

THE HARROVIAN

VOL. CXXXV NO.22

May 6, 2023

TOUR OF US UNIVERSITIES

On the East Coast, 26 March – 2 April

On the early morning of Sunday 26 March, just as the busy Spring term had come to an end, a group of 30 boys assembled at Heathrow, ready to embark on an intense, business-like trip down the East Coast of America that took them to no less than 15 different universities.

The trip had been organised by KAF, Miss Edgell and HRF to make sure that the boys were able to get an optimal feel for the universities they were visiting. After the group touched down at Boston Logan Airport, we quickly got our bags and set off for the first university on the agenda, Dartmouth College. Upon the arrival, we were met with a short welcome from the Admissions Director and a few OHs currently studying in different years at this Ivy League school before splitting into three separate year groups and exploring the college accompanied by current students. Many boys liked the strong sense of community and international presence at Dartmouth, something that is particularly important when the university is slightly secluded. Despite the isolation of the campus, there was no lack of opportunity for students. Our tour guides enlightened us on the vast number of activities ranging from a student-led radio and the opportunity to ski every day in the nearby mountains. The facilities were also incredible, as expected. The boys were then allowed to run free in the endless dining hall, before returning to the coach to travel to the first of the six hotels at which we slept during the trip, a Virgin Atlantic Airlines plane being the seventh one.



The next morning entailed an early start (one of many on this trip) and a short drive to Amherst College. Amherst also had a beautiful campus with well-manicured lawns, and boys were especially impressed by the substantial and modern Science Centre and the university's own natural history museum. The group was also lucky enough to take part in a useful information session in the college chapel at the start of the tour, which laid out the admissions process in a really helpful way. The next stop on our journey was Northeastern University, the first college that was properly immersed in a city. Right in the heart of Boston, Northeastern, with its unique co-op programme, demonstrated impressive qualities of research and was home to many academic buildings that left boys in awe: one was even shaped as an animal cell! Meeting the Admissions Director and yet another OH currently studying at Northeastern was a definite bonus. After this tour, the group ventured over to MIT, where, for a change, Miss Edgell was our guide. While we were only able to visit MIT unofficially as they were closed for spring break, we were able to see the university's emphasis on art in their courtyards, which makes sense given MIT's preference

for well-rounded students who study both STEM subjects as well as humanities. The magnificent buildings of MIT coupled with the picturesque setting, not to mention the prestige of the institution, appealed to many of the boys.



Day three of our tour took us to the renowned establishment of Harvard University. Here, we met with four OHs who provided lots of helpful insight into their experience at the university. Many of the group admired Harvard's history, its immense size and just how ambitious the students at the college were, our tour guide being just one example. After a quick lunch, a short journey was then made to another area of the city where the group was taken on a tour of the castle-like Boston College. This university is one of the most prominent Jesuit colleges in America. Its impressive campus and secluded nature in the middle of a city were truly impressive. The afternoon involved visiting Brown University in Providence. Here, the group was provided with an informative tour in the golden sunset by an OH currently working at Brown as a deputy rugby coach. Brown was yet again home to alluring architecture and the tour was particularly useful as great detail was provided into how boys may apply for sports scholarships at US universities. We also learnt a great deal of the unique open curriculum offered by this institution.

The first university the boys visited on the 29 March was Yale in New Haven. After the visit, many of the boys elected Yale as their absolute favourite, and justifiably so. The campus is truly stunning and the quality of education second to none. We were also met by the two OHs, who joined Yale just this academic year, at the end of our tour. The group then progressed onto the city of New York to visit NYU and Columbia University. NYU had a very independent feel to it, being the first university without a proper campus that we visited, much like the colleges of a London university. The two OHs who accompanied us during our tour before joining us for dinner were very complimentary about their experience of being NYU students. A short journey

on the New York City Subway took us to Colombia University. The beautiful campus and the stories that we heard from the OHs currently studying at Columbia as well as our guide almost instantly won the university many fans. After visiting three great US universities in just one day, the group enjoyed the dinner in the company of four OHs at the Hard Rock Cafe later that night before returning to the hotel for some well-deserved rest.

The next morning, after a rather stressful night for KAF trying to find a replacement for our broken coach, the group travelled an hour and a half to Princeton University, where Miss Edgell, a Princeton graduate herself, provided the group with an accomplished and valuable tour. The Hogwarts-like buildings set a comfortable and intriguing tone for the college, only adding to the highly respectable academic level and achievements of Princeton. Having a chance to chat over lunch with two OHs currently studying at Princeton was great. After the tour, the group travelled to Philadelphia and were shown around the University of Pennsylvania by yet another OH. The tour was extremely thorough, and focused particularly on UPenn's Business School called Wharton, and many boys left with this college high up on their lists.



The penultimate day of the trip began with a tour of John Hopkins University, which had a beautiful campus with a truly science-oriented feel to it. The university is at the forefront of US and global medical research. The tour was productive, and the boys also got to experience the dining hall, which was reviewed as having some very good chicken. After John Hopkins, the group stopped in Washington at American University. This campus positively surprised many of the boys. The tour guides were very helpful, and a lot of emphasis was placed on the variety of courses that one could take at this college.

After one final night on the American soil, the boys travelled to Georgetown University where our British tour guide, taking his first independent tour, told the group a great deal about the acclaimed college, highlighting its great location and a variety of opportunities. After a rather rainy tour, the sun appeared gloriously, casting an appreciated glow over the hungry boys as they ate their lunch. After lunch, the group travelled to the airport and commenced their overnight journeys back home after an intense but incredible trip that changed their perception of many of the famous US schools and helped them shape their future plans.

A huge thank you must go to KAF, Miss Edgell and HRF for spending many hours over a few months to plan and execute this amazing trip as well as for accompanying a small army



of Harrovians for the entire week without showing any sign of exhaustion. We are also immensely grateful to all the OHs who were so generous with their time – you have inspired and motivated us to follow in your footsteps! Last but not least, a massive thank you needs to be said to TCBC, our tour operator, who helped KAF and Miss Edgell with sorting our flights, accommodation and meals.

With so much time and effort being invested into Harrow's provision for applicants to US universities, it is clear why more and more boys choose to apply to US universities and more and more fulfil their dream of studying at some of the best universities there!

SENIOR GEOGRAPHY SOCIETY

'The Nation State is Dead?', Nicko de Labillière, The Grove, 27 April

On Thursday 27 April, the Senior Geography Society welcomed Nicko de Labillière, *The Grove*, to deliver the society's first lecture of the term, centred around exploring the lecture's eponymous question: 'The Nation State is Dead?'. De Labillière employed nuanced logic and analysis during the talk to dissect the different dimensions of the problem to discuss whether globalisation has negated national identity in the modern world.

De Labillière started the talk by defining globalisation as 'the increasing interconnectedness and interdependence of the world economically, socially, politically and culturally'. De Labillière proceeded to give examples of the increasing interconnectedness and interdependence between states in these different categories. For example, there are 65 countries whose currency is pegged on the US dollar, which demonstrates the strong economic dependence that some nations have, and the growing influence of global institutions such as the EU, the UN or WHO, which is creating increasing political interconnection around the world.

De Labillière also introduced the Time-Space Compression Theory, which, to simplify, shows the manner in which increasing globalisation around the world has been allowed to happen. Rooted in Karl Marx's theory of space-time, and later properly articulated by David Harvey in 1990, the theory of time-space compression is simple: over the last few hundred years, travel and communication have reduced dramatically. This had led to a great increase in the speed at which people can communicate across the world or travel to the other side of the planet. De Labillière showed the powerful effect of time-space compression by giving the following example: from the 16th century to the mid-19th century, we saw the use of sailboats and horses whose average speed of travel was about 10mph. However, modern passenger planes powered by propellers are capable of travelling up to 400mph. Where once it would have taken people over four months to travel from the UK to Australia, the emergence of high-powered engines means that this trip is shortened to merely hours in the modern world.

The result of time-space compression is the dramatic increase in global trade; shorter shipping routes and faster transportation mean that trading can be done with a much higher efficiency. This also leads to an important increase in research and development, with the rise of various TNCs (transnational corporation). Westfield, de Labillière said, is an example of a massive TNC that owns, constructs and manages huge shopping centres, with 35 different locations in Australia, USA and Europe. The company is valued at \$31 billion and is a clear example of globalisation.

To show the effects of globalisation on national identities, De Labillière started by showing examples of some of the oldest surviving peoples in the world and how deep-rooted national

identity is. The San people, located in southern Africa, are the oldest, dating back over 100,000 years. They are mostly known for being friendly, creative and peaceful people, which probably is a factor in the long survival. De Labillière underlined this is as an interesting example to show how people can survive thousands of years without globalisation or the influence of other cultures. However, as globalisation accelerated in the 20th century and countries advanced in urbanisation and urban sprawl, we have seen a sad sharp decline in the number of African tribes, destroying their national identities.

De Labillière went on to argue that although globalisation is becoming a more important issue in the news and around the world, the statistics about globalisation and migration could be misleading. Indeed, even looking at the UK, which is praised as one of the most diverse countries in the world with a very high percentage who identify as BAME (Black, African and minority ethnic), by zooming closer into the demographic make-up of the country, we see that different ethnic groups are segregated into different areas in the UK. Therefore, in that sense, the national identity of the different cultural groups in the UK is not destroyed. Instead, they are preserved and segregated into different areas.

Lastly, De Labillière concluded that the effect of globalisation on the nation-state is not as significant as most people would think. Although we see losses of ancient traditions, as well as increasing migrant population causing divisions between cultural groups and loss of local brands, overall, nearly all countries still have their own traditions and celebrations as well as most having their own language and currency.

PERCEVAL SOCIETY

'The Impacts of the 2010 FIFA World Cup',

Tobi Olorode, Elmfield

On Tuesday night in the OH Room, Tobi Olorode, *Elmfield*, delivered a talk on the subject of the 2010 FIFA World Cup.

Olorode began by explaining that the 2010 FIFA World Cup had an impact not only the host country, South Africa, but also on the African continent, in both a positive and negative sense. Since it is such a loved and respected competition, sometimes people fail to see some ramifications more clearly.

Next, Olorode delved deeper into the background of the World Cup to further educate the audience on why it is such a prestigious event. Olorode explained that, at the time, FIFA had a policy in place to rotate the World Cup among the different football confederations, and Africa was chosen for 2010. Bids came from South Africa, Egypt and Morocco, with a joint bid from Libya and Tunisia. In May 2004, it was announced that South Africa would be hosts after receiving 14 votes compared to Morocco's ten, with the other candidates receiving none. Despite concerns that the location would be changed due to poor planning and organisation, the World Cup went ahead: the first ever World Cup hosted by an African nation. Won by Spain in extra time against the Netherlands, it was truly a memorable event.

Following this, Olorode talked about how, in the six years the announcement that they would be hosting the competition, South Africa had to undergo extensive preparation and planning to ensure the facilities were of a high enough standard for players, coaches and fans, both on and off the pitch. Improvements were also made to public transport and infrastructure. Furthermore, the World Cup required people to work in areas such as tourism, broadcasting and administrative roles, which created jobs for many South Africans. In construction alone, reports state the World Cup created 130,000 jobs (66,000 of which were from stadiums, generating over £300 million in wages) and the World

Cup indirectly resulted in a gain of 415,000 jobs. This allowed South Africans to acquire a source of income, which increased their quality of life and reduced poverty.

Later, Olorode detailed the positive impact of the World Cup for South Africa on their infrastructure. Overall, South Africa spent over £2.4 billion in preparation. This significant outlay was spread across building and improving accommodation (such as hotels), renovating airports, upgrading road networks, investing in public transport (such as rapid bus transport systems), refining public facilities and technology (over 128,000km of new fibres were installed across the country). The stadium that hosted the final, Soccer City, is the largest stadium in Africa and the international airport is ranked as number one among all African airports. This improvement in infrastructure also improved the tourism economy of South Africa. The tournament presented an opportunity for the eyes of the world to be opened to the cultural and physical appeal of South Africa, and for fans to gain first-hand experience of the country's tourist potential. The department of sport in South Africa reported that each visitor spent on average around £500, bringing in a cumulative £160 million, with the highest percentage (31%) being on shopping. The effect of all this was that more taxes trickled through to the South African government and ultimately, the World Cup added 0.5%—or £4 billion to South Africa's GDP. Perhaps the biggest development after the surprising success of the World Cup was South Africa's invitation to join Brazil, Russia, India and China in the BRIC group of economies. All of these points are connected and ultimately led to an improvement in South Africa's economy.

Next, Olorode described how this event helped to unify the country. In the 20th century, racial segregation was very prevalent in South African society due to apartheid. The World Cup instilled a shared sense of identity and patriotism amongst fans. However, the World Cup wasn't all rosy – there were some difficulties, as well as inequality, when it came to reaping the benefits of hosting the tournament.

The main negative point of the World Cup was that it did not help the poor. A quarter of the country lived in poverty at the time, with 42.9% of South Africans living on less than \$2 a day. South Africans mostly complained that money could have been better spent elsewhere in areas such as education, it wasn't spent in poorer areas, construction workers were underpaid, overpriced train tickets, match tickets were not easily accessible, and local businesses were shut out.

Finally, Olorode said that the biggest negative to come out of a World Cup that carried so much promise was the lack of progress with regards to football in Africa following the tournament. The stadiums weren't properly maintained or cared for, the standards of the African national teams remained poor, the national leagues continued to have low-quality players, there was a severe lack of investment in the youth, and corruption remained.

LONDON SYMPHONY

*Gustav Mahler's 7th Symphony, Sir Simon Rattle
Barbican, 23 April*

On Sunday 23 April, a group of musicians primarily from the Sixth Form braved the tube trip to the Barbican, looking forward to what would undoubtedly be a fantastic evening watching the world-class London Symphony Orchestra perform Gustav Mahler's *7th Symphony* conducted by Sir Simon Rattle. On arrival Andre Ma, *Moretons*, found the time to set a world-record attempt for the fastest San Pellegrino ever drunk, after he bought the drink before realising that it could not be brought into the theatre. Other than this minor hiccup (perhaps literally in Ma's case,) we made it to our seats and sat down to witness

what was a simply superb concert. The symphony itself is one of the least performed and subsequently one of the least well-known of Mahler's great symphonies. The Austrian wrote the piece in a somewhat peculiar order, sketching the second and fourth movements immediately after finishing his *6th Symphony* in 1904, before completing the first, third and fifth movements in just four weeks in his summer home in Austria several months later. We were also treated to the playing of some quite unconventional instruments as a result of Mahler's choice of instrumentation for the symphony, with the work featuring the tenor horn, cowbells, mandolin and guitar. The trip was rounded off with a visit to enjoy the fine delicacies available at the Golden Arches. Thanks should go to WJC for organising this trip on a Sunday evening and taking us to a wonderful concert.



OPINION

DEAR SIRs,

I've been "on the prowl" (to quote a beak) around the Vaughan, scouting out all those pretty, old images of the School that we crack out for open morning. I noticed that, by comparison, our current School seems an empty and charmless shell of what it used to be. Nowadays, we have (for some reason) hordes of polite Belgian, German and French tourists who come to boredly marvel at such earthly pleasures as our concrete blocks and asphalt yard; I fear they may be a bit disappointed. I suppose that black and white photographs easily lead to misplaced nostalgia. But, somehow, I can't help but think that bringing back the ivy that used to drape off Speech Room would go a long way to making everything a bit more beautiful.

But the point of this letter is to express my anger (well, as angry as any under-50 year old could feasibly be on such a topic) at the future loss of the overhanging wisteria, ivy and trellis by the SCH, which is being removed in preference for "a more open, prison feel". This in addition to the new, great, concrete block in the shape of the new science building. How awful! Who did they hire to design that monster? The Shell DTE form could do better with Onshape. We are responsible for the longevity of this unique hill, and we're turning it into a Chernobyl recreation. And why, when looking up from the beauty of our cricket fields, with my eyes bouncing over the roofs of those unreasonably derelict Georgian cottages scattered

up the Hill, back up to the High Street where the old men Moretons and Druries mock me from over the rambling hovels, do I have to look at the flat, blunt façade of the Ryan Theatre? It would reduce Byron to tears. To quote someone "creation is only as bad as the creator".

Yours huffingly,
NICK ARNISON, *MORETONS*

DEAR SIRs,

During this time of the year, when everyone is so busy (particularly the exam year groups), I would rather like to write a short, subtle letter all the students. Speaking as a Fifth Former, the GCSE exams seem far away but very close at the same time. The exams are definitely manageable, but we fall accordingly to our mind's instinct to procrastinate over, over... and over. Without a doubt, this includes myself as well. Sometimes, we feel crammed from the pressure that has been accumulating, whether it is from exams or just a normal School life. This is not unusual, but rather natural because we are humans. All the stress and anticipation are daunting, almost nauseating if you cannot tolerate them; nonetheless, the fact that they are motivation and meaning in life is inarguably convincing. And, sometimes, we push ourselves right to the edge of the cliff, or just a few steps into taking a risk. On one hand, a challenging risk commonly turns into a form of stress; on the other hand, an easy goal usually ends up with nothing. Life is like balancing these edges of risks – and may, in fact, be the purpose of our lives. Though we may be stressed and agonised, particularly at this time of the year, why don't we risk ourselves a step further – just enough to make you moving ahead?

Yours faithfully,
RAY MOON, *WEST ACRE*

DEAR SIRs,

"You leave out God, and you substitute the Devil," said one Mr Churchill (OH). I am afraid these words ring like bells early on a Sunday morning, awakening the Hill to painful reality. Last week, in St Mary's, God was left out. In fact, there was not a single prayer, hymn, or thought to ponder. The word "God" was not spoken once by The Park's 'chapel' 'service'. What was the topic deemed more important than our Salvation? 'Twas honouring the green-haired worriers (not the 'e' rather than 'o') who fight to keep cars on the road and hearts in hatred. Indeed, The Park determined 'Just Stop Oil' to be a crucial topic of discussion for a chapel service. This is unacceptable for many reasons.

Firstly, when one comes for one's biweekly indoctrination, one expects to be bombarded with nonsense about God, something the likes of Aquinas might discuss, rather than a typical topic for Piers Morgan. If you could not tell, even a heathen like me expects to hear of God in chapel. In fact, I even enjoy the glorious hymns and intriguing sermons. This is an issue that has developed particularly with House chapel services. Discussing respect, war, diversities and 'civil disobedience' with no reference to the Christian doctrine is a maddening activity for chapel. It is also a disgraceful waste to avoid singing a hymn, something to get boys on their feet, and actually listening. Even if it is a mere Fr James solo, it is much better than an inappropriate lack of song, or a commiserating cello piece. I call this a waste because the School has excellent organists at its fingertips, and at their fingertips are the keys to excellent organs that could unlock unattested emotion. Churchill would weep, knowing that the devil had been substituted.

However, the lack of holiness was not the only issue with it all, for this seems to be a consistently growing issue. The topic of 'civil disobedience' is one that The Park would know about! The Park spoke of the brilliance of two activists imprisoned for years after committing the same crime that the speakers did: being a 'public nuisance'. They spouted nonsense that suggested that causing several deaths was (in fact) a great service

to us. Taking such a controversial (not to mention incorrect) stance in a service is comparable to backing Mr Putin in his super-curricular activities. This is not something one does in a church. One may say that all education is indoctrination; yet, one does not expect such an obvious attempt. The preachy lack of preaching was completely unacceptable, and perhaps the review process of these things could be looked into.

It was also a shame that, during The Park's abomination, The Grove gave a true service to the other half of the School, referencing scripture and theology as one ought to expect.

Yours religiously,
R T M YOUNG, *THE GROVE*

GAFFE AND GOWN

Quips from around the Hill

"Sir, is gravity more or less ten?" "Less."

"Boy, this is terribly incorrect." "No Sir, it was an intellectual gambit."

"Sir, I think we can all agree that you are our best tutee we ever had."

"No paper? What is more important, your grades or trees? I am gonna print your papers and after exams you can plant a tree in your garden."

"You're wrong! Pescatarians are people who *cannot* eat fish!" "So, are you saying that vegetarians cannot eat vegetables?"

"Sir, surely global warming can't be that bad, think about what happened in the ice age."

REFLECTIONS ON OUR PSHE

by Arjan Kular, Elmfield

PSHE is the one lesson that is required, by law, to be taught in all schools throughout England and Wales. There is a reason for this, stated in the statutory guidance document for RSE and Health Education, in a foreword by the Secretary of State for Education. It states that 'children and young people need to know how to be safe and healthy, and how to manage their academic, personal, and social lives in a positive way'. To put it simply, PSHE is one of the few lessons that teaches you how to function in society.

So how can we make PSHE lessons better and more engaging for boys and beaks alike? How can we further improve PSHE lessons so that Boys better understand the context and purpose of what they are being taught?

Before we start, I would like to note that I am aware of the heavy constraints and strict guidelines that the government has placed on the curriculum for PSHE (I have also read that statutory guidance). These solutions are less about the curriculum and more about the approaches to teaching PSHE and how they could be changed.

Why is PSHE important?

Before we can attempt to further improve PSHE, we must consider why the subject is important to both boys and beaks.

PSHE is essentially a lesson in tolerance. In order to understand those around you who are not like you, you must learn about them. It doesn't matter if it is about race, religion, sexuality,

or gender. You must learn about the struggles marginalised people have encountered. You must also understand that the struggles of these people continue to this day, and that being a passive onlooker is not enough, but that boys should actively fight alongside them as allies.

PSHE also helps boys figure out how to live their lives. It provides valuable advice on what is simply 'how to adult'. How to progress and develop as a human being are things to be learnt. One also must be taught to be tolerant and manage exam stress, to understand sexual health and be anti-racist, to be able to build strong relationships, and to maintain a healthy sleep schedule.

I spoke to BAM on the topic and he provided an insightful point of view. He said if we don't teach these subjects, then "boys will go online and they will find other people's opinions about these topics and you might be exposed to a very biased point of view about some of the topics that are covered"

PSHE also covers a wide range of subjects. Often these subjects rear their heads in current affairs. LGBTQ+ rights at the Qatar World Cup, misogyny and rape with Andrew Tate, and many others. Therefore, it is imperative that boys are able to understand what is fundamentally wrong and what is controversial, as well as why.

Possible improvements

At a different point every week, boys gather in their respective Tutor's form rooms for either PSHE work or miscellaneous administrative work such as targets or reports. The bell rings and the boys rush out the door.

The biggest problem here is the 'floating' nature of the lessons. It is never at a set time in the timetable. MMA says that "it is unhelpful for boys and beaks alike". Many boys have asked for PSHE to become a set lesson in the timetable, to make it seem more like a lesson and less like a free period. I understand this is difficult to do as no subject wants to give up precious lesson time, but the floating PSHE lesson, while useful to ensure not too many of the same lessons are missed, does disrupt lesson plans if an exercise was going to span a double period.

When questioning BAM about the issue, he agreed that the 'floating' lesson is sub-optimal. He thinks that a set lesson would make PSHE feel far more formal and feel more like a lesson compared with its current format. He did say that it is a constant challenge to find a slot and I completely understand that.

A second – and perhaps more important – matter to consider is the way tutors approach the lessons. Some beaks treat PSHE as just a lesson with content to learn, similar to Physics or Mathematics. PSHE cannot be taught in this way, it is far too nuanced and diverse for that. Such approaches are not beneficial for students, who become bored or confused. The beak picks up on this and likewise becomes disaffected. Boys cannot simply sit in the form room and learn these things. Each topic that is covered is a whole curriculum in itself. In addition, some beaks engage less well than others with the material and digress too often. Moreover, too often PSHE lessons are given over to administrative matters e.g. targets, Long Ducker fundraising and reports, and this further muddies the waters as to what PSHE is and what it isn't. I understand that these things are important, but surely some other time can be found for them.

Suggestions

When discussing the subject with BAM, he mentioned how PSHE has improved vastly compared to how it was a few years ago. Now I offer some suggestions. These suggestions have been created from feedback I received from different boys.

Asking for a Friend

The 'Asking for a Friend' programme has had positive feedback from some of the boys to whom I have spoken. However, it could be further improved with some form of integration with the PSHE lessons. Perhaps the questions and their respective answers could be incorporated into the lessons based on the topic at hand. This would greatly help as the questions would be submitted by boys and are therefore more likely to be relevant

to them. The questions would also help keep PSHE relevant to things that are happening more recently.

More training

BAM has mentioned how the Tutors and the Head of PSHE (himself) regularly meet to discuss the topics that have been covered, as well as future topics. I am also aware that, before we returned to School for the Spring term, the Tutors received an insert on drugs, which greatly helped their ability to teach the subject. I know that there are plans for some training in the future, but based on feedback I received from beaks, more training is never a bad thing as it gives Tutors confidence to approach the topic.

More engaging lessons

Almost all boys have mentioned a need for a more engaging format for the lessons. The PowerPoint is often clung to by some less confident Tutors as something to get through, as MMA said, "PowerPoints are a good guide, but shouldn't be treated as the whole lesson". A more conversation-based, Q&A-style format would be useful.

Clearer curriculum

Some boys find the current content and curriculum plan confusing and are not always sure how each topic can relate to the other topics covered in a similar time period. Making the curriculum plan clearer to boys could help them understand what they are learning and how it relates to previous things they have learned.

Externals

One boy suggested that, on an infrequent basis, perhaps at the end of a term or topic, one of the nurses or the School Psychologist/Counsellor could come in for an AMA on the topic that has been covered. For example, after a series of lessons on Sex Ed one of the nurses could come in for an AMA, perhaps with questions sent in anonymously from the previous Tutor period for boys who are not comfortable with asking their questions out loud. This would contribute to the discursive format that was mentioned earlier.

Splitting Tutor periods and PSHE

A way to solve the curriculum confusion that occurs with Tutor periods being mixed with PSHE would be to split the two. PSHE would get the floating (or hopefully fixed) lesson slot, while Tutor periods could occur for half an hour during prep. After all, Tutor periods rarely last the full 40 minutes.

METROPOLITAN

AUGUSTUS FLEET POETRY COMPETITION

This year's Augustus Fleet Poetry Competition saw boys from each year submit poems of at least fourteen lines on the topic of 'Home'. The florilegium of verse written, portraits of homes from around the world, of homes lost, and of homes fondly remembered, is a testament to the emotional and creative depths of Harrovians. The idea of home can be complex at an all-boarding school, and, from cookie recipes to the homesickness of classical heroes, the boys have had the honesty, the bravery, and the wherewithal to grapple with that complexity head-on.

Shell

There was a glut of strong poems from the Shells, perhaps with the concept of a 'home away from home' settling in their minds, the memory of that first September still fresh. For his submission, Timi Aiyeola's, *The Grove*, 'War is Home' sketches the idealism of a young soldier, whose yearning

to fight for 'freedom, liberty and justice' stabs him like a 'bayonet piercing [his] heart'. In the face of the impassive cruelty of war, however, such idealism turns to disillusionment as he faces up to the contradictions of medals won through the spilling of blood. On the other end of the tonal spectrum, Arthur Cullinane's, *The Head Master's*, 'Black Cookies' reads like a recipe with the cookie mix 'soothed in the oven' at a 'loving temperature' until finally the magical cookies are 'eaten', that word standing out in the final line on its own as if recreating how quickly they are gone. It is a beautiful piece that evokes the sensory nostalgia for home; there is nothing more homely than food.

The runner-up for the Shells was Alexander Long, *The Park*, whose 'Home is a personal place' reminds its reader that no matter how broken or dented or scratched a memory of home might be, it is important to remember that some have 'never had home or wall'. What is particularly good about Alexander's piece is his control of rhythm and rhyme to create a proverbial tone:

Home is a personal place,
With many a dent and scratch,
But overall it is your base,
And you will never get away from that.

The Shell winner was John Chow, *Elmfield*, with 'Butterfly'. In this poem, John gives life to the tummy butterflies, animating that mix of nervousness and excitement felt in the move from home to home:

BUTTERFLY

Fluttering wings in my heart,
Like the pluck of a string,
Its resonance soaring.
Hesitant, restless
Are the wings in my heart.

Deep down, deep, deep down
The cage, with its bars of gold
As the wings struggle in the cold.
Shivering in the dark, timorous

Are the wings in my heart.
A swerve, a realisation, a change.
The butterfly seeks
Desperately for help.
Looking out there, wearily but warily,
Are the wings in my heart.
Hope, radiance, happiness,
The true meaning of home, of being in glee
Discovered.
Gliding in the air
Are the inspiring wings out there.

Out stretches the exquisite wings.
Mind and heart awakens
As the cage weakens.
Inspired and uplifted
Are the wings in my heart.

Hopeful, radiant, happy,
Longing for the past,
But thrilled for the future,
Always at home
Is the fledging butterfly in the sky.

Remove

There are some extremely talented poets in the Removes. There were five or six poems that could have taken the top two places, demonstrating an impressive array of styles and interpretations of the theme. Of particular note was Andy Li's,

Moretons, sonnet, 'Where light blankets ripple', a poignant depiction of our universal home, of the earth's 'lush, waving blades', of mankind's cultural memory 'buried in thick vaults of stone', of the afterlife 'past final goodbyes'. The poem ends with a lamenting final couplet, demanding why 'we still pour oil on a fire in plain sight'. There is something both soothing and unsettling about the refrain, the truncated fourth line of each quatrain, 'I am home [...] You are home [...] We are home', at once a comforting sense unity and a call for collective responsibility.

Tony Shi, *The Grove*, was the runner-up in the Removes with 'Memories and Moonlight'. His masterfully crafted Shakespearean sonnet, written in an iambic pentameter punctuated with effective metrical play, conjures the great epic wanderers Aeneas and Odysseus, hoping their tales away from home might soothe the poet's homesickness. It is a masterclass in poetic form.

The winner was Jonathan Ford, *West Acre*, whose 'Elegy for the AIDs victim with no home' is a powerful recreation of the disordered mind of a man denied a home in a society that shuns him. Jonathan has included a short explanation at the end of his poem:

ELEGY FOR THE AIDS VICTIM WITH NO HOME

plasticine face, gaze upon
Chilled-eye plastic blues
they will howl from L.A.
Scream; my time is due
father, hate
Let thee bore the spirit of my heart
pit of my throat
pull; no compassion part

damp, shiver sweat
to reveal of inhibition
I purge the coarse blood
bound to home like a dog

canvass mother, dust the tear
paint kitchen-tile madness
Sob in cigarillo, burn to ash
when he is but empty caskets

python the myth
syphon blood of poison in flesh
Or mind, not to know
the curse of body spits blood; fresh
illuminate my sin
shadow; man's love for man
come on me armed and sudden
Marred by soul; preserved in home

Father, rip of me the red doves
kill the child who loves
Mother, burn the house
I live in crimson and clover clouds.

//

The cherub grows wings, ruptures of feathered wax
The prayers foam in my mouth, come platinum and dead
The angels drown in whirlpools of blood; convulse
The nursery of home is in flames; hands are up
The glass coffin of my mind, shatter in waves to worship
The father who has no one to call him father
The trail of passage alive in ash from the taste of temptation
The pills cost too much. The pills cost too much.

//

stare fixated in a porcelain gaze
hold me tight; I crack
in the gyration of your soul
Perhaps I should let my blood

devour my demise
If you hold me tight, I crack
in place of delicate permission
to abuse the heart but never the mind
at my home address

illuminate the neon glow
the grit of his embrace
new dawn drowned
in the choked blood of a throat
he is indifferent; intolerant affections of a stranger
in the piss-golden gaze of the sun
spit in my face; I die in his arms
I purge my blood of him
crawl back like a dog

He curses my blood
flows from below his grasp
my Auto-Immunity burns
a Deficient Syndrome
born with polaroid eyes
the diffused children are in my veins
I am born back to his whip; home
bathe him in my tears
blissful narration.

//

All i desire is dead
I have no temptation
He drowns me: the dead angels that tell dead jokes
A legacy of child in portrait; parenthood is a ravaging fire
Crawl forth upon the lion-cave of his mouth
Grinning ghosts tell jokes of departed souls
The blood of unborn children drowned and cold
In the ashes of a home

Shrug my bitter farewell

Bring thorns to my funeral
Glittering blood in luminescence under the false glow of love
That is born from the pounding of the heart to the lonely
island cliffs
Contortion in bitter confrontation, quiet collusions of the death
Cursed in the falcon's talons, behold my mind and flesh
Of holy disposition I lay, begging, crawling to pray
The elegy of the heart.

//

the black lacquer home of his
beats on skeleton ribs
expanse of skin bruised
in the temple of my soul

bloom in red convulses
let it spill for it will rot
born to creation
of the prostitution of the heart

the phantom of past; trash and burn
his dead gift in swollen churches
home for only night
I run; I don't know how but

empathy costs money to rent
blood blots; it blackens the paper
I am no good. I am no good. Every time
I set a home to flames.

//

But what if he, who dressed in python, presents to me the
fruit of desire
A want to fall within warmth of a darkness known with
blood on the brain

Watch me choke into pleasure or bleed into life for whatever,
 it does not matter
 The nurse is clothed in white; angel of death is golden
 To have felt everything the death sentence promises futile
 nothing
 the meat of salt burns from the wound of my being
 Burnt blood burns to cavernous depth in the plunge of a
 gravestone
 I climb on my shoulders to see the valley of his chest which
 I call home when he does not hit me
 No strong mind to be betrayed by my own weak body
 Falling apart, I will not die on the news; I will fade thinner
 thinner thinner thinner
 Will they strip me for my burial as I return home?
 Will they nourish me with alcohol breath under cascading
 dust?
 Will they kiss what is left of me and bless me to be forgiven
 of my sins?
 Will they take my chalice of blood and mark a renewed
 home of earth?
 Will they bury me as a queer? Will they stitch me together
 to mould a new hell?
 Will they bury me as a nomad: no family; no home?
 //
 To live
 If this is death
 I yearn to die
 mellow into earth and slash the kiss of my lips
 If he kills me
 bang bang; kiss kiss.

In this poem, I detail the homosexual experience of the 1980s. From an early coming out to his parents before contracting HIV and the associated shame and stigma, I attempt to describe the pain of not having a home. Through multi-layered references to Sylvia Plath, Allen Ginsberg, The Stonewall Riots and the little-known Mattachine Review, the work is in some ways a curation of the queer sensibility. Its jagged and broken nature that either does not fill the line as expected or overruns in an avalanche of enjambement simulates the fractured state of mind amongst many stigmatised gay men in the 1980s.

In references to mythology, Chinese history and lore as well as a fixation on blood (the aspect of an AIDS victim societally-viewed as 'tainted' and 'dirty'), the poem translates a sense of pain and longing for home beyond temporal clefs and geographical boundaries. Set up to demonstrate periods of time (and echoes of the past and future together), the sections in italics are often melodramatic and deeply depressing. This was the culmination of research I did about the AIDS crisis as well conversations with victims, with a patchwork of their stories being stitched together to form something rejuvenating in frank discussion of pain. If there was one word which I would use to describe the crisis, it would be one of pure fright and solitude.

The withdrawals and rejections of society and queer society reflected a pain in living and a tendency (as our protagonist seeks) for self-destruction. In a way, the poem is like a suicide note, or a piece written in contemplation of death, with the narrator on an illegal drug sourced to attempt to cure him of the condition (a combination of amphetamines and cocaine). The narrator, writing in hallucination, depicts a devoured and decaying world, which in turn destroys himself and his mind. As a result, he has lost his sense of self and being which curates a holistic, individual environment of home. Home is no longer physical, but a state of mind in which the frames of society begin the ravaging flame of mind, that kills and burns any return to peace and home. As a result, there is no settling rhyme scheme or meter: both exist in the poem, but are constantly shifting and halting, interrupted in suspension of time as a home of mind burns.

This is dedicated to all victims of the AIDS crisis.

BEES

A faint humming sound drifts across my brain. The bees are hard at work today. From a plant with leaves shaped like a heart sprout the delicate, drooping flowers. Each shining petal bathing in the glory of the sunlight.

From within one of these divine florets, a bee emerges. Its fuzzy body painted black and yellow. It hungrily buzzes after its next meal. The flower next door meets the same fate.

More bees arrive, at least four are guzzling on the sweet nectar that these white droplets in the green haze give them. They fly from flower to flower, sticking their little heads inside the petals and exiting covered in a yellowy powder. The price of their gift, a dispersal of their pollen.

As each bee travels towards its next destination the powder falls from their bodies onto the ground below. Particles glimmer in the sunlight as they drift downwards. Lucky pieces of flower dust will find their way to the awaiting flower-heads, soon to abandon their petals and turn into seeds.

And as soon as it began, the feast was over. The bees, now slow and full, return to their hive to deposit the gift of the flowers and begin their journey anew.

SPORT

NATIONAL SCHOOLS RACKETS DOUBLES QUEENS CLUB

After the successes of Tarquin Sotir, *Druries*, and Stephan Baranov, *Moretons*, in winning the two senior rackets events, hopes were high as we entered nine pairs in the National Doubles Competition at Queens Club. We were the third seeds in the 1st Pair and Under-15 Competitions, and the second seeds in the 2nd Pairs event.

In the 1st pair competition Sotir and Alonso Fontana, *The Grove*, won a comfortable opening match against Radley 3-0. They then played our own 2nd pair of Baranov and Veer Patel, *The Knoll*, in the quarter-final. The 2nd pair had qualified for the event by reaching the semi-final of the 2nd Pair competition. Formula 1 team orders were not necessary as the 1st pair played at a very high level to win 3-0. The much-anticipated semi-final against Eton, the second seeds was full of drama. After Eton grabbed hold of the first game, they advanced to 13-5 up in the 2nd game. A dramatic turn around came as we wrestled control to win the game 17-14. Both Sotir and Fontana were right at the top of their game. Eton regrouped to win the third game but we started the fourth with some explosive play to get to 14-5 up. Eton then did to us what we had done to them in the second game and won the game 17-14 and the match by three games to one. It was a heart-breaking way to go out to the eventual winners, but both boys should be very proud of the level that they got to and the huge effort they put in.

In the 2nd pair Doubles we had three pairs representing the School. Patel and Baranov as the 2nd pair, Mostyn Fulford, *The Knoll*, and Charlie Hope, *Rendalls*, as the 3rd pair and Brij Sheopuri, *Lyon's*, and Charlie Nelson, *Bradlys*, as the 4th pair. Fulford and Hope had travelled three days earlier and produced an excellent display to beat the Wellington 1st pair on their own court. Marlborough fought very hard against them and won a close contest 3-1. Hope and Fulford found it tough to reach their top level. Sheopuri and Nelson played with verve and energy to upset the Eton 3rd pair with a fine display before running into the buzzsaw of the 1st seeds Tonbridge.

The 2nd pair reached the semi-finals without much trouble. They played an intelligent Eton pair in the semi-final that pushed



us hard and Sheopuri's calm head helped Baranov through a difficult period before they regained control to win 3-1. The final pitted us against the 1st seeds Tonbridge who were both savage ball strikers. We had played them two months previously and were well beaten. The final was full of twists and turns and inevitably went to the final game. Sheopuri showed a wonderful temperament throughout and served with real intelligence. Baranov confirmed his outstanding improvement and we held it together to win 3-2. This was a triumph for temperament as much as talent. A wonderful effort from both boys.

In the Colts Doubles we had two pairs. Tom Campbell-Johnson, *Druries*, and Henry Porter, *Moretons*, played at their top level to beat Marlborough 3-0, and followed this with another effective display to beat St Paul's 3-0 before losing to the 2nd seeds Tonbridge. A fine effort from both boys. Algy Royle, *Rendalls*, and Jaden Lim, *The Head Master's*, fought hard but went out 0-3 in their first round.

In the Junior Colts Doubles we had three pairs. Jack Nelson, *Bradlys*, and Ben Hufford-Hall, *Moretons*, were our 1st pair. Charlie Chambers and Diego Castellano, *Rendalls*, were our 2nd pair and Peter Ballingal, *Moretons*, and Filip Wiszniewski, *Druries*, were our 3rd pair. The 2nd pair won a convincing first match before losing to Charterhouse 0-3, with Chambers unfortunate to be a little under the weather after a bug. The 3rd pair of Ballingal and Wiszniewski won a tight match against Radley before playing with real spirit against our 1st pair in a 0-3 reversal. Our 1st pair played strongly to reach the semi-final. This was a tight, high-quality affair we eventually lost 1-3 to the eventual winners St Paul's. Both Nelson and Hufford-Hall showed tenacity and skill and will surely feature at the business end of events in the future.

All 18 boys deserve a great degree of credit for their collective efforts. So much so that we won the Mark Faber Cup for the most successful school for the first time since 2000. To win three of the four senior events is a great tribute to the skill, determination and passion of an outstanding Upper Sixth group who have been outstanding role models to the younger boys coming through.

GOLF

The School v Haileybury, Lost, Friendly, Lost 3-0

A development golf team took on a strong Haileybury side at Northwood on Thursday, sadly losing out in all three tight encounters.

School v OHGS, Lost, Friendly, Lost 2.5-0.5

The golf team took on a talented and experienced group of Old Harrovians in heavy rain at Northwood on Thursday. The OHs were too strong on the day and Harrow succumbed to a defeat with only Oliver Cheuk and Fred Hower managing to salvage a half in their high quality match.

SWIMMING

A Team v Reed's School, home, 27 April

On Thursday, Harrow welcomed the rapidly improving Reeds School for a top-level schools swimming competition. Both schools have had great success at the recent Bath Cup, and this was a highly anticipated gala. Originally, Wellington School were due to take part in the event as well but were unfortunately unable to field a team.

The gala certainly did not disappoint, with Reeds taking an early lead by winning the first two events. Harrow rallied very quickly with inspiring swims from Kiefer Yeo, *The Head Master's*, and Seb Moscoso, *The Knoll*, in the senior 100m individual medley. In the next group of events, two of Harrow's newest swimmers Bomi Shodipo, *The Grove*, and Otis Farrer-Brown, *Newlands*, both swam personal best times and, not to be out done in the Intermediate age group, Joseph Li, *The Grove*, swam a term best of 28.79 seconds for 50m backstroke followed closely by Eric Lesesne, *West Acre*, recording a time of 29 seconds. Personal best times were also set by Raulph Lubbe, *The Grove*, and John Yap, *Newlands*. Moreover, the senior boys, Justin, Charlie, and captain James Rates, *Newlands*, also raised their game, winning and coming second and third. Thomas Williams, *The Head Master's*, was swimmer of the meet with two great personal best times firstly in the 100m individual medley before finishing second behind Reeds' top swimmer in the 50m breaststroke.

By the end of the individual events, the match was only split by four points. Harrow then showed their strength in depth in the relays by winning five out of the six events, which resulted in the hosts winning the gala comfortably in the end.

CRICKET

The XI home v Hampton School, 27 April

The XI missed out on victory against Hampton as rain curtailed their match on Thursday. Harrow bowled aggressively and accurately with Cameron Ellis, *Rendalls*, and Shrey Rawal, *Rendalls*, particularly impressing. All the bowlers were ably backed up in the field and this made scoring difficult for the Hampton side and they eventually concluded their 50 overs on 151/9. Sadly heavy rain arrived as the players were having lunch and no further cricket was played. The XI will look to carry their bowling form into their next fixture against away at Stowe on the North Front on Saturday.

Cameron Ellis, *Rendalls*, 3-18, Shrey Rawal *Rendalls*, 2-11, Brij Sheopuri, *Lyon's*, 2-31

2nd XI away v Hampton School

Match abandoned after 30 overs. Hampton School 2nd XI 145-6 (30 overs) (Arhan Maker, *Druries*, 4-41).

After an expensive start from the team's two left-arm seamers, Jack Artis, *The Head Master's*, bowled with great economy and Gabriel Harrington-Myers, *Bradlys*, delivered his best spell to date; this formidable pair of spinners were responsible for dismissing Hampton's openers. Artis ended with figures of 1-12 off his six overs and Harrington-Myers ended with 1-22 off his six overs. When the pair completed their spells, Hampton were just 78-2 off 20 overs. Arhan Maker, *Druries*, then entered the attack, moving the ball into the right-handed batsmen, and while he proved easier for them to get away, he picked up four wickets. It should be noted that two of these were thanks to the impressive work of Dylan Rawal, *Bradlys*, behind the stumps. A stinging catch by Caspar Baker, *Moretons*, at cover was the only other incident of note before the rain prevented Harrow from facing a single ball after tea.

Junior Colts A away v Hampton School, Won by 9 wickets

The boys set off from the Parade Ground feeling rather pessimistic as it looked to be another washed-out Saturday

fixture. After a brisk bus journey, we arrived at TW12 and rushed towards our pitch. Hampton won the toss and elected to bat, which was bold given our bowling attack. Our openers started well; after a quick-thinking run out in the first over from Dario Holland, *The Park*, and an in-swinging yorker from Neharen Inpan, *Bradlys*, Harrow had their tails up.

However, the Hampton pair settled nicely and looked to kick on but after some good squeezing from Harrow, Arthur Cutler, *The Knoll*, picked up the big wicket of Hampton's opener with a fine caught and bowled. From then on wickets began to tumble. Jack Nelson, *Bradlys*, took 2 from 2 after the catch of the day from William Codrington, *Rendalls*, at catching extra cover. Then came a rather surprising but superb run out by Neharen Inpan, *Bradlys*, from a direct hit at short fine leg which removed their captain and was the nail in the coffin. Ethan Harrington-Myers, *Bradlys*, bowled a beautiful spell of 2-5 (2) and Ben Hufford-Hall, *Moretons*, picked up the last to bowl Hampton out for 52 (or as Monty put it "52-10" in the Instagram update...).

GBF opted to skip tea and sent the opening pair in as the rain began to get heavier. Harrow chased the total down in 5.5 overs after some below-par bowling from Hampton. Jack Nelson, *Bradlys*, hit 46* and the boys were home. Harrow won by 9 wickets. However, it was not all frowns for the Hampton side as the keeper pointed out "I might still make the 5 o'clock bus home."

The XI away v Stowe School, Lost by 8 wickets

The XI had a humbling day at Stowe on Saturday, losing by eight wickets. After losing the toss and being inserted to bat, they failed to weather the Stowe pressure and found too many cheap ways to get out. They were eventually bowled out for a below-par 136. Full credit must go to Stowe for the pressure they built and the accuracy with which they bowled, but this was not a batting performance to remember for the XI. The XI will need to work hard this week as they look to produce an improved performance in their next match at St Edward's Oxford next Thursday.

2nd XI home v Stowe School, Won by 8 wickets

Harrow School 2nd XI beat Stowe School 2nd XI by 8 wickets. Stowe 133 all out (40.5 overs) (Jack Artis 4-39); Harrow 134-2 (22.3 overs) (Victor Grant 42, Connor O'Flaherty 51*, Caspar Stone 25*).

Despite a strong start and a four-wicket haul from Jack Artis, *The Head Master's*, Stowe managed to add almost 60 runs for their last two wickets, but 133 was never going to be enough for them to defend. Victor Grant, *Moretons*, built a solid platform for the team before Connor O'Flaherty's, *The Head Master's*, composed 51 off 52 balls and Caspar Stone's, *The Park*, purposeful 25 off 13 balls ensured the target was easily achieved. Henry Macdonald's, *The Park*, check drive for 6 over extra cover was the highlight of the Harrow innings, and it will remain in the memory of those who saw it for some time to come.

3rd XI away v Stowe School, Won by 6 wickets

After a rather ragged opening period, the 3rd XI, having won the toss and elected to field, found a steady bowling partnership in Angus Ludlam, *Druries*, (4-15) and Rob McCorquodale, *Elmfield*, (1-11), which restricted the hosts to a total of 131. In reply, the 3rd XI batted in a supremely astute and mature fashion on a slowish pitch, picking up singles where necessary and dispatching the bad ball with well-managed force. Olly Hills, *The Head Master's*, and Gus Stanhope, *Moretons*, put on over 50 for the second wicket and set the tempo and tone for a comfortable victory. Sam Phillips, *Moretons*, (nearly) completed the job with a well-judged 36.

4th XI home v Stowe School, Won by 5 wickets

A superb bowling display saw Harrow bowl out Stowe for

74. It only took Harrow 12 overs to achieve this total with 4 wickets down. Key performances was Will Wright, *West Acre*, with 38 runs, and Fred Hower, *The Park*, 2 for 9

5th XI home v Stowe School, Won by 57 runs

Some power hitting and fearless batting saw the 5th team score 168 in there 20 overs. Harrow then bowled Stowe out for 111 to win the game by 57 runs. Key performances Arthur Kay, *Lyon's*, 55 not out, Caspir Davis, *Elmfield*, 51, Max Bloomfield, *Elmfield*, 3 for 8

Colts A home v Hampton School, Won by 1 run

A thriller. Harrow lost the toss but did well to stick at it with the bat on a slow outfield that yielded just one solitary six. Herron was the pick of the batsmen, riding his luck to hit 34 which propelled Harrow to 124-9 off their 35 overs. In response, Hampton looked effective, but Harrow struck early with Campbell, *Newlands*, taking two wickets before Henry Porter, *Moretons*, got another. Their number 4 batsman, however, got stuck into the spinners and was riding well to 50. With time running out for Harrow, Hampton edged closer to the target. However, superb death bowling from Campbell and a few wickets each for Lawson, *Elmfield*, and Campbell-Johnston, *Druries*, left Hampton needing 5 off the final over. Porter was given the ball and duly delivered an epic over. The first ball led to a direct hit run out from Owens, *Rendalls*, at extra-cover. After a few runs were scored, it all came down to the last ball. Hampton needed 2 to win. Their number 4 drove one well, above the head of Owens who leapt up and took the catch. A famous 1 run win for the boys in blue.

Colts B away v Hampton School, Lost by 46 runs

Harrow lost by 46 runs, chasing Hamptons 125-9. Rory Grant, *Moretons*, top scored with 19. But some hard lessons learnt in chasing a total today, more work to be done in the batting cage.

Junior Colts A home v Stowe School, Won by 21 runs

The boys arrived at Maclaren both excited about having a day without forecast rain and about playing the new opponent of Stowe. Following a more than sufficient warm up due to Stowe arriving late, Harrow won the toss and elected to bat on a wicket that had perhaps seen better days.

Jack Nelson, *Bradlys*, and Freddie Bourne-Arton *Elmfield* batted aggressively yet with precision to give Harrow a strong opening partnership of 48. This strong start from Harrow quickly disappeared as six overs of good bowling and good fielding from Stowe meant that Harrow were 71-4, the game having completely turned around. Stowe had their tails up and were making it difficult for the batsmen at the crease to score runs until Will Codrington, *Rendalls*, took on the useful, Stowe off spinner leading to an over of 12 runs. This over was a catalyst for Codrington to play free-flowing, elegant cricket with Ben Hufford-Hall, *Moretons*, rotating the strike well at the other end. In the end, this partnership was worth 94 and was a vital turning point in the game. Will Codrington, *Rendalls*, ended up on 60 and Ben Hufford Hall, *Moretons*, on 46. Harrow ended up on 186, an above par score.

Harrow took to the field quickly with a slight lack of energy due to the B's eating all the food on offer. Early wickets were going to be vital and fortunately for Harrow, Neharen Inpan, *Bradlys*, and Dario Holland, *The Park*, both picked up one a piece in their opening spell. From here, Jack Nelson, *Bradlys*, took up an important wicket of the Stowe number 4. Stowe were 40-3 and Harrow were confident, possibly over-confident that with good bowling, they could close the game out. Stowe then had a partnership of 67 runs with both batsmen looking set. Due to a spectacular catch from Monty Morgan, *Rendalls*, of Ben Hufford Hall's, *Moretons*, bowling, Harrow picked up the vital wicket to split up this well-worked partnership by Stowe. Harrow were energetic again, and the wickets kept on tumbling

resulting in no partnership more than 15. After a big scare and Harrow on the back foot, the game was well and truly in control. The picks of the bowlers were Ben Hufford Hall, *Moretons*, and Ethan Harrington-Myers, *Bradlys*, taking 3-34 and 1-31 respectively. Harrow won the game that was full of ups and downs for both sides by 22 against a very strong Stowe side.

Junior Colts B home v Stowe School, Won by 3 wickets

Saturday the 29th of April proved to be a glorious day for cricket! The boys were eager to play having been cancelled last weekend; this was our first competitive fixture of the season.

Stowe arrived a little late but we stuck with the 30 over format and started at 3pm, with Harrow having won the toss and elected to bowl in the glorious sunshine! The boys were electric in the field throughout the afternoon, clearly with much anticipation for the first game of our season. Aaryan Dassaur, *Moretons*, and Neal Timblo, *Moretons*, opened the bowling with a devastating spell, taking one wicket each and forcing some kamikaze running from Stowe due to the pressure being build from dot balls and fielding expertise. The opening spell was well supported by an array of bowlers throughout the innings (a total of 10 Harrovians having a bowl!) but the pick of the bunch would have to be Adam Yeung, *Elmfield*, on debut, with 4 overs, for 11 runs and 1 wicket, who looked really dangerous on a spinners wicket. Olly Filo, *The Park*, takes the headlines though with 2 overs, for 6 runs and 3 wickets. Harrow restricted Stowe to 99 for 8 of their 30 overs; a phenomenal effort. It must be mentioned that the boy's enthusiasm through was excellent, and Bertie Bradley's, *Druries*, captaincy was superb, leading from the front.

Harrow needed 100 runs of 30 overs to win, at a RRR of 3.33 / over. Filo and Bradley opened the way for Harrow, seeing out the first 6 overs comfortable, but struggling for runs. Our skipper, Bradley was dismissed by a jaffa, taking his off stump for 6 runs. This bought Timblo to the crease who looked excellent for his 17 balls, playing comfortably and scoring freely, however, was caught for 6 runs. We could see see good things coming from Timblo this season off the back of this innings. We then lost a couple of quick wickets, leaving us 37/4 of 12 overs and bringing Stowe back into the game. However, Dassaur came to the crease to join the ever-present Filo. They ran well between the wickets to rotate the strike and begin to build a partnership but that was ended when Dassaur fell for 6 runs. This bought Indi Gupte, *West Acre*, to the crease who played fluently for 16 runs of 25 balls to swing the game back in Harrows favour, this innings proved particularly crucial when Filo was out for 17 runs in the 19th over, having held our innings together up to this point. Arnav Menon, *The Park*, came to the crease to score 14 from just 14 balls, with what proved to be a decisive innings, dampening Stowes hopes of a tight finish to the game and taking Harrow home with Yeung at the end. Harrow reached their required 100 runs with 3 wickets in hand after just 25.3 overs.

Overall, a fantastic result from a great group of individuals and crickets. It was a pleasure to be out their with them yesterday. An excellent performance on the field and playing the game in just the right spirit. Well done boys. You did Harrow proud.

Junior Colts C home v Stowe School, Won by 33 runs

Across the match, the boys showed great professionalism, positivity, and enthusiasm. The parental support was excellent.

Player of the match: William Martin-Jenkins 16* and 4-18

Yearlings A away v Stowe School, Won by 221 runs

In the first taste of sunshine for the 2023 season, Harrow won the toss and chose to bat on a flat surface. Louis Nicholson, *The Park*, and Arjan Lai, *West Acre*, put on a dynamic 68 for the first wicket, before the former was caught attempting to up the run rate for a well made 30. Next came skipper Rish Rawal, *Rendalls*, who combined with Lai in a stunning partnership that rapidly took the game away from Stowe. Scoring at 10 runs

per over, seemingly without taking any risks, the pair ran the opposition ragged, as well as taking full advantage of the short boundaries when the bowlers erred in line or length. Three figures for both batters seemed inevitable and it was just a question of who got there first. It was Lai who did so, retiring unbeaten on 103 off 73 balls, with everyone's hearts in their mouths as he got to his century via a dropped half chance in the deep. Rawal joined him soon after with a typically assured drive to long on taking him to 100 exactly off just 58 balls. The double retirement brought new faces to the crease but there was no danger of the run rate falling. Ed Stabb, *The Head Master's*, and Kavish Mehta, *The Grove*, continued to pile on the misery for Stowe, as the former battered five maximums on his way to 60 not out off just 29 balls, while Mehta played his part beautifully, with 30 not out from 20. At the half way stage then, with a score of 353 for 2 off their 35 overs, Yearlings A had (we are pretty sure) bazballed their way to new record for Harrow's highest ever Yearlings score, and the sandwiches at teatime were well-deserved.

Despite the high total, the Harrow boys were cautious not to think the game was won yet, and when one of the Stowe openers deposited his first ball 20 yards over the square leg boundary, it was clear that they would be putting up a brave fight. Nevertheless, Aditya Singh, *Moretons*, got his revenge soon after, dismissing Stowe's star batter courtesy of an excellent catch by Alf Beresford-Peirse, *Elmfield*. Further wickets were evenly shared between Neel Gupta, *Elmfield*, Ned Steel, *Druries*, and Alex Storer, *West Acre*, taking one each, before Mehta entered the attack. Bowling wicket to wicket at a lovely pace, he beat the outside edge multiple times, but it was those that skidded on which proved hardest to play, claiming two bowled dismissals and an LBW on his way to stunning figures of 4 for 6. With a final run out by Singh, the game was wrapped up, with Yearlings A winning by a whopping 224 runs. A fantastic achievement and one which should give the boys a lot of confidence for the remainder of the season, with every boy playing his part in the win.

Yearlings B away v Stowe School, Won by 205 runs

After winning the toss and choosing to bat, Harrow were at a solid start with a rapid fire of boundaries in quick succession from Alfie Lawson-Brown, *The Park*, hitting shots to all corners of the ground. With a composed 11 from Freddie Danos, *Bradlys*, to see off the opening bowlers, Lucian Spencer, *Elmfield*, came in at 3 with a short but sweet innings of 37 off very few, eventually falling to a ball that kept low. In came skipper Alexander Long, *The Park*, who not only tackled the conditions, but also dominated the mental game against the rather provocative chat from the opposition. This is where the innings really took a light, with the largest partnership between Long and Lawson-Brown, Harrow were quickly nearing 300. The Great partnership concluded with Lawson-Brown retiring after a brilliant ton, having a few scares in the nervy-90's then eventually regaining control and making it over the finish line. Then came Loarn Lawson, *Elmfield*, with a heartfelt performance, eventually being dismissed to an unpredictable ball. In came Rupert Macdonald, *The Park*, striking the odd boundary, shortly after witnessing the fall of his captain Long with a well-controlled 46. With Oskar Bray, *Druries*, and Macdonald at the crease, they finished off the glorious innings with a strong partnership, ending the team with a whopping 284.

After the batting was over, Harrow were on the hunt to success. With Atharv Chuahan, *West Acre*, opening the bowling, the Stowe batsman was shivering at the other end of the wicket. After the first over, the Stowe batsmen were still not hitting the ball. Pasha Cambatta-Mistry, *Lyon's*, bowled the second at the tennis court end; first ball, bang! The bails were sent to Wales. After the first 6 overs of Stowe's innings, Harrow restricted them to only 24 runs for 2 wickets. With Kim, *Moretons*, and Lawson as the first change, the smell of victory was in the air.

Kim's first ball; bang! Stump goes cartwheeling off the wicket. After a great spell from Kim and Lawson, the opposition were only at 54 for 3. On came the spinners; Benji Thorp, *Druries*, and Danos. Thorp's fourth ball, the Stowe batsman nicks it, a brilliant catch from the Spencer behind the stumps. With a couple of runouts and Danos taking an astonishing 3 wickets for 2 runs, Harrow secured the victory in the 19th over. Stowe only scoring 79 runs—The first success of Harrow yearlings B was by a considerably large margin. Hopefully more of this to come.

Yearlings C v Hampton School Yearlings B, Lost by 6 wickets

Harrow put on a spirited performance, with an excellent bowling economy from Jake Jung, *The Knoll*, (11 off 5 overs), against a strong B team from Hampton.

Yearlings D away v Stowe School Boys-U14C, Won by 2 runs, 83-9

In a nail-biting game that came down to the last ball, Harrow managed to contain Stowe within two runs of the low target with some inspired bowling and fielding, including a four wicket haul for Rio Odofoin, *The Knoll*.

Yearlings E away v Stowe, Lost by 63 runs

ATHLETICS

The Guy Butler Shield, 29 April

The Harrow Athletics team emerged victorious on Saturday by winning the Guy Butler Shield against strong competition from Eton, St Albans, Coopers Coburn, St Pauls, Dulwich, Marlborough, and St Edwards. The inaugural trophy has been won 12 of the last 14 years by Harrow but was lost in 2022 to a dominant Eton team. The strong Harrow contingent performed tremendously and won the event by 3 points in the final event of the day, the senior 4x400 comprising Melvin Ackah (*Newlands*), Cameron Elliott (*West Acre*), Tom Emery (*Moretons*), and Zak Banton (*Newlands*) to clinch the team trophy.

Our junior squad put out the best Harrow age group performance of the day with a win over Coopers Coburn in second. The team was bolstered by strong runs from Hugh Middle (*The Head Master's*), Auberon Dragten (*Rendalls*) Jack Young (*Newlands*), Toritseju Backhouse (*Druries*), and Tito Odunaike (*Elmfield*) winning their events.

The senior and inter team placed well with two second place results to a competitive St Albans squad and an impressive Eton display. Every single competitor played a part in this success and



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with such fine margins of victory it is worth the accumulation of training being put in the by the team.

Looking ahead, we have several more competitive school fixtures being broken up by house competitions where individual athletes hope to make their mark.

TENNIS

1st Team home v Radley College, Won 7-2, 27 April,

An excellent all round performance from the 1st team. The star performers were Cameron Timlin, *Bradlys*, and Mostyn Fulford, *The Knoll*, who played dynamic attacking tennis to win all 3 of their matches.

2nd Team home v Radley College, Won 7-2

A convincing win for the 2nd team. The star pair were Jack Scott, *The Park*, and Casper Kingsley, *Elmfield*, who won all 3 sets with great energy throughout.

3rd Team home v Radley College, Won 6-3

A convincing win for the 3rd team by 6 sets to 3. All 3 pairs won 2 of their 3 sets.

Colts A home v Radley College, Won 7-2

Our A team won a convincing victory over Radley College's A team in wet weather conditions which made the games more challenging for both teams. The match was played in good spirits, and both schools showed great determination and resilience. Freddie Harrison, *Moretons*, and Adam Wong, *The Park*, were particularly impressive and fought hard losing in a tie break at the final moment. The first and second pairs also played well in their doubles matches, and they came from behind to win in two sets playing some excellent tennis

Colts B home v Radley College, Lost 4-5

Our B team lost the tournament against Radley College in wet weather conditions which made the games more challenging for both teams; The balls were heavier and slower, and the courts were slippery. The match was played in good spirits, and both schools showed great determination and resilience. Xander Jones, *West Acre*, and Oscar Bearman, *Moretons*, were particularly impressive and won all rounds comfortably. There were some player changes in the third round but unfortunately it was not Harrow's day; won 4, lost 5

Colts C home v Radley College, Lost 3-6

Our C team lost the tournament against Radley College in wet weather conditions which made the games more challenging for both teams; The balls were heavier and slower, and the courts were slippery. The match was played in good spirits, and both schools showed great determination and resilience. Hugo Evans, *The Park*, and Awni Dajani, *Moretons*, were particularly impressive and won all rounds comfortably. There were some player changes in the third round but unfortunately it was not Harrow's day: won 3, lost 6.

Overall, Harrow School U15s lost the tournament against Radley College. The A team won convincingly, while the B team and C team lost and will be looking to build on this performance in their next match.



CELEBRATING OUR PAST
REFOUNDING OUR FUTURE