



Seaford College
Prep · Senior · Sixth Form



Summer Newsletter 2023

A round up of academic and pastoral news



Speech and Sports Day

What a wonderful Speech and Sports Day we had at Seaford last weekend! Many hundreds of students, parents and staff packed into the Sports Hall for a morning of speeches and prizegiving, followed by our Senior Sports Day.

A huge thank you to our guest speaker, the film and TV actor Alistair Petrie, for a very humorous and inspiring speech. Alistair, who has featured in *'Rogue One: A Star Wars Story'*, *'The Night Manager'*, *'Sherlock'* and many other productions, spoke about each student finding their 'thing' and going out into the world with confidence to tell their story. He observed that we all have a responsibility to elevate others to help them tell their stories.

Headmaster John Green talked about the strengths of the school and the recent ISI report giving Seaford the highest rating of 'Excellent' in all areas of College life. Head Boy Ed Gordon-Thomson and Head Girl Bella Crandon gave very personal

and emotional speeches, with Ed having been at Seaford for 10 years and joining at the same time John Green took up the headship.

There were speeches from several other students and all year groups received prizes from the guest speaker in recognition of their tremendous efforts – from Cadet of the Year and public speaking to excellence in Maths and Music, and much more besides.

Then it was off to the Seaford Oval for a barbeque and an afternoon of athletics at our Senior School Sports Day. Well done to everyone who took part and congratulations to students in Millburgh house for winning this year.



Love to learn



Love to learn



Over 800 students and staff undertook an impressive 4,800 hours of volunteering work at over 40 venues in West Sussex, Hampshire, and Surrey as part of our annual Community Action Day programme. Venues included local charities St Wilfrid's Hospice, Stonepillow, Aldingbourne Trust, Think 18 and Cat Protection.

The format of the day offered a bespoke programme of events to raise awareness, make a difference and promote student self-esteem and resilience. To enhance the hard work carried out to win the "Green Flag award", students and staff were sent to work at over 20 eco projects for the day.

Community Action Day serves as a powerful means to support local clubs which are run by volunteers, and students were carefully selected to spend the day at the clubs of which they are members outside school.

We are proud to have an ongoing commitment in place to support the Foodbank and, alongside

sending volunteers to work at various warehouses on the day, our onsite team made up an incredible 400 kids' lunch packs to support local children during the summer holiday.

We are also honoured to be able to support the NHS and returned to St Richard's Hospital to work on "Phase 2" of the Wellbeing Gardens at the Donald Wilson Rehabilitation Centre.

There have been an overwhelming number of messages thanking the students and staff for their support and hard work.



Love to learn



Love to learn



Seafordstock

Seafordstock again served as a reminder of the transformative power of music and left us eagerly anticipating future performances from some incredible young artists.

Music enthusiasts were treated to an unforgettable experience at Seafordstock 2023. Set against the picturesque backdrop of the terraces behind Mansion, visitors picnicked together and were wowed by an eclectic mix of rock, pop, soul, and funk. It was a vibrant celebration of diverse musical genres, performed by our talented Prep, Senior and Sixth Form students.

The event kicked off with a bang as students took to the stage, performing electrifying renditions of both classic and contemporary rock and pop hits. The raw talent and passion displayed by our young musicians was nothing short of awe-inspiring. Their electric guitar riffs, thundering drums and soaring vocals reverberated through the air, setting the tone for an exhilarating evening.

As the sun began to set over Lavington Park, the mood shifted and soulful performances touched the hearts of the audience. The Soul Band

effortlessly showcased their prowess, presenting a set seamlessly knitted together and segueing from one hit to another. The night reached its crescendo with the infectious grooves and energy of the finale – which was performed by the entire cohort of musicians and singers – which had everyone on their feet, dancing and clapping.

Yet again, Seafordstock proved to be a testament to the talent, passion, and dedication of the school's gifted musicians. It showcased their ability to traverse various genres masterfully, leaving the audience in awe of their versatility. The concert was a resounding success, bringing together different musical styles and fostering a sense of unity and joy among all who attended. Kudos to the organisers, performers, and everyone involved in making Seafordstock a truly memorable event to kick off the summer.



Love to learn



Love to learn



Student voice

Throughout the year, Seaford College has been strengthened by our various councils and student leadership programmes, keeping student voice at the heart of our community.

As the year has progressed, the various student councils have remained active across all year groups. Whether it has been through the Boarders, Charity, Eco, or School Councils, our students have been making positive contributions throughout the College. All members willingly contribute to the community by attending meetings, listening to their peers and supporting school events. Collaboration between the councils has expanded this year. By combining the efforts from the Charity Council and Eco-Council, we have seen far more fundraising events to raise the profile of many campaigns. These have helped increase awareness of such important projects, such as recycling, sustainability, homelessness and poverty reduction.

It is, therefore, with great pride, that I would like to thank all the council members across the whole school. Giving up their time to be present amongst

their peers, collating opinions and wishes from them, and presenting ideas at council meetings takes great courage, maturity, commitment and bravery. Students know that not everything can be changed immediately but creating that space for discussion is crucial to stimulate meaningful dialogue between the student and staff body. The more everyone talks, the more likely we are to effect change as a unified team. Student voice is essential for students to speak honestly and listen to each other. The councils engage student voice to shape decision making. This all takes time for everyone to learn the skills required to participate in productive conversations and be part of a democratic system. Mrs Stitt is looking forward to meeting the newly elected council representatives next year, as voted in by their peers in September.



Love to learn

Student Wellbeing

Continuing to create an environment that nurtures wellbeing is a key priority for us at Seaford College. We are always looking for new ways to enhance our knowledge further and enhance the support we offer each and every student.



Wellbeing Conference

During Mental Health Awareness Week in May, we saw the return of our interschool Wellbeing Conference. We welcomed 120 delegates from 60 different schools and we shared best practices between the schools, covering topics such as social media, consent, nutrition and anxiety.

The programme for the day was full and varied, and we were fortunate to have speakers from seven education settings including Hurstpierpoint, King Edward's School Witley, Duncton Junior School, The Wellbeing Hub, The Schools Consent Project and eSafety Ltd, alongside our own Seaford speakers – staff and students.

All schools openly collaborated throughout the day, working towards the same goal – to enhance the pastoral support we each offer to our student communities.

Save The Date

Our next parent Wellbeing Evening will be held on Tuesday, October 17th 2023. Further details will follow in September.

Pink House changes

We have recently reconfigured the Pink House to make the space effective and more usable for students in order to provide continued support. We have received such positive feedback from students following these changes, particularly with regards to the quieter and less populated nature of the area. Additionally, we are now more able to provide spaces for students who need a little time alone, but do not want to have to talk.

We have listened to students and parents and have decided to change the 'pink' nature of our pastoral service: you may have noticed that our Pink House is no longer pink, and with that will come a name change. Watch this space next term...

Very sadly, we will be saying goodbye to two longstanding pastoral/safeguarding team members who are retiring, Tim Gregory and Diana Strange. Between them, they have amassed a whopping 60 years working at Seaford. Both have been inspirational to so many staff and students, and we cannot thank them enough for their contribution to the college as a whole, but more specifically their pastoral leadership. We wish them the very best for the future.

Further pastoral team updates will be announced next term.

Student Personal Development and PSHE

Once again, the Personal Development programme has delivered some outstanding lessons, discussion, and thought-provoking issues. Together, through careful planning from the Heads of Year, the tutors encourage their students to explore their strengths and weaknesses and to develop their reflective skills.

In the Prep School this term, Karl Hopwood delivered a session to Year 7 and 8 students. The focus was on Internet Safety and students remarked on how useful and up to date the information was. Shannon Reddin returned for a third time this year to deliver Relationships Education to students in Year 5 and 6, as well as Relationships and Sex Education to those in Year 7 and 8. We have introduced an optional 'drop in' session where students can speak to Shannon in small groups outside the main session. Recent assemblies in the Prep School have increased awareness of disabilities; for example, we celebrated Deaf Awareness Week and had a recent visit by Canine Partners as well, including a demonstration from their assistance dogs.

Wednesday mornings have been transformed by the Personal Development Programme this year in the Senior School. Every week, we have seen every student from Years 9-13 participate in lessons that help them grow in confidence, self-discipline, and personal responsibility. The Year 9s, 10s and 12s all participated in student leadership presentations from Rick Cooper – the inspirational leadership and performance coach, who will be delivering a developmental programme from Years 9-13 from September. Other guest speakers included Sue Crabtree, speaking to the Year 13s on Sleep and nutrition, and Zoe Shuttleworth from 'It Happens' speaking, via webinar, to the Year 12s about Freedom and Festivals – relationships, sex and substances, promoting our young adults to have 'good conversations', rather than just telling them 'No!'

Our Year 11 students participated in a very 'hands-on' contraception workshop with Mr Whelpton, and Head of Biology, Miss Robertson in their final two weeks of PD lessons before departing for GCSE study leave. All students were very respectful and appreciated the opportunity to use real products rather than just learn the theory.

There has been a greater focus on Careers this term. Ms Loten has introduced the Year 10s to Morrisby in preparation for future pathways, and Mr Pitteway has led the Year 12s through the UCAS application process. A selection of Year 9s participated in an excellent Legal Workshop, 'All Rise', with guest, James Stewart and his 'legal team', learning what the court process entails, culminating in a mock-trial.

Every lesson produced this term, and throughout the year, has supported our students to understand the importance of decisions that they make for their success and wellbeing.





Co-curricular Programme

Interhouse Debating

The 2023 Interhouse Debating Competition took place this term with Corsica emerging as the winner in their debate against Kymes on the topic: 'This House believes that the Elgin Marbles should be returned to Greece'.

Arguments for the return of the marbles included the use of robots and 3D printing as a way of allowing the British Museum to have high quality replicas for visitors to see. Head Boy Ed Gordon-Thomson did an exceptional job of leading his two Year 9 teammates, Rowan Byrne and Otis Heyburn, to a decisive win. However, both Ben Twigger and Charlie Bamsey from Kymes showed impressive levels of research into how the Parthenon Marbles came to be in the hands of Lord Elgin in the first place in order to support their argument against the motion. In addition, students learn the art of arguing positions that they don't always believe in themselves.

Chess

Chess continues to go from strength to strength with numerous competitive fixtures this term. Seaford students have the chance to take part in casual chess matches through the Senior and Prep Chess clubs or can learn the detailed tactics and subtle nuances of the game through dedicated chess lessons. If you would be interested in finding out more about these chess lessons, please email Erica Bloem (ebloem@Seaford.org).

Public Speaking

The Seaford Public Speaking team of Emily Freud, Amelie Wright and Amy Allison visited Cambridge this term for the National Finals of the ESU Churchill Public Speaking Competition at Churchill College. The Seaford team reached the Grand Final with 5 other teams from across England and Wales. All three Seaford students put in impressive performances in the 300-seater Wolfson Hall, with Amy winning the award for 'Best Speaker' for her speech arguing that 'Materialism is satisfying'; she did an impressive job convincing the judges that she was a 'material girl living in a material world' but wasn't 'shallow, superficial or selfish'!

Media Club

The Media Club gives students outside of the Sixth Form a chance to experience the world of Media. Stuart Foster, Seaford's Assistant Director of Marketing, runs the club. This term the students have had an opportunity to experience their first video shoot at Seaford. They have learnt how to set up for a shoot, how to film, monitor sound levels and interview techniques.

Art Clubs

Our creative arts clubs continue to be popular. These include arts-based clubs in the Prep School, art and clay clubs in the Senior School and our scholar's extension clubs across the age range. The Art Department regularly celebrate students' work from across the school in its gallery. The 'Gallery WOW' – work of the week – is selected each week to celebrate the talent of our young artists.



Boarding

Our boarders have had a fantastic experience this year with all that we have to offer at Seaford in terms of our boarding provision. We have shared some of their experiences below so you can see for yourself the impact boarding has made on them.

"The variety of things we do in Prep School boarding make the evenings a lot of fun. Having teachers on duty who teach different subjects is helpful because they help us with our prep if we need it. I like the different activities that we do and how we can choose them. Sometimes we pick Forest School, games on Springfield, swimming or arts and crafts. If we're tired after a day of sport and we don't feel like doing too much, we have a film night and put all the bean bags and cushions out and watch a film on the projector and eat popcorn! I like how we can decorate our rooms too; this helps make boarding feel more like home as we can bring pictures in as well as our own bedding. I like how in boarding you get to meet new people and make new friends."

Honor, Year 8

"I have learnt a lot of independence whilst boarding in Year 9. I have really enjoyed boarding this year and have made lots of friendships that I will keep forever. I also love how Mansion boarding feels like a second home and one big family, and if you ever feel sad or down, there is always someone to talk with to cheer you up."

Maisie, Year 9

"On my arrival at Seaford, I was greeted by a lovely, warm environment within the boarding family. All the prefects were kind and welcoming. On my first week of boarding, I made new friends across different year groups, this gave me a sense of a family within boarding. On weekdays, there are various options available, such as gym, sports hall, cricket nets and much more. It is great to be able to use the facilities in boarding and have fun."

Toby, Year 10



Love to learn

"I have been boarding at Seaford for nearly three years and have loved every single second of it. I feel very supported and feel like the staff have always got our backs. It's a very safe, caring environment and it really feels like a second home. It has allowed me to build qualities in myself that I would never have learnt at home. I also love the fact that the boarding community feels like one big family and everyone looks out for each other. One of my boarding highlights has been the house games. We created four teams within Walled Garden East and we prefects would come up with competitive games that we could all play, for example making crazy golf holes in each corridor of the house. I have loved my time in East and would give anything to do it again."

George, Year 12



"Boarding has truly offered me a well-rounded education that extends far beyond the classroom walls. Through the challenges and rewards of daily life in the boarding house, I have discovered the true meaning of independence and responsibility. With a demanding academic schedule and co-curricular commitments, boarding life required me to become a master of organisation. Balancing study sessions, sports activities and social interactions became second nature and has prepared me for the rigours of adulthood, where time management is crucial for success. Beyond the practical skills, boarding has provided me with a nurturing environment where I grew into a responsible adult with lifelong friendships and memories."

Adriana, Year 13





Achievements Outside the Classroom

Combined Cadet Force

Field day activities for the Royal Navy included action-packed activities at the Damage Repair Instructional Unit (the 'sinking ship' simulator) and the Fire Fighting School on HMS Excellent in Portsmouth, as well as a day 'afloat' in Portsmouth Harbour and the Solent aboard a 49' sailing yacht. The Army section were put through their paces with a tactical night in the field followed by a day of blank firing section attacks.

The RAF had a fascinating visit to see the operational Chinook helicopter fleet at RAF Odiham, as well as getting airborne in both the Grob Tutor Air Experience Flights, while the long-anticipated return of gliding was enjoyed by a few lucky cadets.

Looking forward, the UK commitment to train large numbers of Ukrainian soldiers resulted in the centrally run camp at Longmoor being cancelled so, after some rapid contingency planning, the Seaford College staff will deliver a multi-activity week during the summer holidays, consisting of a visit to a working Royal Engineers base, some bushcraft and survival skills and then a short tactical exercise in the school grounds, which will provide a suitably fun and challenging alternative.

Outdoor Education (including Duke of Edinburgh Award)

This term was the culmination of the expedition section for all three levels of this prestigious award. Qualifying expeditions took place for Bronze participants in the South Downs in hot and thundery weather, and in the Forest of Dean for the Silver teams, all of whom coped with the conditions and navigational challenges admirably. The Gold practice kayaking expedition will take place at the end of term in Poole Harbour and then, after a couple of days' rest, they will conduct their qualifying expedition in Chichester, Langston and Portsmouth harbours.



Love to learn

Performing Arts

Mention must be given to our performing arts students who continue to excel outside the classroom. Hayden Davey (dance scholar) has been awarded a Senior Associateship at the Royal Ballet School. Alex Witcomb (drama scholar) has landed a role in the Chichester Festival Youth Theatre production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Rory Toms (dance and drama scholar) has been filming series two of a period drama for television. Florence Black (music scholar) sang Barbarina (*Le Nozze di Figaro* – Mozart) in a professional performance in London. Sienna Ellman-Baker (dance scholar) was named Under 21 National Latin Champion and Ballroom Vice-champion at the Blackpool National Grand finals. Vaughn Hughes (drama scholar) starred in 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe' at the Yvonne Arnaud Mill Studio and many of our oldest students have been awarded places for further education based on excellent auditions in their chosen performing arts specialisms. Well done, all!



Seaford Sport

Cricket

Seaford cricket has gone from strength to strength this summer. Continued investment in our outstanding facilities has meant that the provision for our cricketers has never been better. A summer which has seen the boys' and girls' cricket programmes run alongside each other has meant that the grounds – both during the week in games lessons and on Saturdays for matches – have been alive with some outstanding performances. The nets have been utilised every evening for cricketers of all ages and have never seen so much usage. On the field of play, we have had some incredible performances, most notably by the U15 boys' teams who reached the regional final of the T20 National cup. The U12 and U13 teams reached the final of the county cup and the U13 also reached the quarter finals of IAPS cricket. The boys had a very successful three days away in Framlingham for an end of season festival, James Conolly scoring a century during day one of the tournament. Whilst the boys were in Framlingham, Seaford hosted the girls' equivalent event. An amazing festival of cricket took place with the girls playing two different formats of the game each day, and there were some outstanding performances by both the Seaford teams. Across the College, there have been more girls' teams playing than ever before in both the softball and hardball formats.



Love to learn



Golf

Throughout the term, the golf teams have been competing in various competitions and tournaments. These events have provided opportunities for players to test their abilities against other players and schools both locally and regionally. Whilst playing in teams has been important, the golf programme also emphasises individual skill development. Players are worked with closely in order to identify areas of improvement and provide personal guidance. This has helped students enhance their technique, mental approach and overall performance. The Seaford golf course has been looking immaculate and is seeing more usage in the school day than ever before.

Swimming

Seaford students have been putting in some superb swimming performances both within teams and individually. Incredible performances at the IAPS national swimming gala saw Aiden Davis finish 11th, Maia Middleton finish 9th and Finlay Richardson becoming national champion for 50m breaststroke. Congratulations, Finlay!

Netball

As the Summer Term comes to an end, and we are edging closer to the netball season, the girls' anticipation is growing. Preseason netball – taking place throughout the first term under the watchful eye of newly appointed Assistant Director of Sport and Head of Netball Simeone Compton – will give the girls great momentum as we get closer to the start of the season.

Hockey

Preseason is just around the corner and the girls are looking forward to getting back on the pitch. A challenging and progressive fixture list is in place and there is more anticipation about the upcoming season than ever before. We are all looking forward to an amazing preseason where we welcome new and existing members of the Seaford community into school to take part in three days of training and match play. Students from the Prep School through to the seniors will be training hard physically and mentally, and taking on board our Seaford sporting values and cultures ready for the season ahead.

Equestrian

This has been another term of high achievement for the equestrian team as they continue to go from strength to strength. There has been success all the way through the school from the Prep School riders to the Senior School as well. There have been multiple successes on a local, regional, and national stage with some elite performances in some of the most high-profile events. We look forward to next year and many more great performances. Many thanks to Lucy Sanders for leading the equestrian section.



Love to learn

Athletics

Seaford athletes have been busy competing across the county this season with great levels of success. Within the Prep School, there were seven students who qualified for the IAPS national finals across various events. Our Year 7 and Year 8 girls won their respective West Sussex West events as did the Year 7 boys, with the Year 8 boys gaining a runner up place. Senior School athletes had some great representation with many students qualifying to represent WSW at the county event. Some athletes went on to represent Sussex and Tom Alexander has gone forwards to English Schools. The athletics season came to an end with successful Prep School and Senior School Sports Days last Friday and Saturday – well done to all those involved.

Rugby

The boys' preparation is underway with the senior group already taking part in weekly training sessions. A preseason trip to Italy for the senior group, plus the yearly preseason for everyone from Year 7 to Year 13, will see the boys ready for the season. A strongest-ever fixture list will provide plenty of challenges for the teams this year and we are confident that the students will be ready to face them head-on.

Sailing

As recently as this last week, members of the sailing team competed in the School Sailing Championships at Itchenor Sailing Club, with three RS Feva racing dinghies entered in the junior category (Year 7 to 10), and two of our school Fireflies in the senior (Year 9 to 13) category, both of which were fleet racing. Prior to that, on top of our usual training programme, members of the squad also took part in the BSDRA Thames Valley Championships, which is one of the local team racing regattas. It was excellent to see the progress that they have made with their team racing, and they will have learnt a lot from racing against those top teams which will prepare them well for the next team racing event. For those not familiar with it, team racing is a very different beast to fleet racing and can be rather brutal, as competitors will actively seek to trap opponents into rule transgressions (and protest them for the same), with the resulting penalty turns having a big effect on race placings. Well done to all involved for their time and effort, as well as their energy and enthusiasm.

Tennis

Our tennis players have had an excellent season with participation levels higher than ever before. Opportunities to play recreationally and competitively have resulted in continued growth of the sport's popularity. Fantastic fixtures against Churcher's College and Lancing College saw some amazing individual performances, but most importantly all matches were played with a great attitude and in brilliant spirit. From an individual perspective, Hayden Davey (Year 10) has started his journey into international tennis by travelling to Turkey to take part in an ITF event.





Competitive Houses

This year has seen a tight race for the Senior School house title.

Well done to Adair for just pipping Millburgh to the title of House Champions this year.

It has been fantastic to see so many of our students competing for their house this year. Every house had success in numerous events, with each one winning at least 3 competitions. As we look ahead to next year, we are excited to expand the interhouse competition with even more events being held during the 2023-24 year.

1st 14645 Adair

2nd 14150 Millburgh

3rd 13100 Charmandean

4th 11650 Corsica

5th 11570 Kymes

Salt Race
 Debating
 Rugby
 Christmas Quiz
 Music
 CROSS-FIT
 Cricket
 Bake-off
 Climbing
 Darts
 SPORTS DAY
 SPRINT
 Hockey
 BAND
 Cross Country



Driving Literacy

The importance of literacy cannot be emphasised enough – ultimately it underpins every aspect of a student's education here at Seaford.

This year we have been keen to push literacy higher up the agenda and, over the course of this academic year, several staff that specialise in teaching across all age ranges (from the early years, Prep School through to Year 13) have formed a new Literacy Working Group. Within this group, staff have developed a number of strategies and resources to ensure that at Seaford, the literacy provision is consistent yet progressive. As part of this programme, we have implemented a whole College Literacy Policy, full staff INSET training, launched trained literacy mentors who will assist in the Prep School, increased small group literacy booster sessions and purchased the digital reading programme, "Accelerated Reader".

It has been proven that daily reading can improve academic performance by up to two grades. Yet beyond education – into the world of further education or apprenticeship – having fluency of vocabulary, a sophistication of written expression and the ability to decipher key reading materials, remain cornerstones of future success.

We have created a bespoke Firefly page for parents, containing our full Literacy Policy, videos filmed by Seaford staff, according to age group, on methods to support literacy at home and key resources including glossaries, reading lists and phonics help sheets. The link to the Firefly page can be found here: <https://seaford.fireflycloud.net/literacy>.

These resources provide key advice and guidance on activities your family could engage in during the summer in order to develop confidence in literacy. By no means is this list exhaustive, but it will certainly help maintain a low level of academic momentum in the background, ready for September.

We are still in the infancy of this exciting development at Seaford College; however, we feel confident that this can and will have a longstanding impact for our students' future. If you have any questions or comments on our literacy agenda, please contact Mrs Butler sbutler@seaford.org



Love to learn



Love to Read

To foster a love for reading, we have had some brilliant events happening in the library this term for students across all year groups to get involved in, including the Amazing Book Awards and Young Writers Competition

Amazing Book Awards

Students from Year 9 and Year 10 enjoyed an evening of celebration at Shoreham Academy for the Sussex Amazing Book Awards this term. Students had an opportunity to meet authors from the shortlisted books they had read, buy a signed copy of each book and have it dedicated to them. There are lots of secondary schools that get involved across Sussex, so it is always a huge event for students each year. All the authors were fantastic, and it was great to see students so enthusiastic about reading, meeting authors and buying books.



Young Writers Competition

This term, students from Year 7-10 entered the Young Writers Competition themed 'Integer, stories inspired by numbers' and produced an original piece of creative writing that was selected for publication in the Young Writers Anthology. Students received their certificates and prizes from librarian Gen Bayley and enjoyed having time to read each other's stories within the anthology. Students were very proud to see their work published and it is fantastic to see so many budding writers here at Seaford.

Accelerated Reader

Students have fully engaged with the Accelerated Reader programme this year during their library lessons, and it has been a fantastic tool to help support and monitor the reading progress across year groups and for individual students. We hope students continue to read over the summer break and we look forward to seeing them again in the library for more exciting events happening in the new term.



Love to learn



Digital Seaford: AI, the future is now?

AI is already changing the world in which we work and making waves in education by personalising learning, improving engagement, streamlining administration and aiding data analysis. Its potential impact is even more significant in allowing us to explore and enjoy what it means to be human while transforming industries and the nature of work itself.

AI has become increasingly prevalent in various aspects of life. Recently, open-source AI like ChatGPT has become freely accessible online. This AI-powered chat function can generate human-like responses to questions and problems. AI tools can also generate images, write code, translate text, generate ideas and write text with specific tones or sentiments.

So far it is not great at analysis, creativity or logical problems, and can be inaccurate; this will only improve with time. The quality of prompting, checking and collaboration will determine the quality of outcome, so it is to be used as a tool to improve what we do with the time that we have, rather than do all the work for us. There have been cases in the news recently of lawyers who have been fined for quoting historical cases that have been made up by AI showing they misused it and were cutting corners.

In exams and assessments, it is crucial for students to submit their own work. While AI will undoubtedly play a role in the future workplace and enhance learning, students should not rely on AI to demonstrate their knowledge and skills for qualifications. As a school, we will adhere to JCQ guidelines on the use of AI in assessments. Training will be provided to staff and students, focusing on critical thinking skills, validating information sources, and incorporating AI into their education and future careers as part of the Personal Development programme.

AI has significant potential in education as

previously stated, but it will be important to guard against and educate ourselves about the potential harms. There is so much happening so quickly that it is hard to keep up with new tools and applications appearing daily, some of which are designed to take advantage financially of those who do not want to be left behind. This will settle in time and tools will become more intuitive as they become integrated with the apps we already use.

Children under 13 should be supervised by parents or guardians when using AI models like ChatGPT to ensure appropriate usage. It is worth noting that all Snapchat users have an AI 'friend'. AI is not a free-thinking tool but a powerful statistical machine – we should not be using it for advice or for pastoral concerns and we should not share personal or sensitive information with it.

The future of AI is exciting and its potential in education is vast. Let us embrace it responsibly but confidently.



Prefects

Our trainee prefects have made a fantastic impact this term with their continued presence and leadership.

Over the course of this term, trainee prefects have participated in a variety of activities including Speech Day, Move Up Day and Open Morning as well as attending their first Prefect Tea with the Headmaster.

A massive well done to all our trainee prefects who will become full prefects from September. Following a strong field of capable and talented prefects, picking our Senior Prefect team for next year was not an easy task. We are pleased to announce the Senior Prefect Team for 2023-24 below.



L-R: Liam Boyle (Deputy Head Boy), Lily Eitel (Deputy Head Girl), Art Griffiths (Deputy Head Boy), Ella Mitchell (Head Girl), Oliver Bagley (Head Boy), Lili Doubler (Deputy Head Girl), Hamish Williams (Deputy Head Boy) and Kitty Eichhorn (Deputy Head Girl).

Love to learn



Destinations Programme

As Year 13 got down to the serious business of public examinations to achieve their Challenge Grades, our destinations programme moved up a gear in Year 12, encouraging students to create a vision of what their future will look like after Sixth Form and school life ends. As is always the case with Seaford Sixth Form, it's not just about Russell Group universities and traditional academic degrees, as the talents and interests of our students encompass a huge range of potential careers, from politics to the performing arts.

The whole of Year 12 took a day to visit a UCAS and Careers Fair at Amex Stadium in Brighton in June, speaking to a huge range of potential university destinations and attending practical seminars about navigating the UCAS process. Many parents will remember the experience of collecting the glossy brochures, pens and bags of universities at similar events, and the exciting sense of a world beyond school that it creates. At the time of writing, students have made over 120 visits to university open events up and down the country, from St Andrews to Exeter, as they imagine themselves studying for a wide range of degree courses. With practical information and advice so important in this process, our UCAS team ran an online Q&A evening and we partnered with the University of Sussex for another online parents' evening.

An increasing number of Seaford students are looking away from full-time tertiary education and towards a direct route into vocational careers through apprenticeships and degree apprenticeships, and we fully support this choice of destination. 21 students benefited from apprenticeship advice sessions with Lorna Owen of Future Smart Careers, in which they considered how best to present themselves for success when applying to employers for apprenticeship opportunities and learned more about how apprenticeships could work for them individually.

Year 12 finished the Summer Term with a workshop which gave them the skills and perspective to write a convincing 4,000-character personal

statement to support their UCAS applications. As the whole university application process evolves, we are evolving our destinations programme ahead of changes to make sure that our students achieve not only their personal bests when it comes to grades, but also in terms of their choice of destinations.

An exciting "stop press"! To support strong UCAS applications, we are relaunching the prestigious Ivy House Award to hone life and leadership skills from the start of Year 13. More about what Ivy House offers will feature in the next newsletter.





Showcasing Scholars

Academic Scholars

Academic scholarships are awarded to those who aim to achieve top grades at the end of their time at Seaford College. At Sixth Form, GCSE results are used to differentiate those most deserving of scholarships but how do we make the difficult decision of awarding Middle School and Prep School scholarships? Being impressive at interview is a key consideration and here's how.

A successful student is a well-read student and that is no different for any academic scholar. Our Sixth Form dive into academic literature such as "The History of Nations" or "Freakonomics", whilst the aspiring Prep School scholars devour popular literature and national favourites such as "The Hobbit". In the Middle School, we encourage students to branch beyond popular literature and extend their reading to some of the classics such as: "Animal Farm", "Dracula", "Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde" or "Alice in Wonderland".

Any student of academia should be well versed in current affairs and the breadth of knowledge from successful Middle School scholars is always impressive. Whether the topic is Germany's reliance on Russian energy and how energy security should be the UK's top priority, or about the French strikes over pension age and the comparison to public sector strikes, to the conflict in Ukraine and its implications for international relations, scholars always demonstrate a breadth of knowledge.

Finally, successful scholars show an ability to think on their feet, to change their mind and respond to views that challenge their own. That ability to listen, absorb, reflect and then synthesise is the hardest to practice yet is fundamentally the most important element of learning quickly.

Creative Arts

This term, Year 6-9 art scholars have continued developing work for their own individual projects. In doing so, they have developed skills in a media of their choice. Year 8 scholars have enjoyed an exciting trip to Champs Hill to see their sculpture gardens and their temporary exhibition called 'Made in Sussex – Sussex Painters and Paintings' which features the work of artists based in Sussex including Henry La Thangue (Bosham), Vanessa Bell and Duncan Grant (Bloomsbury), Ivon Hitchens (Petworth), Fred Cuming (Hastings), Olwyn Bowey (Heyshott) and Andrew Gifford (South Downs).



Performing Arts

Our performing arts scholars have shone in all performing arts events throughout the year. Our musical productions have seen them lead choruses as a dance captain, take starring roles as principal leads in plays and performances, play in orchestras alongside professional musicians, design lights and sound for theatrical opportunities as well as audition for the National Youth Theatre. The scholars have entertained us at ensembles, concerts, an orchestral open rehearsal, the annual West Sussex Macmillan bereavement service, the showcasing of work in our stunning Art Department, in drama and dance workshops and led the way in performances at Speech Day and Seafordstock. Well done, performing arts scholars!

Sports Scholars

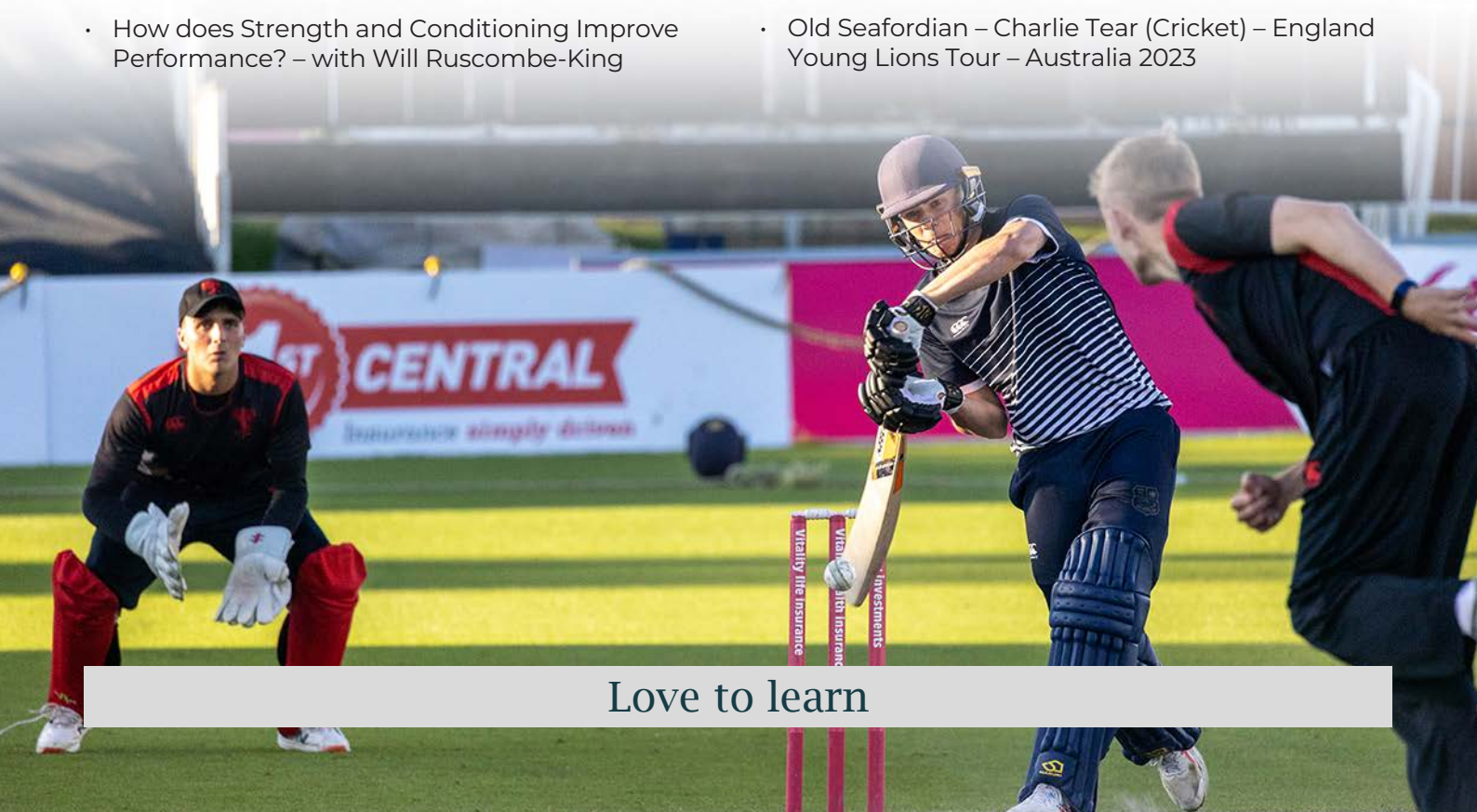
This term, sports scholars have had visits from Tom Head (GB Athlete and UK Athletics Hammer coach) and Josh Goodwin (Old Seafordian and current Nottingham RFC Championship rugby player who made appearances with Leicester Tigers in the Premiership Cup last year). Our scholars and the wider College community got to meet two world class athletes who have played and coached at the highest level. It also gave them an opportunity to ask questions that relate to themselves, academic PE topics and gain an insight into what it takes to be a professional athlete. This was an invaluable learning experience for all scholars and staff. Other talks from the sport-specific seminars that have taken place this term include:

- Being at Your Best When It Really Matters – with Simon Mills
- Nutrition for Strength, Power, and Endurance in School Sport – with Rose Smith
- Preparing to Perform – with Andy Key
- How does Strength and Conditioning Improve Performance? – with Will Ruscombe-King



Sporting Achievements and International Honours

- Beanie Bradley – Year 13 – (Polo) England Ladies Polo – European Championships 2023 Italy
- Rufus Uloth – Year 13 – (Polo) U21 Young England team that faced New Zealand in the Buckmaster Trophy
- Jimmy Staples – Year 12 – (Rugby) – England U17 Training Camp – 2023
- Old Seafordian – Jonny Green (Rugby) – Wales U20's Six Nations and U20's Junior World Cup – South Africa 2023
- Old Seafordian – Nathan Jibulu (Rugby) – England U20 Six Nations and U20 Junior World Cup – South Africa 2023
- Old Seafordian – Charlie Tear (Cricket) – England Young Lions Tour – Australia 2023



Love to learn



Art and Design Centre Showcase

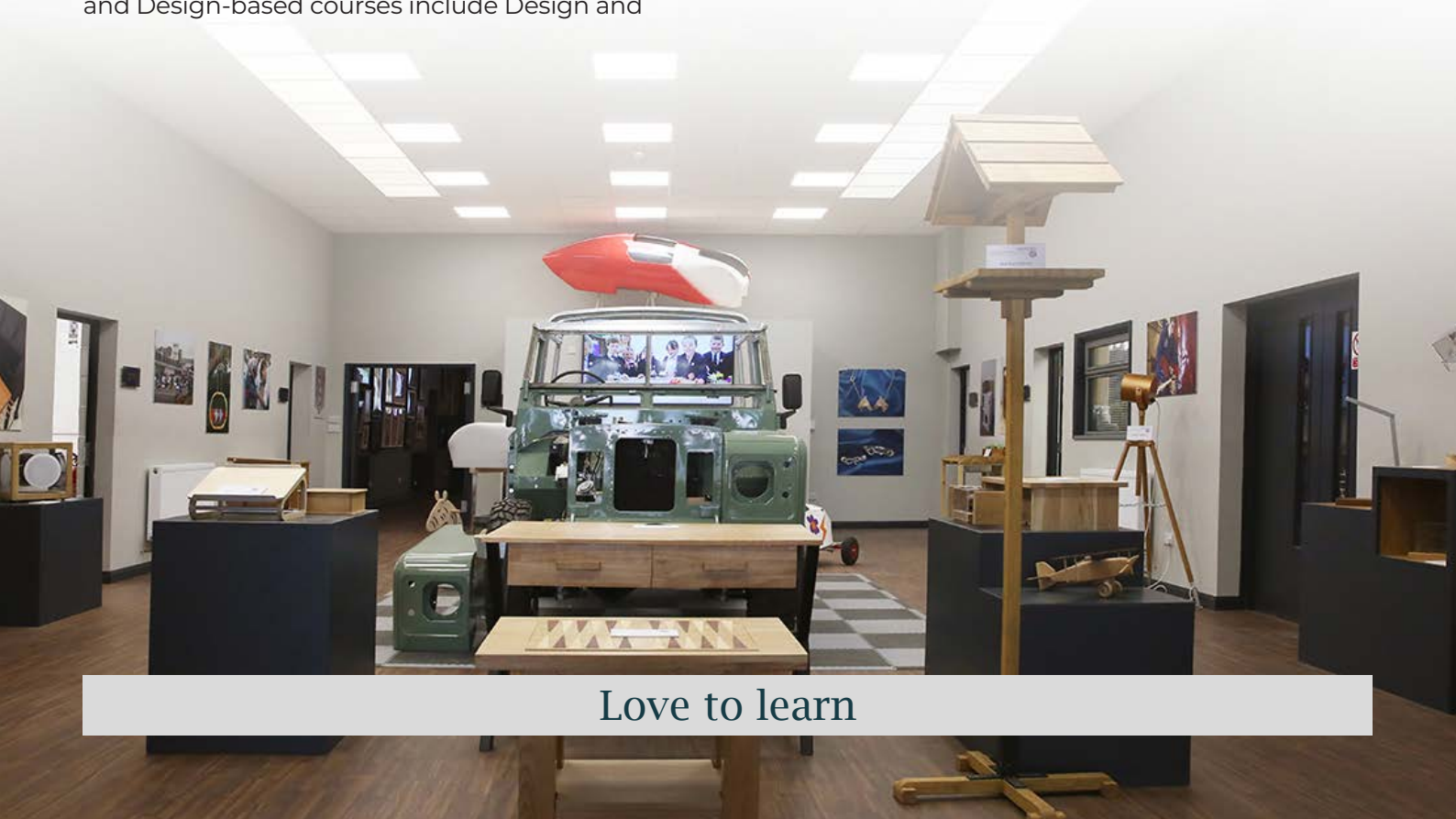
Last summer, our Design and Technology and Art Departments received a redesign of their teaching and gallery spaces. This included new and improved ICT facilities, a dedicated jewellery workshop and two galleries for DT and Art students to showcase their work.

Earlier this term, we held our first Art and Design Showcase evening which served to give students of all ages a chance to display their hard work in the gallery spaces. We welcomed almost 200 guests throughout the evening and their viewing experience was accompanied by our student string trio and many solo performances from our music scholars.

As well as giving our students the chance to display some of their hard work, the evening gave many younger students the chance to see the opportunities they will have in the future as they move through the school. At GCSE, our Art and Design-based courses include Design and

Technology; Art, Craft and Design; Fine Art; Textile Design and Graphical Communication. This suite is expanded in the Sixth Form where we also offer 3-Dimensional Design and Photography. Given the open nature of the workshops and gallery spaces – among which the DT gallery is a ‘working gallery’ – our younger students have access to the same fantastic teachers and facilities as our oldest students, and they will often be working side-by-side in the workshop or classroom.

Following the success of the evening, we shall be making it an annual event and look forward to welcoming you to our next event in 2024.



Love to learn



Charity

We welcome donations to support our Foodbank Appeal which you can make using this QR code



The Charity Council have worked hard throughout the year to ensure that community support remains prominent across the Seaford community. With various activities across the whole campus, they have managed to raise over £25,000 this academic year.

The Summer Term is always short and very busy. However, the charity teams across the school have been participating in events and raising money and awareness whenever they can. This term, the school raised £650 for Breast and Testicular Cancer charities by wearing home clothes in the Senior School in May, and £375 across the whole school by baking cakes in our 'Cultural Cake Sale', with all proceeds going towards the Allsorts Youth Project. This supports children and young adults from the LGBTQ+ community and was selected as part of School Diversity Week. Thanks to our own Pride group, '+', for choosing the recipient charity.

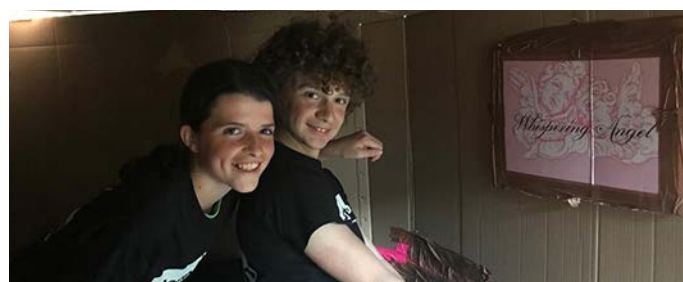
Stonepillow and St Wilfrid's Hospice came into school this term to host our first ever pop-up charity shop which raised £670. The Mansion marquee was transformed into a shopping hub with both charities bringing in handbags and gladrags for all to try on and purchase.

The most ambitious charity event planned this term was the 'Big Seaford Sleep-Out' involving Year 8 students. As supporters of Stonepillow, who help the homeless in the Chichester area, a selection of Year 8 students volunteered themselves to participate in this event to replicate Stonepillow's own 'Big Sleep-Out' which takes place outside Chichester Cathedral each year. In teams of up to 5 people, the students designed, built and slept in their own shelters for the night, and what a long night it was. Our thanks go to all the parents and businesses, such as TWM Solicitors, Kelly's Storage, and Ashling Park vineyard who supplied the materials for the project, together with the Outdoor Education team who gave up their evening to join the organisers, Lara Stitt and Linda Ferris.

The 30 students raised £1500 and learnt so much about the plight of the homeless through their endeavours.

As always, we wrap up each term by providing the kids lunch packs (KLPs) for the Foodbank depots in our area. The Summer Term is far more demanding with 400 boxes constructed throughout Community Action Day. Students and staff worked incredibly hard putting them together, and all the boxes will be distributed across the area in the next few days.

Thank you so much to the Charity Council, especially to the chairperson, Hannah Phillips. She will be missed by the team but will be succeeded by Art Griffith, who will lead the Charity Council next year.



**REUSE
REDUCE
RECYCLE**

February 2020

Current World Population
7,709,295,590

March 2023

Current World Population
8,024,834,277

Current World Population - 144

As the number of people increases, the demand for Earth's resources increases and this is damaging the environment we live in.



Seaford College

Prep · Senior · Sixth Form

Eco-Schools

Seaford College, through International Eco-Schools UK, are working towards our second distinction level and obtaining the coveted Green Flag again, as well as being entered for International Eco-School of the Year 2022-23. The major themes have been covered by the three eco-councils in the Prep, Senior School and Sixth Form.

Eco-councils and staff have been magnificent in driving Eco-Schools projects across Seaford College and bringing on board several areas such as catering staff, operational staff, Countryside Management staff, Duke of Edinburgh volunteering student-led environmental tasks and their staff, Forest School activity days and Food Technology staff. We have also strengthened our eco links with charity actions involving book swaps, pop-up prom clothes, themed cake making and selling plus Foodbank produce donations, for our local communities.

The very successful Prep School Creative Curriculum Days that involved reducing, reusing, and recycling were divided into 8 curriculum

areas, linking many staff, parents and enthusiastic, vertically grouped students.

This year, on the Community Action Day's 10th anniversary, a record number of tasks had green and sustainable links with diverse environmental organisations showing how our whole school, students and staff, are committed to reaching out to their community and beyond in many green and sustainable ways.

Seaford College not only loves to learn but loves to be green and sustainable, and embraces the 3Rs of Reduce, Reuse and Recycle! We ask all staff, students and their families to continue keeping up this focus over the summer holidays.



Love to learn



@LoveFoodAtSeaford

The Summer Term is always busy for the Catering Department as the events really come to life in the final months of the school year.

The first week back after Easter saw us deliver the Prefect's Dinner where outgoing prefects enjoyed their sticky toffee pudding and other delights. Next came the King's Coronation, where the pastry chefs made and decorated some beautiful cakes for breaktime and dessert.

After Open Day on Saturday, 13th May, the boarding community were surprised – pleasantly, we hope – with 'Scott's Brasserie' at supper time, where they were served a three-course menu with table service. It was great to see the look of surprise on the faces of students and staff, though we hope they don't get used to being waited on hand and foot... The following week brought the Wellbeing Conference and the Year 13 Leavers' Ball in quick succession, with both events enjoying some fantastic local produce.

After the half-term break, we served at Mary Poppins Jr., the Choir Dinner, the Girls' Cricket Festival, the Year 8 Celebration and Speech & Sports Day. We even managed to fit in some sushi tasters



and a woodfired pizza evening for the boarders. It really has been a busy time in the kitchens but we have loved catering for all the different events that Seaford College offers.

Finally, despite all the things he already had on his plate, Executive Chef Cavill Perrin found some time to visit our Food Tech kitchen to demonstrate some butchery to the students as well.

To see more of what we do search 'LoveFoodAtSeaford' on Instagram.



Love to learn



School production: *Mary Poppins Jr.*

Our school community was wholly captivated this term. by the enchanting tale of Mary Poppins, a beloved character brought to life on stage. From the first note to the final bow, the performance was a resounding success, leaving audiences in awe and with uplifted spirits.

The talented cast, comprising students from Year 6, 7 and 8, delivered exceptional performances that showcased their dedication and passion on stage. The students transported us to the magical world of Cherry Tree Lane, with their glorious portrayals of familiar characters. Their voices soared through the Johnson Centre, mesmerising everyone in attendance. The musical numbers were a true delight, filled with infectious energy and show-stopping choreography. From the lively "Step in Time" to the heartfelt "Feed the Birds," every song was executed with precision and passion. The entire ensemble shone beautifully throughout; it was "supercalifragilisticexpialidocious."

The backstage team worked tirelessly to create some slick set changes, spectacular lighting, and vibrant costumes. Each scene transition was swiftly executed, allowing the audience to become fully immersed in the world of the Banks family and their adventures with Mary Poppins. This production not only entertained, but also delivered meaningful messages about family, imagination and the power of kindness. The story's timeless



themes resonated with audience members of all ages, reminding us of the importance of cherishing our loved ones and finding joy in the simplest of moments.

We extend our heartfelt congratulations to the entire cast and crew for their extraordinary efforts in creating such a wonderful production. *Mary Poppins Jr.* transported us to a world of magic and wonder, leaving a lasting impression on all who experienced it. Bravo to everyone involved for their exceptional talents and their commitment to bringing the magic of theatre to life.



Love to learn



Careers

The careers programme at Seaford continues to gain momentum as our students increasingly become more aware of the variety of opportunities available when considering their next steps.

On probably the hottest day of the term, the Year 10 students convened in the Mansion marquee to learn how to sell themselves by demonstrating their skills through preparing a CV. Lorna Owen from FutureSmartCareers guided them through the style of a CV, the language they should consider using and the skills for which employers look. They had previously browsed the Morrisby platform to look at careers and the section on "What it takes".

While many Year 12 students are busy preparing their UCAS applications, a growing number are considering doing an apprenticeship and also had the opportunity to talk with Lorna Owen about what it entails, how to find opportunities and what they should do to complete a successful application.

Exploring careers further, a group of twenty-eight Year 9 students participated in a legal workshop where they learnt about the difference between a rule and a law, what to look for in evidence and what should be considered when sentencing someone. This all culminated in a dramatisation of a case in a court with a judge and jury with everyone playing a part, from witnesses to court artist. The morning was full of information and interactive activity organised by the company All Rise.



Love to learn



Moving Up

Brave New World: Senior School

Year 9 marks the beginning of a thrilling journey; a school year full of new experiences, opportunities, and challenges. As with any challenge, this step up into the Senior School requires our students to adopt a fresh mindset. Having the courage to overcoming potential obstacles is an important virtue to hone as they venture into Year 9. We understand that the transition from Prep School can sometimes be daunting for students, but our team of dedicated tutors, led by their wonderful Head of Year, Mr Parsons, will work diligently to support them in this transition. Whether having been with us since the beginning of their educational voyage or having joined us for the first time, we embrace and celebrate the unique talents, perspectives, and experiences each student brings to our school. In the first week of September, our Year 9 team will kick off the term with an activities' day. Our Year 9 students will be encouraged to take part in fun team-building tasks, hosted by our own Outdoor Education Department, with the aim of forging new friendships whilst also pushing students beyond their comfort zone to broaden skills and connections with their peers.

Welcome message from Head of Year, Mr Parsons

I am really looking forward to meeting you and getting to know all about your interests and passions. The Year 9 team is a special combination of staff and students who, when working collaboratively, can achieve their personal bests. We are a family unit who look out for everyone, and we will take care of you to ensure that you are supported academically and pastorally, both in school and at home. From September, we will encourage students to grow in their self-confidence, we will help them connect with new friends and the school community, and set appropriate challenges specific to their needs. I will do my utmost to see them perform in school sports fixtures, musical productions, dance shows, drama, CCF, as well as DofE – all activities with which I hope you will get involved. May this be a year of discovery, inspiration and tremendous personal growth. We cannot wait to witness the incredible things you will achieve.

Year 9 Leadership Team from September 2023:



George Vernon
Director – Head of Middle School



James Parsons
Head of Year 9



Jennifer Linford
Assistant Head of Year 9



James Bird
Assistant Head of Year 9

Love to learn

A photograph showing students from behind, sitting at desks in a large hall, each with a laptop open, likely during an examination or assessment session.

Examinations at Seaford

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all the students who sat exams/assessments during the Summer 2023 series for their immaculate behaviour and professionalism during this stressful time. We wish them all our very best for their respective results days.

This summer has seen the largest number of exam entries Seaford has ever had, with over 1828 being made across 61 different specifications/subjects.

Just over 300 students in Year 10-13 have sat a total of 3123 written public exam papers, along with several online external assessments. Enabling these exams to run smoothly and looking after all these students are a team of 45 invigilators, readers and scribes who have quietly invigilated for over 2000 hours between them.

Looking ahead to the results days (17th August for A Level and 24th August for GCSE), Mr Arya has already sent a letter out to students and parents providing further details; copies of this can be found on

<https://seaford.fireflycloud.net/exams/exam-results>

If you have any questions regarding exam results, please do email our Exams Manager, Mrs Lorraine Goddard lgoddard@seaford.org

61
subjects

3123 exams

2000
hours of invigilation

300+
students

1828 exam entries

45 invigilators



Academic Support and Personalised Learning

Among the aspects we perform incredibly well at Seaford are the personalised learning and academic support we provide to the students.

We provide a number of different support programmes according to age range and need, all of which will continue next year. N.B. AAA is our Academic access and Achievement Department.

Prep School:

Small group boosters

In Maths and English, often our Learning Support staff teach children in a smaller group in order to consolidate understanding and provide suitable differentiation.

Handwriting Club

With the promise of hot chocolate on those wintry days.

Prep Clinic

Hosted by members of the Prep School AAA Department, this is a clinic which provides additional, smaller group prep support.

New: Literacy Mentor Support

We have appointed 14 literacy mentors from Year 11 and 1, to aid with the development of Prep School literacy. These students will wear an orange lanyard and will be on hand to hear children read, assist with writing practice or engage in guided reading.



Senior School:

Academic Mentoring

Members of the leadership team can provide 1:1 mentoring on a short-term basis to students that need a confidence boost or perhaps are struggling to manage workload due to anxiety or behavioural based reasons. Please do contact Mr Arya or Mrs Butler if you feel this would benefit your child.

1:1 AAA lessons

Some 240 students benefit from 1:1 support within the AAA Department. These lessons are targeted at those on the SEN register and provide tailored support to their needs.

Core Support

Some of our SEN students opt for core support groups instead. These group classes run during supervised study sessions and support the content of English and Maths for Year 9, 10 and 11.

Homework Clinic/Sixth Form Clinic

Teachers may refer students who are behind with coursework or prep. These clinics are supervised by staff who then ensure deadlines are met and tasks organised.

Subject Based Clinics

Most academic subjects offer a drop-in clinic, weekly, for more bespoke questions or guidance. Please do liaise with the relevant Head of Department for these.

Staff Leavers

We would like to wish a fond farewell to all our staff leavers this year. Thank you for all your service to the Seaford community. We shall miss you dearly and wish you the very best for the future.



Mr Tim Gregory joined Seaford back in 1983 and has been inspirational to so many staff and students during his 40-year tenure at Seaford. He has held many important positions here including Housemaster, Head of Sixth Form, Head of Politics, Head

of Cricket and Head of the RAF Section of our CCF contingent. More recently Mr Gregory has been an integral part of our Pink House and Safeguarding team – continuing to make such a positive impact on the Seaford community. Thank you, Mr Gregory!



Mrs Diana Strange has been at Seaford since 2005. Mrs Strange has coached sport, been Head of Year and, over the past number of years, has been the architect behind our Pink House. Many current and former students, staff and parents are grateful to Diana

for all that she has done for them over so many years. Thank you, Mrs Strange!



Chloe Carrubba



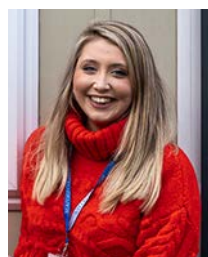
Dan Gray



Danielle Butler



Georgina Hegarty



Harriet Utley



Jake Keatt



Kat Pinnell



Laura Murray



Matthew Peacock



Natalie Bygraves



Paul Harker



Poppy Lake

Love to learn



Seaford College

Prep · Senior · Sixth Form



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