

# THE HARROVIAN

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## COZUMEL

On 5 July, it was touch-and-go as to whether our flight would take off – Hurricane Beryl was in and around Cozumel, tormenting the island. We stayed in Cancun when we arrived and travelled to the hotel in Cozumel the next day. Upon our arrival at the island, we were greeted by pristine beaches, exotic wildlife and clear blue waters. Cozumel was a diver's paradise.



Although the hurricane meant that all wifi and services were down for a week, we occupied ourselves by enjoying the facilities at the resort. After a morning of diving, we spent our time playing beach and pool volleyball. For our diving experience, we were split into groups of three, with our leaders being Hector, Fernando and Anna. Diving with the diverse marine life made our laborious journey to Mexico worthwhile; watching majestic nurse sharks resting underneath coral reefs and stingrays gliding alongside our groups made us feel privileged to experience such beauty. During our voyages, we visited the San Clemente, Palancar Caves, Santa Rosa and Jurassic Park reefs. We witnessed the vibrant colours of various marine life and coral reefs, with each reef varying from the next. The underwater caves also allowed us to explore unknown depths – traversing through them was a particular highlight as it tested our navigation skills. Diving alongside the majestic and endangered turtles, with beams of light piercing the water, provided an ethereal and magical atmosphere. Cozumel was truly a place where species interacted symbiotically.

The greatest event of our trip was witnessing the seasonal whale sharks. Although we woke up at the daunting hour of

five in the morning, our tiredness was soon converted into adrenaline when we saw the great shivers of whale sharks surrounding our boats. We deployed ourselves into the ocean with haste and anticipation, swimming as close as an arm's length away from these magnificent 12-metre-long creatures. Our trip concluded with an incredible wreck dive – a new experience for many. The *C-53 Felipe Xicotencatl* wreck was extraordinary, amalgamating the tides of time with the sheer beauty of the sea. It took many of us to greater depths than before. Navigating through the rusty maze of cabins and decks was truly a highlight to end on. Finally, our adventures were encapsulated by a group photo.



We would like to thank our beaks, Mr Cullen, Ms Allan, Ms Byng and Mr Furber for making the trip so memorable. It was extremely fitting to have such a relaxing and adventurous experience after a long and rigorous school year. Travelling to new places and improving our scuba skills was certainly enjoyable, and we would definitely consider visiting Mexico again. The stunning views of Mexico's marine life inspired us to advocate for their protection. Cozumel is not just a destination; it is a place that ignites passion and exploration.

## GORE SOCIETY

*Why did we kill God? – the philosophy and ideas of  
Friedrich Nietzsche, Eugene Sorokoumov, Elmfield,  
18 September*

On 18 September, the Gore Society was graced by the presence of Eugene Sorokoumov, *Elmfield*, who presented an overview and introduction to the philosophy of Friedrich Nietzsche, mainly focusing on the idea of the death of God and its misconceptions.

Sorokoumov first talked about the Nietzsche's life and experiences, as well as many of his books, giving context to his philosophy. Nietzsche was born the son of a Lutheran minister in Prussia, but his father died when he was five. He went on to have a successful academic career and was appointed professor at the University of Basel when he was only 24, the youngest ever to hold the position. He always had poor health and later became clinically insane, living with his sister before

he died. Sorokoumov then talked about the Enlightenment and the waning influence of Christianity in favour of rationalism and science, with core principles of freedom, happiness and knowledge. This was in order to give historical context to his philosophy and what he referred to.

Sorokoumov then went on to discuss various ideas central to Nietzsche's philosophy, all of which are interconnected and related. He discussed the definition and idea of the "will to power" as an innate human (or even in animals) drive and will. It was inspired by Schopenhauer's "will to life" and referred to one's ability to actualise one's will on the world and surroundings, leading to self-mastery/overcoming. He also discussed the diametrically opposed ideas of the "Übermensch" and the "last man". The former possesses creativity and a love of humanity, achieving self-mastery through the will to power and able to create their own values; the latter is afflicted by nihilism, living life out of comfort and habit, afraid of new things and ideas, any risk or pain, living life for no meaning, basically passive agents in their own lives. Additionally, he discussed the idea of "amor fati" and the "eternal recurrence", the thought experiment that time infinitely repeated and cycled, the subject's reaction used to gauge their view of their own life, if they live with regrets and do not take control, relating to the idea of "carpe diem". Sorokoumov went on to talk about the master-slave moralities, a controversial idea saying that there exist two opposite types of morality into which all moral systems can be put, one created by the master/aristocracy, the other created by the slave/peasants. Nietzsche believed that Christianity was the latter and made the strong feel bad about their own power. By extension, Nietzsche believed that democracy and other modern beliefs were descended from Christian morals.

Sorokoumov went on to the main part of the lecture, the idea of the "death of God". He explained this was not a wish or celebration of Nietzsche's, but rather a mere statement of fact, as Nietzsche did not speak of God in terms of his existence but rather his function and effect on society. The death of God was merely the declining influence of religion on people's lives, even in those who are religious. The Church and by extension God was no longer the unquestioned, absolute, ultimate authority that it once had been. Nietzsche disliked Christian morals but was afraid of the death of God and sceptical of what new idols would replace him. Nietzsche was afraid of the spread of nihilism due to the death of God, believing that Christian morals (which he believed many atheists retained even though they do not believe), without the centrepiece of belief in God, left people susceptible to nihilism. He hoped that a new generation of Übermensch would come to fill the value void in Europe through the creation of their own original philosophy and values. Sorokoumov let the audience themselves decide whether or not Nietzsche was correct.

Sorokoumov concluded his talk by discussing the misconceptions of Nietzsche, his relation (or lack thereof) to the Nazis, how his sister edited his works to fit her antisemitic world view, and why Nietzsche was so easily misunderstood in the first place. He also talked about the actual beliefs of Nietzsche, encouraging people to take nuance into account when discussing his political beliefs.

## PEEL SOCIETY

*Sex, Lies and Spies: The Profumo Affair,*  
*Harry Benbow, The Park, 19 September*

Continuing the Peel Society's exploration of infamous scandals, the poster for Harry Benbow's, *The Park*, talk on the Profumo Affair promised an evening of *Sex, Lies and Spies*, and a large number of boys were clearly interested in advancing

their knowledge on these interesting topics. And, certainly, Benbow did not disappoint. After narrating Profumo's early life at Harrow and in the Army during the Second World War, Benbow charted his career from being elected as the youngest MP in the House of Commons in 1940 to Secretary of State for War in Harold Macmillan's government in 1960. Benbow then explained how the Profumo Affair scandalised British politics in the early 1960s. In 1961, Profumo had an extramarital affair with Christine Keeler, a 19-year-old model who was also involved with Yevgeny Ivanov, a Soviet naval attaché. The affair became a national sensation in 1963 when it was revealed, as it raised concerns over national security during the Cold War. Initially, Profumo denied the relationship in the House of Commons, but later admitted to lying, leading to his resignation. The scandal damaged the credibility of prime minister Harold Macmillan's Conservative government, contributing to its defeat in the 1964 general election. Benbow explained how the affair highlighted issues of class, privilege and the private conduct of public figures, but balanced this against Profumo's philanthropy after his resignation, which enabled his return to respectability later in his life. Nevertheless, Benbow argued that the Profumo Affair has left a lasting impact on British politics and society, as shown by how often it has been dramatised, for example in the film *Scandal* (1989), in series 2 of *The Crown* (2017) and in the BBC drama *The Trial of Christine Keeler* (2019). Overall, the talk was a rousing success!

## FRANTIC ASSEMBLY WORKSHOP

*A Level and GCSE Drama, 20 September*

On Friday 20 September, the School had the theatre practitioner Frantic Assembly in for a drama workshop with the Fifth Form and Upper Sixth Drama students. The aim of the workshop was to prepare the GCSE students for the devising section of the GCSE exam, and to help the A Level students with their devising written and performance coursework.

Frantic Assembly are a UK-based theatre production company, specialising in innovative and dynamic approaches to well-known pieces of drama and new material. The company place an emphasis on design, dialogue and movement to create visually stunning theatre. The company was founded in 1994 and has since performed notable works such as *Othello*, *Things I Know To Be True*, *A Street Car Named Desire* and *Beautiful Burnout*.

The focus of the workshop was movement (a strength of the company) and the School was lucky to have Marc to guide boys in how to devise like Frantic Assembly. The company is known for its physical theatre and to complement that they start off each session with a warmup. The workshop kick started with a 15-minute warm up led by Marc, and quickly moved on to the actual drama.

The first exercise was a movement-based drill in partners. The concept was relatively simple: both people would press their hand against the other so as to keep them together, the person whose hand was on top would move around while the person underneath worked to keep their hands firmly together. The exercise started with simple movements until it escalated to having the person underneath close their eyes. The purpose of this exercise was to create trust between the pair in preparation for the following task, but also to improve the improvisation skills and reflexive movements of the person whose eyes were closed – an effective and enjoyable exercise.

One of the most memorable parts of the workshop was learning how to lift. The group spent 30 minutes going through a variety of two-people lifts and practising them with partners.



With the guidance of Marc, the group learnt how to successfully lift their partner, a powerful skill for the Fifth Form students to use in their GCSE devising pieces.



Following this, the group moved on to building a short piece from scratch using 'squeezes'. In Frantic Assembly, a 'squeeze' is anything where you put pressure on someone else. For example, a pinch, push or pull. The partners started out creating a sequence of three squeezes each, then they mixed the two sets together to create one big set that would be acted out in an alternating pattern. Pairs continued to add transitions, lifts, eye contact, movement and finally looping the sequence. At the end of the session, the pairs demonstrated their pieces to the rest of the group in a short but powerful performance.

By the end of the workshop, everyone had learnt a multitude of skills to use in their exams. These skills range from theatrical lifts to innovative movement techniques. Furthermore, boys also learnt how to build a piece of theatre from scratch, creating it using building blocks and working bit by bit.

## HERE AND THERE

Congratulations to Harry Jodrell, *Elmfield*, who recently participated in the finals of the British Triathlon Super Series. He competed in the Under-15 event and finished 13th of 60 competitors. An excellent performance – very well done.

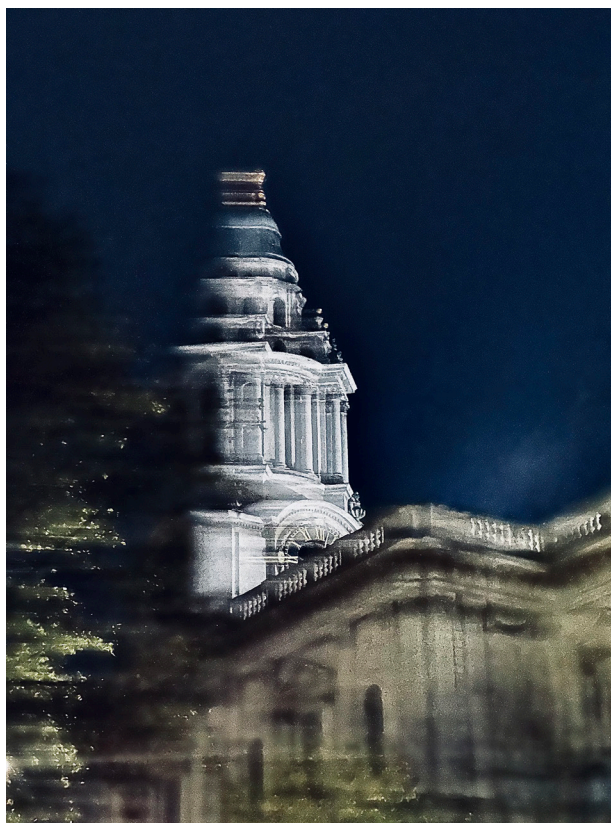
And also congratulations to Leone Bartoccioni Menconi, *The Grove*, who won a bronze medal on Saturday in the English National Judo Championships in the under-50kg category. This is an outstanding result and strengthens our prospects for national success as a team next term.

# METROPOLITAN

## PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

*1st place: John Duan, The Head Master's*

This photo from John is like an oil painting. From the motion blur and grainy finish, the effect seems mythical and dreamy, veering away from the traditional architectural photography style we normally see. The lighting on the building highlights its baroque features and separates it from the dark blue night sky perfectly, the dynamic contrast bringing attention right toward the building in the first instant. The unclear borders of the building really give it that dreamy, painterly quality, allowing the image to stand out as an abstract and atmospheric night shot.



*2nd place, Miss S R Lira*

The colour of this photo is remarkable. The colours from the beach umbrellas and the turquoise, calm sea in the background are perfectly balanced, over a colourful beach. This is a film photograph, meaning all the colours were straight out of the camera. The sand in this image blends into the sea-perfect gradient, and the people in the composition add a touch of happiness and action to the photo, showing everyone having a great time. The relaxed feeling and great colour make this photo an outstanding second place.



*3rd place: Steven Shen, The Grove*

Steven captures a beautiful expanse of the Bannau Brycheiniog (Brecon Beacons) National Park in his landscape photo. A lone hiker (whom I am told is Jack Chen, *Elmfield*), treks his way through a well-trodden path towards a distant hill. The composition gives an idea of solitude and adventure, and allows the vast expanse of untouched, natural landscape to dominate the scene, overpowering the sole man. A natural gradient of lighting comes down horizontally, with a bright sky, a sunlit hill, and a dark bottom of the photo, pushing the viewer's eye towards the subject and creating a very dynamic scene. The positioning of the subject would look even better if it was placed on the left third, with the hill on the right third. But other than that, a great photo and a well-deserved podium finish!





*Honorary Mention: George Epton, The Head Master's*

This stunning image captures a lightning bolt slicing through the night sky. The timing is absolutely impeccable, where a flash is frozen in time, right when it breaks through the cloud cover. The dark blue and slightly purple-tinted background creates a stark contrast with the lightning, and the glow of the lightning on it integrates the subject with the background perfectly. The silhouette of the treeline below adds depth to the photo alongside the slight reflection on the water's surface. The mastering of timing for this photo is extremely impressive and creates a visually impactful photo.



## OPINION

### OLD HARROVIAN PLAYERS

*The rest is silence?*

*by Richard Ritchie, Newlands 1963<sup>2</sup>*

Harrow has held undeservedly the reputation on occasions for being a philistine school. Questionable behaviour at Lord's, an obsession with sport, or, as Eton has expressed it, '*Rugby may be more clever, Harrow may make more row.*' For decades, such sentiments have been expressed by Harrow's competitors.

But there has always been at least one successful riposte to this calumny – the Old Harrovian Players. Formed in 1951 by a beak (Herbert Harris) and an Old Harrovian (Lawrence Verney (*The Head Master's* 1938<sup>2</sup>)), the Old Harrovian Players gave their first performance in Speech Room in 1952. The cast comprised Old Harrovians who had been nurtured in the Harrow Shakespearian tradition by Ronnie Watkins, the beak who created the Harrow 'Globe' in Speech Room in 1941.

Much has been written about Ronnie Watkins and his successor Jeremy Lemmon who died only last year. If there is truth in the song *Giants*, then they and others – notably the famous classicist 'Plum' (Edward Plumptre), the artist Maurice Percival and musician Hector McCurrach – came together to create what was then a radical approach to Shakespeare, namely to perform his plays authentically. As was written in *The Harrow Achievement* (published in 1982) 'Looking back, can any school have been richer in its staff than those who flourished so marvellously in the fifties?'

Of course, times were different then. But the fact remains that a school which was famous for its sporting enthusiasms, and with a Head Master (Dr James) somewhat sceptical of the educational value of School drama, nevertheless allowed the Shakespeare play to take precedence over almost everything else during a period of the school year. The Shakespeare stage was erected in the Easter holidays, and remained there until after the School Play, which was performed at the end of the first month of the Summer term. The Old Harrovian Players got in first. They rehearsed in Speech Room throughout the Easter holidays, and usually performed on the first Saturday of the Summer term – in those days, it was often also the first weekend for many Harrovians, as new boys joined the School throughout the year. A Shakespeare play in Speech Room was almost their first Harrow event.

This is not the place to single out so many of the special actors and productions of the past. But what should be emphasised is that this tradition was unique to Harrow and was the envy of many other schools. Often, the Watkins productions were reviewed in *The Times* and *The Daily Telegraph*. Famous professional actors were known to attend performances – Sir John Gielgud, arguably the greatest Hamlet of his generation, was present at the School's 1951 production of *Hamlet*, which by all accounts was itself a vintage year. And those who were there will never forget a party of Etonians sitting with their feet on the stage so they could have as close a view as possible of Joanna Lumley when she played Desdemona in the OH production of *Othello* in 1976.

The OH Players performed every year between 1952 and 2019. This is no longer the case, partly through nobody's fault but also reflecting different priorities in the School. Covid in 2020 was partly responsible, although its unintended blessing was the online recording of *Hamlet* directed by Toby Deakin. In 2021, the OH Players performed *The Tempest* at the Sam Wanamaker Playhouse, a major experience for the actors but hardly noticed and scarcely attended by anyone associated

with the School. And, in 2022, when it was thought the OH Players could return to Speech Room, the performance was cancelled at the last moment because of the death of her late Majesty, the Queen. There was no performance of a play in either 2023, because of the Gala Evening celebrating Shakespeare's First Folio, or this year.

Anyone who knows anything about amateur drama is conscious of the tremendous difficulties in producing plays at a time of inflation, and when the expectations of employers and the pressures of work are so intense. The exam timetable doesn't help either. But there is a bigger concern at Harrow. The Shakespeare tradition created by Ronnie Watkins, and developed by both Jeremy Lemmon and Chris Deakin, could easily die out if present day Harrovians never have the opportunity to perform Shakespeare in Speech Room. It requires a quite different approach to acting from anything experienced at the Ryan. It is not naturalistic. The key is to approach the plays as poetic drama. The emphasis is upon how it should be spoken – which also means, incidentally, it must be audible, a skill lacking in many contemporary professional actors.

If Harrovians are not nurtured in this tradition, it won't be a surprise if the purpose of the Old Harrovian Players becomes obsolete. Maybe this is inevitable. But, in its passing, Harrow will lose a unique activity that was intellectual, artistic and distinct. That would be a shame.

## CORRESPONDENCE

### *Letters to the Editors*

DEAR SIRS

Upon collecting my new Surface Book from Peel House this week, I was taken aback by a new standardised feature on all search engines. As I endeavoured to open a new tab and begin to delve into the storied wealth of knowledge that is the internet, I realised that each time a new tab was opened, it directed you straight to Harrow Gateway.

At first, I thought that this was some sort of error, as my old Surface Book only directed you to Harrow Gateway when you opened Chrome for the first time (an actually useful feature); whenever a new tab was opened, one used to arrive at the Chrome homepage. After asking a few new boys about this, it appears that all new Surface Books have this feature (though those still clinging on to relics of the past need not face this dilemma).

This is not to say that I have anything against Gateway – it is certainly a useful substitute for Firefly. My question is how the Chrome homepage could be so offensive that it is now genuinely unreachable. Given we cannot edit our Surface lockscreens or desktop backgrounds, the homepage was the only space where we could personalise our digital workspaces. I now sincerely miss my homepage background (a fleet of Pan American Boeing 707s awaiting delivery with Clipper Mayflower in the foreground) and miss the days where my friends and I would debate in the library what we should change our backgrounds to.

I understand and respect the need of the School to monitor our online safety and digital footprint; I am just asking that one outlet of individual creativity be kept.

YOURS SINCERELY  
JONATHAN FORD, *WEST ACRE*

## WHY IS THE HARROVIAN SO BORING

A flock of little birdies told me that this most esteemed publication has got “too boring” as of late. Clearly the satire has been lacking, and the witticisms of our contributors have vanished into the thinnest of air. But who is to blame? There must be someone, there always is. Let's look at the culprits:

### *The Management*

Since the SMT is always first to be blamed whenever something goes wrong in the School, surely it must be their fault. After all, it is under the watchful eyes of the senior beaks that this publication is published, so it must be subject to their deletions. Is all the fun stuff hitting the cutting room floor? No, as much as I would prefer to blame the SMT, there is no fault here. I am not aware that any scandalous article that would have amused our readers has been removed from these yellowing pages. So, they must not be the culprit. *[Is absence of evidence then evidence of absence? –Eds]*

### SMK

Who else runs *The Harrovian*? Aha! Dr S.M. Kennedy – what does the “S” stand for? Suppressor? After all, SMK commands the editoial board and forces poor, unknowing Shells to perform “write ups” (which are cruel punishments wherein one must recount an entire lecture without being too brief or too long). Could it be that under his leadership *The Harrovian* has fallen to the wayside? However, this most likely not the case. SMK's role in the Editorial Bored (pardon the pun) is entirely performative – he does no work whatsoever (and I am absolutely certain that he will agree). It is instead the editorial “elves” that have ruined the toys.

### *The Editors*

A select, secret cabal of boys who are invited – by letter – to control the major media source in Harrow School. This sounds shockingly similar to a certain Illuminati group that we all know runs the world from behind the scenes. In the same way that the Illuminati have their own intentions to pursue, this Board of Editors clearly intend to eradicate all humour and joy from within the School. But alas, the Editors cannot be entirely to blame. Especially since their “Board Meetings” have, in the past weeks, been attended by less than half of the Editors – hardly enough people to begin a scheme. After all, Guy Fawkes had around 13 conspirators! The Board only had four – pitiful numbers. So have we run out of people to blame?

### *The Boys*

Yes, reader, you read that right. I am blaming you for the supposed dilapidation and dullness that plagues this paper. You complain, only just four editions in, that the paper is boring and plain and humourless and dry and has “no rizz” (did I use that right?). Perhaps it is your insatiable demand for instant gratification that compels you to seek out the best, most extreme, most incredible satire in the universe – which, unfortunately, this paper cannot provide. You complain of a lack of interesting content, yet are completely free to put pen to paper (or fingers to keyboard) and write your own shockingly sharp articles and letters yourselves. Why don't you try writing some superb satire once in a while. You might find it is not a skill easily acquired.

I must admit that the content in this paper has been lacking as of late, and as Editors we hear your feedback and will try to improve, as your readership is key to the survival of the publication. But remember that you are as much to blame for what goes in this paper as the Editors are.

## CHESSE PUZZLE

This week's puzzle comes from a 1930 match between Belgian Edgar Colle and Argentinian Roberto Grau.

White to play and win in three moves.

Email your solution to JPBH to enter the termly competition.

Last week's answer: 1.Qf8+ Kxf8 2.Rd8#



Interested in chess? Come along to Chess Club, 4.30-6pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays in MS 5. All abilities welcome!

## SPORT

### RUGBY

*The School v Wellington, 19 September*

Colts A, Home v Wellington College, Lost 17-48

The Colts A showed real fellowship to bounce back after a tough start to their match, but they were ultimately defeated by a clinical Wellington side. Tries came from Niniola Olagundoye, *Bradlys*, Toritseju Backhouse, *Druries*, and Rufus Young, *Newlands*.

Colts B, Home v Wellington College, Won 26-14

The Colts B team started off strong, scoring an early try after a good team effort to work the ball up the park. However, some strong play by the opposition and some lapses in concentration by the Harrow boys saw us trail 14-5 early in the second half.

However, after some composed phases of play and team work, Aidan Huang, *The Park*, scored an excellent try to put the team back in the game. The Harrow boys showed excellent resilience to keep the Wellington attack at bay and a crucial turnover led to an excellent run away try by Adham Karsou-Mubarak, *Newlands*, to put Harrow back in the lead.

All round, there was overall some excellent play by the team, led by some strong carries by Gregory Avakyan, *Moretons*, who saw Harrow over the line in a tense and hard-fought match. Colts C, Home v Wellington College, Won 44-7

A fiery battle of wits with some strong attacks from our backs, and Harrow boys scoring every try.

Captain Freddie Danos, *Bradlys*, led from the front, orchestrating attacks like a conductor with a rugby ball instead of a baton. Bomi Shodipo, *The Grove*, also decided it was a good day to test his sprinting, leaving the Wellington defence resembling slow-motion extras in an action film as he danced past them with ease.

Oscar Hakansson-Gill, *The Park*, and Alex Kim, *Rendalls*, provided the perfect storm in the back row, stealing ball after ball with the determination of a squirrel collecting nuts for winter. Final score: Harrow 44-Wellington 7. Rumour has it the local pigeon who watched the game has been asked to provide a commentary on next week's fixture.

*The School v Wellington, Away, 21 September*

The 1st XV v Wellington College, Lost 15-22

A courageous defensive effort from The XV was not enough to hold back an excellent Wellington side. Early Harrow pressure led to a try from Henry Dargan, *Druries*, to take the score to 8-7 before a try from Algy Royle, *Rendalls*, gave Harrow a 15-12 lead. Wellington soon struck with a penalty and try for themselves to lead 22-15. Harrow were camped on the Wellington line with the final play but were held up to lose 22-15.

2nd XV v Wellington College, Lost 12-22

The 2nd XV fought hard against Wellington but were ultimately let down by some basic errors in their 22-12 defeat. Man of the match, Monty Morgan, *Rendalls*, scored both of Harrow's tries.

3rd XV v Wellington College, Lost 7-10

Harrow began the game tackling really well but several penalties pinned them back in their own half. Wellington capitalised and moved the ball out wide to score in the corner.

Piers McDowell, *Elmfield*, and Dominic Hopkins, *Elmfield*, did a great job of demolishing the Wellington scrum but Harrow failed to capitalise on this.

Wallace Kirk, *The Grove*, put in some incredible shots. His turnover and pop off to Adam Sameen, *The Knoll*, resulted in a fantastic try under the posts. In summary a good Wellington side won a hard fought match. Harrow couldn't get the balance between narrow phase play and spreading to the widths, focusing far too much on the former in the first half and too much on the latter in the second, without earning the right to go forward. They will learn their lessons and come back better.

4th XV v Wellington College, Lost 0-39

A tough battle against some strong opposition. The first ten minutes were very even, but unfortunately the lack of Harrow tackles led to our downfall.

Junior Colts A v Wellington College, Lost 10-37

The JCAs started the game with great line speed in defence and key turnovers from Lolu Adeyinka, *The Grove*, and Cheng Ku, *Bradlys*. Jinyi Zhou, *West Acre*, Damola Alabi, *The Knoll*, and Barnaby Winters, *Elmfield*, aided Harrow momentum. The first half ended with three points from Luke Attfield, *Druries*, and two tries from Wellington. In the second half Harrow struggled to find the same rhythm and lowered their level. A positive defensive mindset and good line speed from Harrow allowed us to come back with a late try from Ore Oni, *The Knoll*, to end the game.

Junior Colts B v Wellington College, Lost 19-31

A tale of two halves, with some outstanding one on one tackles keeping Harrow in the game throughout. Man of the



Match Nate Wei, *Rendalls*, put in some incredible try line defence. Tries by Jesse Olaniyan, *The Grove*, and Henrik Willet, *Druries*, kept Harrow in the game but the heat and player injuries proved too much of a challenge to overcome the points difference. Some outstanding play and a great experience for the team.

Junior Colts C v Wellington College, Lost 26-27

Missed first tackles allowed Wellington to be 20-7 up at half time. Great second half fight back saw Harrow regain the lead, but Wellington then scored. Last play of the match saw a Harrow try disallowed for a double movement. Lots of courage on display.

Yearlings A, Home v Wellington College, Won 39-14

Harrow conceded early, largely against the run of play, but a terrific show of courage from the whole side lifted the physicality and forced score after score. Wellington stayed in the fight until the very end but were no match for quality of Harrow's attack.

Yearlings B, Home v Wellington College, Won 24-15

In a much-improved performance from last week, the Yearlings secured a well-earned victory against Wellington, showcasing hard work, resilience, and impressive athletic talent.

Yearlings C, Home v Wellington College, Won 47-26

### *The School v Various, 21 September*

Yearlings E v Bedford School, Won 20-15

Confronted by some extraordinary weather conditions at Bedford, Harrow defeated the home side 20-15 in the final minute of the game, although they succumbed to an organised Stowe side in the first game of this triangular tournament.

The Academy v Bedford School, Won 40-10

The mighty Yearlings Academy won 40-10 in their first outing of the season against Bedford. Captained by the impressive Dauren Tabanov, *Rendalls*, they found much space on the pitch and worked collaboratively to much avail. Stand-out performances from Lucas Gray, *The Park*, Ted Lee, *The Park*, (who both scored and set up many other tries), Alejandro Maqueda-Martin, *Rendalls*, Bryan Loo, *Moretons*, and Ethan Gao, *Lyon's*. All of whom scored numerous tries and the latter of whom was awarded man of the match. An impressive demonstration of teamwork, humility and common human decency from a nascent team of hard working Yearlings.

Junior Colts A v Hampton School, Won 47-14

National Cup-Round 1

The JCAs bounced back from the disappointment of Wellington with a comprehensive victory in round one of the national cup. Harrow started well and led 21-7 at half time. Despite conceding straight after the break, Harrow showed great determination to regain control of the match and finished the game as victors.

The JCAs capitalised on the early pressure they put on the Hampton side with their line speed and well worked set pieces. They attacked with quick and direct plays with much better rucking and support, helping gain valuable ground. Tries came from Barnaby Winters, *Elmfield*, x3, Luke Attfield, *Druries*, x2, Cheng Ku, *Bradlys*, and Jinyi Zhou, *Newlands*. Evan Song, *Rendalls*, and Frank Thompson, *Elmfield*, also put in solid performances with their direct running and breakthroughs. Lolu Adeyinka, *The Grove*, and Cayden Debrah, *Moretons*, contributed with superb speed and quick feet too. Overall, a solid performance from the JCAs with a comfortable victory to give them their first victory and a good start to their cup run.

## FENCING

### *Harrow v St Benedict's School, 21 September*

On Saturday, Harrow took on St Benedict's in their second fencing fixture of the season. Despite many Harrow team members being absent, due to an unfortunately timed field weekend for the Fifth Form, the Foil A, Foil B, Sabre A, and Epee A, teams competed fiercely and saw great success. First to compete was the Foil A team, consisting of Sinan Basak, *Bradlys*, Alexander Yong, *The Grove*, and Oliver Mak, *Newlands*. The Foil A team secured the win through a skilful display of fencing. Notable performances from Alex Yong, *The Grove*, and Oliver Mak, *Newlands*, with hit markers +10 and +8 respectively, which enabled Harrow to win with a stellar scoreline of 45-29. Shortly after the conclusion of the Foil A matches, the Epee A team's matches also drew to a close. The Epee A team consisted of Jonny Cullinane, *Newlands*, Cyrus Chang, *Druries*, and Ben Wang, *West Acre*, who faced off against a stiff St Benedict's side, ultimately pulling away with the winning scoreline of 40-36. The match was close and hard fought until the last second before time ran out for the St Benedict's side. A notable performance from team captain Jonny Cullinane, *Newlands*, with a +6 indicator, facilitated the win in this hard-fought match. Also, notable was a superb debut from Ben Wang, *West Acre*. Penultimately, the Foil B team, which consisted of debutant Ben Stevens, *Newlands*, Robert Young, *The Grove*, and Wilfred Kent, *Bradlys*, won the second hard-fought match of the day 45-43. There was an exceptional performance from Wilfred Kent with an outstanding hit indicator of +13. The final matches of the day were carried out by the mighty Sabre A team who hope to extend their two-season unbeaten streak to three. The trio of sabreurs included sabre debutant Oliver Mak, *Newlands*, Luke Pain, *The Head Master's*, and Aiden Lee, *The Head Master's*. A great performance from Aiden Lee, *The Head Master's*, with a hit indicator of +10, pushed the Sabre A team over the finish line, taking the win with a promising scoreline of 45-39. Despite the success on all fronts and the second successful match in the season, the Harrow fencing teams will continue to strive for improvement and an undefeated season.



## FOOTBALL

### *1st XI v Mill Hill School, 7-1 win*

Mill Hill School travelled to the glorious carpet of Park Lake for a much anticipated ISFA round 1 fixture. After a strong start to the season with a 3-2 win against Forest School earlier in the week, a full strength Harrow 1st XI were looking to extend their winning streak. From the opening whistle, the home side started well with an onslaught of attacks, however it was Mill Hill who broke the deadlock. Their skillful number 10 found

himself in the box, relatively unopposed, and was able to neatly strike the ball into the bottom corner. 1-0. Despite going down early on in the game, the Harrow boys kept their heads held high and their hard-work was soon rewarded.

A darting Peter Ballingal, *Moretons*, run down the left hand side resulted in a whipped cross which Akachi Anyanwu, *The Grove*, would calmly slot away to equalise the game. Not even ten minutes had been played before Anyanwu found himself on the scoresheet yet again. Eli Dewotor's, *The Head Master's*, penetrating through ball fell to Anyanwu's feet who, with his strength and speed, was able to beat his man and neatly finish for his second goal of the game. At the culmination of an excellent first half from the Harrow side, Josh Ashley, *Moretons*, dazzled the crowd, yet again, as his fancy footwork in the box and a lovely left-footed shot which rebounded off the post into the net meant Harrow were able to further extend the scoreline to 3-1. Coming into half-time with a commanding lead, the home side felt confident, but much more impressive football was to follow. A shaky start to the second half, with a disallowed goal from Mill Hill, was soon forgotten as some lovely attacking play down the left flank resulted in the ball arriving at the feet of Ralph Collier-Wright, *Rendalls*. The captain was able to slot the ball into the back of the net to open his account for the game and for the season. As the Mill Hill players started to tire and Harrow seemed unfazed, it was evident that Dr Holt's gruelling fitness regime had been effective. A flurry of goals followed in the late stages of the second half: Anyanwu was able to complete his hat-trick with a composed finish, rounding the keeper. Rocco Addati, *The Knoll*, also got in on the goal fest with another collected finish to extend Harrow's lead to 6-1. Finally, Talal Nsouli, *The Knoll*, ended the match after winning the ball in an unorthodox attacking midfield position, before striking home with an exceptional bottom corner finish from outside the box. 7-1. A tremendous 1st XI display left the coaching staff pleased as Harrow look to build on this ISFA cup run in round 2 against University College School.

## SWIMMING

*Classic Clash, away at Coopers' Company & Coborn School, 19 September*

A very competitive fixture which Harrow won by 134 points to 126. All of our swimmers competed well and it was only their collective efforts in the relay events at the end of the gala which managed to secure victory. Our opposition is beginning to catch up with us, so we are looking forward to more tight contests such as this during the rest of the year.

## SQUASH

*The School v Aylesbury Grammar School, 24 September*

1st, Away v Aylesbury Grammar School, Lost 2-3

The 1st V showed much to be excited about in their first fixture of the season against a strong AGS side. Sam Blumberg, *Newlands*, won very well – 3-0 at first seed, while Damon Chiu, *Newlands*, showed great resilience to come back and win 3-2 after going 2-0 down.

Colts A, Away v Aylesbury Grammar School, Lost 2-3

There was much promise shown in a great encounter, with Max Warner, *The Head Master's*, and Ryan Anand, *Elmfield*, both representing the School for the first time, playing an age group up, and each displaying real grit in their respective five-game thrillers.

## RACKETS

*The School v Malvern, 19 September*

1st, Home v Malvern College, Lost 3-0

Ben Hufford Hall, *Moretons*, and Henry Porter, *Moretons*, played a strong Malvern 1st pair. They showed great character during the first game in which they just lost 15/13. Overall they lost 3-0 but the scoreline doesn't match the quality of play from all four boys.

2nd, Home v Malvern College, Won 3-1

Diego Castellano Burguera, *Rendalls*, and Ethan Harrington-Myers, *Bradlys*, played great rackets from start to finish. They overpowered the Malvern pair to win 3-1. Considering our boys have not played together before, they gelled well as a pair and complemented each other's games.

Colts A, Home v Malvern College, Won 3-1

Arjan Lai, *West Acre*, and Ned Steel, *Druries*, played some high quality rackets throughout the afternoon. The Malvern pair were very steady and we showed great resilience to grind out the win.

Junior Colts A, Home v Malvern College, Won 3-1

Louis Nicholson, *The Park*, and Arthur Brown, *Druries*, battled well after losing the first game. They served accurately and managed to win the next three games..

### Ways to contact *The Harrovian*

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