physics) to make way for a car park across the whole of the north side of the Physics and Maths building. Several weeks ago, I arrived at Physics to find the three trees outside had been felled, without any warning at all. Previously, the trees had obscured and broken up the harsh outline of the practical, but truthfully unaesthetic, Physics and Maths block; now its bland and uninspiring form is exposed to the world's view. Physics Henge is also an interesting feature that enlivens the area along Football Lane and is one of the few purely artistic monuments around the School. However, rumour has it that the stones will be moved to accessorise the new Bio-Chemistry building, leaving the Physics and Maths building entirely bare. Museum Cottage also seems to be slated for demolition, so the only thing left in front of the building will be a sea of tarmac from Biology to MLS.

It is well known that access to nature improves mental wellbeing and can reduce stress. Before, almost every form room in the building had a view of trees or foliage, even in the upstairs Maths form rooms it was possible to see birds perching in the trees outside the window. Researchers suggest that memory formation requires pleasant emotions and stimulation of the senses, so trees can actually help students to learn. The trees also provided a sense of privacy, allowing a setback between the classrooms and the road; surely a car reversing into a parking spot would be somewhat distracting? The trees also used to shade form rooms in the morning and were frequented by squirrels, birds and insects. Not to mention their carbon offset potential: the trees together would have absorbed over 100 kgs of CO₂ per year and cutting them down has released all the carbon they have stored up so far.

Lastly, I would like to touch on the effect that another car park would have on the Hill. Not only would it increase traffic down the narrow Football Lane, but it would also encourage more car travel as visitors would no longer have to walk from the Parade Ground. This would increase local pollution levels around the Hill and facilitate the sedentary lifestyle of visitors. The Parade Ground parking area and the minivan parking spaces near MLS are rarely full, so I hardly believe we need more capacity. The car park could also exacerbate other phenomena such as the urban heat island effect and induced traffic.

Overall, this feels like a poorly thought-out decision, without consulting any of the boys or beaks and alienating the people who use that area the most, only perpetuating car dependence and assisting those who are afraid of a little bit of exercise.

Yours sincerely
JONATHAN RIDDELL-WEBSTER, THE GROVE

In Response

DEAR SIRs,

In reply to Mr Saville's letter (The Harrovian CXXXV No. 16 February 25, 2023), I do agree that a lasting memorial to Her Late Majesty should be part of the School. As a first step a second stand of seventy mixed English native trees has been planted in the last week by Mr Perkins on the north east corner of the Harrow Football Fields.

On our tie, having done much research during the period of Court Mourning last year I could find no record in the School Archives, nor in the minutes of the Governors' meetings in 1901 that the black tie was instituted in respect of Queen Victoria,

so it is an institutional rather than recorded memory that the black was imposed for a hundred years of mourning. Still and all, I did institute as a mark of mourning for Queen Elizabeth that the tradition of the black tie should be retained for a further one hundred years. The School may decide in 2122 what shade to make our tie then.

Yours faithfully
WMAL

Dear Sirs,

In reply to Mr Riddell-Webster's letter (The Harrovian CXXXV No. 16 February 25, 2023), cutting down three trees isn't deforestation, perhaps counter-copse or anti-spinney? Less frivolously I would like to let him know the following.

Across the whole building programme: Science, SCH and Sport, for every existing tree removed three new ones will be planted on the School Estate.

The removal of the trees and sculptures outside Maths and Physics is not a new addition to the plans set down in 2017, this has always been part of the programme and will include the demolition and removal of Museum Cottage.

The reason for this is to put in new parking which is needed for when, as part of the same overall landscape plan, Peel House is demolished and the Admissions, IT and Communications departments are relocated (but not in that order) and therefore the space for parking and hosting visitors around Peel House is no longer available.

The standing stones will be carefully removed, stored and then reinstituted elsewhere on the School Estate.

The new parking area will be extensively afforded shrubs and small trees by way of soft landscaping.

Yours faithfully
WMAL

SPORT

SOCCER

The School 1st XI v Haileybury, 7 February

'Twas an exciting match in which the 1st XI played some sparkling attacking football, including wonderful team goals finished off by Kyan Simpson, *The Knoll*, and Elliott Taylor, *West Acre*. It was a pleasure to see a fine late cameo from Cameron Ellis, *Rendalls*, who also bagged a brace.

2nd XI Home v Haileybury, Won 2-0

The 2nd XI maintained momentum with a mature performance in which victory was sealed by two good quality goals from Kurran Calvert-Davies, *Druries*, and Filip Edstrom, *Bradlys*.

3rd XI Home v Haileybury, Won 6-1

On a sunny Tuesday afternoon, after a recent defeat at the unlikely hands of Abingdon, the 3rd XI were ready to bounce back. With a new addition to the squad in Oliver Mitchell, *Rendalls*, and Netanel Lawrence-Ojo, *The Knoll*, returning, the squad was looking strong as ever.

Harrow started the match with excellent strength and diligence. After a brilliant run into the box, Zak Banton, *Newlands*, was brought down, resulting in an early penalty to Harrow. Mitchell confidently stepped up to take and slotted the ball into the bottom left corner of the goal: 1-0 Harrow. Not long after, a lack of communication at the back allowed the Haileybury striker through and the ball slipped under William Wright's, *West*

Acre, legs, the Redding 4 bobble with the assist. From kick off, Banton passed the ball to Cameron Childs, *Newlands*, and, after fantastic diverging runs from Sam Pound, *Rendalls*, and Banton, Childs was free to take a shot, which was deflected over the keeper. A quick response from Harrow as Haileybury's hopes were snuffed out. Harrow's defence patterned up as Lawrence-Ojo, Masato Higuchi, *West Acre*, and Jude Esposito, *Newlands*, asserted dominance and authority. Excellent passing play in the middle allowed Mubarak Tinubu, *The Knoll*, to unleash an awe-inspiring solo run into box, dismissing up to three of the Haileybury defenders, and scoring: 3-1 Harrow at half time.

Substitutes Tobi Olorode, *Elmfield*, and Alnur Abuov, *Druries*, stepped on the pitch to provide fresh legs. Constant runs down the left side by Inigo Doyle, *The Park*, kept up pressure on the Haileybury defence until eventually one of the crosses, after a scramble in the box, was buried by Banton, leaving Haileybury despondent. Harrow becoming slightly lethargic allowed Haileybury a few scuffed chances, none of which went in due to Wright's saves and Alexander Cox-Lang's, *The Knoll*, competence at the back. Harrow were winning the physical battle. After yet another accomplished run into the box by Tinubu, he was brought down and Harrow were awarded another penalty. Mitchell once again convincingly placed the ball into the bottom corner, giving Harrow a four-goal lead. As play progressed, Harrow displayed relentless dominance, pelting the Haileybury defence until a shot by Mitchell deflected off the post to the feet of Tinubu, who tucked the game away to bed: 6-1 Harrow.

4th XI away v Haileybury, Draw 4-4

On the Tuesday before half-term, the 4th XI played out an epic in sun-baked Hertfordshire. An emotionally charged encounter led to a memorable game, with Harrow securing a draw in a match they really should have won. The visitors dominated possession in the early stages, with Charlie Cross, *Newlands*, controlling the game from central midfield. However, very few clear-cut chances were created and Harrow soon found themselves undone by a simple ball over the top of the defence, which was met with a superb finish from the Haileybury striker, with the outside of his right boot. Harrow soon stormed back into the contest and were rewarded for their dominance when Fin Smith, *The Knoll*, showed great strength to hold off two defenders and finish smoothly into the bottom right-hand corner. Chances continued to be created, the most significant of which saw Paddy Elliott, *Druries*, shooting narrowly wide from the edge of the box. Haileybury remained a threat from set pieces, and a corner after 30 minutes resulted in a miraculous block on the line from Louis Parry-George, *The Park*. This incredible piece of defending appeared even more critical when, shortly after this, Smith was once again on hand to tap home after Sama Othman's, *Newlands*, shot was parried by the Haileybury keeper: 2-1 to Harrow at the break.

Harrow tried to build on this lead at the start of the second half but, just as it looked as if Haileybury had no answer to Harrow's slick possession football, the Haileybury right back managed to score from a hopeful ball forward, which somehow evaded Data Photpipat's, *The Head Master's*, clutches. Harrow refused to panic, however, and soon re-established their lead when the unplayable Smith bundled into the back of the net after a through ball from Elliott. A fourth goal for Smith soon followed, as he showed tremendous speed to latch onto a through ball and calmly slot home into the bottom left-hand corner as the Haileybury keeper rushed from his line. Haileybury were given a lifeline when Photpipat's penalty save deflected onto the bar and then straight into the path of the grateful Haileybury striker. In the dying minutes, Haileybury somehow managed to equalise from another set piece. There was a hint of handball about the finish, but after seeking advice from RP (who magnanimously admitted that he could not see the incident from his angle), the referee decided to award the goal.

5th XI Away v Haileybury, Won 3-1

6th XI Away v Haileybury, Won 4-1

A solid performance and some great defensive saves kept us in the lead for the whole match.

Colts A Away v Haileybury, Lost 2-3

A very slow start against Haileybury saw the Colts A go 3-0 down before the half-time break. A spirited second-half performance managed to make the score more respectable, but greater intensity is needed at the start of our games.

Colts B Away v Haileybury, Won 3-2

The Colts B team put on a dominant display in their rescheduled match against Haileybury, securing a hard-fought 3-2 victory. Harry Murton, *Newlands*, got the ball rolling with an early goal in the first half, putting the Colts B in high spirits. The second half was a nail-biter, with Haileybury equalising and Murton striking again to keep the Colts B in the lead. Haileybury managed to level the score once more, but a brilliant long ball from George Maia, *Druries*, set up Ahaan Asnani, *West Acre*, for the game-winning goal in the dying minutes of the match. This was a thrilling match and a great victory for the Colts B team.

Colts C Away v Haileybury, Draw 1-1

Harrow showed excellent fight to draw against an astonishingly physical Haileybury Colts C side on a pitch about as wide as my Surface Book.

Junior Colts A Home v Haileybury, Lost 1-5

The JCAs struggled against an aggressive opponent on a pitch that made passing football difficult. Rocco Addati's, *The Knoll*, first-half strike was one of few bright moments in an otherwise dour match.

Junior Colts B Home v Haileybury, Draw 1-1

An ever physical Haileybury took a fortuitous early lead and looked to have parked the bus effectively until a late penalty brought the game level. Harrow were desperately unlucky not to be given the win in the final stages after a shot from Jack Mapletoft, *The Park*, came down off the crossbar but was ultimately denied.

Junior Colts C Home v Haileybury, Won 9-0

A ruthless, clinical performance for 40 mins before it ended early. Man of the match Zach Smit, *The Park*, gave another performance of tireless endeavour embodying the determination of all in blue.

Haileybury had a collection of good players but were certainly far less than the sum of their parts, lacking unity, cohesion or any persistent sense of motivation. It was really disappointing to think they had travelled this far to apparently not to care particularly much.

This context is important in highlighting two important aspects:

1. Harrow must not get carried away with the scoreline; largely a reflection on the lack of opposition, although we did have aspects of positive play.

2. Harrow boys should yet again be commended for embracing high standard of School values, even the face of provocation.

The game had to be stopped after less than ten minutes because of Haileybury's persistent fouling. Despite numerous free kicks and warnings, it took the referee speaking very plainly to the opposition that their behaviour was undermining their actually quite decent footballing ability. It's not that they could not tackle properly, they were just being lazy... as demonstrated by the next ten minutes when they actually played better when not chopping at ankles, tugging, pulling, pushing and wrapping arms. Had they persevered, this could have been a closer game, but their heads dropped and the defence gave away ball after

ball and didn't ever close down. Haileybury's best players were generally loaded towards the front so did test Harrow's defensive five repeatedly. The clean sheet is perhaps even more something to be celebrated, snuffing out several promising attacks from the boys in maroon and white stripes, thanks to Leong, Porter and Kirk.

We all hoped Haileybury would come out fighting for the second half but an indicator of just how much they did not is the simple statistic:

First half: Harrow downhill, won 3-0 over 35 minutes.

Second half: Harrow uphill, won 6-0 over 16 minutes, the first two within three minutes.

For the record:

1. Cheeseborough, *The Knoll*, opened the scoring from a direct free kick after one of several chops on Smith's ankle's.

2. Allard, *The Grove*, lashed it from just past the halfway: a wonderful strike.

3. Mulqueen, *Bradlys*, did excellently well to keep up with play and get on the end of an excellent drive by Walton down the right wing and into the box.

Half-time

1. Mulqueen, after 40 seconds. Walton drove into the box, the ball bounced aimlessly, Mulqueen poked into the net.

2. Schneider, *Elmfield*, on the end of a cross from Cheeseborough.

3. Schneider drove in a loose ball that was not properly cleared.

4. Mulqueen, another traditional striker's poacher's goal getting on the end of a Cheeseborough drive forward.

5. Walton, *West Acre*, a well-deserve goal for himself having set up so many for others.

6. Kirk, *The Grove*, killed the game as a contest and it ended soon after having allowed Harrow's central to jog straight down the middle of the pitch and connect well with a through ball, completely unchallenged.

The School 1st Away v Dr Challoner's Grammar School, Won 3-0, 9 February

Following an emphatic midweek win over Haileybury, The XI travelled to a cold and miserable Dr Challoner's to round off their fourth game in ten days. With Walid Nsouli, *The Knoll*, playing some of his finest tunes on the short commute, the XI were in high spirits and headed onto the turf with a spring in their step, while the opposition had a lot to prove following the previous encounter.

The conditions were not admirable but this would not deter the flowing and high intensity football that would later be on display. The half started as it would mean to go on, with challenges flying in from both sides. Heroics from Zane Akbar Khan, *Moretons*, prevented an almost inevitable early goal from Dr Challoner's, as he threw his body in front of an open net to keep the game at 0-0. As the half progressed, Harrow struggled to find their feet and if it weren't for the brick wall defending of Luke Walton, *West Acre*, Chinedu Orji, *The Park*, and Eli Dewotor, *The Head Master's*, Harrow may have found themselves a few goals down. The game soon turned around and it wasn't long before the midfield trio managed to get more of the ball, and Harrow looked to threaten the opposition net. There were some brilliant passages of attacking play down the slightly dryer left-hand side of the pitch, where Tito Edjua, *Lyon's*, was eagerly searching for a way onto the scoresheet. Harrow's probing attack in the later stages of the half couldn't find a way through and they headed into the break all square at 0-0.

It soon became apparent after the break that this would be a game of two halves as debutant Kanta Morishige, *Newlands*, and old timer Arnaud Du Roy, *Elmfield*, graced the field of play with the hopes of turning the tide. Their effect was electrifying. Harrow were now well and truly dominating the midfield and looked as though a goal was imminent. Soon enough, after 5-10 minutes of the second half, Filip Edstrom, *Newlands*, was played a delightful through ball from Kitan Akindele, *Newlands*,

which he calmly tucked away to give Harrow a 1-0 advantage. This was only the beginning as Orji continued to tap into his rich vein of form and seemed to be playing as an RB and RW simultaneously. His partnership with the newly converted CB Elliot Taylor, *West Acre*, was flourishing, and as the ball continued to be played down the right channel, Orji found his moment and struck the ball between the keeper's legs to double the lead. Harrow were now running riot and the game looked to have been put to bed until Taylor decided Tom Haworth, *The Knoll*, in goal hadn't seen enough of the ball and struck a sweet volley back at our own keeper! Besides this near miss, Harrow picked up where they had left off after the second goal, and after no time at all Edstrom picked up his second of the game, and that was the end of proceedings.

Harrow ended the game as 3-0 victors and, despite injuries in the back line, special mentions must go to Taylor and Walton for embracing their new roles and dominating in the process. Finally, man of the match must be Orji for once again putting in a near flawless performance. Great effort all round, and let's hope the results continue in a similar fashion after half-term.

2nd XI Away v Dr Challoner's Grammar School, Won 3-1

A good-spirited friendly fixture in which Harrow took control of the game early but perhaps could have pushed on more in the second half. Goals from Calvert-Davies, *Druries*, Ollie Mitchell, *Rendalls*, and Ayomide Awolesi, *The Head Master's*.

3rd XI Away v Dr Challoner's Grammar School, Won 1-0

Both teams created a number of chances despite the heavy pitch, but Harrow's skillful approach play and incisive passing gave them a deserved victory, courtesy of Sam Pound's, *Rendalls*, first goal for the 3rd XI.

4th XI Home v DLD College London 1st, Won 3-1

Harrow 4th XI produced without doubt their best performance of the season against DLD 1st XI. After a frantic opening, Harrow settled into the game with Ollie Miall's, *Newlands*, first goal of the match. Ever dangerous on the counter attack, DMD scored just before half-time. Playing uphill in the second half, Harrow responded brilliantly by continuing to press the back line of DMD. There was an excellent performance from Jonathon Brockwell, *Moretons*, making his first appearance for the 4th XI but certainly not the last. Whilst Louis Parry George, *The Pak*, and Joseph Mclean, *Druries*, dominated the opponents' centre forwards. Sama Othman, *Lyon's*, scored two goals to win the game for Harrow. A tremendous performance all round.

Colts A Away v St. John's School Leatherhead, Lost 1-2

The match between Harrow and St John's was a close-fought affair, with both sides evenly matched. Harrow dominated much of the play, but unfortunately couldn't make their chances count, conceding two goals. Despite this setback, Harrow continued to push forward and were finally rewarded when Jonah Esposito, *Newlands*, scored a late consolation goal from the left wing. Despite the final score, it was an entertaining and hard-fought match between two well-matched sides.

Colts B Away v St. John's School Leatherhead, Lost 0-3

The Colts B started the game with a lot of intent, dominating possession and creating several chances. However, despite their dominance, they were unable to convert their opportunities and found themselves up against a solid defence from St. John's.

Despite the visitors' defence holding strong, the Colts B continued to push forward, trying to find a way back into the game. However, it was St. John's who took the lead, with a well-placed shot that beat the Colts B keeper.

The Colts B tried to respond quickly, but the St. John's defence remained resolute, and the visitors doubled their lead soon after. The home team continued to push for a goal, but their efforts were in vain as St. John's added a third goal late

in the game to secure a 3-0 victory.

Overall, it was a disappointing result for the Colts B, who will have some work to do to bounce back from this loss. However, with the skill and determination they showed in this match, they will no doubt come back stronger.

Colts C Away v St. John's School Leatherhead, Lost 3-4

Harrow were edged in a tight game that went down to the last minute, doing very well to recover from a 3-1 deficit in the first half. Highlights include a goal from Archie Steward, *Rendalls*, on his C team debut and a Beckham-esque free kick from Arjun Nanda, *The Head Master's*.

Junior Colts A Home v Highgate School, Lost 0-1

A narrow defeat against a well-organised opponent was frustrating, but the JCAs played some excellent football, hitting the woodwork on four occasions.

Junior Colts B Home v Highgate School, Won 2-1

Harrow dominated both territory and possession, and looked in control of the match from the outset. A defensive error allowed Highgate a chance score but a win seemed like an inevitability but for some wayward finishing. Happily, Dario Holland, *The Park*, scored an excellent long-range effort to clinch the game.

Junior Colts C Home v Wetherby Senior School Junior Colts A, Won 1-0

A very mature, assured performance from both teams. A real tussle in all areas of the field, but particularly the midfield. An end-to-end, box-to-box contest in which the Harrow rearguard five can take huge comfort in their clean sheet.

Harrow proved they had the edge up front with a more clinical finish in most, keeping their keeper busy while snuffing out all of their promising attacks on the edge of the box, giving Yong, *The Grove*, very little to do.

The fixture list includes the same opponents after half-term in a return fixture, as well as traditionally tough matches against the South London schools St Paul's and Dulwich. We look forward to these as further opportunity to prove ourselves.

Junior Colts D Home v Wetherby Senior School Junior Colts B, Won 6-1

The JC Ds displayed a remarkable team effort to overcome the opposition in every aspect of the game, winning 6-1.

Junior Colts E Home v Wetherby Senior School Boys Under-15C, Won 7-1

A solid team performance ended in a resounding victory. Goals scored: three from Xavier Majumdar, *The Knoll*, two from Marc Gaw, *Newlands*, and one each from Sultan Al-Thani, *Rendalls*, and Victor Xu, *Newlands*.

Yearlings A Away v Highgate School, Draw 0-0

Harrow fought hard to secure a 0-0 draw after losing keeper Rish Rawal, *Rendalls*, to injury in the first half. Lucian Spencer, *Elmfield*, bravely stepped into the breach and was superb in Rawal's place.

Yearlings C Home v Highgate School, Won 3-0

Goal scorers: Mir T., *Newlands*, Beresford-Peirce A.J.D.L.P., *Elmfield*, Zhang M., *West Acre*

The Yearlings C XI returned to winning ways on the Thursday before half term with a dominant display at home to Highgate. George Boyle, *Elmfield*, and Tori Backhouse, *Druries*, controlled the midfield, allowing Harrow to record a comfortable victory.

The Yearlings C XI have had a tough half-term. They have faced two excellent A teams, which has led to a couple of rather unfortunate, humbling losses. However, the Harrovians have shown exemplary resilience and courage, bouncing back with a draw on Saturday against Abingdon and ending the week with

an empathic victory over Highgate.

Harrow dominated from start to finish in this particular fixture, but it wasn't until the stroke of half time that the outstanding Timur Mir, *Newlands*, calmly slotted home to finally break the deadlock. In the second period, Harrow created far more chances as the game opened up, and were eventually rewarded with two quickfire goals from the excellent Alf Beresford-Peirse, *Elmfield*, and Mingyu Zhang, *West Acre*.

Harrow had an extraordinary number of corners in this game, but the delivery was erratic to say the least. This is something that will need to be worked on in the second half of term, along with being more clinical in the final third.

An excellent way to finish the half-term.

FOUNDER'S DAY HARROW FOOTBALL

The Head Master's 2 v 6 The Old Boys

OHs: Manuel de Souza-Girao, James Stabb, Stew Williams, Charles Bailey, Dan Adebayo, Amit Armon, William Gasson, Ewan Molloy, Charles Paice, Freddy Anton-Smith, Sean Hargraves, Angus Labrum, Toby Shirvell, Matt Travis

An impressive number of OHs from The Head Master's descended on Hempstall 5 for the annual Founder's Day match. Boasting an impressive blend of youth and experience, the OH team was considered to be slight favourites, especially on a grassy pitch. Despite this, they were given the downhill advantage in the first half and they made the most of it. A lot of flexibility was shown by the umpire in his application of the rules towards the OH team, who took an early lead. A tight first half came to a close with a 2-1 deficit for the House to recover. Inexplicably, the OH team were then allowed to continue playing downhill in the second half. The assumption that they would perhaps tire more quickly was soon proven false as they added a further four bases compared to the House team's one consolation. As the match drew to a conclusion, the quality of the footer on show descended almost as rapidly as the quality of the umpiring. The OHs ran out deserved winners but much fun was had by all and the House is grateful for all those OHs who returned for the day.



The Park 9 v 7 Old Parkites

With fair conditions overhead and underfoot, Parkites past and present met to do battle on Sheepcote 3. The OHs consisted of current Harrow fathers Mr Ansell and Mr Henson, Mr Maari, Founder's Day regular and disrupter-in-chief Oliver Tippet, and a quartet of BJDS's first Upper Sixth back in 2015 – Freddie Copestick, Hugh Fraser, Hugo St John and Ed Stewart. They were joined from the current crop, at various points, by Oliver Bailey, Maxi Farah, Jack Scott and Harry Jang.

The game was nip-and-tuck throughout. Base countered quickly by base in a fast moving game. As half-time approached, it was 5-5 when Inigo Doyle took yards. His kick was probably just inside the left post, but the base was politely contested. BJDS tried to give the Old Boys the choice of accepting the



base against them and playing the second half downhill, or disallowing the base and playing the second half uphill. Except BJDS jumbled the ultimatum. The result: 5-5 and the Old Boys played downhill throughout!

This was, of course, all part of the grand strategy to give the House the hardest possible runout, especially as we have only played one game thus far this season. As the game wore on, fitness began to tell, Caspar scored his fourth (a run-through base), and Chinedu purred across the pitch like a sports car among tractors.

The game ended 9-7 to the House.

It was a brilliant game, played in tremendous spirit. Gratitude also to Lorenzo Bergamo Andreis, the Bruce twins (Parkites from the Laborde era) and Mr Maari's younger brother, all of whom were in attendance.

Scorers:

The House: Caspar (4), Louis P-G (2), Chinedu (1), Inigo (2)

The Old Boys: Oliver B (3), Maxi (1), Oliver Tippet (1), Harry J (1), Ed Stewart (1)

Follow up!

The Old Boys: R.M.Henson (1983), M.J.K.Ansell (1984), A.F.Maari (1997), A.A.Copestick (2010), H.D.Fraser (2010), H.C.R.St.John (2010), E.J.F.Stewart (2010), O.E.G.Tippet (2012), plus O.R.H.Bailey, M.D.Farah, H.Jang, J.H.M.Scott

Also in attendance: R.P.N.Bruce (1964), R.K.J.Brce (1964), N.M.Maari (1998), L.P.Bergamo Andreis (2009)

The House: A.F da Silveira Pinheiro, G.F.Ansell, I.W.J.Doyle, K.Y.H.Leung, I.D.Ojomo, C.U.C.Orji, L.R.G.Parry-George, J.Ro, C.T.R.Stone, S.W.G.Brindley, J.O.J.Felton, K.B.Henson, H.O.C.Macdonald

Newlands 9 v 8 OHs



Newlands welcomed back many of its old boys on Sunday 5 February. Following the traditional Harrow Founder's Day Chapel service, the boys all went back to their Houses and readied themselves for the morning's Harrow football matches. Harrovians and the Old Harrovians assembled at the steps of the Boyer Webb Pavilion for a photograph. It was a truly magical moment, as boys from all age groups and Houses greeted and laughed with each other, creating a sense of unity and friendship. Once the Houses got to the Harrow football pitches, teams were then divided by separating the current Harrovians from the OHs.

Playing downhill first, and full of years' eagerness to return to the Harrow football pitch, the OHs and Lower Sixth were leading comfortably at half-time. However, their energy and will gradually ended as the steep uphill began to test their fitness. Although the game was very competitive, boys were enjoying themselves and laughter was ever-present. Once showered and cleaned, they headed to the SCH for the traditional curry and rice and beer, where they told many stories and reminisced about old times. It was evident that the game brought huge amounts of joy to all, and that Founder's Day was once again a tremendous success.

Newlands

Charlie Cross, Finlay Douglas, Jude Esposito, Thomas Hobbs, Bode Kolawole

Ollie Miall, Kanta Morishige, Rahul Ponniah, James Rates, Maxim Van Aeken, Charlie Young, Melvin Ackah, Kitan Akindele, Joel Balogun, Zak Banton, Cameron Childs, Henry Emerson, Tommy Mackay, George Simpson, St John Smith, Joe Storey, Andrew Stratton and Charlie Tack.

OHs

Charlie Christie (Newlands 2015³), Rory Jack (Newlands 2012³), Jamie Herholdt (Newlands 2012³), James Millett (Newlands 2012³), Javier Perez Pera (Newlands 2013³), Gabriel Adebisi (Newlands 2013³), Michael Camerea (Newlands 2011³), Laszlo Gut (Newlands 2010³), Davide Bernardi (Newlands 2010³), Alistair Cheng (Newlands 2010³), Felix Reding-Reuter (Newlands 2010³), Giles Clarke (Newlands 2001³), Harry Clarke (Newlands 2008³) and Dexter Wan (Newlands 2013¹).

FIVES

The School v Mill Hill, 9 February

Junior Colts A Home v Mill Hill & Belmont Schools, Won

A great battle from the two Under-15 pairs, both winning 3-0. Honourable mentions for Freddie Bourne-Arton, *Elmfield*, and Bertie Bradley, *Druries*, for their commitment throughout.

Yearlings A Home v Mill Hill & Belmont Schools, Lost

A tough battle for the two Under-14 pairs, both losing 3-0 against experienced Mill Hill pairs. Great improvements shown from Neel Gupta, *Elmfield*, and Inigo Cleeve, *Lyon's*.

FENCING

1st Team Away v RGS, High Wycombe, Won

On Thursday, the fencing team travelled to High Wycombe and played against RGS. The first match of the day was Foil A which consisted of Nathan Goff, *Lyon's*, Francois de Robert Hautequere, *Lyon's*, and debutant for Foil A, Daniel Eldridge, *The Grove*. Foil A won 7-2 with an outstanding performance by Nathan Goff, *Lyon's*, with an indicator of positive 11. Special congratulations go to Daniel Eldridge, *The Grove*, who, on his foil debut, achieved an indicator of positive 7. Next was Epee A which consisted of Jonny Cullinane, *Newlands*, Eldridge, and de Robert Hautequere. Epee A won 9-0 with an excellent performance from Eldridge with an indicator of positive 9. Finally, was Epee B which consisted of Arthur Cullinane, *The Head Master's*, Hing So, *Newlands*, and Cyrus Chang, *Druries*. Epee B won 7-2 with a great performance from Arthur Cullinane, with an indicator of positive 9. Overall, the Harrow fencing team fenced very well and ended the half-term on a positive note ready to tackle the next half of the season.

WENGEN

*International British School Championship 2023,
February*

The Harrow ski race team enjoyed a stellar week on the slopes at Wengen this weekend in the International British School Boys Championship, 2023. In this, the first International British School Boys' race since Covid and only the second ski race overseas in two years, our team aced the championship. It was, quite simply, a massive success for all involved.



We faced over a dozen rival schools, including Wellington College, Dulwich College and super-rivals Reeds, and raced alongside 120 other competitors over the course of two full days of incredible skiing. Coming off the back of a strong performance at the Canada Cup in Jasper just before Christmas, where we took home the Under-14, Under-16 and Under-18 team trophies, and placed a commendable third in the overall Canada Cup, I am proud to say that we were again strong from start to finish. After two days of training, the races began – and two days after that we came home with the best medal haul that Harrow has ever seen! Our individual wins included Max Nardo, *Bradlys*, bagging Under-14 bronze slalom, Timmy De Hemptinne, *Bradlys*, the Under-16 bronze slalom, and Ulrico Zampa, *The Head Master's*, taking home both Under-18 gold slalom and Under-18 silver grand slalom. The combined individual Under-14 gold was won by Ferdinand Klitzsch, *The Grove*, the combined individual Under-16 silver by De Hemptinne, the combined individual silver by Louis Parry-George, *The Park*, and the combined individual gold by Zampa. In the Sunday Times Cup, the Harrow A team (Parry-George, Zampa, De Hemptinne and Lucas Wong, *The Head Master's*) won silver. The B Team frustratingly lost their final in the dual slalom on a tie breaker, while the A Team were knocked out in the first round of the same race – disqualified due to a member of the team crossing the finish line without the necessary minimum of three pieces of ski equipment attached!

It is with great sadness yet wonderful memories that I say goodbye to five years of ski racing at Harrow. I am unbelievably proud to have had the opportunity to captain such an incredible, inspirational team. In Wengen, every single boy presented himself perfectly, with respect for other racers, a great deal of ambition, and most importantly a strong sense of teamwork. I would like to thank the team for being so fantastic and I know they will be in good hands next year when Zampa takes on the captaincy. I would also like to warmly thank RRM, our coach Matt, Captain Robson of course, and Harrow School for its unwavering support for ski racing. I'm sure racing will go from strength to strength at Harrow – it has certainly formed a large part of my identity. It is a lifestyle, a passion, a collection of



excitements and what-ifs. It is a sport that relies on trust, on yourself and others. It is all about teamwork, and it has taught me that every challenge can be overcome. Ski racing is about practice, perseverance, faith and hard work, and it yields rewards of pure joy. I wish the Harrow team all the best for the future.

GOLF

*Away, Brentwood School, Lost, Regional Cup
Harrow 0-3 Brentwood*

The first outing of the calendar year saw a rusty Harrow side dominated by a very strong Brentwood side at Thorndon Park Golf Club. Historically, the team have struggled in foursomes, and the same was true today.

Toby Ferneyhough, *Elmfield* and Aidan Wong, *The Park* got off to a slow start as Brentwood started with seven straight pars. Three down with work to do, a nifty chip from Ferneyhough was enough to win the 8th. A fantastic pair of shots on the par 5 9th made the game all square at the turn. After a superb birdie by Brentwood, Ferneyhough striped a drive 295 yards down the wet fairway, and Wong put it to one foot. With the match all square, Brentwood won two in succession and Harrow were dormie two down. Wong's effort from 25ft lipped out and the match was over on the 17th. Final score 2&1

Next up for Harrow was the unbeaten duo of Victor Grant, *Moretons* and Fred Hewer, *The Park*. The boys were put under immense pressure early on after a birdie on the 1st from Brentwood put them 1up. This was quickly followed by another loss before a 10-foot putt from Grant on the 4th halved the deficit. However, the boys were never able to capitalise on this momentum as a mixture of solid golf from Brentwood and poor course management from Grant and Hewer led to them being 5 down after 9. The pair continued to battle, but ultimately their best golf deserted them on this occasion as they eventually succumbed to a 6&5 defeat, bringing an end to their 11-game winning streak.

The third pairing, looking to salvage some pride on the day, were Oliver Cheuk, *The Grove* and Thomas Tian, *Newlands*. Cheuk striped his drive straight down the fairway on the first, filling the boys with confidence early on. However, they struggled on the bumpy greens, Tian particularly rusty with his woods from a lack of matches, until on the 7th, Tian stepped up and hit the green from 190 yards followed by a comfortable two-putt par got Harrow back to 4 down. Unfortunately two birdies from Brentwood on the next five holes saw the Harrow pair fall further behind before losing the match on just the 12th hole.

Lots to work on and some tough lessons to learn after a real demolition from Brentwood.

HOCKEY

1st away v Eton College 2nd, Lost 0-1, 7 February

Away on Eton soil on a sunny but chilly afternoon, the game began strongly, with the 1st XI dominating play and constantly attacking their D in the first ten minutes. Unfortunately, despite the team's best efforts, we didn't find the back board or net of the goal in the first half. The second half began in similar fashion, but this time Eton fought stronger and took their chance on a short corner to take the lead.

2nd Team away v Eton College, Lost 0-1

A highly competitive match with great aspects of place that the boys should be proud of.

Junior Colts A v Eton College, Won 3-2

A dominant performance with goals from Tony Shi, *The Grove*, Richard Zhao and Monty Morgan, both *Rendalls*. Most valuable player was Oliver Gisborne, *Lyon's*.

Yearlings A v Eton College, Lost 2-3

The Yearlings A team lost a close game 3-2 to Eton with goals from Arun Mattu, *The Head Master's*, and Maxi Jones, *Moretons*.

1st v Forest School, Won 2-0, 9 February

Harrow School's 1st team faced off against Forest School in a highly anticipated hockey match held at the Lee Valley Olympic Park. Harrow started the game, having trained hard and consolidated their gains in preparation for the match. The team's hard work paid off, as they dominated the game from start to finish, securing a 2-0 victory.

The first goal of the game came just before half-time as a result of some impressive linking play from Harrow, who dominated the possession and created many opportunities early on. The ball was passed from the back to the midfield easily, setting up a well-timed through ball that found its way into the stick of Kalan Niyarepola, *The Head Master's*, with a slight draw pass into space where there was a clear opportunity for Captain Shrey Rawal, *Rendalls*, to strike the ball into the bottom left corner, leaving the opposition keeper stunned. The goal was testament to Harrow's superior teamwork and skill, as they moved the ball with speed and precision, reminiscent of the German team in the 2023 Hockey World Cup.

The second goal came shortly after half-time, as Freddie Emery, *Moretons*, added to Harrow's lead. Emery received the ball from a well co-ordinated passing sequence and took one touch to set up a powerful first-time strike into the bottom left corner. The goal was a display of Emery's incredible finishing skills and was a fitting reward for his outstanding performance on the day.

Forest School was unable to get a hold of the ball, as Harrow dominated possession throughout the match. Despite some key injuries before the game and new players coming into the team, congratulations must go to Oliver Gisbourne, *Lyon's*, on his first cap. Harrow was able to adapt and maintain their dominance, consolidating the gains they had made in training. The team showed great teamwork and fellowship, working together to secure the win.

The final score was 2-0, with Harrow School emerging as the clear victor. The team performed well, showing excellent teamwork, linking play and determination. It was a well-deserved win for Harrow, who consolidated their gains from training at the Lee Valley Olympic Park. The team will now look to build on this impressive performance as they gear up for their next match, raising the intensity as they progress through the competition.

RACKETS

1st v Charterhouse, Won

An excellent performance from Stephan Baranov, *Moretons*, and Veer Patel, *The Knoll*, who found top form to carve out a 3-0 win.

2nd Pair v Charterhouse, Won

Gus Stanhope, *Moretons*, and Charlie Hope, *Rendalls*, showed resilience and skill to race through the final game to complete a 3-2 win.

Colts A v Charterhouse, Won

Tom Campbell-Johnson, *Druries*, and Henry Porter, *Moretons*, overcame a fight back from Charterhouse to win 3-1. This was a tribute to the improvements both boys have made.

Junior Colts A v Charterhouse, Won

Ben Hufford-Hall, *Moretons*, and Charlie Chambers, *Rendalls*, recovered from losing the first game to take control of the rest of the match to win 3-1. Their victory was characterised by accurate serving and consistent rallying.

Yearlings A v Charterhouse, Lost

A fine effort on debut for Ned Steel, *Druries*, and Arjan Lai, *West Acre*, who clawed their way back from 0-2 to 2-2 before just missing out in a thrilling final game.

SQUASH

The School v Eton, 9 February

1st v Eton College, Won 3-2

A much reduced First V won a victory against Eton, with Jat Tse, *Rendalls*, Tarquin Sotir, *Druries*, and Tim Yu, *Moretons*, winning their matches.

Colts A v St Paul's School, Won, National Cup, Round 2

The Colts squash team reached the nationals by winning their group, beating St Paul's, Whitgift and Brentford Schools. They won 13 out of 15 matches despite facing tough opposition. Darren Chiu, Sam Blumberg, both *Newlands*, Awni Dajani, *Moretons*, Rishaad Bhushan, *The Grove*, Filip Wiszniewski, *Druries*, and George Epton, *Rendalls*, showed great character and team spirit.

After circumnavigating the M25, we reached a school with flamingos and wallabies, which was a pleasant surprise. They also had an expectedly wonderful squash facility.

Chiu won two of his matches. Facing the best player in the mini-group tournament, he led the score in the first game but ended up losing narrowly, costing him the match. Although frustrated, he now knows what he needs to do to beat this boy should he play him again.

Blumberg dominated all games, not dropping very many points at all. Some were over in what felt like seconds rather than minutes. Dajani won all three matches, racing around and getting to every ball, much to the frustration of his opponents. He had to play his last two back-to-back in order to hitch a ride to the airport, but it still didn't stop him. However, his suitcase kept captive in the bus that the driver had abandoned did nearly hinder him from getting to Heathrow on time.

Bhushan lost a close match but showed grit to win the other two. Wiszniewski, *Druries*, was excellent and toughed out a close match 2-1. Epton, *The Head Master's*, won his game well and was a positive force of energy throughout. Squash appears to be a very individual sport, but in reality, this was an excellent team performance where all the boys supported, and cheered each other to earn a place in the national final in the North for the first time in several years. On our way home, DMM drew with Chiu in chess in a game which he should have really won. More sadly for the boys, however, McDonald's was never on the cards.

Junior Colts A v Eton College, Lost

The Under-15s lost 1-4. With many players missing due to the Nationals, they put in a spirited performance but not enough to beat Eton.

Yearlings A v Eton College, Won

The Under-14s won, with an excellent five-game match for Jimi Olunloyo, *Moretons*. Congratulations to Arthur Brown, *Druries*, who won in his first representation for the School.

Ways to contact *The Harrovian*

Articles, opinions and letters are always appreciated.

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

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



CELEBRATING OUR PAST
REFOUNDING OUR FUTURE