

REFLECTIVE BEDDE'S

Summer 2025



MEET OUR NEW HEADS OF SCHOOL



Our new Heads of School have been appointed for the academic year 2025/2026! Brooke and Jack will take on the roles of Heads of School, while Jessica and Ernie are our new Deputy Heads of School. We asked them a few questions to get to know them as they start their new roles...

Brooke - Head of School

Tell us about your time at Bede's...

I joined Bede's in the last term of First Year and have loved it ever since. As soon as I started I threw myself into every opportunity that came my way, whether that was being on stage, in the pool and even in the classroom. Throughout my time at Bede's I feel like I really have grown as an individual, going through the 'school doesn't matter' phase to really pushing myself to achieve the best academic results I can. I've been given some incredible opportunities which I believe have really helped me come out of my comfort zone and allowed me to become more confident and comfortable in myself. However I wouldn't be able to do it all without the support of my teachers and friends who I am forever grateful for and wouldn't be here without.



What are you most looking forward to in your new role?

I am most looking forward to working alongside all of the school prefects to help make all of the pupils at Bede's feel a sense of belonging. I'd like to be able to be more involved with the pupils, listening to pupil voice and making changes where we can. I'm excited to see what new initiatives we all come up with and which ones we will be able to pursue throughout our time as prefects. I hope we are able to give something back to the school as it has given us all so much.

You have one book, one film and one album to take with you to a desert island - which do you pick?

This is such a hard question to answer because I love so many films and books. I would have to say that the book I would choose to bring with me would be 'Good Vibes, Good Life' by Vex King. It's not an exciting fiction book but it's one of my favourite non-fiction books I've ever read. It's a very inspirational book and really opens your eyes to the importance of healthy relationships and the little things in life. My film would be 'Notting Hill' because I really love a romcom and I could watch that film over and over and never get bored (I also absolutely love Hugh Grant as an actor). My album pick would be 'Loveseat' by Still Woozy because I think it's a perfect mix between chill and upbeat and I'm always listening to his songs on repeat!

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Jack - Head of School

Tell us about your time at Bede's...

I joined Bede's in Year 6. Since then, I've tried to take any opportunities I can to help myself grow as a person. I've learnt a lot about myself by having the opportunity to play tennis for the school but also in all the other off-court opportunities I get. I have tried to surround myself with a great group of people. Bede's has given me a huge number of opportunities which has helped me get to where I am now!



What are you most looking forward to in your new role?

I am most looking forward to making the most of the position by trying to encourage other pupils to also take all the great opportunities given to them by Bede's. I'd like to be a great role model to them. I also look forward to coming up with new ideas with the great prefect team that we have this year to help create an even stronger sense of belonging!

You have one book, one film and one album to take with you to a desert island - which do you pick?

My book would be 'Open' by Andre Agassi because I have read it at least four times before and it always interests me how his life as a professional tennis player developed and all the challenges he had to overcome on his journey. If I was to take a film with me it would have to be 'Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire' since it's my favorite from the Harry Potter series. I'm not a big album person but if I had to take one I would take 'Being Funny in a Foreign Language' by The 1975 since there are a few songs on there that I like.

Jessica - Deputy Head of School

Tell us about your time at Bede's...

I joined Bede's in First Year. Before that I lived in Bermuda for the whole of my life. I'm telling you this because when I joined Bede's I was also fairly new to living and schooling in the UK. Right from the start, Bede's made me feel welcomed. With the opportunities Bede's has presented to me, I have gained confidence and a willingness to embrace new challenges that push me out of my comfort zone, like speaking in front of the whole school or trying out for a sport I've



never played before.

What are you most looking forward to in your new role?

I am most looking forward to having a greater impact on the school community and becoming a role model that the younger years can look up to. I am also looking forward to working with the other prefects and I am excited to see what we can all achieve together. In addition, as the new Deputy Head of School I can't wait to work alongside the Bede's Foundation team and raise money to offer future pupils the ability to study at Bede's that otherwise would not have the opportunity to.

You have one book, one film and one album to take with you to a desert island - which do you pick?

The film I would take is 'Pirates of the Caribbean: The Curse of the Black Pearl' because it would keep me entertained whilst being on a desert island. A book I would take is 'Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring' because it would keep me busy. Lastly, the album I would take would be 'Melodrama' by Lorde.

Ernie - Deputy Head of School

Tell us about your time at Bede's...

Moving to Bede's was the best decision I ever made. From the sporting opportunities to the academic support and the general atmosphere around the school. Joining in Year 10 I found it easy making friends and the pupils and staff made me feel welcome. I am a keen cricketer and that was something that I was able to pursue 3 to 4 times a week. I have come a long way in terms of academics, specifically with my English ability. I'd have never gotten such a strong grade without the wonderful Dr Savage and Mr Cheshire. Now taking Maths, Further Maths and Physics for my A levels, I am enjoying every moment that I have here and am excited for the future.



What are you most looking forward to in your new role?

I like the idea of being able to influence things for the better within the school, for example I think that Year 9s should get more public speaking opportunities.

You have one book, one film and one album to take with you to a desert island - which do you pick?

The book that I would take to a desert Island would be 'How to Think like a Mathematician'. The film would be 'Snatch' produced by Guy Ritchie.

As far as albums are concerned I am torn between 'Ten' by Pearl Jam and 'Dirt' by Alice in Chains. Musically I'd have to go for 'Ten' as I think it is the more complete album.

LEAVERS' BALL

On Friday 23 May, Bede's hosted their Summer Ball to celebrate the end of the Upper Sixth pupils' time at the school. Over 200 pupils, parents and staff gathered on the lawn to enjoy a special evening of delicious food and entertainment.

There were speeches from the Headmaster: Peter Goodyer, Heads of School and the Head of Sixth Form Engagement. Everyone enjoyed a delicious three-course meal followed by plenty of fun and entertainment: a live band, casino tables, a magician, funfair stalls, a karaoke booth and a caricature artist. Pupils, parents and staff were able to raise a toast to celebrate the Upper Sixth pupils' time at Bede's, before gathering on the lawn for a spectacular firework display over the lake.

It was wonderful to see many parents, including some who had travelled from overseas, joining their children to mark this special occasion and congratulate the pupils' on their hard work in their Sixth Form years.



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PRIZE GIVING

On Friday 27 June we congratulated this year's prize winners and marked the last day at Bede's for our Upper Sixth leavers. The morning began with a welcome from Bede's Chair of Governors, Mr Nicholas Mercer, ahead of the Headmaster's review of the year. We were delighted to welcome Dr Sabrina Cohen-Hatton, the Chief Fire Officer of the West Sussex Fire and Rescue service, to Bede's as our guest speaker and before giving her memorable address, she presented awards to this year's prize winners.

There were some wonderful musical performances from Alfie Burton, who performed the 1st movement of "Vivaldi's Concerto" on violin, Max Nash performed "Little Lion Man" before Pame Mariscal Cassis sang "One Moment in Time", by Whitney Houston. Thank you to Jasmine Andrade Lee and Moon Ng who opened and closed this year's Prize Giving with some wonderful piano playing.





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PYEMONT LECTURE: DR DOMINIQUE THOMPSON

On Thursday 12 June, we had the pleasure of welcoming the award-winning GP and author, Dr Dominique Thompson as our latest Pyemont Lecturer.

Her enlightening and entertaining talk, “How to Grow a Grown Up: Parenting Tips for the 21st Century,” captivated the audience with practical advice based on her acclaimed book of the same name. Notably, her book was a finalist in the 2020 People’s Book Prize and has been featured on Sky TV and in The Times.

Dr Thompson is widely recognised as the UK’s leading GP on pupil mental health and is the author of The Pupil Wellbeing Series (Trigger Publishing). Her expertise in teen wellbeing shone through as she delved into why young people today might be facing more challenges than ever before. She offered invaluable insights into what parents, guardians and educators can do to equip children with the essential life skills needed to thrive in our rapidly evolving world.

In today’s society, children are under immense, constant pressure to be “always on” and present their “best self.” She highlighted the critical need to prepare them for a challenging future. A key takeaway from her powerful message was the importance of fostering independence in children, emphasising its crucial role in their mental wellbeing.

We are incredibly grateful for Dominique Thompson’s visit and for sharing her wealth of knowledge with our community. If you’re interested in learning more about her work and gaining further insights into raising resilient children, be sure to visit her blog at www.growingagrownup.com.



HER VOICE

On Wednesday 18 June, a group of dedicated Lower Sixth representatives from our ‘Her Voice’ community visited the Prep School to lead engaging workshops for Year 7 and 8 girls.

Her Voice is a pivotal initiative at Bede’s Senior School, established to empower and amplify the voices of our female pupils. This recent event was a key part of our ‘Big Sister’ programme, designed to foster connection and provide support.

The workshops were incredibly well-received, featuring a dynamic mix of team-building activities, confidence-boosting games, and interactive ice-breakers. Our Sixth Form pupils also facilitated open discussions on common worries associated with transitioning between schools and addressed any specific topics the younger girls wished to explore.



It was a truly inspiring and impactful day for all involved, strengthening the bonds across our school community.

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FOSTERING A SENSE OF BELONGING FOR GIRLS

As part of teachers' ongoing professional development, called PIP (professional inquiry pedagogy) a working group of teachers joined forces in an attempt to further enhance the experience of girls in the school.

Researchers have shown that pupils' feelings of school belonging can have a profound impact on well-being, identity development, and mental health. And these impacts can last well into adulthood. Furthermore, focusing on fostering positive peer relationships, creating inclusive classroom environments, and ensuring strong teacher-pupil connections will encourage all children - but especially girls - to feel that they belong and fulfill their potential. Extracurricular activities, supportive parental involvement, and addressing individual needs can also further enhance their sense of connection and well-being. The science of school belonging. Psychology Today. (January 2022).



With this in mind, the working group sought to promote awareness of the importance of girls belonging in a safe environment in school. We conducted research amongst the female body of the school and the results were used in the various activities and events that took place throughout the year.

As a school we celebrated International Women's Day using resources in PSHE - lessons that the girls had produced themselves. Posters were put up around the school as well as having a stall in the staff room.



In order to encourage female leadership and voice in the classroom, her voice was formed. This is a group of girls from mixed ages and houses. The group has been ensuring that our girls feel empowered here at Bede's. They have run workshops for girls in the younger years here at the Senior School, led assemblies, made changes in sport and have set up a 'big sister' programme at the Prep School. The group is continuing to grow and make meaningful impact on the experience of our girls.

ABI DARE



A well known author came to speak to the Sixth Form about her experiences as an author making her way in the world. She has now sold millions of copies of her book 'The Girl with the Louding Voice.' Abi also talked at length about her experience growing up as a young girl in Nigeria and the hardships that are still faced by many women today. Abi is one example of someone who used her voice to be heard and is now a very successful business woman in her own right.

Mary Leggett
Head of Partnerships and Social Responsibility

CAREERS ROUND UP

What a year it's been! This year has been buzzing with activity as our pupils explore their future pathways, from higher education to exciting career opportunities, apprenticeships and enriching and educational gap years.

Universities and Careers Fair: A Resounding Success

Our annual Universities and Careers Fair in March was a definite highlight this spring. Attended by all Bede's pupils and joined by a number of our local partnership schools, the event was a hive of activity. With over 55 organisations participating, including universities, national and local employers, gap year providers, and apprenticeship schemes, there was a wealth of information, interaction and guidance on offer. We had the pleasure of hosting universities such as Exeter, Bath, Sheffield, Southampton and Cardiff alongside employers including Rolls Royce, Ibstock, NatWest Bank and Sussex Police.

Our fair aims to spark our pupils' curiosity about careers and inspire them to explore their futures in an informed and supportive environment. The palpable hubbub at the fair demonstrated just how engaged and curious our pupils are to explore a wide range of opportunities and discover potential future pathways.



Beyond the Fair: Continued Careers Enrichment

We've also hosted numerous careers seminars on topics ranging from music production careers to joining the Army Royal Engineers and preparing a portfolio for creative industry degrees with UAL. Our pupils have also benefited from a number of trips, including visits to Brighton Magistrates Court and an immersive flight simulator experience with Gate 20. Additionally, we've hosted an International Universities Fair, and celebrated the world of careers throughout the school via National Careers Week and National Apprenticeships Week.

Upper Sixth: Awaiting Results and Next Steps

Our departing Upper Sixth pupils are now patiently awaiting their summer results, which will pave the way for their planned destinations at UK and international universities, as well as a number of excellent apprenticeships and enriching gap years. It is always an honour to be a part of our pupils' bespoke onward professional and

academic pathways and this year is no exception.

This year's planned higher education subjects include traditional subjects such as Physics, Spanish and English Literature, Law, Economics, Psychology, Marine Biology and Business Management, but also direct professional fields including medicine, midwifery, cyber security, accounting, fashion photography, 3D animation, musical theatre and aerospace engineering. Our pupils' international university applications have been equally as varied, including future destinations in Japan, the West Indies, Spain, the US, and Germany. Lastly, we are thrilled that four of our pupils have been successful in securing an competitive apprenticeship too. We wish them every success in their future endeavours.

Lower Sixth: Full Steam Ahead with Futures Planning

Our Lower Sixth pupils have been well underway with their UCAS journey and research since the spring. Many are also actively exploring apprenticeships, employment, and international university opportunities. In addition to attending our own Careers Fair, the year group also visited the UK University Search Careers Fair at the Amex Stadium in the spring. They have also been guided through their research, planning for personal statements, and developing academic enrichment activities to support competitive applications. It has been a delight to witness such positive engagement and high ambitions for the future.

Lower Sixth Futures Days: Inspiration and Preparation

At Bede's, we certainly don't hold back on opportunities for academic enrichment and fostering curiosity for our Lower Sixth, and this year's Futures Days in June were no exception. Packed with over 50 seminars and workshops, the days offered a diverse range of experiences. Pupils enjoyed external taster subject lectures from universities including Warwick, Sussex, UEA, Newcastle, Lancaster and Royal Holloway, which were complemented by a menu of speakers providing subject and course overviews, industry insights and professional pathways. Pupils also had the opportunity to meet a number of our 2024 leavers to hear about their university and gap year experiences. There were also a number of seminars on studying abroad, sport scholarships, apprenticeships and gap years on offer. There were even cooking and car maintenance workshops to add a practical dimension, to help equip our pupils for life after Bede's.

As ever, we are incredibly proud of our pupils' proactive approach to planning their futures and the dedication they show in exploring the diverse and inspiring opportunities available to them. We can not wait to see what 2025-26 brings for our pupils, but we know for sure it will be an exciting time!

Deborah Franks
Head of Careers, Employability and University

PARTNERSHIPS AND SOCIAL OUTREACH



This term we welcomed Young at Heart to Bede's again. This time members of the group were able to participate in an art lesson led by pupils and staff. The lesson involved painting a butterfly template and then using straws to enable the butterflies to fly. It was a really fun afternoon and a great way of encouraging the intergenerational community.

At the end of term we had the privilege of volunteering at Hazel Court School, as well as the Bevern Trust. At Hazel Court, pupils were able to help with activities such as relay games and soft play as well as music lessons and at Bevern Trust, Bede's pupils helped with gardening. Both schools provided a unique opportunity for our pupils to experience what school is like for those with a physical or mental disability. Both trips were thoroughly rewarding and inspirational for both pupils and staff.



Mary Leggett

Head of Partnerships and Social Responsibility

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PERFORMING ARTS

A Term of Triumph in Performing Arts!

As the academic year draws to a close, we find ourselves reflecting on an exceptionally productive term within the Performing Arts faculty. It scarcely seems a moment since we were immersed in the joyous celebration of our pupils' prodigious talents at the Performing Arts Celebration Event – a truly memorable evening where 50 pupils were justly honoured for their dedication and artistry. Final Assembly and Speech Day will further underscore these achievements, with the Head Master presenting Colours to those who consistently demonstrate commitment to the Performing Arts. Coveted School Colours are for pupils who have represented us beyond the school gates, be it with the National Youth Theatre, National Youth Orchestra, or various other esteemed performances.

The artistic pulse of the term has vibrated with two particularly thrilling productions: Legat's captivating '**A Moment in Time**', which took centre stage and the adventurous Junior Show, '**Treasure Island**'. These ambitious undertakings not only afforded our pupils the invaluable opportunity to experience the exhilarating immediacy of live performance but also rigorously honed the stamina and collaborative spirit essential within the rehearsal room.

Beyond the footlights of our main stages, we have also proudly witnessed many of our diligent **LAMDA** actors and **RAD** dancers bravely undertake their demanding performance examinations this term; we now await their results with eager anticipation, confident that their hard work will be richly rewarded.

Next year will begin with **auditions** for the School Musical, **Les Miserables** on Thursday 4 September, closely followed by our first event **Bede's Fest** on Saturday 6 September.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the Performing Arts Staff for giving our pupils a truly wonderful experience to grow and develop through fantastic lessons, productions and events this term and throughout the year. Mr Scamardella, Mrs Pennington and Mr Rennison describe more of the wonderful events that have taken place.

Karen Lewis
Director of Performing Arts



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PERFORMING ARTS

DRAMA

It gives me immense pleasure to update you on the vibrant and ambitious activities undertaken by our drama pupils this term. It has been a period filled with creativity, collaboration, and remarkable performances, showcasing the dedication and talent within our department.



One of the most exciting ventures has been our preparation for the Edinburgh Fringe Festival with Dawn King's *The Trials*. This dystopian drama delves into weighty themes of justice, morality, and survival in a world grappling with a climate emergency. Our pupils have been deeply engaged with the challenging material, exploring a near-future setting where children act as jurors, asking whether they are delivering justice or merely seeking revenge. This production promises to be a thought-provoking theatrical experience, and we are incredibly proud of the pupils' commitment to bringing this story to life.

Danish explorer Peter Freuchen, plunged our First Year pupils into the harsh realities of the Arctic. Pupils, acting as "travellers," were guided by facilitators and challenged to build basic shelters from, experienced a simulated storm and the challenges of a shifting landscape, including being "roped together" to navigate unstable ice. This innovative performance fostered a deep appreciation for survival and human connection. The pupils embraced the challenge wholeheartedly, demonstrating adaptability and ingenuity.

Beyond these major productions, our pupils have been busy with a variety of other theatrical endeavors. We saw fantastic performances of *Treasure Island* and our LAMDA exams continue to be a significant focus. We also hosted First Year sharing of "An Incident at the Border" for an invited audience and our Lower Fifth GCSE pupils submitted their portfolios and completed their assessment sealing of 40% of their course.

The term began with our Lower Sixth heading off to the Lyric Hammersmith to witness a fresh revival of the rarely produced "Ghosts" by Henrik Ibsen and we ended the term with the highly anticipated trip to see "Stranger Things: The First Shadow" at the Phoenix Theatre.



This prequel to the popular Netflix series was a highly sought-after show, and we were delighted to offer this opportunity to our pupils, many of whom were celebrating the end of their summer examinations.



It has been an incredibly productive and inspiring term for Academic Drama. I am consistently impressed by the dedication, talent, and adventurous spirit of our pupils. Thank you for your continued support, which allows us to provide these enriching and transformative experiences.

Will Rennison
Head of Academic Drama

PERFORMING ARTS

MUSIC

As the warmth of summer envelops us, so too does the echo of a truly remarkable term of music at Bede's. This summer term has been a vibrant tapestry woven with passion, and extraordinary talent, showcasing the very best of our pupils, from budding young musicians to our seasoned performers. It is with immense pride and joy that we reflect on the myriad of performances, workshops, and enriching experiences that have filled our diaries over the past nine weeks.

The term began with an immediate and captivating dive into the world of performance. The **Musical Theatre Showcase** on May 7th was an absolute triumph, filling the Recital Room with an infectious energy. Curated by our esteemed singing teachers, Mr. Simonetti and Ms. Ramm, this event saw pupils of all ages take to the stage, delivering a diverse range of vocal duos, solos, and ensemble repertoire. It was a testament to the hard work and guidance provided, and a wonderful demonstration of the depth of talent within our school community. The sheer joy and confidence radiating from each performer were truly inspiring, reminding us all of the power of music to uplift and connect.

Hot on its heels, the tranquil setting of the Chapel provided a serene backdrop for the first **Chapel Concert** on May 8th. This event offered a unique opportunity for our music scholars to perform in the beautiful surroundings of Holy Trinity, Upper Dicker. Open to all members of the Bede's community and local residents, it was a cherished half-hour of reflection and musical immersion, allowing everyone to escape the everyday rush and appreciate the artistry of our pupils.

One of the most anticipated events of the musical year, the final of the **Bede's Young Musician of the Year**, which took place on May 12th in the Recital Room. This highly prized competition saw our most promising young musicians compete for a coveted £100 gift voucher for concert tickets of their choice. Adjudicated by Mr Roy Hilton and Dr Shuo Pan, our wonderful piano teachers, the standard of performance was exceptionally high, making the decision undoubtedly challenging for the judges. Congratulations to all who participated, and a special commendation to our brilliant winner, Ella Von Mullen, for her outstanding achievement. This event truly underscores our commitment to nurturing and celebrating individual musical excellence.

A truly poignant and always special occasion was the **Leavers' & Summer Recital** on May 21st. This evening provided a unique opportunity to bid a heartfelt farewell to our senior musicians who are leaving us at the end of the Summer Term. For many, their musical journey at Bede's has spanned five years, possibly more, and

this recital was a chance to hear their extraordinary talents for one last, memorable time. The depth of emotion and artistry on display from Maya Goswami, Pame Mariscal, Josh Ting, Patrick Rodohan and Basie Sturdee was a testament to their dedication and the profound impact music has had on their lives during their time with us. We wish them all the very best in their future endeavours and look forward to hearing about their continued musical successes.

Speech Day on June 27th, a highlight of the academic year, also featured significant musical contributions. As part of the celebrations, we were treated to captivating performances from soloists, ensembles, string ensembles and jazz musicians gracing the lawn. Music truly elevates the celebratory atmosphere of Speech Day, and our musicians played an integral role in making it a memorable occasion for everyone.

The crowning jewel of our summer term musical endeavours is undoubtedly the Music Tour to Bruges, Belgium, taking place from June 28th to July 1st. A dedicated group of our brilliantly talented musicians will embark on this exciting adventure, performing in two prestigious concerts: one at The Church of Our Lady (OLV Kerk) and the other at Sint-Michielskerk, both in Bruges. This tour offers an unparalleled opportunity for our pupils to showcase their talents on an international stage, experience different cultural settings, and create lifelong memories. Beyond the performances, the tour also includes enriching cultural experiences, such as a visit to a famous chocolaterie and a relaxing canal boat cruise. We wish our musicians and accompanying staff, Mr. Scamardella, Mr. Aburn, and Mrs. Lewis, a truly unforgettable and successful tour!

The success of this incredible summer term of music would not be possible without the unwavering dedication of our pupils, the tireless efforts of our exceptional music staff – and the invaluable support of our parents and past pupils. Your encouragement, commitment, and belief in the power of music are what truly make our programme flourish.

As we reflect on a term brimming with outstanding performances and enriching experiences, we are reminded of the profound impact music has on our lives. It fosters creativity, builds confidence, encourages collaboration, and provides a universal language that transcends all boundaries. We are immensely proud of every single pupil who has contributed to this vibrant musical tapestry. Thank you for being a part of our musical journey this summer. We eagerly anticipate another year filled with the joyous sounds of Bede's music!

Robert Scamardella
Director of Music

PERFORMING ARTS

LEGAT DANCE ACADEMY

I am thrilled to announce that Bede's Legat Dance Academy has been awarded a Recognised School status with the **Council of Dance, Drama and Musical Theatre**. Being a CDMT Recognised School means we have met the high national standard for quality and safety, set by the Council for Dance, Drama and Musical Theatre in the UK. This recognition assures parents and pupils that the school operates with professional policies, employs qualified and vetted staff with proper safeguarding in place, and maintains a commitment to excellent training and pupil well-being. Essentially, it's a mark of industry-approved good practice and a guarantee of a safe, high-quality learning environment.



Recognised Awards Scheme: Recognised School

This is a huge testament to our brilliant faculty who consistently go above and beyond to support and nurture our pupils.

The Performing Arts departments came together on Thursday, April 24th, for an evening of reflection and celebration. We gathered to acknowledge the past year's remarkable achievements and to express our sincere gratitude to all our pupils as they embark on their exams and to say goodbye to our leavers.



While every single pupil in our faculty has contributed to our vibrant and thriving community and is deserving of recognition, we dedicated a portion of the evening to honour those exceptional individuals who consistently surpass expectations in the studio. We are immensely proud of each and every one of our pupils so selecting a few for special awards required careful consideration, focusing on those who not only meet but consistently exceed the demands of their studies, demonstrating an unwavering commitment and inspiring those around them.

It was truly heartening to witness everyone come together, sharing in the collective joy of their accomplishments.

Our annual BTEC Showcase took centre stage in the Miles Studio on Wednesday, April 30th. This event served as a crucial culmination of months of hard work and dedication for our Level 2 and Level 3 Performing Arts BTEC pupils. The day provided them with invaluable time for technical rehearsals, meticulously refining lighting cues, sound design, and stage management for their final devised pieces before the eagerly awaited evening performance for family and friends.

The energy and commitment displayed by all year groups involved were truly inspiring, and we were incredibly proud to witness their collaborative spirit flourish. Their innovative and imaginative approaches to their final projects were nothing short of impressive, showcasing a remarkable blend of individual creativity and exceptional teamwork. From intricate choreography to compelling narratives and dynamic staging, each piece reflected their unique artistic voices and their ability to work seamlessly together.

It was an absolute joy to witness their hard work, passion, and creativity come to life on stage, and we extend our very best wishes to them as they await their final marks, confident that their dedication will be reflected in their results.

We've received truly extraordinary results for the RAD Ballet exams, with pupils achieving a host of High Merits, Distinctions, and even a coveted High Distinction for Lucy Lester. Not to be outdone, our pupils also excelled in the Rambert Grades exams, with every single pupil receiving a Distinction and an outstanding Distinction* for Lara Prenzlin! These outstanding achievements are a huge testament to the dedication and hard work of our talented dancers, as well as the unwavering commitment and exceptional teaching of our faculty.

We recently held our annual Farewell Barbecue, a heartwarming event where we thanked our graduates and leavers and celebrated the year's many successes. It was a wonderful opportunity to play some games, enjoy each other's company, and hear speeches from our departing pupils. We know they'll go on to do wonderful things and hope they'll stay in touch and visit us at our alumni events. A huge congratulations to Lara Prenzlin, who's off to Wilkes Performing Arts Academy; Malena Bywell, who's heading to Italia Conti; and our Dance Captain, Hannah Millen, who will continue her training at Bird College!

Sherrie Pennington
Head of Bede's Legat Dance Academy

LEGAT: A MOMENT IN TIME

What an extraordinary display of talent our pupils delivered in "A Moment in Time" at The Congress Theatre on Thursday, June 19th! Everyone who saw it undoubtedly witnessed something special. From our youngest performers, just 7 years old, to our 18-year-old graduates, each one graced the stage with remarkable confidence and professionalism. Their achievements have filled us with immense pride, truly showcasing their dedication and skill.

This show was an absolute triumph, with every single pupil excelling on stage and creating cherished memories for themselves and the audience. Beyond the dazzling routines, the experience of live performance was invaluable for building character, fostering confidence, and developing stage presence. We were particularly moved by the incredible kindness backstage; pupils consistently supported and cheered each other on, embodying a true company spirit. "A Moment in Time" wasn't just a show; it was a truly special shared journey for everyone involved.

For anyone who would like to watch this production again, grab your popcorn and head to our youtube channel or click this link!

Here are just some of the wonderful messages received from parents and audience members.

"I just wanted to say WOW! The show was incredible. Exciting, emotional, slick....you really know how to put on a show! The dancers were remarkable and the singers were wonderful. I cried, yes I did. Twice! Thank you."

- Bede's Teacher

"We were at the show last night and were blown away! Such joy, energy, creativity, talent, enthusiasm and professionalism. Well done everyone! You were amazing."

- Audience Member

"I wanted to congratulate you on what a beautiful show you put on tonight, the range and quality of material truly blew me away. From the teenies to your lovely graduates everyone was given their time to shine and their commitment to their dancing was so clear. I feel so proud to be a Legat alumni."

- Legat Alumni

"Wow! What a fantastic evening. The talent, the choreography, the stunning costumes, the lighting, the incredible variety and the way each piece flowed seamlessly into the next was absolutely outstanding and breathtaking. The buzz during the interval was electric - everyone enthralled at the incredible talent. Every year I think you will never be able to top the previous year but this year's show was on a whole new level. Absolutely stunning and a real treat to watch. I think I went through all the emotions whilst watching from sheer admiration, laughter and tears."

- Audience member

Mark your calendars now for Friday 19th June 2026!

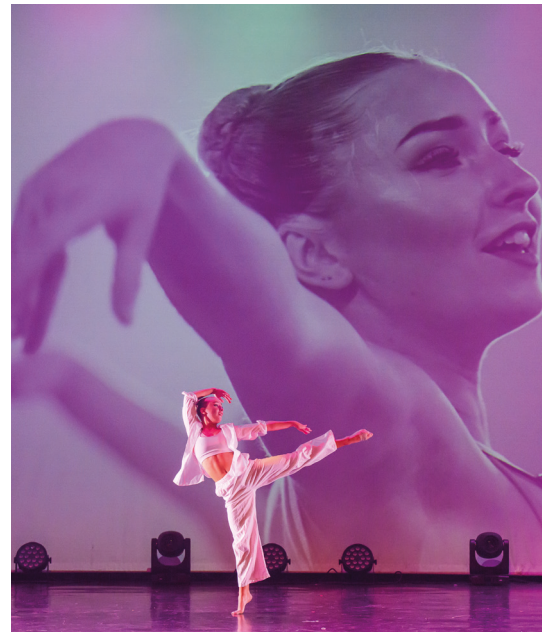
Sherrie Pennington
Head of Bede's Legat Dance Academy



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CREATIVE ARTS

As the school year draws to a close, we can't help but echo the sentiments of Sandy Denny's classic song, "Who Knows Where the Time Goes?" It feels like just yesterday our talented pupils started their journey at Bede's, and now, many of our fantastic leavers are off to explore exciting new paths! We're incredibly proud to see them find their passions, hone their skills, and confidently step into their chosen fields. Our Creative Arts pupils are heading off to study a diverse range of creative subjects, including Fine Art, Architecture, Animation, Art Foundation, Photography, Dance, Fashion Marketing, and Film.

This year has truly been a showcase of Bede's artistic talent! From Cubist Cocktail Barmen to Zombie Posters, and beautifully crafted cabinets, the end-of-year Creative Arts Faculty Private View was a vibrant display of the hard work and success of our pupils. Each piece was a testament to their dedication and creativity, inspiring the next generation of artists.

We're also still buzzing from the fantastic four-day Creative Arts Faculty trip to New York City! Thirty-eight pupils and staff enjoyed exploring iconic landmarks like the Rockefeller Centre and the Guggenheim Museum. Our pupils were truly exemplary ambassadors for Bede's, and we're already seeing the positive impact of this inspiring journey on their GCSE and Upper Sixth exam work. For more highlights, be sure to check out the Creative Arts Faculty Instagram and web site - <https://bedescreativeartsfaculty.org/2025-end-of-year-show>

Beyond the Big Apple, our Media department had an exciting visit to Pinewood Studios for a first-hand filmmaking experience, and our third annual Oscars night was a brilliant celebration of the Bede's film makers. Ceramics pupils were inspired during their annual trip to Pot Fest and we also had a wonderfully creative clay modelling event for parents and Upper Sixth pupils from Bloomsbury House, which was filled with laughter and amazing artistic creations – even raising generous donations for the Demelza charity!

As our Upper Sixth embark on their new adventures, we encourage them to embrace every opportunity, fill their time with adventure, and never underestimate the power of their unique talents. They are bright, talented young people with incredibly promising futures, and we know they're well-equipped to achieve great things!

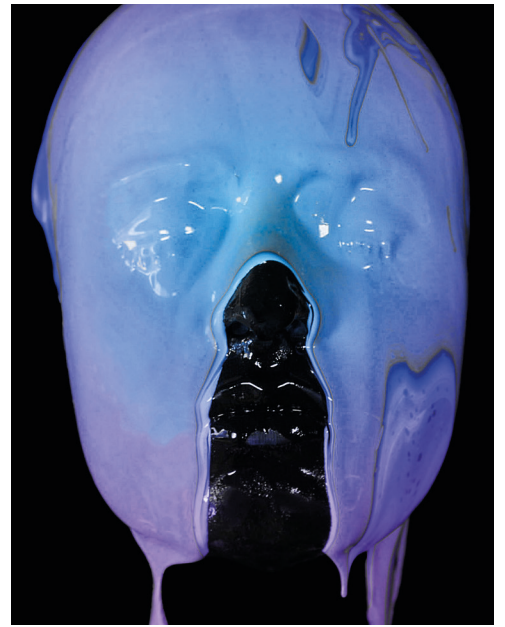
Jonathan Turner
Head of Creative Arts Faculty



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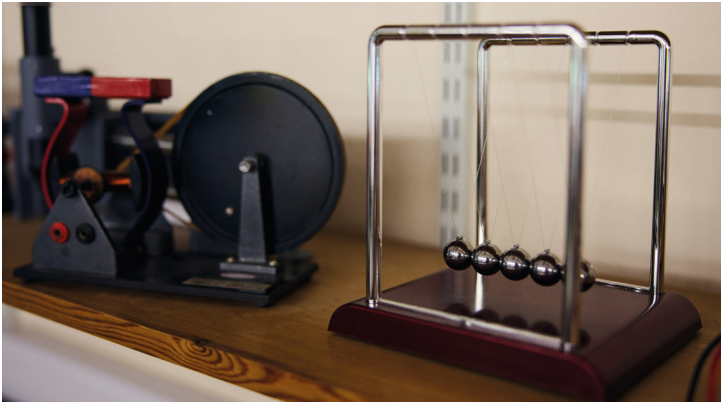
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ACADEMIC

This article is based on a short presentation I gave at the new parents' welcome evenings this week — where I was delighted to meet so many of the families who will be joining us in September. We covered a lot in a short space of time (as is often the way at Bede's), but I hope this version offers a more relaxed summary of what academic life here is all about. For those already part of the school community, I'm sure you'll join me in giving a warm welcome to the new pupils and parents — and perhaps quietly enjoy the knowledge that it's no longer you sitting nervously in the Recital Room trying to remember the names of all your new friends and teachers.



At Bede's, we work hard to strike the balance between high academic standards and a genuinely individual approach to learning. We know that the most meaningful academic success comes not from a one-size-fits-all model, but from pupils feeling known, supported, and challenged in the right ways.



Looking ahead to 2024–25, we're excited about some of the developments that will help us do this even better. One area of focus is the way we use Artificial Intelligence — both as a tool for teacher productivity and in the way we guide pupils to use it responsibly and effectively. We've also been thinking more carefully about how we support pupils in identifying their "normal way of working" — which, for many, is a big step towards academic confidence and independence.

Our outcomes remain a point of pride. In 2024, Bede's was ranked 54th out of 2,481 schools in the UK for value-added progress — placing us well ahead of many high-profile schools. This reflects not just raw results, but the journey pupils take from where they start to where they finish — something that we think is a much truer measure of a school's impact.

But numbers alone don't tell the full story. Behind those outcomes are the structures we have built to support each pupil's journey. Our subject offering is exceptionally broad — from Maths, Chemistry and History to BTECs in Sport and Production Arts, from Japanese and Music Technology to Sustainability and AI. We support this range with personalised pathways, careful curriculum planning, and regular guidance.

Beyond the classroom, our Academic Mentoring Programme ensures that those who need extra structure or encouragement receive it — with clear goals, weekly check-ins, and communication with home. Our After School Academy now offers over 100 sessions each week, running at lunchtimes, after school, and even on Saturdays. And our Sixth Form Futures Programme — from EPQs to university preparation, lectures to competitions — means no pupil runs out of ways to stretch themselves.

We could name many success stories — pupils like Immy, who is taking GCSE Maths early and won a national poetry competition, or John, who works closely with a mentor and has made outstanding progress this year. But these are just two examples of the kind of individual growth we see every day.



Yes, academic results are important. But so too is the experience of getting there. At Bede's, we want every pupil's academic story to feel like their own — and to be one they'll be proud to tell.

Nicholas Abrams
Assistant Head: Academic

STEM

BIOLOGY CHALLENGE

Every year the Biology department is amazed by the exceptional Biologists we have at Bede's especially when we annually enter the Worldwide Biology Challenge for 14-15 year olds. It is an opportunity to compete against other budding Biologists from 750 schools dotted across the globe.

Biology is a challenging and fascinating subject that impacts every moment of our day so it is important to absorb as much knowledge of life processes as possible in this ever changing landscape. We are so proud of those pupils who have thrived in this competitive Biology Arena.

42,000 Pupils took part in this year's 2025 Biology Challenge completing two rigorous papers. To give an idea of the competitiveness the scoring boundaries are:

Gold	- 90% (Top 5% in the World)
Silver	- 86% (Next Top 10% in the World)
Bronze	- 81% (15%)
Highly Commended (15%)	- 76% (15%), Commended - 70.5% (15%)

Bede's Pupils achieved 4 Gold's, 5 Silver's, 7 Bronze's, and 15 Highly Commended and Commended. These were our best ever results!

Special mention should go to our 4 Gold Winners: Toby Cutler (96%), Himson Wong (95%), Immy Oscroft (94%) & Joseph Berry (91%). Congratulations also to our Silver winners - Jack Parkinson, Molly Burden, Missy Martin-Jenkins, Leila Pace, Darren To - all scoring above 86%. Well done also to our Bronze winners - Bay Ellis, Jessie Hiscox, Charlie Crane, Nithil Kongala Liyanage, Sophie Bahadur & Jesse Mclean Young, who all scored above 81% too.

All these remarkable Bede's pupils are currently studying towards their GCSE and so it is no wonder with these Biology Challenge successes that our exam results are excellent and Bede's pupils achieve high levels. (2024 results 48% Level 9 ; 74% Level 9 - 8, 91% Level 9 - 7)



Nancy Morton-Freeman
Head of Biology

FORENSICS MASTERCLASS: CSI BEDE'S

Last week, our budding scientists participated in an engaging forensics masterclass that transformed Lab 6 into a bona fide crime scene investigation unit. Our young detectives from the Prep School were tasked with solving the case using forensic techniques.

The highlight of the masterclass was the blood sample testing activity. Pupils learned about blood types and used simulated blood samples to narrow down the list of suspects. They discovered how different blood types react to various substances and how this knowledge is crucial in forensic investigations.

Key skills developed during this activity included observation and documentation skills, scientific testing and analysis as well as learning about how to form a hypothesis and draw conclusions based on careful assessment of the evidence.

This hands-on experience not only reinforced scientific concepts but also promoted critical thinking, teamwork, and problem-solving skills. We talked a little about the terminology they would come across in science exam papers and why it is important to be precise in your thinking. It was wonderful to see our Year 7s so engaged and enthusiastic about applying their knowledge in a practical scenario and I had so many questions!

I can see some seriously keen and capable scientists coming up to us in the next couple of years and they took a real interest in our Bede's STEM pupil alumni posters. No doubt they were imagining their own journeys into Forensics, NASA or Medicine.



Julia French
Head of STEM Faculty

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LOWER SIXTH BIOLOGY TRIP TO KEW GARDENS

In June the Sixth Form biologists spent a gloriously sunny, but very hot day at Kew Gardens, exploring the plant collections in Kew's magnificent Victorian glasshouses.

The pupils were tasked with producing a photo journal to document the plants they found including plants that had specialist adaptations, interesting relationships with other organisms and specific medicinal uses.

Their journey of discovery started in the Princess of Wales Conservatory where they were able to learn about carnivorous plants, stone plants and spot the giant carp which shared its watery home with the world's smallest water lily.

In the waterlily house they saw a dazzling array of waterlilies and other aquatic plants, some which had only recently been classified using DNA profiling studies.

In the Palm House they experienced the amazing rooftop walkway which is accessed via a spiral staircase, allowing them to get an aerial view of the canopy and see how Kew's scientists take 'air cuttings' to propagate some of the world's rarest and most difficult to propagate plants.



In the Temperate glasshouse they were introduced to some of the world's rarest and most critically endangered plants that Kew are instrumental in helping to save, including rare cycads, an ancient lineage of seed producing plants that evolved over 270 million years ago.

'The Power of the Oak' was an interactive and thought provoking installation that displayed and overlaid the data from LIDAR, CT and Photogrammetry scans of the 250 year-old Lucombe Oak onto an image of the oak tree, allowing pupils to see the movement of water and sugars through the vascular system of the plant, as well as the

underground network of fungi that enable trees to communicate with each other.

The Treetop Walkway gave them a bird's eye view of the canopy and amazing views across London.

Freya Price
Mathematics Teacher

LEGO LEAGUE CHALLENGE ADVENTURE

This past term, a team of enthusiastic pupils from our school embarked on an incredible journey, diving headfirst into the exhilarating world of the First LEGO League (FLL) Challenge competition! Far more than just building with colourful bricks, FLL is a global programme that ignites a passion for science, technology, engineering, and maths (STEM) through hands-on learning, teamwork, and a healthy dose of friendly competition.

From the moment we received this year's challenge, the buzz in the air was palpable. The FLL Challenge isn't just about creating a robot; it's a multi-faceted experience that encourages critical thinking and problem-solving. Our team was tasked with designing, building, and programming an autonomous LEGO robot to complete a series of missions on a themed mat, all whilst tackling a real-world "Innovation Project" that required research, creative solutions, and a presentation to a panel of judges.

The journey was filled with countless moments of collaborative fun. We spent hours in lively discussions, brainstorming innovative robot designs and refining our programming strategies. There were moments of triumphant cheers as our robot successfully navigated a tricky mission, and equally, moments of collective head-scratching when a programme didn't quite go to plan – all part of the learning process! Through it all, our team learned the invaluable lessons of perseverance, adaptability, and the power of drawing on each other's strengths.

Participating in the First LEGO League Challenge has been an unforgettable experience. It's not just about winning; it's about the journey of discovery, the thrill of collaboration, and the development of essential skills that will serve us well in the future. We've learned that STEM can be incredibly engaging, that challenges can be overcome with teamwork, and that even the most complex problems can be tackled with a bit of creativity and a lot of LEGO bricks!

We wholeheartedly encourage any pupils looking for an exciting and

STEM

enriching challenge to consider joining our First LEGO League team next year. You might just discover a passion for robotics, a knack for innovation, and an incredible amount of fun along the way!

Robyn Ferreira
Science Teacher

WOMEN IN STEM

A group of Year 10 girls who especially enjoy STEM subjects (maths, sciences and computer science) were invited to Lab 7 by Dr Carville to hear from Valeria Chorna over Google Meet. Valeria attended Bede's a few years ago and currently studies Physics at Berlin Technical university so knew a lot about both studying at Bede's and studying STEM subjects in general. Over the hour, we learnt a lot about how she got to the incredible position she is in today and how important STEM subjects can be. Furthermore, both Dr Carville and Valeria spoke to us about their experiences studying STEM subjects as women - something which is improving however still comes with some challenges. One that stood out to me and the other girls was the experience of doubting your ability when compared to boys who can often be more vocal and confident about their skills in STEM subjects, and it was really reassuring to hear that this was also felt by some very intelligent and aspirational women. Though the takeaway between us was mainly how cool and interesting Valeria is, we also learnt about how important it is for everyone - but especially women - to support each other in STEM fields and how vital STEM subjects are to society.

Immy Oscroft
Lower Fifth pupil

YEAR 6 ACADEMIC ENRICHMENT

Have you ever wondered how well a Year 6 pupil would plan a colony on another planet?

We welcomed a group of primary schoolers from Polegate School to test out our new Space Design challenge and give them the opportunity to see how well they would design a large-scale colony on Mars. It was a huge challenge for the young pupils but they collaborated brilliantly and soon started to assign leaders and roles.

Divided into two groups, they had to compete against each other and the clock to complete a design with everything from human factors, communications and structure design to building materials, robotics and long-term planning for the mission's energy supply.

They were given a short introductory briefing by Mr Richards and had some staff and Sixth Form pupils on hand to help out, but in the main, they had to research, plan and design everything themselves.

The end result were some imaginative designs, a great deal of ideas for how the colony was to operate and a highly successful day that the pupils found rewarding and interesting. They learned to work well together in large teams with assigned roles and all contributed to their team's success. There were some innovative design ideas for robotics and one team managed to plan the construction stages in detail. Both teams showed a keen awareness of the need for a renewable energy solution.

It was a close run thing between both teams (Hellas and Olympus Mons) but the overall winners (the Hellas Foundation) received their medals for an outstanding design.

A huge thanks to our dedicated Sixth Formers, supporting staff and the visitors themselves.



Matthew Peattie
Mathematics Teacher

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SHAPE SYMPOSIUM

At the very end of the Spring Term we hosted our second SHAPE symposium of the year, with pupils presenting on a variety of topics including the work of Dr John Snow, the political career of Walter Mondale, the ethics of dynamic pricing and the political status of overseas territories. All of the pupils were very professional in their presentations and expertly fielded a wide range of thoughtful questions. Events like this provide a fantastic opportunity for pupils to research and discuss topics that are outside of the curriculum, broadening their horizons and developing a wide range of valuable skills. Congratulations to Nithil Kongala Liyanage (First Year, Knights), Joseph Berry (Lower Fifth, Dicker), Immy Oscroft (Lower Fifth, Bloomsbury), Rosie Wells-Bryant (Lower Fifth, Bloomsbury), Barack Ihekweazu (Upper Fifth, Dorms), Saul Lewis (Upper Fifth, Knights) and Hau Tak Ng (Upper Sixth, Dorms) for making this event such a success; our next symposium will be taking place in December.



James Whitaker
Head of SHAPE Faculty

GEOGRAPHY FIELD TRIPS

It has been a busy term for field trips with the pupils making the most of the sunshine. In April the Lower Sixth Geographers were taken on a tour of the east end of London to observe for real the urban changes they have studied in the classroom. Starting at Canary Wharf, the pupils witnessed some of the changes that have happened since the Covid pandemic altered the way that real estate is being used by businesses and residents. A visit to the fascinating Museum of London Docklands was then followed by a 'flyover' Thames on the IFS Cloud Cable Car to get a sense of the scale of change happening before their eyes. Finally, a trip around the Olympic Park in Stratford enabled the pupils to walk through a real-life case study that would have brought the textbook pages to life.



Robin Martin-Jenkins
Head of Geography

In May, it was the Lower Fifth's turn to pick up their clipboards and head out into the sun over two separate days. This time it was Eastbourne, and a great chance to see changes both in the physical landscape of the coast as well as to discover how different areas of the town show marked differences in social and economic characteristics. Pupils took an Environmental Quality Index, as well as an Index of Housing Decay and car age surveys in two contrasting streets in Meads and Seaside. They then measured various characteristics of the beach at Holywell to try and determine how effective the groynes are at preventing erosion of the cliff on which the Prep School sits. You will be glad to know that the conclusion was that they are highly effective!

Finally, in June the Lower Sixth had their second trip of the term to visit their 'near place' case study, Eastbourne. Mr Slinger led them on a fascinating walking tour of the Old Town and various other locations to discover how the town has changed over time and what factors have influenced this. The walk ended at Terminus Road with a Clone Town survey to collect some up to date data which could be processed back in the classroom.

All these field trips reminded us of the value of getting outside the classroom to learn some 'real' Geography, and the fact that the sun shone brightly on all four trips made the end of trip ice cream taste that much better! The other thing these trips highlighted was how much we are going to miss Mr Slinger, who is sadly leaving us at the end of term. He has been a wonderful teacher and leader in the department, and hundreds of pupils have benefitted from his calm and friendly guidance and deep wisdom. Our heartfelt thanks to Mr Slinger for all he has done for Bede's and we all wish him well for the future. One of our Lower Sixth pupil's, Brooke, nicely summed up our feelings when she said: "For my GCSEs I began Year 10 on a level 5 grade, but having Mr Slinger as a teacher created a love for Geography that I didn't know I had. He really inspired me to push myself in my GCSEs and obtain the best grade possible and now I have chosen to do Geography at A-level. I've been so lucky and am so grateful to have had Mr Slinger as one of my Geography teachers."

SHAPE

MODEL UNITED NATIONS: OUR MOST SUCCESSFUL YEAR SO FAR

Pippa Nunn (Upper Fifth, Bloomsbury) provides this overview of the achievements of the school year:

This year has been extremely successful for Model United Nations at Bede's. We attended five conferences, including hosting one ourselves.

At the start of the year, Bede's Model United Nations conference welcomed 128 delegates from nine schools and began with debates on a variety of issues. Hau Tak Ng (Upper Sixth, Dorms) and Prithvi Ann Sharma-Joehnk (Upper Sixth, Dorter), the two Secretaries-General, declared the conference open, which commenced a full day of debate. The morning was extremely successful, with most delegates speaking on behalf of their delegations in each committee. A number of progressive resolutions were discussed and passed. In the afternoon, a news broadcast was shown to everyone, revealing the first details of the crisis to be resolved. In the General Assembly, a crisis involving a Yemeni-registered ship stopping halfway through the Suez Canal and blocking it, was debated. The General Assemblies were rarely short of lively discussion, and delegations contributed outstanding ideas for solutions.

Next came the Royal Grammar School's conference, where nine Bede's pupils represented the delegation of North Korea, an assignment that promised lively debate. A wide range of issues was discussed, including gender equality, forced migration, and the Falklands conflict. In the General Assembly, Russia and China collaborated to invade Mongolia, providing an extremely intriguing debate. Each pupil accomplished a lot during this conference, making it both productive and impactful. At the Benenden conference, Bede's pupils represented the countries of France, Iran, Sudan, and Ukraine. This was also highly successful, with three pupils winning awards: Emilia won a Commended Delegate award, while Harrison Odendaal (Upper Fifth, Dorms) and Prithvi Ann earned Highly Commended Delegate awards.

After two years on the waiting list, Bede's was accepted to join schools from over 100 countries at The Hague International Model United Nations (THIMUN). The twelve pupils who attended made great achievements in each of their respective committees. We represented Bhutan in a range of pressing global matters. The theme of the conference this year was "The Impact of Artificial Intelligence on Humanity", meaning debates were centred on this topic. Emilia McLelland (Lower Sixth, Crossways) represented Czechia in the NATO committee, which discussed the situation in the Black Sea region. A

number of resolutions were passed, including one that I co-submitted and another primarily drafted by Joseph Berry (Lower Fifth, Dicker). We all had a fantastic time in The Hague and visited the Peace Palace and the Mauritshuis art gallery, where we were able to view Johannes Vermeer's 'Girl with a Pearl Earring.'

The theme of the Felsted Model UN conference was Ending the Cycle Between Poverty and Conflict: Breaking the Chain, meaning each committee tackled complex and sensitive topics. Nine Bede's pupils engaged in debates and effectively proposed innovative and constructive ideas to resolve these issues. Over the course of two days, many pupils spoke in their committees and in the General Assembly. For many, this was their first conference, and despite initial nerves, all participants performed exceptionally well. In particular, Larissa Starkey (Lower Sixth, Bloomsbury) won a Commended Delegate award in the ECOSOC committee while representing Finland.

Overall, the academic year 2024/25 was extremely successful for the Model United Nations team. We hosted our second Bede's conference, attended an international conference, and won several awards. On behalf of the rest of the team, I would like to thank Mr McIntosh and Miss Webster for all their support and for organising these amazing events and opportunities for us.

PARK MEAD ENTERPRISE DAY

The Business & Economics Department took a trip to Park Mead, our local Primary school, to introduce their Year 5 and Year 6 pupils to the world of entrepreneurship. The challenge was to create a brand of sustainable footwear that would appeal to a target audience of 14-18 year olds. All of the pupils were incredibly creative and enthusiastic, responding to business theory and coming up with solutions based around sustainability, creating a range of socially responsible products; who knows, maybe the next Deborah Meaden is in the making! A big thank you to the staff and pupils of Park Mead, who were incredibly welcoming and fully engaged with this project.

James Whitaker
Head of SHAPE Faculty

SHAPE

MEET 'THE THREE TULIPS'

This half term we had the pleasure of sitting down with three budding entrepreneurs right here at Bede's; Oli Davis, Aldin Hodzic and George Abel (all Lower Sixth, Deis), who together have launched the local gardening service 'The Three Tulips'. We chatted with the boys to find out more about their journey from the classroom to the flowerbeds.

Tell us a bit about yourselves and how you came up with the idea for your gardening service. What sparked your interest in starting this business?

George: The idea of starting a business has always been in the back of my head, really. I've always been interested in gardening and enjoyed it. It started as a casual conversation between all of us. We realised that with my interest, and by working as a collective, we could actually make it happen

Aldin: Exactly. The three of us are all studying A-Level Business, so we were already comfortable with the core concepts. A key moment for us was when Oli passed his driving test. We realised that meant we weren't just limited to our parents driving us around; we could operate independently across a much larger area. With us living in different places, it suddenly opened up a much bigger potential market.

How do you think your experience of studying business studies here at Bede's has benefited you in setting up your business?

Oli: It has been hugely beneficial. Learning about market segmentation and market research gave us the tools to properly identify our target customer. It helped us figure out exactly who our customers are and what we need to do to please them. It's one thing to learn the theory, but it's another to actually apply it to your own idea.

Can you give us a specific example that stands out in your mind?

Oli: Definitely. When we were planning how to get our name out there, the lessons on advertising and promotion were fresh in our minds. We knew we needed to use social media to create engagement and put ourselves out there. It wasn't just a random thought; it was a strategic decision based on what we'd learned about reaching potential customers in today's world.

Which social media platforms are you using, and what's the strategy behind your choices?

Aldin: We're on Instagram at the moment, but we are thinking about setting up a Facebook page as well. Our thinking is that Instagram is great for visual content – showing before and after pictures of our work – but it stereotypically leans towards a younger audience.

George: Our target customers are people who own property and might need a hand with their garden, who are often from an older demographic. Since Facebook's user base is generally older than Instagram's, we think it's a crucial platform for us to be on to directly reach the people most likely to hire us.

How do you manage your time and balance your schoolwork with running your business?

Oli: It's all very new; we've just started out and have already completed two jobs, which we're really pleased about. We are very conscious of our school commitments, so for now, we only take on jobs on the weekends. This way, we can fully focus on the work without it interfering with our studies during the week.



James Whitaker
Head of SHAPE Faculty

BEHAVIOURAL ECONOMICS LECTURE

As part of Futures week, The Business & Economics department were lucky enough to welcome 4 members of the Sussex University Economics department. Prof Richard Dickens, Prof Cagliesi, Prof Bhattacharyya and Mr Abdul who had just graduated with a first class honours degree spoke openly and passionately about their love for the subject as well as the benefits that come from reading Economics at University level. Our pupils found the talk to be a highlight of Futures Week and we are incredibly grateful to those members of the Economics department at Sussex who gave of their time so freely.

Barry Jackson
Head of Business and Economics

SHAPE

'ACROSS THE BOARD' 8 BILLION IDEAS FIRST YEAR CURRICULUM DAY

We were thrilled to welcome the fantastic '8 Billion Ideas' team who delivered fun and engaging workshops for our First Year pupils as part of the First Year Curriculum Days. The central task for pupils for the day was to work in collaborative teams to design and develop a brand new board game from scratch.



Pupils embraced the challenge and settled into a variety of roles within their teams from creative directors and artists to rule masters and game testers. They began by brainstorming initial concepts, debating themes, and defining the core objectives of their games. This initial creative phase was followed by a deep dive into the principles of product design, covering everything from the physical layout of the board to the design of the playing pieces and cards.

The result was a fantastic array of unique and interactive board games, each a testament to the pupils' creativity and newfound skills. Winning creations were produced by 'Magnificent Manor', consisting of Carlos Gomez Miras and Abdullah Mullaniazi (both First Year, Camberlot), and Dami Di Micceli, Austin Delahunty and Will Henderson (all First Year, Dicker), all pictured, and Wheel of Warfare.



James Whitaker
Head of SHAPE Faculty

YEAR 6 ENRICHMENT DAY

A buzz of entrepreneurial energy swept through the Senior School when we welcomed our Year 6 pupils for a thoroughly enjoyable introduction to the dynamic world of Business Studies. The session was filled with fun and engaging activities, starting with a fast-paced exploration of famous business logos and taglines before pupils got creative crafting their own witty slogans. They then tackled market mapping, sparking lively discussions. The main event was a challenge to design a new range of sustainable shoes, a task they tackled with infectious enthusiasm and impressive teamwork.

It was a pleasure to spend time with our Prep School pupils and hear the wonderfully creative ideas emerging from their shoe design projects, making it a memorable introduction to the world of business for our future entrepreneurs.

James Whitaker
Head of SHAPE Faculty

PHILOSOPHY SOCIETY

Over the course of the year, Philosophy Society has welcomed pupils from a range of disciplines to enjoy the art of philosophical debate. Discussions have covered an interesting range of topics including: the ethics of the assisted dying bill, the difference between truth and belief and most recently, a study of the philosophy of Star Wars!

Philosophy Society is a pupil-led group where they can explore areas of interest in Philosophy beyond the curriculum, develop skills in debating and critical thinking. Debating requires excellent listening skills and a high level of respect for the views of others. Pupils have demonstrated strong skills in communication in sessions and the space is a positive and energetic environment. The society has now entered hiatus for the summer but we look forward to welcoming them back in the autumn for more fruitful debate. Many thanks to Anthony Morris (Lower Sixth, Stud) and Boris Bland (Lower Sixth, Dorms) for co-chairing these fascinating debates.

Society meetings happen biweekly on Tuesdays, Week A at 13:40 in 04. All pupils are welcome to attend!

Sean McIntosh
Head of Religion and Philosophy

SHAPE

ALUMNI REUNION

It was great to catch up with Bedian Charlie Bennett (Knights), who was supporting the Lower Sixth Futures Week this half term. After flourishing at Bede's, Charlie moved on to pastures new in the summer of 2024 after completing A Levels in Politics and History.

'I was incredibly fortunate to be offered a four-month placement working in the House of Commons. As a policy assistant, my role centred around supporting the relationship between constituents and their MPs. This often took the form of casework, addressing individual concerns to inform on policy and provide the most effective support available. This support took the form of flagging practical actions for MPs to take, and in many instances, I would draft letters to Ministers and the Secretary of States to present severe cases to the government. However, my time in Parliament didn't come without its challenges. Having left Bede's at the end of 2024 and jumping straight into this position at the beginning of 2025 (earning myself the badge as the youngest staffer), the dynamic shift was massive. Yet, with immense support from the Shape department at Bede's, I felt incredibly prepared for what existed outside of Bede's. Between taking our debating skills across the country with Miss Webster and Mr McIntosh in Model UN, being actively encouraged to express our opinion on the topic we studied with Miss Chinn's 'agree to disagree' lines and the in-depth focus and support given by Mr Whitaker and Mr Davies getting through A Level History NEA - the Shape Faculty, I believe, really does prepare you for life after Bede's. Having taken this experience in Parliament and the lessons learnt from School. I chose to expand my political understanding by spending the last three weeks across Africa meeting with MPs, Advisors to the Prime Minister, Vice-President and Presidents to lobby for a more sustainable future. This year has truly been the best time of my life to date, and I am so grateful for the support that Bede's has offered me both as a pupil and now as an alumnus. I am incredibly excited about my next chapter, which will begin with reading for a Politics with Economics BSc with Honours at the University of Bath in September this year.'

We wish Charlie all the best for starting his university degree in September and look forward to hearing from his future career experiences.



FAREWELL TO MR SLINGER

It is with a heavy-heart that the SHAPE Faculty says goodbye this term to Mr Slinger, who has held the positions of Head of Geography and Sustainability during his time at Bede's. Mr Slinger brought stability to the Geography Department, mentoring a number of new staff, boosting recruitment to the subject at both GCSE and A Level, achieving some excellent results across the various exam cohorts and running or supporting a wide range of field trips, day visits and residential experiences for Bede's pupils of all ages, to locations as diverse as Eastbourne, Slapton Sands and Madagascar! I very much appreciate the support Mr Slinger has given me in my role as Head of Faculty, and we would all like to take this opportunity to wish him all the best for the future.

James Whitaker
Head of SHAPE Faculty

INQUIRY LEARNING

The Summer Term has been incredibly busy, once again filled with a plethora of activities, tasks, assessments, and events. Our pupils have truly showcased their incredible skills and commitment, both in and out of the classroom. We have also successfully extended their expertise across all subject areas. As the academic year draws to a close, we bid farewell to our Upper Sixth and some Upper Fifth pupils, wishing them the very best in their future endeavours.

The Sixth Form Taster Evening was an outstanding success, truly showcasing the vibrant and diverse opportunities awaiting potential pupils! Faculties across the board put on an excellent and engaging display, giving a real flavour of the wonderful activities and in-depth learning involved in Sixth Form studies.

Mrs. Leggett's stand for BTEC Home Cooking Skills was a delicious highlight, tempting everyone with her scrumptious breads and cakes. As always, both BTEC Business and Marketing proved to be highly sought-after courses, drawing significant interest from aspiring entrepreneurs and brand strategists. Mr. Betts captivated visitors with his impressive IT expertise, while Dr. Stainsby's dynamic showcase of the BTEC Psychology course truly brought the subject to life.

We were thrilled to see Mr. Rennison demonstrate what could very well be the next big thing with an exciting preview of the BTEC in Production Arts, sparking creativity and imagination. Furthermore, the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) stand provided a brilliant insight into the independent research and advanced academic skills pupils can develop, with current pupils proudly sharing their fascinating project outcomes.

Finally, a plethora of enthusiastic pupils did a superb job representing BTEC Media, making for a truly engaging experience for all. This was, without a doubt, a superb team effort from everyone involved!



Georgina Wainwright
Head of Inquiry Learning

BTEC ANIMAL MANAGEMENT

This term has been a buzzing hive of activity at Bede's Zoo, with a strong focus on education and conservation! We've been thrilled to welcome local primary schools and nurseries, whose visits have provided young learners with exciting opportunities to see our diverse animal collection and discover the vital importance of conservation efforts. A huge thank you goes to our dedicated Keepers, Alex and Beccy, who have skillfully led these engaging sessions, sparking curiosity and a love for wildlife in our younger visitors.

Meanwhile, our older pupils have been deeply immersed in practical and theoretical studies within the Animal Management unit. Our Year 12 pupils have gained invaluable hands-on experience by actively participating in routine maintenance and upgrading of our enclosures. This has included vital work for our chinchillas, marmosets, and belted black & white ruffed lemurs, ensuring the continued well-being of our animal residents as part of their Animal Husbandry studies.

The Upper Sixth pupils have been diligently completing their studies in crucial areas of animal science. Under the expert guidance of Mr. Jones, they've delved into the intricacies of Animal Health & Disease, gaining a comprehensive understanding of how to maintain optimal health in animal populations. Concurrently, Mr. Juniper has led insightful sessions on Animal Behaviour, providing pupils with a deeper appreciation for the complex actions and interactions of various species. To further enrich their learning, all our pupils have enjoyed educational trips to Drusillas Zoo, offering valuable real-world insights into zoo operations and animal care.

It's been a truly productive and inspiring term at Bede's Zoo, showcasing our commitment to both animal welfare and educational excellence!

We also welcomed Michaela Strachan to the department last term - which was a real pleasure for all involved with the school zoo!



Paul Juniper
Head of Animal Management

INQUIRY LEARNING

BTEC APPLIED SCIENCE

This term has been incredibly productive in the Science department, with pupils across various year groups demonstrating impressive progress and dedication.

Our Upper Fifth pupils have reached a significant milestone this term, achieving the immense satisfaction of completing their entire Science course! A substantial portion of their Chemistry coursework involved a rigorous and engaging series of practical experiments. Pupils meticulously observed and analyzed phenomena such as rates of reaction, exploring the factors that influence chemical speed, and delving into the properties of various materials, understanding their structures and applications. Beyond the lab, they further deepened their understanding by critically exploring the complex chemistry of our planet, examining topics like atmospheric composition, the carbon cycle, and crucially, the profound impacts of human activities on these delicate natural systems, fostering a strong sense of environmental awareness.

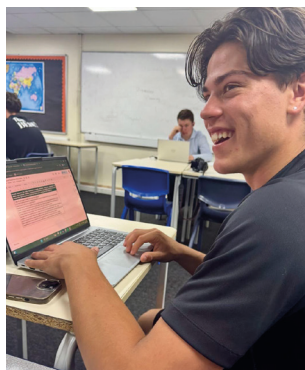
Meanwhile, our Lower Fifth pupils have been diligently finishing their Physics coursework, solidifying their understanding of key concepts before embarking on new challenges. They have now seamlessly transitioned and begun to acquire the foundational skills essential for Chemistry. This has involved mastering crucial laboratory techniques, developing precise observation abilities, and understanding the principles of chemical safety. Their current focus has been on unraveling the mysteries of the organisation of the periodic table, exploring the periodic trends that govern element behaviour, and deciphering how and why chemicals react – a vital step towards comprehending the transformations that occur all around us, from everyday phenomena to industrial processes.

Kathy Clark
Science Teacher

BTEC BUSINESS

Our Lower Fifth pupils are nearing completion of their Unit 3 Business Model and are eagerly preparing to pitch to the 'Dragons' for funding. They have thoroughly researched small and micro businesses, examining every area and potential constraint they might encounter.

The Upper Fifth have officially signed off their final assignment, which involved developing a promotional plan for their business idea. It's fantastic to see everyone achieve a pass or above once again this year – a testament to their consistent effort.



Our Lower Sixth pupils sat their first exam this summer, and we are now eagerly awaiting their results in August. In the meantime, they've begun delving into the personal finance aspect of their next exam unit and will embark on business finance in September, in preparation for their January exam. They seem to be really enjoying the shift to this different topic!

Finally, it's time to bid farewell to our Upper Sixth. This term has primarily focused on resits and the completion of resubmissions. We keenly anticipate their results later this summer to celebrate all their hard work.

This term's well-deserved recognition awards celebrate the outstanding efforts and unwavering commitment to the course demonstrated by Josie Morriss, Jasmine Lee, Theo Tompkins, Isla Hanmer, and Isobel Robson Webb. Congratulations to all!



Georgina Wainwright
Head of Inquiry Learning

BTEC INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

BTEC IT Drones and Robotics Workshop - Report by Nithil:

"On Friday, the 2nd of May, BTEC IT and computing pupils in the first year and Lower Fifth experimented with drones and robots, using Python-like code to fly them in shapes and guide them through hoops.

Some pupils, including Tom Pearl and Max Lowton, even flew the drones through two hoops and expressed their interest in the field. Some



INQUIRY LEARNING

of the challenges we faced included the height and movement restrictions to stop the drones crashing, and the drones 7 minute battery.

It was also quite a fun experience for some Prep pupils as their former teacher, Mr Barclay was leading the session. It was an interesting change from regular lessons; all pupils were engaged and had a lot of fun on the day! And a special thank you to Mr Betts and Mr Mutimber who were able to organise this for the classes!

In the afternoon we programmed Lego cars. First, we were told to create a moving robot with two motors connected to two wheels. It took a while for us to figure out how to get it to move, but then, eventually, we got it set up.

The instructor taught us how to put together code in an app similar to Scratch on the iPads. We wrote instructions to get the robot to move forward a certain distance, and also how to make it turn on the spot to get it to move in another direction. He then set up mats for us to test our robots on; trying different pathways and routes to code.

We were then given a new task; to rescue astronauts stuck in space. The robot had to have a moving arm to lift and hook the Lego astronauts off the bars. We programmed the robot to set the arm at a particular angle and then move to another position. All the teams had quite a different approach to this task. There was also the availability of using sensors to detect how far away the robot was from saving the astronauts. It was a fun experience and we had a great time testing and programming all the different things the drones and robots could do.”



The Recognition Award for Level 3 IT this term goes to James Berry for demonstrating a consistent level of excellence in his coursework.

Chris Betts
Head of Computing and IT

BTEC PERFORMING ARTS (DANCE)



The BTEC Performing Arts Showcase took centre stage on Wednesday, April 30th in The Miles Studio, marking a crucial moment for all the pupils as they presented their final devised pieces of the year. Performing to friends, family and staff, these performances were also filmed for standards verification.

Each year group diligently rehearsed to their specific stimulus:

- The Lower Fifth performed contemporary and jazz group pieces to complete their dance skills unit.
- The Upper Fifth crafted a piece exploring “The Climate.” Pupils had the opportunity to choreograph their work, design the costume and lighting and understand what it takes to put on a show.
- The Lower Sixth group drew inspiration from the musical “Six,” based on the wives of King Henry VIII culminating in a highly entertaining performance.
- The Upper Sixth devised dances to the theme “Colours of Life.” The pupils had to choreograph the work on their chosen dancers.

BTEC Performing Arts is vital for fostering creativity and self-expression. It encourages pupils to think innovatively and collaboratively, developing essential life skills like teamwork and effective communication that extend far beyond the studio.

The day itself involved technical rehearsals and a filmed dress run, culminating in an evening performance for friends and family. It was a fantastic opportunity to witness their creative ideas come to life, and pupils should be immensely proud of their work.

The recognition award goes to our Upper Sixth pupil Maya Goswami for her excellent presentation work on the performing arts industry.



Sherrie Pennington
Head of Legat Dance Academy

INQUIRY LEARNING

BTEC MARKETING



This academic year has been a huge success for our Upper Sixth Marketing pupils! We've been incredibly fortunate to work with such a dedicated group, many of whom not only completed their demanding coursework within the year but even finished early. Their final marketing plan presentations

are now complete, and all careers interviews have been successfully filmed. We're delighted that all pupils have achieved either a Merit or above for their hard work and commitment, and we're immensely proud of their accomplishments.

Our Lower Sixth pupils have made excellent progress preparing for their "Principles of Marketing" exam, and we eagerly await their results this summer. Their attention has now shifted to completing their communications plans and conducting thorough research, getting ready to start developing their pitch next term. Our Diploma pupils, having finished the branding unit, are already gearing up to create their digital advertising videos next term. All in all, it's been a very busy and productive year with some great successes achieved!

The BTEC marketing award goes to Emilia Barreyra Moschettoni for her exceptional commitment and hard work throughout the year.



Georgina Wainwright
Head of Inquiry Learning

BTEC MEDIA



This has been a terrific final term for the Upper Sixth BTEC pupils! They have worked very hard indeed to perfect their short horror films and have been busy mixing fake blood, perfecting costumes, lighting and making sure every

last detail is as good as it possibly can be. The annual Media Oscar Night was a great success and it was terrific to see Will Dodsworth carry home the award for best film. Special mention also to Seamus O'Sullivan for his beautifully constructed short drama.

The Lower Sixth pupils are now working hard on their extended creative projects and have spent the term enhancing their technical abilities. We very much look forward to seeing their first finished practical projects!

Rick Williams and Sabrina Logan
Media & Film Teachers

BTEC MUSIC

This term continued to be a busy term for our Sixth Form BTEC musicians. The Upper Sixth have been working hard on their final evaluations and we will miss this group of pupils who have been amazing to work with. Carmen, Maya, Archie, Patrick, Josh and Emma have worked so well as a band and have all developed as fabulous young musicians in their own way. We wish them all the best for the future and hope that music remains an important part of their lives. This term has also seen us deliver a number of BTEC taster sessions to Lower Fifth pupils who are interested in taking BTEC Music. The group had a fun and engaging session in the recording studio with Mr Hopkins and we are excited to welcome the new BTEC musicians to join us in September.

James Aburn
Music Teacher

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The Lower Fifth IGCSE pupils have been preparing for their mock exam, incorporating all content delivered to date, alongside completing practical assessments in tennis, cricket and athletics. The CNAT Sport Science pupils are wrapping up R181 (training), and will begin R183 (nutrition) over the summer.



The Upper Fifth IGCSE and

INQUIRY LEARNING

Sport Science pupils have been preparing for their final examination this week, following coursework completion. All pupils have worked exceptionally well to maximise their success, and it has been great to see many attend study support sessions in preparation.

The Recognition Award for CNAT Sports Science this term goes to Woody Johnson, for his hard work on his R181 coursework, consisting of 5 pieces of high quality assignments.

The Recognition Award for iGCSE PE this term goes to Callum Waterhouse, a superb effort throughout the year in both practical and theory lessons, as well as for his commitment to GCSE PE Study Support on a Monday evening.

BTEC Sport Lower Sixth pupils have completed their Unit C1



(Developing Sports Coaching), and applying skills learned this year to deliver a series of activities for Diversity Week. The Year 12 pupils have truly embraced their recent focus on diversity, particularly in the realm of adaptive disability sports and sports from other cultures. Over the last few weeks, they have been working in groups, each

assigned a unique sport to research, plan, and deliver a coaching session. From the lesser-known Jianzi, Boccia, Lagori, and Sepak Takraw, to the more unusual Hobby Horsing, Ultimate Frisbee, and Kin-Ball, their efforts have been commendable. It's been absolutely brilliant to see them deliver such outstanding sessions, consistently stepping out of their comfort zones to lead sports they knew little to nothing about.

The recognition Award for BTEC Sports Coaching and Development this term goes to Sam Knock for a superb performance throughout the year in his practical coaching, as well as academic assignment tasks. Sam has also spent time working towards gaining his UEFA C Grade Football Coaching Award alongside his BTEC Studies.



Ali Rowsell
Head of Physical Education

HOME ECONOMICS

BTEC Level 2 in Cooking Skills:

Pupils completed their final practical assessment making a two course meal suitable for a friend's birthday party. The assessment tested pupils on their nutritional knowledge and thought for economy and sustainability when choosing dishes. They were expected to complete a timeplan of the assessment dovetailing the two dishes together and including any specific points relating to hygiene and safety. Pupils were then tested on their use of skills and execution of the dishes as well as the overall aesthetics and taste. Well done to all pupils participating in the BTEC level 2 cooking skills course.



First Year pupils took part in an exploration curriculum day, creating a healthy energy packed muffin that would refuel the body after a long journey.

As part of their Futures Week, Lower Sixth pupils made a low cost, tasty and nutritious pasta dish. It was important for pupils to gain a deeper understanding that low cost does not mean reaching for cheap convenience food. A simple tasty dish can be created using a few ingredients.

Mary Leggett
Food and Nutrition Teacher

ARTS AWARD

Leona has been working hard on her Arts Award portfolio focusing on her work experience recently at the De La Warr Pavilion. Here, she did some volunteering work, collaborating alongside other industry professionals. Leona is working towards putting on her own Arts project next year, mainly to her tutor group, showcasing the work she has been doing exploring music production and creative songwriting, having originally been inspired by Mr Hopkins in our very own purpose-built recording and production studio.



Robert Scamardella
Director of Music

INQUIRY LEARNING

PSHE

As we approach the end of a busy academic year, we wanted to share some highlights from our PSHE (Personal, Social, Health, and Economic education) programme this summer term. Our pupils have engaged in a wide range of important topics designed to equip them with essential life skills and foster their personal development.

Key areas of focus have included:

- **Healthy Relationships:** Exploring themes of consent, respect, and communication within various relationships, both online and offline. This included a visit from East Sussex Sexual Health who led a drop in session at lunch time.

- **Mental Health and Wellbeing:** Discussing strategies for managing stress, promoting positive emotional health, and understanding where to seek support. Our Wellbeing Committee Prefect Team led an ice-bucket challenge, raising awareness and funds for Young Minds, the UK's leading mental health charity for young people.

- **Future Pathways:** Investigating career options, financial literacy, and the transition to further education or employment. Our Lower Sixth have begun their UCAS journey, with support from our Careers & Employability team.

- **Online Safety:** First Year & Lower Fifth have covered this in PSHE lessons, looking at reinforcing safe and responsible online behaviours, including digital citizenship and managing online risks.



We are incredibly proud of our pupils' mature and thoughtful contributions to these discussions. Their engagement in PSHE is vital in helping them navigate the challenges and opportunities of adolescence and prepare them for a successful future.

Pamela Nikiteas
Head of PSHE

EPQ AND HPQ

As the academic year draws to a close, we are immensely proud to see the culmination of months of dedicated research and hard work from our Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) pupils across both the Lower Fifth and Upper Sixth groups. These remarkable projects are now finalising, with pupils undertaking presentations to showcase their in-depth research, detailed write-ups, and insightful reflections on how their ideas have developed. The EPQ has provided an invaluable learning curve, with pupils mastering essential academic skills, from rigorous research methodologies and precise referencing to the crucial processes of drafting and redrafting their work to secure higher marks. This commitment to independent inquiry has led to the emergence of some truly fascinating projects this year, including Amirah Olorunnimbe's exploration of "To what extent does our mindset really affect recovery and pain relief?" Boris Bland embarked on an ambitious project: "To design and build an interactive 1/48 scale model of a B-17 bomber with the dual purpose of commemorating lives lost in WW2 Bomber missions as well as serving an educational purpose." George Smith critically examined: "To what extent do social pressures affect body image and mental health amongst male gym users?" Sophie Ray explored the nuanced topic: "How do genders differ in terms of their experience of anger and how might support need to be differentiated?" And Ayla Bond investigated a vital area: "People with Autism Spectrum Disorder are more likely to struggle in school? How far do I agree with this statement." These projects not only highlight the diverse interests of our pupils but also their exceptional ability to engage in sustained, high-level independent academic work.

Our pupils have truly excelled in their Higher Project Qualification (HPQ) endeavours. The majority of these fantastic investigations have now been filmed, showcasing the depth of their independent research. We have seen outstanding projects, including Beau Brosnan's insightful analysis of how Tony Blair and New Labour impacted the trajectory of the left-wing in British Politics, and Flora Mclachlan's creative pursuit to produce a visually and technically successful short stop-motion animation in the distinctive style of Laika Studios. Oliver West delved into the profound question: "Is it possible for human beings to ever go at the speed of light?", pushing the boundaries of scientific inquiry. Meanwhile, Zac Travers-Calvert investigated the compelling narrative of "The Fall and Rise of Brighton & Hove Albion Football Club – How did they bounce back from near dissolution?" Finally, Joseph Berry explored the vital question: "How Have Bees Been Beneficial to Civilisation?", highlighting the critical role of these pollinators. These projects are a testament to our pupils' exceptional dedication.

Georgina Wainwright
Head of Inquiry Learning

INQUIRY LEARNING

SPORTS LEADERS

What an incredible second year for our Level 3 Sports Leadership Award! Our six leaders – Freddie Lee, Joe Whelan, George Davenport, Fraser Caffyn, Harry Clifford, and Alhan Hussain – have been nothing short of exceptional, showcasing consistent dedication throughout the year. Their achievements include skillfully organising numerous sports events, including swimming galas, fun swimming festival games, and mini water polo sessions for local primary schools. They successfully raised awareness of Comic Relief by orchestrating the “Giggle Games” for over 90 Year 4 primary school children and continuously developing their own leadership and coaching skills while actively supporting school-run sports events. A true highlight was their work delivering Walking Football and Curling for our “young at heart” groups. Their empathy, patience, and understanding in bridging generations were truly special, creating unique opportunities for wisdom, knowledge, and life stories to be shared. A huge congratulations to each of you! It has been an absolute pleasure



working with such a tremendous group, and the special memories and experiences created this year have been thoroughly enjoyable for everyone involved.

Mrs Merchant
Physical Education Teacher

LANGUAGES

MFL

This year, some talented language pupils in French and German took part in the Anthea Bell Prize for young translators under the guidance of Mrs Bonheur and Ms Ray. This is a national translation competition run by the Queen's College Translation Exchange at the University of Oxford.

We are very proud of all our pupils but must highlight how well our wonderful Lower Fifth pupil Missy Martin- Jenkins did as she received a Commendation for her French to English translation.

This is a huge achievement as this year over 22,000 pupils across the UK took part and 5,000 entries were submitted. Entries were judged by professional literary translators and Modern Languages pupils at the university of Oxford.

Commended and winning entries showed an impressive balance of accuracy and creativity, and this year the judges remarked on the extremely high standard and how challenging it was to select winners and commendations.

Congratulations to Missy on her extraordinary achievement.

Other participants received a certificate :

Ona Onofeghara

Jo Berry

Charlie Crane

Noa Moreno Berrocal

Veronique Ganivet
Head of Modern Foreign Languages

BELLE THE FACULTY CAT

A very vocal mascot for the Faculty, Belle (aka Josephine Baker), has made the overgrown outdoor areas around the Language Faculty huts her very own prowling ground. A well-travelled and versatile feline, Belle has risen from her humble beginnings as an abandoned kitten in a bin in Dubai to the elevated status of queen of all she surveys around the ST rooms. She communicates her needs and feelings with shrill and insistent intonations, conducts tours of inspection of the English office and adjacent classrooms, demands - or repels - strokes from pupils and staff alike; and has even come close to upending our esteemed Head of Faculty - who shows a degree of defensive reticence in Belle's haughty presence. We are usefully reminded of TS Eliot's abiding classic *The Possum's Book of Practical Cats*; and more recent references brought to mind include Hiro Arikawa's *The Travelling Cat Chronicles*. And as if this weren't gift enough, numerous health institutions extol the benefits of cats in helping

pupils to study, such as in *The Power of Pets* article (Feb 2018) by News in Health magazine. Belle will be shortlisted for a Faculty Laudation for her continued services, and we all feel sincere respect for her contributions to Faculty quality of life.



Jane Savage
Assistant to the Head of Faculty

ECO-WRITING COMPETITION

The English Department whole Trust annual Spring Eco-writing competition ran this year with a healthy number of entries from pupils ranging from Year 6 right the way to Year 13. Pupils chose from a range of current and topical environmentally relevant questions devised by Mr Slinger, one of the Bede's Eco Ambassadors. Entries demonstrated a wealth of passion and opinion among the pupil body, as well as some truly excellent and compelling persuasive writing of different styles. This competition has a strong cross-curricular element, encouraging excellence and facility in English Language as it is needed to articulate knowledge in other subjects - in this case the Sciences, social science, and political and social ethics. Winners and runners up of the competition will enjoy an inspiring and instructive day out at the Knepp estate, and learn about rewilding.

Jane Savage
Assistant to the Head of Faculty

LANGUAGES

COMPETITION WINNERS DAY OUT AT THE KNEPP ESTATE

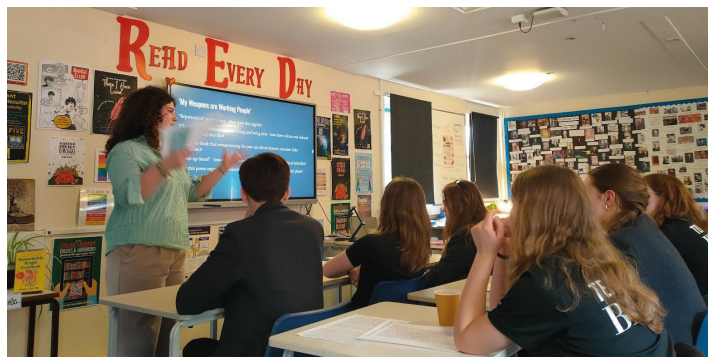
To reward the top seventeen winners and runners up from the eco-writing competition, and to provide them with a unique enrichment opportunity, the English Department laid on a day trip on Tuesday 29th April to the wonderful Knepp Estate in West Sussex. Author of the award-winning non-fiction publication *Wilding*, Isabella Tree and her team have, over a number of years, managed a unique and innovative rewilding project at their rural estate in West Sussex. The site is an education for all, and brimming with inspiration for enthusiastic nature writers. Bede's writing competition winners from both the Prep and Senior Schools converged at Knepp to share a day of walking, pausing and observing, creative and descriptive writing, and exploring and considering the great nature writing of classic and contemporary authors. It was a genuinely wondrous day as stalks flew overhead, the calls of cuckoos and nightingales filled the air, and the sun shone perfectly on a riot of natural abundance. A uniquely Bede's day.



LIT ACADEMY

We couldn't have had a better crescendo for the Lit Academy than Year 13 English Literature pupil Zoe Whittington presenting 'Steinbeck and feminism; Anaxagoras and post-colonialism'. All present - both teachers and pupils from across the year groups - were stunned by Zoe's accomplished, knowledgeable and grown-up presentation of complex material, balanced with such a friendly and accessible manner. Humbling for teachers; and an invaluable demonstration of a standard to pupils in the younger years. What a great example of pupils inspiring and influencing each other. So much so that fellow Year 13 pupil Holly Hamilton-Andrews felt inspired to volunteer to present, and on 13th May, the day before she sat an A Level English paper, a thoroughly prepared and sophisticated delivery on Post-colonialism: Derek Walcott; Eco-criticism: *Frankenstein*. The audience of 17 pupils and 4 staff were responsive and appreciative, and Holly particularly inspired a group of First Year and Lower Fifth female pupils who seemed to identify with her: what a fantastic encouragement, and something the teachers simply cannot provide. To arrive back after the May half term to Joe Curtis' professional and energetic exploration of Dickens revisited, 'Copperfield vs Copperhead - why do we remix Dickens?', was, however, pure joy. Mr Curtis' Southern States accent was a highlight!

Our final session saw our brilliant young pupils presenting their own chosen texts, and we had such an inspiring range: Max Lowton presented on Oliver Sacks' seminal work *The Man Who Mistook His Wife for a Hat*, Toby Cutler read Shelley and Poe, Joseph Berry looked at street murals inspired by classical music, Nithil Liyanage explored Sri Lankan proverbs, Immy Oscruff read a series of nature poems, and Miranda Johnson gave a stunning presentation on Bram Stoker's *Dracula* as a Queer text. It was a wonderful end to the term, and we can't wait for more sessions in the next academic year!



Jane Savage
Assistant to the Head of Faculty

LANGUAGES

TRIP TO CHARLESTON LITERARY FESTIVAL EVENT

“At Charleston, where Bloomsbury’s spirit still whispers through the gardens and halls, the literary festival is a vibrant testament to the enduring power of words, a place where ideas bloom anew each year, inspiring minds and enriching souls.” - these are the powerful words of Year 12 pupil Archie Mustarde in response to our sixth form enrichment trip to the Charleston Literary Festival. Miss Arduino, Mr Cheshire and Dr Savage accompanied sixteen Year 12 English Literature pupils on what was for some their first visit to the ‘home of Modernism in Britain’. We wandered the grounds taking in the legacy of thinking and creating that bursts from the artists’ garden and buildings. We perused the sublime City Books festival book stall; and many of the pupils took advantage of their free pupil entry to the art gallery: “I saw a Van Gogh!” were the excited words of one of our number. All that, before the event we had tickets for, ‘Fragments of Self’, sandwiched between Sherry Booth and Maggie Hambling: not often you can claim that! ‘Fragments of Self’ comprised authors Eimear McBride and Zoe Williams in conversation with actor Denise Gough. It was extraordinary! Our silently enthralled Year 12 pupils had their minds truly expanded way beyond the classroom and are left with excited impressions of expanded boundaries in interpreting notions of ‘self’ in a wild array of literary experimentation. Brilliant!



Jane Savage
Assistant to the Head of Faculty

HALF TERM FACULTY LAUDATIONS

25 pupils from across the Languages Faculty who have performed exceptionally well and been put forward by their teachers for their efforts gathered in the Old Dining Room, with their tutors and Faculty Head Mr Oliver, to receive their accolades. The pupils enjoyed refreshments, and the event was elevated by a live jazz trio of talented pupils Jack Tyrrell, Finn Leatherdale and Patrick Rodohan.

Jane Savage
Assistant to the Head of Faculty

PRE-SIXTH PUPILS HOST INTERNATIONAL CULINARY EVENT

Ten Pre-Sixth pupils, hailing from Mexico, Spain, the Maldives, Germany, and Bermuda, recently gathered for an international cooking event, sharing flavours from their home countries. This initiative aims to foster cultural exchange and provide pupils with an opportunity to showcase their culinary heritage.

This week’s event featured a vibrant menu prepared by our Mexican and Spanish pupils. They collaborated to create a feast that included Carne Asada Tacos, fresh Guacamole, zesty Pico de Gallo, and a traditional Spanish Tortilla. All pupils present actively participated in both the preparation and enjoyment of the meal, which was enthusiastically received.

The dishes were a resounding success, highlighting the rich culinary traditions of Mexico and Spain. The event underscored the value of hands-on cultural learning and delicious food in bringing people together.



Jason Cook
Head of EAL

LIBRARY

The library now has a snazzy new webpage and blog, so if you want to know more about what the library offers, find out what we've been up to recently, or get some reading inspiration, why not take a look and follow the blog? www.bedes.org/senior/academic/library

READING CORNERS

Miss Evans and Miss Arduino are continuing in their quest to bring reading to the masses by creating reading corners around the school. Their latest project has been for Knights House, who now have this shiny new book nook and a fabulous selection of books.

Pupils have also been enjoying the reading corner in Miss Arduino's classroom. The library subscribes to the Happy Newspaper and this term was lucky enough to win 10 extra copies - they're the perfect antidote to a stressful day.



BRILLIANT BOOKS AND BISCUITS

The BB&B activity continues to go from strength to strength, we had a whopping 22 participants over the last term and read three excellent books together: Little Bang by Kelly McCaughrain, Demon Road by Derek Landy, and Play by Luke Palmer. We were also part of a candid photo shoot, as we're to be included in an upcoming issue of Sussex Life magazine!



BEDE'S COMMUNITY BOOK CLUB

The penultimate week of term saw the final BCBC meeting for this school year. We've been so pleased with the response to this reading group and look forward to welcoming new and established members again next term. This year we've read six books together, the majority of which have been enjoyed by everyone (there were a couple that were a bit 'Marmite-y'!)

BCBC is open to everyone in the school community, including family members, guardians and carers, as well as older pupils and staff - if you'd like to join us next year, please email sarah.evans@bedes.org for more information. And in case you'd like some reading ideas for the summer, these are the books we read this year:

- The Storied Life of A J Fikry by Gabrielle Zevin
- The House in the Cerulean Sea by T J Klune
- Remarkably Bright Creatures by Shelby Van Pelt
- Juliet, Naked by Nick Hornby
- The Reader on the 6.27 by Jean-Paul Didierlaurent
- Chocolat by Joanne Harris

Sarah Evans
Librarian

BEDE'S

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Upper Dicker, Hailsham
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bedes.org

GET TO KNOW THE BEDE'S COMMUNITY

We have interviewed one member of staff and one pupil to encourage us to get to know each other... First up is Sophie Beck!

Which year are you in and what are you studying at Bede's?

I am currently in the Lower Sixth and I am studying Psychology, Philosophy and BTEC Sport.

What do you consider your greatest achievement?

My greatest sporting achievement is having been selected for the Southern Vipers EPP (Emerging Players Programme). I am proud to be a school prefect here at Bede's and a leading ambassador for Her Voice at Bede's.

What do you consider your greatest disappointment?

I would say that my greatest disappointment would be not getting selected for the Southern Vipers EPP in my first trial. However, I went back the year after to trial again and was successful. In hindsight, this taught me resilience and perseverance.

Which era in history would you most like to have lived through and why?

I would have loved to have lived in the Tudor era as this is a time in history that particularly fascinates me.

Which places in the world are on your bucket list?

New York, Australia, Maldives, South Africa.

What is the most beautiful place you have seen?

Koh Kood, an island in Thailand.



Who are your ideal dinner guests?

My Grandpa, Jack Whitehall, Freddie Flintoff, Lauren Bell, Queen Elizabeth I and Mother Teresa.

What songs would you pick on Desert Island Discs?

Iris - Goo Goo Dolls
Fix You - Coldplay
Silver Springs - Fleetwood Mac

What song is your greatest guilty pleasure?

Any Disney song or from The Greatest Showman.

What was the last book that you read that was so good you didn't want to finish it?
Our House by Louise Candlish.

What is your favourite restaurant or pub?

Pomodoro e Mozzarella and The Lazy Fox pub.

Best advice you have ever been given?

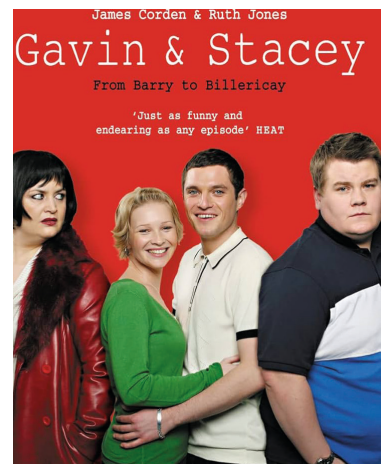
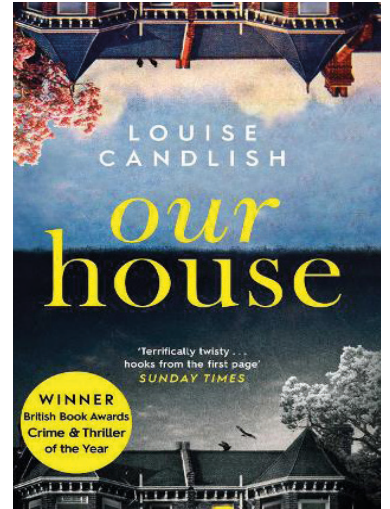
Be kind and be yourself.

Favourite TV show?

Gavin and Stacey

Favourite film or TV character?

The cast of Gavin and Stacey (can't choose just one)!



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GET TO KNOW THE BEDE'S COMMUNITY

Next up is Luke Davies...

What is your role at Bede's?

I am the Resident Tutor in Camberlot House and I am a teacher of History and Classics.



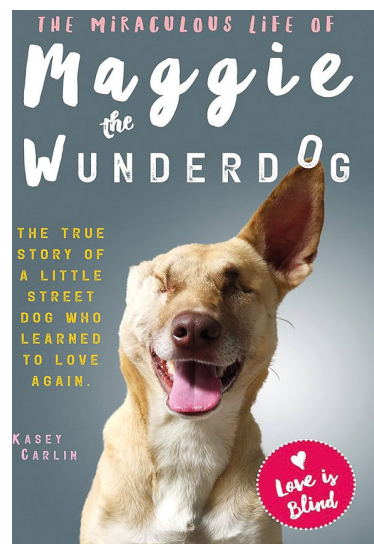
Tell us a bit about where

you're from, your education journey, your career past etc.?

I am originally from Northumberland but completed my History degree at the University of Sussex. I completed my PGCE at Newcastle University and returned to the south to begin my career at Bede's. I have also been a part-time dog sitter since 2018 and I enjoy looking after dogs during the school holidays.

Who are your ideal dinner guests?

This is always a question that a history teacher struggles to answer. However, I would like to dine with Robert Smalls, Amelia Earhart, Nelson Mandela, Rosa Parks, Franklin D Roosevelt and Olga of Kiev.



Is there a book that has changed your life/way of thinking?

After reading 'The Miraculous Life of Magge the Wunderdog', I realised that I should never take life for granted. After being abused in Lebanon, Maggie has since become a therapy dog who shares her love for all with children, hospital patients and care home residents. After learning Maggie's story, I was blown away by how she was able to still demonstrate love after experiencing such awful treatment.

How do you relax?

I have recently taken up kayaking as a new hobby to get me out and about exploring Sussex's waterways. I also enjoy building LEGO, hiking, swimming and reading.

Best advice you have ever been given?

This too shall pass.

You feel bad right now? You feel angry or upset? This too shall pass.

You feel great right now? You feel you know all the answers? This too shall pass.

Time is your ally and, if nothing else, just wait.

What made you decide that Bede's was the place for you?

From my first visit to Bede's, I immediately felt a sense of belonging. The sense of community and camaraderie is present across the school site and I truly believe that every pupil will have the opportunity to thrive in their specialism whether that be academics, sport, performing arts or something else.

What would you be doing as a career if you weren't at Bede's?

Before deciding on teaching, I considered law so most likely, I would be practicing law with the goal of becoming a prosecutor.

What piece of advice would you give to today's teenagers?

Look up. Take in the moment. You never know what the next day will bring so take in the world around you. Everyday there will be a sunrise and sunset so focus on the constant and the unpredictable will get easier.

If you could be Prime Minister for a day what is the first thing you do - in an education context?

The first thing I would do is increase the mental health support provision for schools - mental health training, support teams and links with NHS support.

SPORT

BOYS' CRICKET

The 1st XI have had a very up and down season. We started the season really well winning 5 on the bounce but unfortunately couldn't keep that momentum going. We felt confident that we would progress to the semi finals of the Langdale Cup but losing poorly to Eastbourne and then Seaford meant we didn't qualify. We had a very competitive game against Eton but having bowled them out for 186 couldn't put enough partnerships together and frustratingly came up just short

It was great that we finished the season strongly with convincing victories against Ardingly and Eastbourne. Some notable performances from Rupert Anderson, Jack Coughlan and consistent runs from captain Zach Webb were the highlights of the season. But undoubtedly the most popular performance was the century by Toby Leonard



All players have at times put in some great performances and all have been committed to Bede's cricket for which I am very grateful.

The U14A team developed and improved throughout the season. They played 13 matches, winning eight, convincing wins against Hurst, Cranleigh, Eastbourne and Whitgift showed how strong they became. Also reaching the Semifinals of the Lords Taverners National County Cup and Holdsworth Cup was a terrific effort.

Outstanding individual performances from Zach Hockley scoring 100 V Christs hospital, Nithil Kongala Liyanage taking 5-3 meant two young cricketers on the Honours Board. Also consistent outstanding all-round performances from Angus Connolly and Fin Bremer made a very strong unit. All the players developed and improved throughout the season, especially the fielding and running between the wickets, two areas we also focus on as young cricketers.

A very successful season and a U14 squad that really worked hard, played for each other and enjoyed their cricket which made them a pleasure to coach.

Alan Wells and Neil Lenham
Director of Cricket and Cricket Coach

GIRLS' CRICKET

The girls have enjoyed the summer term's cricket provision and fixtures. The girls had a great pre-season Tour in Antigua in Feb half-term, and after 10 days of match play in Antigua, the girls were keen and eager for fixtures. The U17 squad enjoyed their successful run in the National Cup, losing to Bradfield in the quarter-finals, just missing out on Finals Day at Arundel. The U18 squad played well. The team and squad were frustratingly impacted by availability and exam timetables. The U15s have played numerous fixtures and progressed throughout the term. They are a super group and they will continue to improve. We have also enjoyed hosting some Sussex age group girls fixtures, and supported two local clubs.

Petch Lenham
Cricket Coach

SPORT

GIRLS' FOOTBALL



What an excellent summer term it's been for the Bede's U15 girls' football team! Their season culminated in a truly unforgettable experience: a thrilling appearance at the PlayStation Schools' Cup National Finals. This prestigious event took place at The Hawthorns stadium, the home of West Bromwich Albion, providing our U15 girls with the incredible opportunity to compete on a national stage. Playing in a professional football ground was undoubtedly a highlight and a moment they'll cherish.

While they were incredibly unlucky to lose a very close game in the national finals, their performance throughout the entire season has been nothing short of outstanding.

A huge thank you goes out to all the girls for their hard work and dedication across all three terms. We're especially grateful for the fantastic leadership shown

by Sadie Gregory, Issy Ranger, Auden Ruelle, Niyah Hawtrey, and Ife Owoigbe. We also extend our best wishes and to Iris Rouwen, Maddy Franks, and Daniela Cadaval Garci-Crespo as they leave us at the end of the season. They've all been an integral part of the Bede's football programme.

David Byrne
Director of Sport

TENNIS

This summer has been one of our most successful to date. Both our boys' and girls' U18 teams qualified for Nationals (1 of only 4 schools in the country to have both a boys' and a girls' team), beating Lancing and Eastbourne College on the way. Our U15 boys also qualified for the knock out stages of Nationals winning the Sussex division.

The girls have been on fire winning U14 Sussex Schools County Championships, U16 Sussex Schools Independent League. The boys teams were victorious (winners) in the U15, U16 and U18 Sussex Schools County Championships. Our U18 boys also won the Sussex Schools Independent League beating Eastbourne College.

Meanwhile our development players have had a busy term of competing against Lewes Old Grammar, Sevenoaks, Lancing, Ardingly and Eastbourne College. It is fair to say tennis is buzzing at Bede's and is the number 1 school to be at for tennis within Sussex.



Francesca Byrne
Head of Tennis

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SPORT

EQUESTRIAN



We have had a great term with the Bede's Equestrian team. We have been taking part in the National Schools Equestrian competitions to get the team qualified for the National Championships in October held at Addington Equestrian Centre. We have qualified in both the novice and intermediate classes so we will be preparing for these in October.

We also had a fantastic few days at the national finals at Hickstead in May. Chloe Bremer jumped a lovely quick round representing East Sussex. Bea Crawford also had a good day jumping a super round in the Arena Eventing class and finishing in the top 10!

We are now looking forward to the Championships in October.

Katy McKeogh
Equestrian Team Manager

ROUND THE HOUSES

This term has been short but action packed in **Stud House**. Where do I start? Two years ago we won the inaugural House Dance Competition, this year, with a daring interpretive dance routine, we await the results with bated breath. We also go into House Athletics as the reigning champions so we shall see if we improve on our haul from last year and if we retain the prestigious 'Tug of War' competition.

We've had lots of trips out this year to give the boys a treat. The Lower Sixth have been to the Plough for a 'pie and a pint' (alcohol permissions permitting!).



The Upper Sixth will be doing the same in the coming week. All of the boys will be involved in either Futures Week (Lower Sixth), enrichment days (First Year), or Sixth Form taster week (Lower Fifth), and obviously the Upper Sixth, Pre-Sixth and Upper Fifth slogged their way through the GCSE, BTEC, and A Level exams.



We said our usual sad goodbyes to the Upper Fifth, Pre-Sixth and Upper Sixth leavers (the Leaver's Ball was spectacular) but we also waved farewell to a few boys who were only here for a year. Our loss will be the gain of schools throughout Germany, Mexico and Spain. We will be waving goodbye to Ms Finat Duclos who has been a resident tutor in Stud for a number of years. Although we will miss her greatly, Laure will be ably replaced by Louise Lister, the Bede's Trust

Clinical Lead.

We at Stud wish all who are associated with the House a Happy Summer break and we look forward to the new academic year with new and returning pupils.

This has been another action pack and incredibly fun term in **Dorter House**



and even though the girls have been studying hard there has been lots of time for fun and friendships. The end of term concluded with House Athletics and House Comps where

Dorter girls were utterly incredible! However, the icing on the cake of a very successful Summer Term was Dorter House winning the House Dance competition for the second year running!

This term we have enjoyed a traditional afternoon tea; ice-cream evenings; fire pit and s'mores; Love Island viewing plus water fights and boarding-wide activities. This was all on top of the girls taking either their final exams for our Upper Fifth, Pre-Sixth and Upper Sixth or their end of year assessments. In addition to this we had pupils participating in Duke of Edinburgh expeditions; LAMDA awards; ballet exams and preparing for the end of year Legat show. What was lovely throughout this was watching everyone in house supporting one another and being the biggest cheerleaders.



One of Dorter's main social events this term was our Leavers' Afternoon Tea. This gave us the opportunity to say goodbye to our exceptional Upper Sixth girls and wish them well in the next stage of their lives. This year there was even a rap performed by two of our leavers which led to much laughter!

At this time of year, we have to say goodbye to some of our Dorter family. We have been incredibly honored to have all of these pupils in Dorter and we will miss all our leavers very much. We encourage all the Dorter family to stay in touch. The Dorter Team is so grateful to have been part of everyone's journey in Dorter and we wish all our pupils a fabulous summer!

It has been a fantastic Summer Term in **Camberlot House**! We have felt an incredible sense of community and positive spirit, combined with a sense of relief for all our pupils who sat internal and external exams - well done to all involved.

Our senior pupils enjoyed a range of special events, from the formal Leavers' Ball to the relaxed Upper Sixth Leavers' Barbecue and the dedicated Upper Fifth Leavers' Lunch - all with the aim to celebrate their contributions to the House and for those leaving to wish them well for future endeavours.



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ROUND THE HOUSES

Weekends were filled with informal fun activities, including games on the lawn and cosy evenings toasting marshmallows on the fire pit, creating memorable moments of togetherness.



House trips also provided fantastic opportunities for bonding across year groups, with the Lower Fifth heading to the bowling alley and both our First Year and Lower Sixth heading to Crazy Golf. This programme of social events, activities, and trips has strengthened bonds between Camberlot brothers and cultivated a vibrant and cohesive atmosphere, ensuring the “Camberlot spirit” shone bright at the end of a busy term.



What an exceptional term it has been for **Charleston House**. The warmer weather brought with it adventurous kayaking and paddleboarding sessions. It was inspiring to witness everyone developing new aquatic abilities, and a remarkable demonstration of courage was evident from all, with Ella, Sophie, and Jennifer particularly excelling in their daring on the water.

A fantastic new initiative, Friday afternoon gatherings with pizza and ice cream, was expertly orchestrated by our House prefects. This proved to be a resounding triumph, fostering a wonderful atmosphere for relaxation and camaraderie across the House.

The annual sports event showcased numerous impressive individual efforts across a variety of challenges. Bella deserves special acknowledgement for her outstanding House commitment, stepping forward to represent us in events that needed participants – her dedication was truly admirable. The day’s absolute peak moment was undoubtedly securing a decisive victory over Crossways in the final of the Tug of War!



Our involvement in the various inter-House challenges truly highlighted the collective determination within Charleston, with every pupil wholeheartedly dedicating themselves to achieving success for our community. The enthusiasm displayed by all was extraordinary.

The Legat performance, ‘A Moment in Time,’ presented at The Congress Theatre, featured an exhilarating display by our incredibly gifted dancers: Mia, Nina, Daisy, and Mimi. Their artistry and commitment added significant sparkle to the end-of-year showcase.

Our Sixth Form media pupils achieved great recognition at the Media Oscars, garnering many nominations and accolades! Georgie and Megan particularly captivated the audience with their remarkable creative projects, reflecting their dedication and flair.

Alongside these vibrant activities, our pupils diligently navigated their recent examinations, a substantial undertaking that they approached with focus and perseverance.

Finally, the Art Exhibition proudly displayed some magnificent creations by Flo and Daisy, underscoring their considerable talent. The term also culminated in a superb House collaboration: an entertaining and humorous musical video rendition of “We Will Rock You,” brilliantly brought to life by Massi and Jasmine.

It has been a genuine pleasure to witness such diverse talents flourish and such a strong sense of unity thrive within Charleston House this term. My sincere congratulations to everyone for their invaluable contributions!

It was another busy term for **Dicker House**. First, many congratulations to the Upper Sixth and Upper Fifth who rose brilliantly to the challenge of completing their public exams. Their positivity and determination was admirable. Thank you also for the considerate atmosphere created by the rest of the house.

This term we saw the official placement of George Davenport as our new Head of House, ably supported by his deputy Jack Coughlan. We thank Harry Burgum and James Berry for their amazing work in their roles as Head of House and Deputy. We wish George and Jack all the best in their new roles.



This time we also continued with our journey into what it means to show positive masculinity. The boys continued to make nominations for role models within our community. As well as these, the boys

ROUND THE HOUSES

made over three hundred gratitude nominations to those people who deserved their thanks. This was great to see.

Academically, we were once again the most successful boys' house in the school for effort grades; a remarkable twenty eight Dickerites achieved straight 4's for either classroom engagement, independent study, or both! This is over a third of the house! We are very proud of all of their efforts. Keep going everyone!

In cricket, we had no less than six members of the first eleven! Congratulations to Zach Webb, Toby Leonard, Jack Coughlan, Ben Dye, Rupert Anderson Holmes and Archie Hall. Congratulations to Toby Leonard in particular, who recently scored a century to get his name on our Bede's honours board.

In the Arts we were brilliantly represented in drama, music and performance by Will Dodsworth, Patrick Rodohan, Jack Tyrrell, Finn Leatherdale, Tom Lilley, Ben Mullis and Oscar Leatherdale.



On a sad note, we now say goodbye to our wonderful Upper Sixth who have been an outstanding year group. We wish you every success in the future and hope you will stay in touch guys. Thank you for all you have done for Dicker.

And so, the summer holiday beckons. Have a great break Dickerites. Thank you for the wonderful community that you are all such an important part of.

The pupils have shown true **Bloomsbury House** spirit this year with the utmost competitive edge in all the house competitions and events fighting for the top spot with just the summer house competitions to go.



We celebrated in style as a house for our formal dinner and evensong in March, supporting our house charity Demelza and welcoming our new head of house Romilly Smith and our deputy Erin White. Joining

them in school and house prefectship too Corinna Noon, and house prefects Lily Flammen and Cordelia Farhey. The five of them have already led superbly, championing house competitions and being an

advocate of people voice.

We've enjoyed many socials this year along with parent and pupil clay night, pizza evenings and our paddle boarding trip in June (where we managed to choose the day it rained) but still the pupils had good fun as we kayaked up and down the cuckmere river.

The house has excelled academically this year celebrating many achievements with hundreds of merits being earned along with many distinctions and fortnightly ovations for those people who have really deserve recognition for their continued effort and house spirit. It's been lovely to see all their achievements.

The house has had representatives in all manner of extracurricular from MUN debating to the junior play to music recitals, the Legat showcase, cabaret and many many sports teams including first team hockey cricket, netball, football and tennis.

The house has continued to work together with tutors on hand for support daily. I would like to take the opportunity here to thank the tutors for their ongoing hard work. The house would not be the same without them and they truly care for their pupils in their tutor groups and the house.

As the year draws to a close it's with much pride, and a little sadness, that we say goodbye to the current Upper Sixth. I feel a little bit like a parent as they fly the nest but I know they were going to do amazing things and I look forward to hearing stories of veterinary practice, teaching, midwifery and many other exciting opportunities that are going to come their way. They have been a truly special bunch who are Blooms to the core and really care. Their kindness is far reaching and they have led the house brilliantly. I know the Lower Sixth will step up into their shoes with pride. Wishing you all a wonderful summer.



The summer term saw the **Deis House** charity week, alongside having had a visit to our selected charity: the Chailey Heritage foundation at the end of the previous term.



ROUND THE HOUSES



We had a tuck shop every breaktime for the week which was very popular, and baked goods brought in by some of our boys. Our pupils also engaged brilliantly with the car wash.

There was also a major resurgence of our Deis Active fundraising, which encouraged pupils to develop their independence in deciding how they would raise money.

On top of this, through the term our prefects took it upon themselves to run a pool competition in addition to the Fifa run last term. The innovation and effort of our team and the contributions and generosity of all the boys in the house raised a grand total of just over a thousand pounds for Chailey, so a brilliant total and a solid improvement on last year.

In terms of house competitions, it is very tight at the top, with our latest effort being a submission of our House Dance competition entry on the song "I Want to Break Free". Therefore, there is everything to play for in the last round of Athletics and Summer House Competitions in general – fingers crossed!

As the school year draws to a close, we look back with immense pride on a truly buzzing term in **Dorms House**. The energy within the house has kept going through the exam season. We even managed to quell a mini-heatwave with exhilarating Slip-n-Slide sessions and spirited water polo matches, turning warm afternoons into refreshing fun. Weekends have been filled with the aroma of BBQs and the delight of Nacho and Sushi making sessions, made all the more special by the new impromptu Dorms Cricket Pitch set up right outside our front door!

Our new motto, "Many Cultures, One Community," has been truly embedded and embodied by the incredible camaraderie I've witnessed among the boys. Our house competitions and athletics have been a testament to this with the superb support and team spirit being shown. I saw pupils that I never thought I would see in athletics giving their all and being cheered on by the Dorms cowbells. Angus showed immense range, playing in the cricket match and performing drama battle. I was personally grateful



for the sympathetic support shown to me after my performance in the staff/pupils 100m relay.

Of course, it hasn't been all play. Our GCSE and A-level pupils navigated their exams with impressive

resilience and focus, with makeshift revision encampments being set up in various breakout rooms, showing their dedication. Their commitment has been inspiring, and we eagerly await the excellent results they so richly deserve in August.

As we bid farewell to another remarkable year in Dorms, we hold onto the memories created. To those of you leaving for adventures further afield I wish you all the best and look forward to your return with tales to tell. I extend my warmest wishes for a joyful and relaxing summer to all Dorms pupils and their families.

The **Knights** boys have packed an awful lot into this Summer Term.

The final week brought Sports Day and House competitions and Oscar Bover and Sam Philipson impressed with their organisation skills. Particular mention should go to Patrick McGiveny Greenslade who volunteered to run in many of the races, contributing a huge amount of points.



The cricket team performed well thanks to the bowling of Beau Mills Bennison, the darts was dominated by Phoenix Holland and Freddie Hancox played in both senior and junior tennis. The quiz team of Bertie Williams, Ben Gregory, Tom Reynolds and Spencer Garman brushed aside the opposition with their knowledge of the 10 most southerly UK cities.

We also enjoyed a fabulous formal dinner this term. Dylan Sudan's speech was a real standout moment and there were some impressive musical contributions from Charlie Osmond and Max Lowton. The night concluded with the much-anticipated Darts Final which was a thrilling



contest between Ryan Daunt and Harvey Boddy. Congratulations to Harvey for emerging the champion. The evening was a genuine celebration of individual and collective courage, spirit and personal development.

Knights pupils with some help from other houses also volunteered to help a charity with the kitchen service at our local Bluebell walk. The funds raised from the event are hugely important to a wide range of charities. Sam Philipson, Ned Marsh and George Lythgoe become Kitchen porters for the day. Well done to Archie White who completed a sponsored 60 mile walk for Cancer Research and to Dylan Sudan who ran the Brighton Marathon, raising a significant amount of money for charity.

At the start of every year we welcome new faces to **Crossways** and the end of year seems untouchable, but all of a sudden we are here again, reflecting on another super year in Crossways and the time spent here making friends and memories.

We say farewell to three in particular: Ella Gostling, Pame Mariscal and Mrs Nikiteas. Ella has been here since the first year and is very much part of the Crossways furniture. She will be sorely missed and we thank her for her wonderful humour, sharp wit and always being at the heart of Crossways. Pame has been a star on the stage! Her presence over the past two years has lit up - and won us - House Music, Legat Shows, Drama productions and our own formal dinners, you are a star Pame and we look forward to seeing your name up in lights on Broadway! Lastly, but by no means least, Pam Nikiteas, treasured tutor to the Upper Fifth this year who are eternally indebted to her for her meticulous and inspiring care. You leave a huge gap Mrs Nikiteas, Crossways will miss you dearly. And to all our other leavers this year, Good Luck! Notably, Margot, last year's Head of House has been here through both the prep school and Senior School, so has Bede's in her blood! You have all brought so much joy and smiles to Crossways. Remember that in Crossways our values are: We all belong, we all make brave decisions (and some slightly less wise ones but we learn from them all) live through our friendships... and in your journeys and new chapters going forward please make a positive impact on the world.

Flo, our Head of House, has been a brilliant leader, representing Crossways at school committees and on the team of School Prefects, you are fabulous Flo! And this term the prefects have launched their Wednesday evening activity program with great success. Morgan has led the way and activities have included dodgeball, rounders and bingo... everyone takes part bringing year groups together which has really brought the house together. These will continue every Wednesday next term and all are invited, day boarders are encouraged to join in too! We also had great fun on the Slip n Slide with Dorms, when we also played football and frisbee.

The whole house had great fun planning and filming the house dance this term. A key team of prefects including Izzy, Amelia Stones and Emilia McLelland all helped bring the fantastic dance together - we were particularly proud of the dancing glow sticks and think we should have one just for that! We await the results of

house competitions but were thankful to everyone who took part and competed for Crossways - well done to Nora who won the 100m (who knew she was so fast?!) and Nat and Noa who won the cookery competition!



Those taking exams this year have worked so hard. They were diligent and committed to achieving the best they possibly could and we really hope their amazing efforts will be rewarded in August. Our Upper Sixth are going on to different universities around the country and we wish them all the very best. We thank Auden in particular for her help with GCSE maths, sessions sometimes starting as early as 5.30am! As a result of their efforts which benefited the whole house this term, Auden and Morgan were awarded the Spirit of Crossways shield, awarded at the end of each term.



We wish everyone a really super summer. Keep in touch, take Crossways spirit with you and be the best you can as citizens who make lasting contributions to your communities.

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