



**Seaford College**  
Prep · Senior · Sixth Form

## **Spring Newsletter 2023**

**A round up of academic and pastoral news**





# Student Voice

**Student voice is an essential part of the Seaford community, whether that is within council meetings, drop-in sessions in the common rooms or through student surveys. Our students are shaping their pathway throughout the College.**

This term has seen the Year Group Council representatives making their presence known in their own individual year groups. With weekly drop-in sessions being held in common rooms, and half-termly meetings consolidating the needs of the students together with the representatives and the Assistant Heads of their year, the School Council meetings are taking a far more prominent position and developing into a student-led vehicle for continual improvement. Staff have been invited to attend meetings to tackle some of the student concerns directly, giving our representatives the opportunity to question and listen to those in positions of decision making. Catering is always a hot topic, so when Executive Chef, Cavil Perrin, kindly offered to come along, students were able to address questions arising from the student body. It was a very favourable exchange with everyone coming away from the meeting with a better understanding of what is wanted, and what is achievable.

The Student Voice Survey is another vital strand for students to have their say. Last term, the focus was on the newly updated Personal Development lessons and content. This term, the emphasis has been on Teaching and Learning; feedback and prep. Students from Year 7-13 completed a variety of questions on how they respond to feedback given from their teachers: what is useful, what works well and what does not. The subsequent survey on prep was to ascertain favourable prep styles and identify any barriers to learning. The student responses were informative and acted upon through our, 'You say... We did...', 360°

feedback loop. It is apparent that the Seaford students' opinion is valued and listened to. Whilst we cannot make all requests come true, the students use and trust the system.

Student voice is exercised across the whole school. In the Prep School, School Council meetings are very positive and enthusiastically attended. With all the minutes and actions pinned up in classrooms, students can see that their voice carries weight; the introduction of the first ever Basketball Club is a great example of the council process. The Environmental Club is also a vibrant and active group, meeting frequently to discuss key issues. Food waste is a hot topic this term, so the students have been speaking to the Catering Manager of Holroyd Howe, Michael Withers, to look at ways to address this, and significant changes have already begun to take shape in the Year 1-6 dining room.







# Student Wellbeing

**Wellbeing is a priority at Seaford and is the responsibility of everyone in the Seaford community – staff, parents and students. We are all agreed that if a student is struggling emotionally in any way, it will impact their learning experience.**

## Parent Wellbeing Evening

With the whole school approach in mind, we continue to run our Parent Wellbeing Evenings and had another successful turnout on 6th February. We invited Alicia Drummond (pictured below) back to present on 'Worry, Stress and Anxiety' and she gave parents an understanding of good and bad stress, real and hypothetical worries, and anxieties. She explored strategies to manage worries and stresses of life and avoid the anxiety trap, whilst boosting emotional resilience. This was another informative and interesting evening which received excellent feedback.

## Interschool Wellbeing Conference

We are hosting an interschool Wellbeing Conference on 18th May where we can share best practices with other schools to impact the students we each interact with daily in a positive fashion.

We have secured two external speakers and will also be hosting "carousel sessions" which will cover various topics including: anxiety, the importance of sleep, social media, nutrition, consent, the wellbeing benefits of outdoor learning and peer mentoring

This conference is for schools only.



## Peer Mentor Programme


Following the Peer Mentor selection process, we launched the Peer Mentor Programme at the beginning of this term. We ran assemblies in the Senior and Prep Schools, introducing 38 Year 12 peer mentors, followed by a training session with our pastoral team focusing on the following:

- The role of a peer mentor
- Active listening skills
- Open questions and paraphrasing
- Making a change
- Confidentiality
- Support for peer mentors

Peer mentors are now actively engaging with and supporting younger students across the Seaford community and can be identified by their pink lanyards.

And finally, many thanks to the parents and students who have suggested a new name for the Pink House. We have a shortlist; however, this is a final call if there are any late entries...

Love to learn



# Student Personal Development and PSHE

**The Personal Development and PSHE lessons, events and guest speakers have been amazing this term, thanks to the dedication and hard work of the Heads of Year, knowing their students and on what they need to focus.**

The Personal Development programme for the students continues to thrive. Suggestions from last term's student voice survey have been analysed and implemented. The weekly, Wednesday morning sessions are fun and engaging, whilst being informative and useful for our students. The sessions are planned and structured by each Head of Year to ensure their students are constantly building on health, wellbeing, and self-awareness.

In the Prep School, PSHE continues to build on the students' social interactions and presentation skills. Year 5 and 6 have participated in some 'Girls on Board' sessions to aid their bonding skills, and to promote an understanding and acceptance of each other; that we are all different, yet one community. Year 7 have been producing their own 7-minute presentations on topics ranging from 'The Unexpected Impacts of TikTok', 'The Benefits of Sleep', and 'Big Technologies that have Affected the World'. They are judged on presentation, engagement, organisation and having the 'wow factor'. The winners will be announced at the end of term assembly.

This term has been our busiest and most successful for inviting guest speakers into the school, both in the academic day and, more frequently, in the boarding houses for evening events. The boarding houses have hosted visits from Shannon Reddin for RSE education and Rick Cooper delivering his masculinity talks, as well as nutrition presentations from expert Sue Crabtree. The location, setting and atmosphere of the evening sessions allow students to engage more openly with their guest speakers.

Being relaxed, as they would be in a home setting, gives a real sense of warmth and openness to their discussions.

In Prep School, the students are also enjoying the Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) programme, developing a social awareness of the world around them. For example, staff and volunteers from the homeless charity, Stonepillow, came into school to discuss the work that they do. Year 6 then followed this up by visiting the warehouse, and Year 8 prefects completed the learning journey by delivering all the food donations to the warehouse a week later. The Year 7 girls participated in a friendship building workshop, and all Prep School year groups have created posters in their classrooms to show this term's learning.

During the day, the Sixth Form students have experienced a wealth of guest speakers. They have received presentations on 'Gambling Addiction' with Patrick Foster, and 'Law and Consent' with Solicitor Advocate, Russell Robinson, alongside more sensitive topics on 'Breast Cancer and Testicular Cancer Awareness', and most recently a powerful and moving presentation from Mr Richard Moore on 'Emotional Wellbeing and Teen Suicide'. The programme is designed to equip our students with the tools to enter the world as independent adults. Feedback from the students has been so positive, especially on the more difficult subjects, from which we do not shy away. Each session is discussed in detail with the pastoral team prior to the events to ensure we support our students in the lead up to talks, as well as during and after the event. Seaford students have appreciated the breadth to their programme.



A photograph of a young woman and a young man in school uniforms. The woman is on the left, smiling and looking down at a tablet. The man is on the right, looking at the tablet. They are both wearing dark blue blazers with a crest on the left chest. The background is a bright window with a view of greenery outside.

# High Expectations

## High achievement always takes place in the framework of high expectation.

As you journey up the school drive, you may have noticed the words Ad Alta engraved upon our school gateposts. However, you may not be aware that this simple Latin phrase, meaning 'to the heights', is much more than just a motto; it is engrained into every fibre of the student experience at Seaford. Under our framework of success, our students are secure in the knowledge that their hard work, positive behaviour, desire and ambition will fix them firmly on the pathway to the heights of their personal bests.

This ethos of ambition is established in the fundamental principles of our 'Top Ten' school rules and school courtesies, which are the backbone of our community's core values. Students learn about these character-shaping principles in school assemblies and Personal Development sessions, as well as being published in our school calendar and website. Students are regularly reminded, encouraged and praised for displays of these virtuous characteristics by tutors and teachers, Heads of Year and Senior Management via our ClassCharts attendance and behaviour tracking system.

The wearing of school uniform is also an integral part of our rationale to promote positive attitudes, high standards and a sense of belonging within Team Seaford, as Mr Green would say. We take great pride in our students' appearance – and being proud of one's appearance breeds great confidence, professionalism and self-respect within our student body. The way we dress radiates a positive message to those we encounter each day and enhances the tremendous pragmatic attitude within the classroom. You will, no doubt, see staff standing by to greet students each morning and evening, checking that uniform is correct. We look to challenge any appearance that falls short of our high standards to ensure that students appreciate the value of their own self-worth.



Love to learn



# Co-curricular Programme

## Cerebral

Our Public Speaking and Debating Club goes from strength to strength as our Year 11 public speaking team of Emily Freud, Amy Allison and Amelie Wright were victorious once again in the Regional Finals of the ESU Churchill Public Speaking Competition at Churcher's College. They beat stiff opposition in the form of teams from Churcher's, St Catherine's School, Wellington, Calthorpe Park and Davison High. Amy also won the award for best speaker for her speech arguing that 'Anger has a role to play in public life', drawing her arguments from Winston Churchill, the Bible and Happy Valley! The dream team are now looking forward to the National Final at Churchill College, Cambridge on Sunday, 30th April.

## Creative

The ever-popular Land Rover Club has made huge gains over the course of the past term, with the vehicle now starting to resemble the body of a Land Rover. Students from a wide age range have come together to work on this exciting centrepiece to the DT Department. Students involved with Greenpower have been busy as they look ahead to the Goblins competition which is hosted here at Seaford in May. Students have been busy refining their car design and working on some technical engineering-based problems.





## Outdoor Activities

Climbing continues to be popular and our climbers represented Seaford in the interschool climbing competition at the Parthean Climbing Wall in Reading, hosted by Eton College. More information can be found in our 'Achievements Outside the Classroom' section. Next term, the Outdoor Education team will be offering the John Muir Award within the Prep School which is an environmental award scheme encouraging awareness and responsibility for the natural environment. Kayak club will be making a return next term in the swimming pool for the Senior School, where students will be able to perfect their skills and techniques on the water.

## Performing Arts Activities

As we swiftly move from one production to the next, the Year 9 and 10 play returns this summer following the success of the murder mystery event last year. The Prep School continue building towards their performances of Mary Poppins. The Music Technology clubs remain popular additions to the clubs offering, available to students from Year 6 upwards.

## Sport Activities

Cricket, tennis and athletics become the major sports during the Summer Term with plenty of opportunities to train in these areas during the activity slot. Touch rugby and football are also available for Year 9 and 10 for those looking for a friendly run-around during the week. Self-defence continues to be a popular activity in the school, with Year 7 and 8 having the opportunity to continue this next term. We have expanded our swimming provision in the Prep School, with competitive and leisure options now available for Year 6, 7 and 8.







# Boarding

**The second term is always a tough one for boarders. The nights are long and the evenings short. The darkness means that our boarders cannot utilise the spectacular grounds at Seaford and, for this reason, we have opened more facilities than ever to ensure that boarders can exercise, train and learn new skills even when the light has gone.**

The Spring Term is also a time when the academic work really starts to ramp up with mock examinations and coursework deadlines putting pressure on our boarders. Again, as with the various activities available in the evenings, this term has seen more evening academic support sessions than ever before laid on for boarders to enable them to make the progress they need in their studies.

As well as the core subjects that we have been running all year, we are now offering evening sessions in Geography, History, DT, Business and Economics. These have been well attended as boarders know the value in getting teacher input on work they are completing.

The aim is now to keep these going until the examination season is over in the summer and we may even add extra support sessions for those subjects not yet covered.

As we approach the end of term, we are all noticing the longer days and the extra time that brings to enjoy the grounds and we cannot wait for the summer to arrive with the extra space and activities that brings with it.







# Achievements Outside the Classroom

## Combined Cadet Force

The short, cold, wet and dark days of this term have not prevented the CCF from conducting some high-quality training on our Wednesday afternoon parades. Lessons have ranged from 'Battlefield First Aid' to 'Navigation' and from 'Radio Voice Procedure' to 'Air Rifle Shooting'.

The social highlight of the CCF year is, without doubt, the Regimental Dinner. This took place in February and we were delighted that Commander Harcombe RN could return to Seaford for this event, having conducted out the biennial inspection last term. This is not just a fun evening but a valuable opportunity to introduce cadets to some of the finer customs and traditions of the Armed Forces, as well as giving many an opportunity to practise their public speaking as they deliver educational speeches to the assembled company.

### Other events:

- The Royal Navy section had a fun and informative field day in the Portsmouth Historic Dockyard.
- The Army section had a residential weekend of weapon training for the junior cadets (with some cadets from the other two sections as well), which qualifies them to take part in blank and live firing activities in the future.
- The RAF section had a day of air experience flying in Grob Tutor aircraft from Boscombe Down.
- The term finished with a flourish, including a final field day for the Army to the high ropes course in Guildford, the RAF going to Tangmere Aviation Museum and a select group of experienced cadets representing the school in the annual Southeast Region Military Skills Competition.



## Outdoor Education (including Duke of Edinburgh Award)

All our Bronze DofE teams have been meeting weekly to learn about erecting tents, using cookers, packing rucksacks and completing the 'Youth Expedition First Aid Award', in preparation for their Expedition Training Day at the end of March. This event was attended by 58 Year 9 participants who successfully completed a 12km walk that focused on journey planning, navigation, teamwork and how best to respond to a simulated remote emergency incident... with Miss Loten winning an Oscar for her acting skills!

Our Silver DofE participants have been finalising their route plans for the Forest of Dean Expedition that is due to take place in June; using the latest online Ordnance Survey mapping tools with most getting very excited about the 'fly through' mapping option.



### Other activities:

- Many more DofE participants have completed their awards and received their certificates from the Headmaster during a special afternoon tea.
- The reintroduction of water-based skills sessions in the pool, with students experiencing SCUBA diving through a 'try dive' experience and kayaking development sessions.
- Another visit to the very popular Red Spider Climbing Centre in Fareham, which culminated in some climbers representing Seaford in the interschools climbing competition at the Parthean Climbing Wall in Reading, hosted by Eton College. The Seaford climbing team was made up of both junior and senior female and male climbers from Year 9 upwards. They all held their own at the event, competing in three disciplines – top roping, bouldering and lead climbing. This was only the second competition that most of the team had attended. They all had a great time, were challenged, and most importantly they are now looking forward to the next event.
- The Prep School Bushcraft Club continues to be massively oversubscribed with students experiencing a vast range of activities, from field cooking to making jewellery using pewter.



## Performing Arts

The Performing Arts Department has been incredibly busy this term, including a full school musical and a wonderful tour to New York during the February half-term break for more than 50 people. The tour was a resounding success, giving students the opportunity to see a Broadway musical, visit the Museum of Moving Images, participate in a backstage tour, ice skate in Central Park and enjoy a full movie and television tour around the city among a wealth of other sightseeing excursions. It was an opportunity to experience Performing Arts in another country and in a city well known for its diverse and excellent creative hub.

Activities and clubs have seen burgeoning numbers and students are embracing a wealth of performance opportunities as always. The lunchtime concerts for the Senior School, alongside the 'Tea and Tunes' musical events and 'Dance, Drama and Doughnuts' for the Prep School have proved that the students love to show their progress and high standards in various disciplines in a public forum. Many danced, sang, played instruments or acted their way through hours of repertoire in concerts and having the opportunity for audiences brings welcome feedback.

We have held ABRSM and Trinity Guildhall Music exams, LAMDA exams, Ballet exams, National Youth Theatre auditions and hosted GCSE and A Level Drama exams during the last few weeks of term. We have also supported many students in preparing auditions for universities, conservatoires, and drama or dance schools in the Performing Arts.

Another busy and brilliant term for the Performing Arts' students.





# Seaford Sport

## Cricket

As Easter nears, so ends the second year of our Performance Cricket programme and, once again, it has proved a roaring success with many of our gifted and talented cricketers able to develop their skills and game management in a first-class facility. Our U15 and U13 girls recently took part in the National Indoor competition. Both teams enjoyed excellent county rounds with the U15 narrowly beaten by Bede's in the final and our U13, flying the Seaford flag, went on to win their final and progress to regionals, well done to all. In Old Seafordian news, Charlie Tear, ahead of starting his first full season as a professional, was selected to tour Australia with England U19. Congratulations to Charlie and all at Seaford wish you a successful summer with Sussex CCC.

## Equestrian

Seaford Equestrian has had a great term, proving that we remain one of the top schools to beat in the NSEA National Championship qualifying classes at all heights, classes and levels. It has been 'Eventers Challenge' season and we have seen some excellent performances qualifying three teams at 80cm, 90cm and 1.00m for the Championships at Hickstead in May, with other good placings across the board too.

This spring, we have already qualified three show jumping teams at Intermediate and Open level, together with three fantastic Individuals at 1.10m advanced level for the NSEA National Championships at Addington in October, with several more opportunities to qualify further teams upcoming. We are training monthly with Olympic medallist Tina Cook and are looking forward to our next training session over the arena eventing cross country style fences at Hickstead at the end of term, as well as several competitions in the Easter holidays.



## Golf

This term, we have seen vast development through all levels of golf here at Seaford College. A number of students, that have recently taken the game up, have already got to firm grips with the sport and we are looking forward to seeing them progress in the the Summer Term. This term we have also had a fantastic trip away to Lancashire and Scotland to play the Northern Open at Fleetwood Golf Club and the Scottish Open at St Andrew's with a team of six for both events.

## Hockey

We have had a very busy term for hockey again with some real highlights. Congratulations to all those who have played for Seaford College this term, it is great to see so many representing the school. We have been busy in cup competitions; the 1st XI got to the last 16 of the plate and the U15 are in the ISHC Plate Finals for the final 6, a culmination to a strong season for all the Year 10 teams in particular. Individual representative honours have gone to Simon Pietersen, Theo Gardner, Milo Hickie and George Baker playing for Hampshire, Tom Thornton captaining Sussex and Charlie Cook, who has been selected for England U16 this Easter.

## Netball

This term has been extremely busy for our young netballers with success at the Charterhouse tournament for our U18A, U18B and U16A teams, as well as some excellent block fixtures against Hurstpierpoint, Churcher's, Epsom and Lancing to name just a few. This half of term saw our annual 'Friday Night Lights' fixture against Brighton College in our Sports Hall, which was a brilliant fixture with lots of student and parent spectators. We managed to reschedule and host our Seaford Super Sevens tournament for the U18A and U18B netball teams. The Prep School netball teams have had a successful season as well and have developed massively in skills, teamwork and game understanding, culminating in becoming champions at the Embley Park tournament. We have had a brilliant series of Prep fixtures throughout the term and thoroughly enjoyed finishing the season off with a visit from Chesham Prep's touring side.



## Rugby

It has been another successful rugby 7s and 10s season across the age range. This term has also seen the addition of Seaford Colleges first ever girls' rugby team. There has been regular 7s and 10s training every Saturday and during the week to ensure the boys and girls were prepared for the excellent range of local and national tournaments this term. There have been some fantastic performances from Year 7 through to the seniors and we have picked up lots of silverware on the 7s circuit. Last week saw the finale of the season, with all our age groups competing at the Rosslyn Park National 7s. One of the highlights of the week was our girls reaching the national quarter finals, playing some fantastic rugby along the way and scoring one of the tries of the tournament on the main pitch in front of a few thousand spectators. What an amazing experience and what memories. The 1st VII boys reached the final day of their event then travelled to Sedbergh School to compete at the prestigious 'Sedbergh Tens' competition.



## Sailing

The squad are very much looking forward to the first event of the season, which is the BSDRA Southern Championships, on 22nd April at Spinnaker Sailing Club. This is a team racing regatta, where they will be competing against many other schools, and is a very competitive event to which our sailors always look forward. We are hoping to be able to enter the 2nd VI team as well as the 1st VI to this (at the time of writing, entries from all schools are still to be confirmed by the organisers). Further ahead, the final touches are being put to the summer training programme based at Thorney Island Sailing Club in preparation for further team racing at the Thames Valley Championships on 10th June, and also fleet racing for Itchenor Schools Week in the final week of the Summer Term. This year, in addition to our usual Firefly entries for the senior category (Year 9 to 13), we are hoping to have several RS Feva entries in the junior category (Year 7 to 10), including sailors from the Prep School.



## Tennis

We are all so excited to welcome the start of the Tennis season which is now only a few weeks away. There will be fixtures against some top tennis schools combined with a programme of tennis which will take place in some games lessons and activity slots. There will also be opportunities to join the Tennis academy on Saturday mornings. Whatever the standard or experience level, we will be able to get students on court and have some fun.





# Competitive Houses

**Every student in the Senior School is part of one of five competitive houses: Adair, Charmandean, Corsica, Kymes and Millburgh. The houses, led by their Head of House and student house captains, take part in competitive events throughout the school year.**

These range from small events such as 'House Bake Off' to the larger whole school events such as Sports Day in the Summer Term. All students are encouraged to take part and contribute to their house throughout the school year.

This term saw the return of House Music with an updated format. All five houses competed in two categories: the 'House Song' and the 'House Band'. As one of the few competitions which is fully inclusive, with everyone participating, it was great to hear the houses blaring out their songs, all falling within this year's theme of 'Colour'. It was a fantastic afternoon of music, teamwork, camaraderie and enthusiasm from everyone involved. Well done to Charmandean for winning the overall House Music competition.

As well as House Netball and Hockey, this term also saw some less mainstream competitions take place. House Darts returned for the first time in a few years, with the students involved all acting in a well-mannered fashion and being supportive of each other. Millburgh took the win over Adair in the final. The House Salt Race was a new competition on the interhouse event calendar this term. The competition was a test of initiative and practical skills, where Year 9 and 10 competitors had to make the purest salt from grit salt in the Chemistry laboratory. It was a closely fought competition between Kymes and Adair, but Adair got the win with their perfectly produced salt ready for any dining table.

Looking ahead to next term, we have the return of House Debating, House Film Competition and House Archery as some of the events on offer as well as one of the highlights of the year, Sports Day.







# Spotlight on Teaching: Feedback

**Historically in education, work has been 'ticked' purely to show that a piece of work has been looked at, though no feedback will have been given and – more importantly – no student progress made. Teachers' use of feedback at Seaford, however, is based on research from the Education Endowment Foundation, Department of Education, and the Independent Schools Inspectorate.**

A range of different delivery methods, not limited to written marking alone, designed and proven to move students' knowledge, skills and understanding forward are used at Seaford.

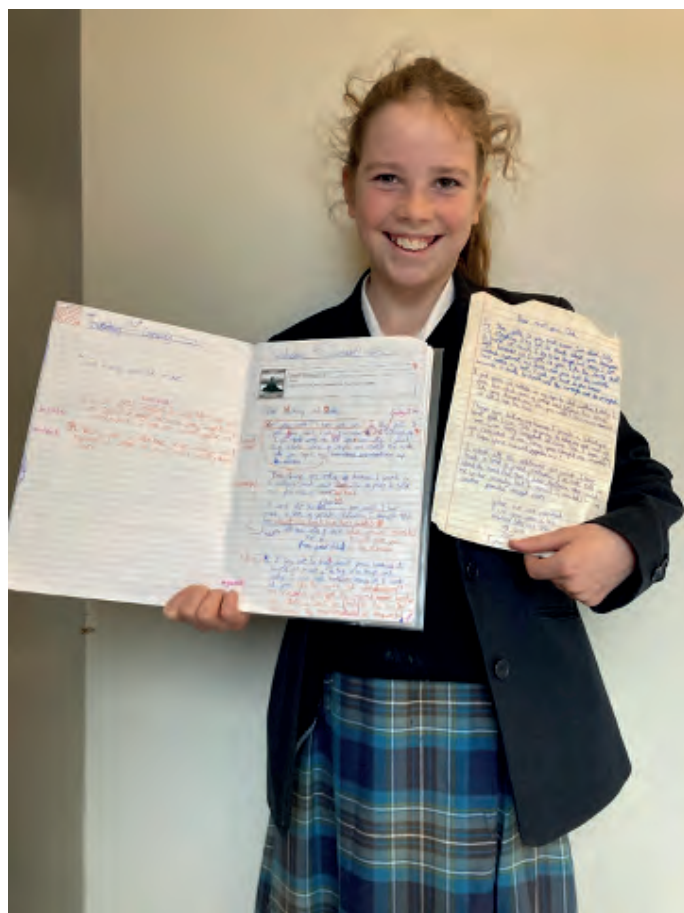
## **Ways in which your child receives feedback at Seaford:**

- Immediate individual verbal feedback
- Immediate individual written feedback
- Whole-class feedback (verbal or written) addressing misconceptions
- Post-lesson individualised written feedback
- Recorded verbal feedback on OneNote
- QR codes/video recordings

Training on feedback was delivered to the whole school by James Gisby and Jenny Lyne in February. It focused on improving the precision of immediate feedback given; ways to incorporate feedback in planning and ways for students to edit and improve their work.

## **Ways in which we use feedback at Seaford:**

- Students move their learning forward by editing their own work after acting upon feedback
- Inform future teacher planning, having identified trends across cohorts and individuals
- Students complete tasks designed to move them forwards or challenge misconceptions based on teacher observation
- Activating students to be aware of their own learning, enabling them to move forward independently



*'I find it fun to edit my own work in orange pen and improve my work. I am really proud of my letter and the progress I made on it'*

Camilla Scholes, Year 6.





# Literacy Focus

The importance of literacy cannot be emphasised enough. Literacy underpins everything we do at Seaford and beyond. From communicating effectively on the sports pitches to reading extensively for an EPQ – even securing your first job! Effective oracy, in addition to reading and writing fluency, is the cornerstone of a successful path.

At the start of the academic year, Sheila Butler launched a working group with the focus of developing literacy across the campus. After COVID, we have noticed as educators and parents that literacy habits have declined, and we wanted to target this gap proactively. As a group, we have discussed areas of focus, conducted additional staff training and extended our accelerated reader provision. In the future, we aim to hold events to develop awareness for parents and to provide resources to develop literacy at home.



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# World Book Week

**Students recently enjoyed an inspiring World Book Week featuring a dress-up day and an interactive assembly, as well as visits from a performance poet and a variety of fiction and non-fiction authors.**

Events kicked off with all Prep School students dressing up, completing the 'design a door competition' and doing a workshop with author and children's writer Jo Simmons. World Book Week organiser Genevieve Bayley, our School Librarian, then led an entertaining interactive assembly with Year 9 to 13 students.

During the rest of the week, students took part in talks and workshops with other well-known authors such as ex-footballer Seth Burkett.

Students from Year 9 and 10 enjoyed an engaging performance from author, trained bodyguard and martial arts expert, Chris Bradford. Chris practises what he terms 'method writing' and, for his 'Bodyguard' series, he embarked on an intensive close-protection course to become a qualified bodyguard.

For his award-winning 'Young Samurai' series, Chris trained in samurai swordsmanship, karate, ninjutsu and earned his black belt in Zen Kyu Shin Taijutsu. Both talks were extremely popular and students have been keen to check out Chris' books from the library.

Students from Year 11 were also inspired by rhythm poet Adisa the Verbaliser, who read poems from his book and employed word prompts with riddles to engage the students during his performance. Students also enjoyed a poetry open-mic session in the library with Adisa and read poems that they had either written themselves, or that inspired them.



*"It's been a huge success and I'm so glad all students across the College have enjoyed and fully engaged with the variety of different performances and assemblies on offer. Reading is for everyone, no matter what age, and my aim is to inspire, engage and excite students at every level and get them talking about books and literacy in whatever form that takes."*

Genevieve Bayley, Seaford College Librarian

Love to learn



A student in a dark school uniform is seen from the back, sitting at a light-colored wooden desk. They are using an iPad that is propped up on its stand. The iPad screen displays a colorful, organized digital workspace with various notes, diagrams, and text boxes in shades of green, yellow, and blue. In the background, other blue school chairs and parts of other desks are visible, suggesting a classroom setting.

# Digital Seaford

**Digital technology is firmly embedded within our lives whether that be at work, at home or in leisure. It is also (and has been for several years) an important part in the world of education.**

All teachers and students at Seaford are equipped with an Apple iPad. Our principle aim in using iPads (and other technology) in the classroom is not to replace any one type of teaching or learning but to enhance learning, to excite the students and to help bring content alive. As well as being a direct learning aid, the iPads allow teachers to control students' iPads in lessons by directing and locking them into certain apps, viewing their screens from the teacher's iPad to provide immediate feedback, sharing a student's screen on the interactive board, and directing and locking students into certain websites or online books. All of this helps minimise distractions and creates a positive learning environment.

Many of you will have heard your son/daughter talk about OneNote but may wonder what it is. Put simply, it is best viewed as an online lever arch file with as many file dividers as you need. OneNote is used across the school, with our youngest students in the Prep School occasionally using it through to our Sixth Form students using it independently to manage their own notes, learning and revision. Each class a student is a part of has a 'Team' within the Microsoft Teams environment. This Team is also linked to a OneNote class notebook. This Team environment allows for communication between teachers and students and the OneNote class notebook allows teachers to set work easily, distribute lesson resources, provide reference material, check what students are doing on their OneNote live and provide verbal or written feedback.

We are not able to give parents direct access to OneNote, but you are able to look through your son/daughter's OneNote with them just as you would with an exercise book or folder. Each OneNote will be split into sections (think of them like file dividers) and then within those you will find individual lesson, prep or assessment pages. Some of the activities a student can do within OneNote include:

## **Access all distributed material from anywhere at any time**

- Write or type directly onto a page
- Watch embedded videos/clips
- Use 'Immersive Reader' which can help to make reading large chunks of text easier, or you can use it to dictate the text on the page
- Change the colour of the background or add in lines and squares to help students focus on the page
- Access verbal and written feedback at any time
- Upload other material such as PDFs, Word, PowerPoint and Excel documents

If you would like to purchase a new iPad case with a keyboard and/or touchpad or an Apple pencil (or equivalent) please use this link: <https://seafordcollege.store.academia.co.uk/> and use the password Seaford2022. Everything bought in this store will be sent directly to the school and distributed to the student by our IT team.

We value more traditional modes of teaching and learning as highly as we do innovative and digital teaching and learning tools, and our teachers make use of these as a part of their teaching toolkit to get the most out of each individual student.



# Prefects

**The current group of College prefects (some of them pictured above) gathered for their final prefect tea last week and were thanked by Headmaster John Green for the diligent way they had carried out their duties.**

As recognition of their time as prefects, the students – all drawn from Year 13 – were presented with a gift and a copy of their original letter of application. The prefects will continue in their roles until a week into the Summer Term, after which a new team of prefects from Year 12 will begin their probation period.

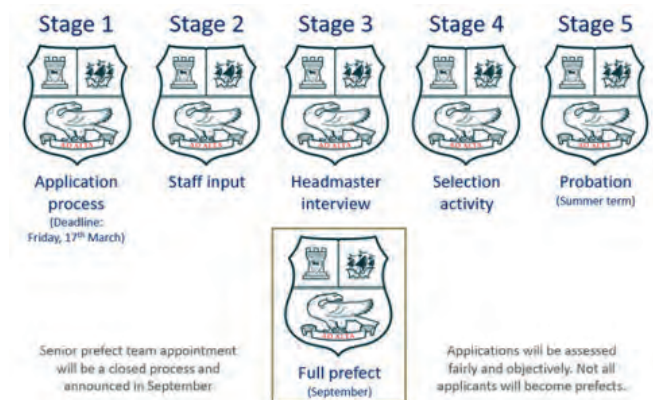
The role of a Seaford College prefect provides students with a unique opportunity for personal development and service to the school community. Our prefects are role models to all students in the College community and the role carries with it several privileges and responsibilities. We have now started the prefect selection process for the next academic year (2023-24) with the probation period being in the Summer Term of 2023.

## **The personal qualities we expect from a prefect are:**

- Leadership
- Positivity
- Enthusiasm
- Being approachable
- Proactive communication
- Being able to do the right thing
- Challenging others to do the right thing
- Commitment to the College and its expectations

It is imperative that prefects can manage their time well and keep up with all their prefect responsibilities, co-curricular commitments and academic work. When in post (both in and out of the probationary period), prefect responsibilities include:

- Attendance as a guide at every Open Morning
- Supervision of prep sessions, lunch queues and common rooms
- Touring individual families around the school during the day
- Monitoring uniform and student behaviour across the campus



The transparent and supportive selection process put in place (shown in the image) allows the College to recruit highly committed, high-quality prefects who can sustain the demands of being a prefect from the Summer Term of Year 12 to the Spring Term of Year 13. Our process will be as favourable as possible for all applicants, but of course an application is not a guarantee to full prefect status in September. Good luck to all our applicants!





# Destinations Programme

**Spring Term is a key time for Sixth Form and the excitement of imagining independent lives after school at destinations across the UK and other parts of the world is tangible at this time of year around the Sixth Form Centre.**

Year 13 have submitted UCAS forms and are eagerly awaiting – and receiving – offers from their chosen universities. They were treated to an afternoon session on how to manage that next stage of the application process earlier in the term, and were given advice on responding to offers, visiting universities, applying for gap years and all the practicalities that need to be considered when selecting their final preferences. We have had some fantastic offers through, reflecting the quality of the forms submitted. With mock examinations now behind them, Year 13 can focus on achieving the grades they need in order to take advantage of the contextual offers the universities have given them and ensuring that they secure their first choice in August.

We launched the destinations programme to Year 12 in February with the question “should I go to university”? The answer for many remains a solid ‘yes’, but there is a range of alternative options for school leavers these days that was not there even ten years ago. To get the ball rolling, we welcomed the University of Sussex to outline the UCAS application process in an evening talk to parents and students. Looking at post-Seaford destinations in Year 12 so far away from final exams always gives students the burst of motivation to build strong foundations academically over the remainder of Sixth Form.

Reflecting the diverse profiles of Seaford’s students, their interests and ambitions, we invited the Chichester College Group to share their expertise in apprenticeships across a wide range of industries to students who are motivated to take a vocational route when they leave school. We will be taking a deeper look in the Summer Term at a new and exciting alternative route, degree apprenticeships, which are being offered by some of the world’s most successful companies and institutions in partnership with major universities, while our Year 12 students concentrate on building up their CVs to support UCAS applications and personal statements. The key is to work out what the

universities are looking for and to think about how you can demonstrate those skills or qualities.

Planning summer work experience or booking onto courses to demonstrate ability or expertise in a specific subject area can be planned now. Next term will see Year 12 sign up to create their UCAS forms and we will also be running a session towards the end of the Summer Term to ensure that all of the students leave for the long holiday with a first draft of their personal statement completed.



Love to learn





# Showcasing Scholars

## Academic Scholars

Our students are incredibly busy and this is especially true for our academic scholars. Whether they are involved with specialist sessions or societies such as biomedical or debating, their influence can be felt everywhere across the campus. This term, scholars wrote their own versions of 'Aesop's Fables' trying to balance communicating a moral story and entertaining young children at the same time. In their Maths masterclass, scholars were challenged to find rectangles and squares using formulae instead of drawing and trial and error. The importance of wider reading and work experience has been stressed to Year 12 scholars and it has been so pleasing to see the array of work experience being planned for the Easter and Summer holidays in areas such as medicine and law, as well as hearing about academic texts and books that students have started to read to support and extend their learning in the classroom. In the next term, Sixth Form scholars can look forward to mock interview practice and personal statement workshops. Other scholars can look forward to specialist sessions in English and Science (particularly dissection) as well as the vast number of academic societies on offer.

## Creative Arts

Year 6-9 Art scholars have been developing work for their own individual projects this term. In doing so, they have developed skills in a media of their choice. Some scholars have been learning how to use the potters' wheels, some have been working on 3D textile projects and some have been working on private commissions.



Love to learn



## Performing Arts

The Performing Arts scholars have led the way once more in terms of standards, involvement, and output of excellence in all areas of Music, Drama and Dance. The 'Scholars' Showcase' concerts were outstanding in terms of standard from dancers, dramatists and musicians working both collaboratively and as soloists. Alongside their regular lessons, many dance scholars have been involved in the competitive Bognor Regis Dance festival, a dance syllabus showcase here at Seaford providing a platform for future exam work. They also enjoyed a workshop from the Dawin Dance Group, and the Prep School held its own dance show for our younger students.

Our musicians thoroughly enjoyed a workshop from a member of 'Stomp', whilst continuing to be the backbone of the lunchtime concert series every Wednesday. Musicians and singers also led the way both on stage and in the orchestra pit of the Senior School production 'The Phantom of the Opera'.

Some drama scholars took LAMDA exams, and we had a 100% distinction pass rate. Meanwhile we await to hear if our scholars were successful in their National Youth Theatre auditions held in the Johnson Centre earlier this term.

Alongside preparation for A Level and GCSE recitals, dance collaborations and devised pieces, many Year 13 scholars have had successful auditions for further education next year, based on auditions rehearsed, practised and honed during their lessons. Well done to all!



## Sports scholars

Sports scholars have had visits from Mikki Austin (Surrey Storm, Director of Netball and player/coach) and Harry Potter (current Leicester Tiger and Gallagher Premiership winner) this term. Our scholars and the wider College community got to meet two world class athletes who have played or coached at a very high 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.

The coaching masterclasses were amazing, and the Q&A sessions explored some of the following topics: confidence, performance under pressure, coping with setbacks, process vs outcome, long term athletic development, multi-sport v. single sport specialisation, sporting pathways and being a student athlete. Sport-specific seminars that have taken place this term include:

- Rugby with Martin Webdale
- Netball with Tamsin Greenway
- Hockey with Matt Taylor







# Charity

**The Charity Council has been working flat out again this term to ensure that the whole school supports local charities, and the students understand their social responsibility.**

Charity commitments continued to gather momentum this term. Having completed our fifth 'Kids Lunch Pack (KLP) Foodbank Production Day' for the Chichester District Foodbank, I am delighted to say that we managed to pack 250 KLPs weighing approximately 3,500kg, for the Midhurst and Petworth collection centres. Thank you to those who donated via the JustGiving page, or direct to the school. At last check, we have raised £5,562 for this term's project.

The Spring Term has now been wrapped up. The Prep School set the bar high when they raised £588.16 for Comic Relief – a record total. The Year 8 prefect team organised and hosted the event. An amazing achievement, well done to everyone!

The final week of term was a bumper charity week. Cake sales, raffles, an Easter trail across Springfield, and staff doughnuts from Krispy Kreme – who could ask for more! It started with the Macmillan Coffee Morning on Monday, 27th March, where the organisers from Stone Pillow and the Chichester District Foodbank came along to discuss future fundraising events, all the way to 'Home Clothes Day' on Friday, 31st March. Each event was planned and organised by our Seaford Charity Council, chaired by Hannah Phillips. Whilst we wait for all the fundraising totals to be collated, early counting on the cake sale brought in just over £450.00 (well done, Prep School, you beat the Senior School!). I would like to say a huge thank you to all those involved in supporting our charity endeavours.

It is still very difficult to get our young students out to the local nursing homes, due to ongoing COVID restrictions, but the relationships between the two continues to build. It was with deep sadness that we had to cancel plans to take all the Year 6 students to three local homes to read with them and complete Easter arts and crafts, but we did manage to get to Pendean House Care Home in Midhurst. Visits to Barlavington Manor and Rotherlea will have to be rescheduled for the Summer Term.



Love to learn



A photograph of three people in a kitchen or cafe setting. On the left, a young woman with long brown hair, wearing a black blazer over a light pink top, holds a box of 'UPPER' brand organic coffee. In the center, a young man in a dark blue school suit and tie, wearing a pink lanyard, holds a small orange packet. On the right, a woman with glasses and a blue patterned scarf holds a box of 'SO GOOD AND FORTUNATE' brand tea. They are standing behind a table with various Fairtrade products, including bags of beans and boxes of tea. A sign on the table reads 'Seaford College Fairtrade Fortnight 27 Feb - 12 Mar'.

# Eco Schools

**Building on the outstanding success of the whole school 'Green and Sustainability Week' in the Autumn Term, the three student-led Eco-Councils and their leaders have been working on their Spring Term themes of Water, Waste and Global Citizenship.**

In the new year, Michael Withers, Catering Manager, gave some informative talks and asked for suggestions from all the Eco-Councils and boarders on how to reduce food waste and food energy throughout the school. Students have had new challenges; e.g. using water bottles at lunch to save washing up glasses, taking smaller portions and then asking for 'seconds' if needed, using "taster samples" to try before choosing food items and monitoring the food wastage at all mealtimes with graphical wall charts.

This student-led initiative with Sixth Form and Prep School Eco-Council Committee members, met parents informally to raise awareness of "Fairtrade Fortnight" showing fairly produced and fairly traded products, fully traceable from worldwide small farmers to our schools and homes at the parental coffee hours. They were briefed by their leaders, Julian Hart (Prep School) and James Kimber (Sixth Form). Delicious Fairtrade products of tea, coffee, chocolates, bananas were on show in conjunction with the catering dept, and these highlighted how these products were actively being used and the students understood why they should.

The Prep School Eco-Council had a great talk on hedgehogs from Mr Bentley-Leek, an old Seafordian. A 'hedgehog barn' has been placed in the College grounds with careful monitoring.

Next term, the three Eco-Councils will look at impactful environmental actions, regarding biodiversity, marine conservation and our school grounds.



Love to learn





# Healthy Eating

**In catering, the students and staff dine in four areas across the school, with all food being prepared and cooked in the Mansion kitchens by the team of eleven chefs who are wonderfully led by our Executive Chef of fourteen years, Cavill Perrin.**

The catering team also deliver and serve hospitality all over the estate including match teas, parent evenings and flagship events, such as the annual Sports Dinner, Sixth Form Prom and Remembrance Day.

Our key focus for 2023 is to encourage healthy eating and to provide a sustainable catering offering. Our 'Future Proof Food' concept adds extra nutrition into indulgent treats. Erin, our Apprentice Chef, recently produced some delicious beetroot brownies.

All dining rooms display food waste totals for the previous day and week for students to compare. In the Prep School, our 'Sustainable World' concept has launched whereby students have fortnightly challenges to reduce their carbon footprint. The picture below shows all the children who have achieved this week's 'bring your own water bottle to lunch' task. This has saved gallons of water, reduced energy consumption and chemical usage by reducing the amount of wash cycles required.



Love to learn





# School production: *Phantom of the Opera*

**When Andrew Lloyd Webber wrote *The Phantom of the Opera*, he certainly didn't have students in mind to sing this monolith of a score. The tessitura of both the principal and chorus roles is only achievable from teenagers with extraordinary technique, and the immense light and shade of the characters only believable if true pathos is at the heart of every performer. This year's Senior School production certainly achieved all these things in gargantuan amounts and then some, especially given the show was double cast, proving the outstanding standard of singing, acting and dancing within the school.**

Every soloist gave a performance that truly captured the essence of their role within the musical. The choreography was impeccable, the orchestra, combining students alongside professional musicians alongside the vocalists on stage, was stunning. From the soaring ballads to the iconic show tunes, the audience was mesmerised throughout the entire show.

The intricate costumes, vivid stage settings, and excellent use of props brought the show to life in the best way possible. The swift, complicated scene changes and the misty effects helped create a mystifying atmosphere that captivated the full houses at each show. Even with its gothic theme, the musical featured several hilarious moments that brought the entire house down.

Overall, this production of *The Phantom of the Opera* was simply enthralling. The cast, crew and staff worked extremely hard to put together an incredible show and the audience's nightly standing ovations proved that they certainly achieved that. Another huge round of applause and kudos to everyone involved in this year's production – it was a true success of the highest standard.





A woman with long brown hair, wearing an orange long-sleeved top and safety goggles on her head, is speaking to a group of students. She is holding a small black object in her right hand and gesturing with her left hand. The background shows a blue bulletin board with various papers and a row of grey lockers on the right.

# Careers

**The whole of Year 9 went to Angmering School in March to attend a careers fair, where there were over 70 employers and businesses attending, including: British Airways, the Ministry of Defence, the Armed Forces, West Sussex County Council, the Fire Service, the NHS, a law firm, accountancy, photography, a care home, a golf club, engineering firms and lots of colleges and universities. Questions were asked, goggles tried on, boxing gloves put to the test and generally information gathered.**

Seaford also held a careers tea for Year 10-13 students this term on marketing. Angela Loten, Head of Careers, said: "Thank you to Kate Bosomworth, Holly Sabin and Sarah Twigger, three very experienced and talented speakers who volunteered to share what they do/have done. An interested group of students heard about careers in marketing, advertising, PR and generally about how different career paths can be forged. Sarah Twigger, Seaford's Director of Marketing, spoke about the different career paths in marketing, the skills you need to succeed and marketing at Seaford. Holly Sabin, Seaford's Media teacher, spoke about her work in charities and then Kate Bosomworth shared her work on the inspirational campaign This Girl Can for Sport England."

The informal talk gave students the chance to discuss their career plans and to gain advice from the speakers. We will have more Careers Teas next term.







# Examinations and Academic Support

**Best of luck to all our students sitting examinations this summer.**

## Revision and wellbeing

As we move into the crucial examinations period (both internal and external), we want to remind students and parents of our **Revision and Wellbeing Support** content available on Firefly which provides a vast array of student-friendly resources including effective revision techniques, study planner templates, how to eat well during the examination period and looking after wellbeing. This valuable resource can be found [here](#).

All students are strongly encouraged to **plan their three weeks of the Easter break** to ensure they make time for study (revision and/or completion of assignments) as well as some very important “me time”. Planners are very helpful with this and blank holiday planners can be found [here](#).

## Academic progress

Should you wish to discuss your son/daughter's academic progress, please do not hesitate to contact their tutor, house parent and/or Head of Year for support in the first instance. If you prefer, please contact any of the team below to arrange a meeting to review your son/daughter's progress and to put in place supportive and transparent actions:

- Assistant Head – **Mr A Arya** ([aarya@seaford.org](mailto:aarya@seaford.org))
- Assistant Head – **Mr S d'Agar** ([sdagar@seaford.org](mailto:sdagar@seaford.org))
- Head of Prep School – **Mr A Brown** ([abrown@seaford.org](mailto:abrown@seaford.org))
- Head of Academic Access & Achievement (SENCO) – **Mrs S Butler** ([sbutler@seaford.org](mailto:sbutler@seaford.org))
- Director – Head of Middle School – **Mr G Vernon** ([gvernion@seaford.org](mailto:gvernion@seaford.org))
- Director of Teaching and Learning – **Mr J Gisby** ([jgisby@seaford.org](mailto:jgisby@seaford.org))
- Director of Student Personal Development – **Mrs L Stitt** ([lstitt@seaford.org](mailto:lstitt@seaford.org))

We review student progress at the end of each reporting cycle and, where needed, assign academic and/or pastoral interventions to ensure students get back on track to achieving their personal bests if they are off-track.

## Academic support

The Academic Access and Achievement Department is for all students at Seaford, regardless of ability or flightpath. Aside from revision talks that we provide to whole year groups, individual coaching for exams is readily available. This can involve exam time management, recall strategies, bespoke revision timetables and managing academic stress. Please email Mrs Butler ([sbutler@seaford.org](mailto:sbutler@seaford.org)) if you feel your son/daughter would benefit from a bespoke programme.





Seaford College  
Prep · Senior · Sixth Form

Happy Easter from everyone at  
Seaford College!



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