

STAMFORD ENDOWED SCHOOLS

# STAMFORDIAN

2019



A YEAR OF STUDIES, SPORT, DRAMA, TEACHERS, STUDENTS, HOUSES AND COMMUNITY



## FROM THE STAMFORDIAN EDITORS

Welcome Stamfordians, to the fourth joint edition of the *Stamfordian* magazine. As the little-known Stamford School song goes:

*“...We maintain as age in wine improves its excellences. Rare virtue fills in every line, Schola Stamfordiensis”.*

Although these words may be unknown to many of us, it doesn't make them false or inaccurate. If anything, they are the complete opposite, as for this past year the students and staff across the Schools have been working excellently and have been full of virtues seldom found in today's world, in a whole host of activities and events. In this edition of the *Stamfordian* we hope to highlight that excellence.

This year has been an extraordinarily busy time for all students across the Schools. It has been an absolute pleasure hearing about everything that has gone on and the enthusiasm with which the students and staff have spoken about the past year. The *Stamfordian* spirit continues to flourish.

It is always striking to see how much effort is put in by all students and staff in order to run the Stamford Endowed Schools. It serves as a reminder to us to thank all staff across the Schools for the enormous amount of effort they put in to keep this place great.

Being part of the team behind the *Stamfordian* has been

enormous fun, especially when reminiscing about some of the amazing things we all did last year. Editing this year's magazine has been a great opportunity for all of us and has revealed a side of the school that we don't usually see. Being part of the editorial team is a great activity to get involved in; it has allowed us to use our creativity and imagination to edit the magazine which covers such a wide array of topics and events.

It has been an absolute pleasure to look back at all the wonderful things everyone got up to last year. This magazine hopes to celebrate all that we have done and how outstanding the students and staff are. We hope you enjoy reading and reminiscing about the past year, and we hope you all see how much we, as Stamfordians, accomplished. We can safely say that the lines of this publication are filled with virtue.

But, perhaps more importantly, we hope you all continue to strive for excellence.

*Christ us spede.*

Editorial Team:

**Tom Watson, Lottie Pike, Alex Large, Eloise Quetglas-Peach, Ben Pearson, Chloe Tinton, Maddie Brooks**

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## FROM THE **PRINCIPAL**

**W**hen you look back at our School magazines from yesteryear you get a flavour of all sorts of things. Some things are consistent – rugby, hockey, art, music, drama - but you often get a flavour from the Headteachers of issues in the wider world which they thought were important or vexatious.

I want to make historical note for future leaders of these great Schools that, at present, there is clearly a campaign in a sect of the Labour Party which would seek to disband and destroy independent schools such as ours. This isn't new: it is clear from reading John Rae's diary about his time as Headmaster in the '60s and '70s at Westminster School that this was an issue five decades ago. Private schools aren't about privilege; they are about doing the right things well, and they are, above all things, about aspiration. The aspiration of my colleagues, our parents and Stamfordian students. Every page of this tome is a record of all that is good and aspirational in the

Stamfordian. This aspiration will be replicated all over the world in other private schools, and demonstrated in every issue of their magazines.

In a recent lecture, James Tooley, Professor of Education at Buckingham University, observed that he has travelled all over the world looking at private schools. Even in the very worst slum in the Third World you will find private schools proliferate, charging the equivalent of £1 a month. The reason is that all parents, wherever they are and whatever their background, are aspirational for their children and will do what they can to ensure that they are given an environment in which to shine.

Well, so are we, and this is what we do. We have a wealth of record here and I am delighted to commend another vintage year of Stamford to you. We value, as ever, your support.

**MR W PHELAN**

FROM THE HEADS



**MR N GALLOP**  
STAMFORD SCHOOL  
HEADMASTER



**MRS V BUCKMAN**  
STAMFORD HIGH  
SCHOOL HEAD

**T**hese pages are filled with so many wonderful events – ones that will last in our collective memories for a lifetime. From dramatic productions of Shakespeare to sports tours to Scotland and the Southern Hemisphere, academic presentations, competitions, musical endeavours, charitable activities and close friendships – all have their place in reflecting a hugely enriching and unforgettable experience at the Schools.

Well done to the editorial team – as ever – who have worked extremely hard, and with great success, to capture surely one of the most enjoyable and diverse academic years.

Happy reading – happy memories!

**H**ow do you begin to summarise an academic year? Inevitably, a list of events and achievements cannot do justice to the hard work, commitment, dedication and energy that the students of Stamford High School have demonstrated over the last 12 months. From the keenly-fought House events, to the fixtures, the concerts, the plays, the commitment to CCF and Duke of Edinburgh programmes, the charitable fundraising, Challenge 7/8, the form and subject prizes, the merits won for academic success - every single member of the community has contributed something to the dynamic of the School.

For students from our leaving Year 13 to the newest and youngest member of Year 7, the School has been a hive of activity this year – and this publication can only be a snapshot of all that has happened. The Stamfordian Spirit is very much in evidence “within these walls of grey” and we produce down-to earth, motivated, passionate and creative young people. And everything achieved here propels our students to the wider world with all the skills to be a success; well done – we are so proud of you all.

*Christ us spede.*



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adjective: **relating  
to education  
and scholarship.**

# ACADEMIC



## 1532 SOCIETY

# Thought Provoking

SCHOLARS OF THE 1532 SOCIETY HAVE BEEN BUSIER THAN EVER OVER THE PAST YEAR.

It's been another busy year for Stamford School scholars, with the 1532 Society now meeting once a fortnight for all scholars from Year 7 to Year 12. All scholars from Year 10 upwards have a yearly interview to discuss their academic progress and co-curricular activities, as well as being given advice on A Level choices and higher education.

Year 12 meetings (which, with 30 scholars, are always crammed to the gunnels) started the year with a thought-provoking and very interactive presentation on 'The Oxbridge Brain' by flamboyant educational consultant George Casley. As the year has progressed, scholars have been introduced to critical thinking and how to write a personal statement, as well as being encouraged to get involved in co-curricular reading and to write for the SES blog.

As a means of developing their co-curricular reading, the group have enjoyed listening to some superb presentations from a number of scholars on well-researched topics, ranging from 'Can we stop the ageing process?' and lasers to global government and conspiracy theories.

Highlights of the Year 11 programme included a post-mocks visit to Christ's College, Cambridge, which has forged links with Lincolnshire schools. The group were treated to a huge lunch in the college buttery, a tour

of the college with current undergraduates and a very informative introduction to Oxbridge admissions and A Level choices by schools liaison officer Dr Mark King.

The boys also particularly enjoyed an enthusiastic talk from Year 12 scholar Oscar Dixon-Spain about his EPQ on antimicrobial resistance and the co-curricular reading and experience he has accumulated with a view to applying for a medical course. Year 10 members enjoyed presentations by OS Adam Cooper and Giorgio Rubbo, who shared their enthusiasm for their respective academic specialisms and inspired the boys to give their own presentations later in the year.

Year 9 members of the 1532 Society enjoyed a session on 'fake news' with Mr Mills and spent the spring term working on their individual projects. Several scholars created their own project title this year (in the style of an EPQ) and the results were fascinating. Topics included 'How and why does PTSD have an impact on the brain?', the positive aspects of autism, a WWI trench diorama, 'Is Vladimir Putin the sanest world leader today?' and 'How does language affect personality?'. In the summer term, the project prize winners relished the opportunity to present their projects at the scholars' assembly and to Year 7 and 8 society members.

Last but not least, the Year 7 and 8 scholars have enjoyed a varied programme, including activities to encourage creative and critical thinking; a harrowing talk about growing up in East Berlin by Mrs Chauvaux; a Russian decoding session; and talks by head boy Sam Brunswick, scholars' prefects Toby Rickett and Jacob Worthington, and the Year 9 scholars.

The younger scholars are always enthralled to hear about the academic enthusiasms of older Stamfordians and it's inspiring to see their genuine curiosity and the forest of hands that goes up to ask questions! They embody the spirit of what it means to be an academic scholar at Stamford.

**MRS K LEETCH, HEAD OF SCHOLARS**



## CHEMISTRY

## CSI Lincoln...

FORENSIC INVESTIGATION OF A CRIME AND A UNIVERSITY CHALLENGE AT THE YEAR 8 SALTERS' FESTIVAL OF CHEMISTRY.

A number of our most talented Year 8 chemists went to the University of Lincoln in May to participate in the Salters' Institute Festival of Chemistry. The students selected to attend were Rohan Alexander, Teddy Coen, Jake Doney, Freddie Hadfield, Luca Harrison, Alexander Lawrence, Felix Morgan and Louie Raybould.

On arrival, the students were briefed as to what activities they would be involved in. The morning session saw the students attempt to solve the Salters' Challenge, a forensic-style investigation using a variety of chemical techniques to find out who was responsible for a crime. The students had to work as a team, with no input from their teacher (we had to leave the laboratory!). I am delighted to report that the students completed the task to an excellent standard, with both teams working diligently and skilfully to present a set of results at the end of the two-hour session.

After lunch outside on the campus lawn, the students were introduced to the second task of the day: the University Challenge. The aim of this investigation was to use a range of chemicals to find out how many different colours could be made by mixing the chemicals in different ways. The students worked methodically and discovered they could make a wide range of colours from the powders and solutions they had been given.

The day concluded with a brief speech from the organisers and the prize-giving. The students were congratulated on their efforts and both the Salters' and university staff were extremely impressed with the quality of the practical work they had observed. To finish the day perfectly, the Stamford School team comprising Jake, Freddie, Luca and Louie were announced as runners-up in the first challenge of the day and received a goodie bag containing a variety of chemistry-related items.

We all thoroughly enjoyed it and I was truly impressed by the way they responded so well to the challenges set. Well done to all those involved!

**DR B SMART**

## CHEMISTRY

## Tablets and Tables

THE YEAR 9 SALTERS' FESTIVAL OF CHEMISTRY GAVE TALENTED SCIENTISTS THE CHANCE TO DISCOVER MORE ABOUT THE SUBJECT.

In March I had the opportunity to take a team of our most talented Year 9 chemists to the University of Cambridge to participate in the Salters' Institute Festival of Chemistry. The students selected to attend were Charlie Anslow, Caleb Jelf, Charlie McLaren and Henry Wharton.

On arrival, the students were welcomed and introduced. The morning session saw the students complete a practical session based on the synthesis of paracetamol, a long and complicated procedure which we usually undertake with A Level students. The students had to work as a team, with no input from their teacher, although they were assisted by postgraduate students from the university. I am delighted to report that the students completed the task successfully, and could honestly claim to have produced a sample of the compound.

After lunch, we were given a fascinating lecture by Dr Pete Wothers about Elements and the Periodic Table. We were treated to a demonstration of the reactions of a variety of unusual elements and given an insight into elements that we don't often have the chance to investigate.

At the end of the day, students were congratulated on their efforts. Both the Salters' staff and the university staff were extremely impressed with the quality of the practical work they had observed.

The students enjoyed the chance to use expensive and specialist equipment and it was a wonderful experience for them to be able to work in an undergraduate laboratory at the University of Cambridge for the day. Well done to all those involved!

**DR B SMART**



# Debating

## Junior Debating

SOME PERSUASIVE AND ERUDITE YOUNG TALENT JOINS THE DEBATING CLUB.

It's always exciting to see Lower School boys learning debating skills, and our Monday Debating Club has continued to flourish this year, with plenty of Year 7 and 8 boys giving their maiden speeches in weekly debates and receiving constructive feedback afterwards.

The Year 9 House competition reached new heights this year, with a superb final on the motion: 'This House would ban rugby as a school sport' between the winning House Radcliffe (Jamie Broom and Charles Anslow) and Exeter (Ellis Wren and Max Halden). Special thanks go to our seasoned judge, Rory Russell (OS 2017). The Colts' competition saw Brazenose (Harry Laventure and Oli Fraser) pitted against Exeter (Alex Timson and Rafa Parker-Humby), with Brazenose persuading judge Mrs Sharman that money doesn't bring happiness.

The inter-schools competition was an enjoyable event again this year, with Year 10/11 teams from Stamford, Oundle, Oakham and Uppingham vying for the Oswald Elliott Shield. Oli Fraser and Charlie Owen bagged us a place in the final, but, in spite of an outstanding performance by Kitty Henderson (and a strong showing by Breanna Tye who had stepped in at the last minute), Oundle were able to retain the shield for the third year in succession on the motion 'This House would not go to boarding school'.

**MRS K LEETCH**

## Senior Debating

ANOTHER YEAR OF HIGH QUALITY DEBATING.

This year saw another year of high-quality debating in the Sixth Form, especially in the House competition. As usual, there were two sets of debates which saw Ancaster take on Brazenose and Radcliffe against Exeter. After these two close debates came the grand final: Ancaster vs Exeter, debating the motion: 'Universities should not give unconditional offers'.

Judge Mr Chadwick gave the victory to Ancaster's Calum Fryatt and Hal York-Forward, due to their animated style and clear reasoning. Close in second place were Exeter's Freddie and Jack Pacey. Congratulations to all those who took part in the competition.

**TOM WATSON**



## Unsafe Space Debates

THE SIXTH FORM DEBATING SOCIETY DID NOT SHY AWAY FROM CONTROVERSIAL SUBJECTS.

This year, the Sixth Form Debating Society underwent a style change to directly challenge the idea of 'safe spaces', which are becoming common place at universities across the country. The aim was to debate topics which are often seen as controversial and taboo – as the only way to understand opinions that are completely different from your own is to debate and challenge them in a public forum.

The society believes that it is important to not only have an opinion on topical matters, but also to be able to challenge these opinions – we do not want Stamford to be an echo chamber, after all!

This year the society hosted multiple after-school debates across both schools, covering topics such as gender identification, the '#metoo' movement, political correctness and Shamima Begum. We have also put on a series of 'Question Time'-style debates, the highlight being lively discussions on school life, Donald Trump, Brexit and climate change in front of the whole Sixth Form. Thanks must go to all those who took part in that Question Time and to the countless other debaters who participated in the many unsafe space debates across the year.

The number of students interested in debating has risen steadily, and we are now often bombarded with topic suggestions and interest in what is to come. Thanks go to my fellow debating captains Oscar Dixon-Spain and Chloe Smyth, and to Mrs Leetch and Mrs Sharman for helping us organise the many debates over the year.

However, next year we plan on building upon the success of the unsafe space idea with a new range of topics covering international politics, social issues and controversial subjects. I encourage any member of Years 12 and 13 to not only watch, but to get involved in what is becoming the heart of Sixth Form life at Stamford.

**TOM WATSON**

## Friendly debates

POACHERS TURNED GAMEKEEPERS IN OUNDLE'S FRIENDLY DEBATES.

Recently Tom and I have both been to Oundle School as guest judges in a series of friendly debates including both Stamford School and Stamford High School teams. Using the knowledge we had acquired through debating, we flipped our usual role on its head and judged each and every speaker on their style, delivery, arguments, logic, structuring and teamwork.

It was hard work but very enjoyable, especially at the end when we gave advice on how to improve to all speakers and announced the winners. Overall it was a great experience and wonderful to see all the local schools participating for the benefit of each other's debating skills.

**OSCAR DIXON-SPAIN**

## Competitive Controversy

A BRILLIANT RUN SAW THE TEAM REACH THE ENGLISH-SPEAKING UNION SCHOOLS' MACE NATIONAL FINALS.

This year marked the second attempt for Tom Watson and I to beat the previous ESU Mace school debating record of reaching the regional final. We successfully reached it after navigating the first few rounds and faced Oundle as we opposed the motion 'This House would implement an upper rate of income tax of 70% on incomes over £5 million'.

It was a tough motion but we came out on top, earning the title of regional champions while being praised for our

clear delivery, well-reasoned logic and strong rebuttal. We then had a short few weeks to prepare for our appearance in the nationals, as one of the top 12 teams in the country, at Dartmouth House, London, headquarters of the ESU. We faced The Perse School in the semi-finals and, even though we did not make it to the final, it was an amazing experience.

Throughout my debating career, which started back in 2016 with house debating in Year 9, I have argued a lot of motions against a wide variety of people with different viewpoints, often arguing something I don't support. But out of all my experiences the most valuable have been with ESU.

The skills I have learned through debating and ESU will undoubtedly stay with me for the rest of my life and I can only thank the school and especially our mentor, Mrs Leetch, for allowing us to access such opportunities.

**OSCAR DIXON-SPAIN**

## Oswald Elliott Cup Charity Debate

A HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL AND LIVELY EVENING, RAISING MONEY FOR LOCAL CHARITY MINDSPACE.

On July 3rd, an inaugural charity debate was held in the Stamford High School Hall. The debate saw current students and debating captains, Oscar Dixon-Spain and Chloe Smyth, take on former debating captains, Giorgio Rubbo (OS 2016) and Daisy Jowers (OS 2018) on the motion: 'This House believes that today's teenagers are responsible for the current mental health crisis'.

The purpose of the debate, however, was not to see who should victoriously lift the Oswald Elliott Debating Cup, but rather to raise money for local mental health charity Mindspace and awareness of mental health issues as a whole. The evening drew in a large crowd and allowed us to raise £330 for the charity.

We were fortunate enough to be joined by the founder of Mindspace, Dr Dan Petrie, who not only adjudicated the debate – along with Mrs Sharman and Mrs Harte – but also gave us a brilliant overview of the vital work his charity does for the local community.

After Dr Petrie's talk, the debate began. After speeches from the main speakers, all of whom spoke brilliantly and passionately for their respective sides, there was a lively round of questions from the floor.

After the vote from the audience (who coincidentally agreed with the judge's decision) the adjudication panel gave their verdict. Head judge, Mrs Sharman, praised all the speakers but, by quoting Daisy's speech 'There has to be a winner', she gave the debate to the current students Oscar and Chloe.

Thanks must go to the speakers, especially to Old Stamfordians Giorgio and Daisy, to the judging panel, to Mrs Leetch for organising the evening and to Dr Petrie and his admirable charity.

We plan to make the Oswald Elliott Cup charity debate an annual competition between current students and Old Stamfordians, with the aim of supporting vital local charities and encouraging debate about topics that need to be aired and discussed.

**TOM WATSON**





## ENGLISH DEPARTMENT TRIP

# Bard Education

THE YEAR 7S LEARNED LOTS ABOUT SHAKESPEARE ON AN ENGLISH TRIP TO STRATFORD-UPON-AVON IN JUNE

## Shakespeare's Birthplace

The first stop on our journey through Stratford-upon-Avon was the Royal Shakespeare Company Theatre. We first watched a PowerPoint about who Shakespeare was and what he did in his life. We learned that he was a poet, playwright and actor. We also learnt some insults such as 'bull's pizzle', 'whoreson' and 'whoremonger', to name a few!

Shakespeare died on the same date he was born: April 23rd. His mother was called Mary Arden before she married John Shakespeare, who was a glover, and William had at least seven siblings. These included two older sisters named Joan and Judith, and three younger brothers named Gilbert, Richard, and Edmund. There was also an older sister who was born in 1558 but who died from the plague when she was just an infant.

There are some lost years in Shakespeare's life, one of which is the period from around 1585 until 1592.

We then went to visit Shakespeare's birthplace and learned that, when the babies were born, they would sleep in a cot until they were about three, and then they would go in a small bed that rolled out from underneath the parents' bed, and they would sleep on that. They could fit about three infants on that bed. When they turned five, they were given their own room.

After that we went to have lunch by the river. We bought ice creams and teased the geese by putting the ice creams into the water and then pulling them back when they tried to bite them.

LAITH NUSAIR-PALMER

## The RSC Workshop

The first thing we did when we arrived at Stratford-upon-Avon was to climb the steps of the RSC (the Royal Shakespeare Company). We climbed for what seemed like an eternity and was greeted at the top step by a lovely lounge area. But we barely had time to drop our



bags before we were whisked through a door which led to a drama room with a brilliant view of the lake and a Shakespeare boat, which was selling ice cream.

We were then told to warm up by playing some fun drama games before continuing on to the next thing. After a little while we got to my personal favourite part. We were told to perform the builders' play in 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'. It was hilarious and consisted of a moon jumping about everywhere and a lot of shouting of "trusty sword!" and people running into each other.

ARRAN McILFATRICK

In the workshop we were taught some different ways of articulating arguments by using some dialogue from 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'. The instructor also said that if you do a physical action such as a punch or a kick, on the end of each line in an argument, it would help you emphasise that word.

JAMES PLENDERLEITH

The workshop was wonderful. We learned a lot about the play and understanding Shakespearean language, words like "beauteous" and "lull'd". We learned that he also included lots of his poetry in his plays, in long speeches, before a character's death, and maybe even when they are plotting something.

We also did a quick shortened version of the mechanicals' play - also in 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'. The mechanicals' play is about a man called Pyramus and a woman called Thisbe, who are lovers, but they are separated by a wall with a little hole in it through which they talk.

JAMES SILCOCK

## Holy Trinity Church

After we had finished our drama workshop, we met up with the other groups and we walked past the river and along a gravel path into this enclosed park, where we sat down to eat packed lunches. After we had finished our lunches, we continued down the path towards the church where Shakespeare was buried.

Unfortunately, there was a choir practice on so we couldn't go inside, so we walked around its beautiful gardens. The church was magnificent and reached up high into the sky and it had amazing windows.

ALEX FARMER



## THEATRE

## An Inspector Calls: a review

ROBERT COUCHMAN REPORTS ON A VISIT TO CAMBRIDGE TO SEE J.B. PRIESTLEY'S CLASSIC PLAY.

On September 25th 2018, a group of English literature students from Years 10 and 11 travelled to Cambridge to see J.B. Priestley's *An Inspector Calls*.

To see the play on stage as opposed to on paper is vitally important for a student's understanding, and this excellent production surpassed all our expectations.

This was the second time I had seen this production of the play, and its attention to detail still shone through. One of the more cryptic features of the play was the wretched-looking children on stage alongside the major actors. They could be seen at various parts of the play fighting among themselves, peacefully watching the action and begging for help from the characters.

I particularly remembered the Inspector giving some change to a boy just before entering the Birlings' home, which is in line with the play's message about helping other members of society, and Sheila giving her silk gloves away about halfway through the play. The older Birlings, however, did not help the children (whom I believe to represent the general public).

The production even illustrated the difference between the generations in their attitudes to Edna, the maid. Mr and Mrs Birling were seen again and again getting annoyed by her, and I don't remember ever noticing them thanking her. On the other hand, the Inspector, Sheila and Eric were seen having conversations with Edna and thanking her while they weren't the centre of attention. This is part of Priestley's message about socialism, as Edna represented the ignored members of society who work to support the upper classes. The older generation ignored their work and largely appeared ungrateful, whereas the younger generation appreciated and helped them.

Most of the set consisted of a house with one room and a door leading offstage. The front walls of the house opened outwards to reveal the inside when the Inspector arrived, representing that the Birlings' secrets had been discovered.

Later on in the play, after the Inspector leaves, the house is damaged and partially collapses and debris is left over the stage. Although no actual reason is given for this, it's obvious that this represents the Birlings' way of life collapsing after the Inspector has undermined it.

This is a hugely entertaining production of the play, and I recommend it strongly. As well as being useful for studying the text, it made for a good night out.

ROBERT COUCHMAN

## CREATIVE WRITING

## A visit from Caroline Green

THE ACCLAIMED AUTHOR RAN WRITING WORKSHOPS AND EXPLAINED HOW TO BE A WRITER.

Caroline Green writes young adult fiction and has won numerous awards for her efforts. She started in journalism before turning back to writing stories, which she had done as a child, and so we were lucky to have her come to Stamford. Her first book, *Dark Ride*, won the RONA Young Adult Novel of the Year, and her career has continued onwards and upwards.

Caroline visited Stamford School in December 2018, and started off with a writing workshop for members of Book Group. She got the students working with prompts on fantasy genres, first with a dragon encounter and then a dystopian steampunk setting - an industrial rather than digital world, with airships and automatons. She helped develop stories and spark new ones, assisting with detailed description and story development, which we put up on the blog.

She gave a talk on her career and what made her strive to be an author, as well as how many times she had to try, fail and have another go, before her wonderful stories that we know and love were published. Caroline had loved writing growing up and it was a way for her to relax, which is why she persisted and strived for more. Walks with her family became elaborate stories in her head and she would rush home and get pen on paper, starting to develop the author mindset she has now.

Her latest series, *Cracks*, set in 2024, is about a boy who was in a coma imagining the first 12 years of his life. Cal wakes up to find a world completely different from what he is used to. Everything he knows turns out to be lies, and he is trying to find his parents and his home. His struggle takes him back to his old home and family. This dystopian novel is unique, and Caroline Green has done an amazing job of setting a scene and introducing memorable characters with clear traits and tendencies.

She also writes adult thrillers, like *The Women Next Door*, under the name Cass Green.

ANU MITCHELL



## LANGUAGES COMPETITION

# Selling Rice to the Spanish

THREE TEAMS HAD TO PRODUCE CAMPAIGNS AND TV ADVERTS, ALL IN DIFFERENT LANGUAGES.



In February, several schools participated in a Languages Competition at Oundle School. This competition involved teaming up with a company and creating an advert in a modern foreign language. This was both challenging and fun, and really put everyone's language skills to the test.

## Spanish

For the Spanish team we were lucky to be partnered with Mars Food. We were given the task of having to market Uncle Ben's in Spanish. We had to face the challenges of what the Spanish market prefer and how advertising is done there.

We were given a few minutes to ask about the brand, for example slogans, how they advertise and who their target audience is. Having taken this on board, we decided that the character of Uncle Ben should be played by Aaron Bird, as this was a key part of how Mars advertises.

After that, we were given a planning sheet and the roles we had to fill. For us, our director and group leader was Kitty Henderson.

As we planned as a group, Ellie Henry was collecting keywords that

would become important when we got to writing our script, which was a team effort. We were very quick with filming and this gave us time to work on our editing. We used iMovie to create our advert, which was a challenge in itself, but we had enough time to properly edit it.

During this time, the judges walked round and asked us questions about our presentation and film in Spanish. Next, we had to present our video in front of the judges and other teams, and also explain what we had learnt and the inspiration behind our advert, again, all in Spanish.

Eve McClarnon and Annabel Beaverstock did a brilliant job in writing a script for us all. As a team we showed good teamwork and this led to us winning the overall competition, with everyone putting in as much effort as they possibly could.

## German

In the German group we were partnered with a company called Bluepeg, which specialises in pop-up advertising like you would see at racing events and in the middle of cities. We were given some time to ask our company's representative about the type of products they make and what sort of audience they market to, which gave us an outline of how we should prepare our advertisement.

From here, Lea, Trinity and Zara got to work producing a script and a slogan for the advert, while James, Sinan and George collected footage for the video. After this we all recorded our lines, which had been masterfully translated by the girls, with some help from the teachers. Next, we had to edit the video and audio together using iMovie, which

was a painful experience finally figured out by James, with the editing only just getting done in time for our presentation.

However, before our presentation we had to answer some questions in German and talk about how we made the advert and what we all did, which we read off a script, once again made by the girls. After we presented, we all rated each others' presentations. Sadly, we didn't make the top two, but we worked really well as a team on what was a tricky brief.

## French

In the French team we were partnered with the Youth Sport Trust, which is a charity that brings significant people in sport to talk to students and run sport sessions with schools. We then met our business partner and had the opportunity to ask questions about the charity. We were then challenged with making an advertisement for this charity for a French audience. This change of language and culture meant we had to be conscious of the possibility that an effective advert in Britain could be received differently in France.

We then made this advertisement in iMovie, writing a script, filming and including statistics of relevant issues that the charity is aiming to solve. We also created a spoken presentation for before the video and filled in our planning sheet. We were asked questions in French by the judges who quizzed us on the message and creation of the advert. Our team didn't win, but Angharad received an award for being the best linguist out of all of the students on the day and we still had a great time being involved in this languages competition.

**THOMAS NEEDHAM**

## CHEMISTRY COMPETITION

## Pop quiz

WHAT'S IN THE DRINKS IRN-BRU AND SPRITE? OUR TEAMS WERE CHALLENGED WITH FINDING OUT.

In January 2019, six chemistry students from SES travelled to the University of Nottingham to take part in the regional round of the Royal Society of Chemistry's Schools Analyst Competition.

This is an annual event where teams of three Year 12 students are given a series of challenging experiments to carry out in the university laboratories. The participants must then record their results neatly and accurately, as their answer booklet is assessed along with a judgement of their performance on the day. The experiments are designed to flummox slightly at first, so the ability to follow instructions carefully and work as a team to interpret the results is vital!

The winners of this round will compete at the National Final in June, as per the victorious Stamford School team last year. This year, SES entered two teams: representing Stamford School were Grace Baldry, Tom Watson and Helena Millet and representing Stamford High School were Arun Anand, Charlotte Mason, and Jack Pacey.

The theme of the intensive three-hour lab session was to look at the chemical composition of two popular carbonated drinks: Irn-Bru and Sprite (although they were degassed for the experiments). The teams were given three tasks, to be distributed however the team wanted, and a booklet to fill in.

The first challenge, and the easiest of the three, was a titration involving degassed Sprite. The aim was to calculate the concentration of the citric acid in Sprite by neutralising a standard solution of sodium hydroxide. By doing the experiment multiple times, a mean volume required to neutralise the NaOH can be found, and this is then used to find its concentration.

The second task involved a technique called Thin-Layer Chromatography (TLC), which was to be used to identify if certain compounds were found in the samples of Irn-Bru or Sprite. Much like chromatography of dyes, TLC works by separating an organic layer inside one of the drinks into constituent parts, which rise with the solvent on the TLC paper.

The different compounds travel up the TLC plate at different rates, allowing them to separate out and to be compared to reference 'dots' from known compounds – it works exactly the same as 'normal' chromatography, but does require UV light - and occurs on a foil plate rather than simple filter paper. The TLC process took a long time, but by the end of the experiment we were able to find the chemical components that made up both.

The third task involved determining the iron content of Irn-Bru by colorimetric analysis. The spectrophotometer measured the absorbance of nine samples that we had to prepare (containing Irn-Bru and other chemicals), and the results were recorded. A calibration graph was plotted and corrected for the background absorbance of colouring material in the drink, using the appropriate blank reading. The concentration of iron in the Irn-Bru samples can be read off and corrected for dilutions to give the original concentration of iron in the drink. The concentration is determined by complexing iron with 1,10-phenanthroline.

The iron must first be reduced from its ferric (Fe<sup>3+</sup>) form to the ferrous (Fe<sup>2+</sup>) form with hydroxylamine, and then the complex between ferrous ion and 1,10-phenanthroline, which is red-orange in colour, can be formed, and its concentration found using colorimetry.

In all, it was an extremely stressful, but rewarding, day. Just being able to perform experiments in a £4 million university lab was a treat and it was brilliant to be treated to high-quality equipment and facilities. The SS Chemistry team was proud to come second in the competition.

**TOM WATSON, HELENA MILLET & GRACE BALDRY**





## ENGLISH LITERATURE

## A talk from Rob Worrall

THE LITERARY ENTHUSIAST MADE THE ARGUMENT FOR PROTO-FEMINISM IN CHAUCER AND WEBSTER.

This talk was a huge gallimaufry (a jumble or medley of things – a word we learnt on the day!) with Rob Worrall, a literary enthusiast and an old-school eccentric with a huge wealth of knowledge from his 30-year teaching career. In July 2019, he spoke to Year 12 English literature students about proto-feminist views in the works of both Geoffrey Chaucer and John Webster.

Rob presented insightful views on how he believed that Chaucer could possibly be regarded as a proto-feminist, with the creation of his strong female characters such as the Wife of Bath, and May and Proserpina, who constantly got what they wanted: five husbands, a scandalous romance, and the ability to grant the power to lie.

Is it possible to believe that, in a world of deep-rooted misogyny, a male writer could have been a proto-feminist? Anything is possible in the world of Chaucer: if a blind man (Januarie in *The Merchant's Tale*) can gain his sight back, Geoffrey Chaucer could have been a proto-feminist. Furthering this idea is the possibility that another proto-feminist could be hidden within literature. Could John Webster also share these views? He presents a strong duchess as the main character in his play *The Duchess of Malfi*, with this woman remaining strong and proud until the very end, and a character whom the audience certainly pities and sympathises with, rather than condemns.

Webster contrasts a strong duchess with her appalling brothers, who hide behind their wealth in world of corruption. Could it be a possibility that these two authors were what we would now term 'proto-feminists'? Both writers present women who are strong and capable and fiercely independent, and this could be easily be read as in keeping with present-day feminism.

The stimulating conversation then continued over a pizza and glasses of wine (the latter just for the teachers!), where we widened our questions to Shakespeare's *The Tempest* and debated which characters we thought had the most impact. Rob also recommended some books to us for a bit of light summer reading.

GRACE NEWTON

## PHYSICS

## Cracking Effort

STAMFORD HIGH SCHOOL'S DR PATCHETT ATTENDED THE INTERNATIONAL PHYSICS OLYMPIAD.

During the second week of July 2019, nearly 400 high school students from 80 countries took part in the 50th International Physics Olympiad, hosted this year in Tel Aviv, Israel. After two gruelling five-hour papers, one theory, the other practical, the student representatives of the UK were awarded three Silver medals and two Bronze.

Selected by national competition from across the country, these students are certainly very able young physicists, but tenacity and perseverance played a substantial part in their success; keeping going in the face of difficulty makes for medal winners.

Exams aside, while the team leaders discussed the problems and marked papers, students enjoyed plenty of opportunity to mix with their peers in a cultural programme exploring the history of the region, including visits to well known Biblical sites and the Dead Sea. The competition itself though it a for individuals, is not one marked by jealous rivalry but is characterised by a sense of common purpose. The spirited display of community so clearly on show during the closing ceremony and last-night party provided a very positive view of the future in these divided times.

Unusually for this event, there was one team competition here, a Safe Cracking Challenge, organised by the Weizmann Institute of Science. We are delighted to report that the teamwork and ingenuity of our UK representatives shone through and the team was placed first. We should add that this may not be an indication of likely career aspirations.

Most of the students at the competition in Tel Aviv will be starting their university careers this autumn, and how they were selected to represent their countries varies from place to place. Here, the British Physics Olympiad runs competitions for students in Year 10, Year 11, Year 12 and Year 13. These are unashamedly challenging, but students will learn much and feel significant reward in attempting and solving the problems successfully. If you are interested in taking part, please contact Dr Patchett or Mr Brace.

DR A PATCHETT



## PSYCHOLOGY

## Food for (a career in) Thought

A CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY TALK FROM PROFESSOR MICHAEL WANG PROVED INSPIRATIONAL.

In February, Professor Michael Wang visited the High School to talk to students about his career in clinical psychology, with a focus on Cognitive Behavioural Therapy. It was great to benefit from his vast knowledge on the subject and to learn what professional links he had.

Before retiring three years ago, he was the Director of the Doctorate in Clinical Psychology at University of Leicester, as well as working one day a week as a practising clinical psychologist, supporting patients with common mental health conditions. I particularly enjoyed his comments about neuropsychology, as that is the career I aspire to, and this was a special interest of Michael, as well as researching the problems that occur with anaesthesia.

As well as providing a lot of new information and advice for the future, the talk provided an opportunity to revise the history of psychological approaches and the key figures that we have already learnt about.

Professor Wang shared some important information on courses and salary if this is your chosen profession, which we are going

to share with you. To become a clinical psychologist you first do a bachelor's degree and then a three-year doctorate, and both have to be accredited by the British Psychological Society (BPS) and the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC). Most universities offer the courses separately; however, Hull and York have a six-year integrated programme, which makes the competition for placements lower. This was one of the main things we took from the talk and have since done future research around.

When in training, the yearly salary is around £26,000. Once fully-qualified this rises to £29,000 and consultants earn between £52,000 and £77,000. The competition for these university places is very high, with 3,500 applicants but only 650 places each year, spread across the 33 university courses.

Michael's advice was hugely appreciated, and we look forward to future talks, which we hope a lot more students will come to and enjoy.

ELLIE FOX-RICKETTS AND REBEKAH LEWIS



### Psychology trip: Brain Awareness at the University of Leicester

The Brain Awareness trip to the University of Leicester afforded the students the opportunity to experience undergraduate-level lectures and to experience a range of poster presentations, including the latest research on schizophrenia. They also enjoyed tracking their eye movements and seeing how this was captured using electrooculography.



**GEOGRAPHY LECTURE**

## The Application of Planning

A LOCAL COUNCILLOR EXPLAINED HOW DEVELOPMENTS GET APPROVED AND WHAT IS PLANNED FOR STAMFORD.

In June, the Year 12 geographers had a visit from Councillor David Taylor from the South Kesteven District Council. His very informative talk gave us an insight into the development of Stamford over the years, and what is going to happen in the future.

Councillor Taylor is part of the Local Planning Committee and has a say on what development occurs in and around Stamford. The role of the local community is essential when developing an area, as they have their own views and opinions on the changes. There was talk of the building of 48 new houses in an area, but the local community stood against this and prevented it from happening as it wasn't efficient.

He spoke about the different 'layers' that go into the development process. The neighbourhood plan (residents) are at the bottom, then the local plan (local councils) with the National Planning Policy (government) at the top.

Councillor Taylor showed us some of the survey questions and answers that residents in Stamford provided to give the council an overall opinion of the new developments and the town as a whole. The majority of people liked Stamford's architecture, location, the people and the independent shops. It was interesting to hear the things people disliked about the

town, which included parking, traffic and congestion.

These were also the main things that people wanted to be improved in the area, as well as more schools and shops. He mentioned that many residents wanted to protect Stamford's heritage and green spaces, which is understandable as they are a key part of Stamford's identity. A third of residents didn't want to see development as they were satisfied with the area as it is now, but, if there was to be development, affordable housing was a main incentive.

It was so interesting to hear about the new Stamford development which will be located to the north of the town with the development name 'Stamford North'. This new area will consist of new houses that will be designed to fit in with Stamford's Georgian-style houses, a leisure centre, a school, green spaces and transportation links leading straight into and around the town.

It will also incorporate sustainable energy sources into the design of the houses and meet high environmental standards. Between 2011-2036, 3,304 new houses have been or will be built around the Stamford North area and also throughout the town, which is quite a lot for a town like Stamford. The question is, will the community be happy with these huge changes?

**PAVEL GULIN ZRNIC AND GEORGINA KILBY**

**GEOGRAPHICAL ASSOCIATION LECTURES**

## How to survive a super typhoon

A LECTURE SERIES THAT HELPS A LEVEL STUDENTS DEVELOP THEIR GEOGRAPHICAL KNOWLEDGE.

As part of the Year 12 A Level course, the students had the opportunity to attend Geographical Association (GA) lectures at Bishop Grosseteste University.

One of the lectures early in the academic year focused on early warning systems to reduce the risks posed by natural hazards. Case studies occurring in 2018 talked about in this lecture included the Indonesian earthquake and tsunami, hurricane Florence and super typhoon Mangkhut in the Philippines.

The current ways in which authorities and the public communicate within countries prone to natural hazards were discussed, but also how risk communication can be improved by using new technology. Other lecture topics included the geopolitics of globalisation, education in the global south and the future activity of Iceland's volcanoes.

The GA lectures allowed the Year 12 students to gather extra information which other A Level students may not have to complement their studies and help to develop their understanding of the specification.

**ERIN BAKER**



**INTERNATIONAL SPACE CHALLENGE 2019**

## A Five Star Hotel Among the Stars

BUILD A HOTEL IN SPACE, AND DO IT SPEAKING SPANISH AND RUSSIAN? NO PROBLEM!

The challenge began with an early start from school. Fortunately, for us, the competition venue was just a short trip down the A1, but upon arrival, we realised that the competition was not short of competitors.

In total, there were 14 teams, each with five or six members, from schools some distance away. Already, our chances of victory were slim. The aim of the event was to introduce a cross-curricular activity which highlights the importance of science, but especially languages, in RAF careers. My team, 'Team Fourteen', specialised in Spanish, although we also had to contend with French, German and the other Spanish groups. At times, the room was full of a hubbub of languages, many of which I didn't have a clue about!

The challenge itself involved four parts. First, we had to create an initial design for a space hotel to compete with the Russian space programme, which is creating one right now. We had to complete a form showcasing our artistic skills, as we drew what we wished our hotel to look like.

We also had to calculate the cost of getting the craft into orbit. For that we had to work out the cost of materials used and estimate the mass of the ship. The second part involved making a 3D model out of craft materials such as tin foil, card and straws. In my opinion, this was the most challenging part because we were given a limited budget. On top of that, we had to order the materials in our specialised language - in our case, Spanish.

For the third part, we had to present our ideas in a short, rehearsed speech. In English, we each talked about the function and engineering of our space hotel. I felt that we had some key features which set our group apart from the others and felt confident. The final part was another short speech in front of a small panel of judges. This



presentation was about the marketing of our service. This time, we had to present in Spanish. It was challenging and tested the limits of our capabilities. At the end, it was hard to tell how well the talk had gone. Nevertheless, we remained positive.

The day out also included some other stimulating activities. We were all given a talk by Paul Hughes, an ex-RAF interpreter. I was interested to find out about how important it is for the RAF to have linguists: without them, it would struggle to function. We also took part in a space quiz, as well as receiving an introduction to the challenges of low-earth orbit. My favourite activity was a language taster in Russian. We learned how vital Russian is for an astronaut, as Russia is extremely important as it has innovative technology and important data that can help the world understand the secrets of the solar system.

At the end of the day, the winners were called. I was astonished to hear our team called out as the overall winners. Team Fourteen had beaten the odds and won the International Space Challenge! Our prize is a 'unique experience day' at an RAF airbase, and we all look forward to what is to come!

Overall, I, as well as everyone I talked to, really enjoyed the experience. It was educational but fun and really outlined the importance of languages. I would like to thank the staff for taking their time to bring us to the venue and for helping us with the vocabulary. I would also like to thank the team who organised this fun challenge. Finally, and arguably most importantly, I would like to thank my teammates for contributing and helping so well that it led to our victory!

**SAM BARWISE**





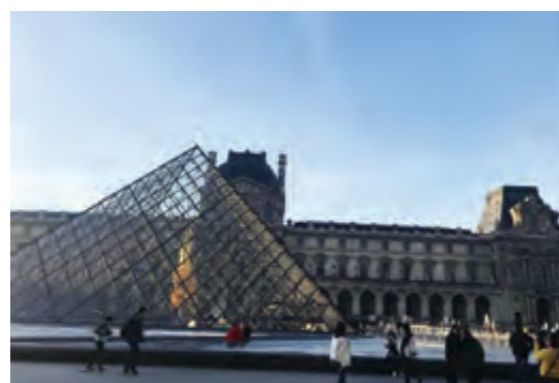
adjective: relating to or involving the use of the imagination or original ideas to create something.

# CREATIVE

ART DEPARTMENT

# Paris and painters

INSPIRING TRIPS AND FASCINATING VISITING ARTISTS HAVE HELPED DEVELOP OUR ARTISTS THIS YEAR.



The Art Departments at Stamford Endowed Schools undertook a wonderful range of trips and workshops this year. The Year 12 and 13 artists had the chance to undertake an educational trip to Paris during the February half-term 2019 and more than 30 A Level students and three teachers took part. The students were great company and seemed to thoroughly enjoy the very busy few days.

Activities included visiting the Eiffel Tower, The Louvre and the Musee d'Orsay, a boat trip on the River Seine, a visit to the Pompidou Centre, walking the steps of Sacré-Cœur and wandering around Île de la Cité and Notre Dame. A wonderful time was had by staff and students. The Art Department are already planning their next European visit...

In addition, there have been two trips to London. The first was for Year 11 and 13, to inspire their set task projects in February. The extensive exhibits housed at The National Gallery and Portrait Gallery really helped



to develop their ideas. In June, the Year 10 and Year 12 art students were joined by the art scholars to see the Royal Academy Summer Exhibition - an awe-inspiring and extensive show which highlights the talents of a wide range of artists, both professional and amateur, from across the country. There is truly something for every artistic taste at the Summer Exhibition and everyone, students and staff alike, came away inspired.

Local artist Alice Darkling came and delivered a superb workshop in January for the art scholars at SHS, introducing them to a range of effective techniques in watercolour and ink.

A Level students took advantage of the invaluable annual Life Drawing Saturday sessions in November, learning how to draw the human form with accuracy and detail.

The Royal Academy visited us at SHS in February, and A Level students spent a day working with artists learning how to work with a range of materials. It really challenged their approach to drawing and pushed them out of their comfort zones.

Finally, in July we celebrated the successes of the Year 13 students during the Annual Art Exhibition. This is always a wonderful evening where both students and their families get to view the achievements of their classmates and say a final farewell before they depart for pastures new.

Overall it has been an excellent year in the art departments, with students creating a wide range of engaging, thought-provoking and highly skilful work.

MISS H KENWORTHY



“STUDENTS HAVE CREATED A WIDE RANGE OF THOUGHT-PROVOKING, SKILLED WORK”



**SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**

# An outstanding orchestra

THRILLING PERFORMANCES AND WIDE VARIETY HAS RESULTED IN A STELLAR YEAR OF SYMPHONY.

The Symphony Orchestra has been flourishing in recent years and the 2018-19 academic year saw its continued development with some outstanding concert performances.

Dvorak's 'Slavonic Dance' opened the Autumn Concert in thrilling style, and gave the orchestra an opportunity to display a wide range of contrasting colours and dynamics. The orchestra worked hard in preparation for the main concert in May and gave a powerful and nuanced account of Mendelssohn's 'Hebrides Overture' alongside another composition inspired by the sea, 'Night Ferry'. Written by Anna Clyne in 2012, it depicts a ship in a stormy sea, and contains considerable rhythmic and textural complexities that really challenged the players' orchestral skills.

The orchestral concert programme also comprises the Chamber Orchestra, the senior orchestra at SES. This year Peter Warlock's 'Capriol Suite' and the famous 'Christmas Concerto' by Corelli formed the main repertoire for the Chamber Orchestra. Both are well known standard

repertoire and the students worked hard in rehearsal in order to perform both works in their entirety. With a small number of players in each section, all players really have to be on top of their parts to produce a quality performance and, as ever, the students rose to the challenge this year.

There is a busy programme of string chamber music at SES and the Year 12 String Chamber Ensembles rehearsed each week across the three schools. The boys and girls are encouraged to join these smaller groups from trios to quintets to develop other aspects of ensemble playing such as communication and playing without a conductor. Listening skills are developed further. All groups perform in the course of the year in a variety of concerts, including the strings lunchtime concerts, the SHS Music Festival and Concert Platforms, with the more advanced groups appearing in the Autumn and Summer Concerts.

**MR G TURNER**

**SINFONIETTA**

# From The Beatles to Beethoven

THE SINFONIETTA HAS PLAYED A VARIETY OF STYLES AND IN NUMEROUS CONCERTS OVER THE PAST YEAR.

The Sinfonietta orchestra combines Stamford High School and Stamford School musicians from Years 7 to 10 and meets for rehearsals on Wednesdays after school, in either the Oswald Elliott Hall or SHS Hall.

Sinfonietta performed in four concerts over the school year: the Autumn Soiree on November 14th; the Vox, Cantarini and Sinfonietta concert on March 27th; the Orchestral Concert on May 2nd; and the Summer Concert on June 27th.

Much music in a variety of styles across many centuries has been learned – from 'Rock Around the Clock', 'Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds' by the Beatles and 'Pie Jesu' by Andrew Lloyd-Webber, to 'March from Scipio' by Handel, 'Andante' by Dittersdorf and 'Waltz' by Shostakovich. This is just a selection of the repertoire – there were more pieces!

Drum kit, timpani, bass drum, cymbals, triangle and glockenspiel have featured to great effect in the percussion section. Great bass lines, as well as some bass tunes, have come from the double bass, cellos, trombones and bassoon. Melodies and accompaniments have been spread across the violins, violas, flutes, oboe, clarinets, and tunes and fanfares in the trumpets.

Orchestral skills have been extended in other ways and Sinfonietta also accompanied the combined choirs of Vox, Cantarini and the Staff Choir in a performance of 'Ode to Joy' by Beethoven, getting these important skills ready for accompanying concerto movements later in the Symphony and Chamber Orchestra.

In addition, the combined orchestras of Sinfonietta, Symphony and Chamber Orchestra produced a magnificent and uplifting performance of 'Rodeo' by Copland, with approximately 80 musicians to raise the roof of the Oswald Elliott Hall.

Very well done to every musician for a great season.

**MRS N INGRAMS**



**FLUTE GROUPS**

# Finely Fluted

BOTH ADVANCED AND INTERMEDIATE GROUPS HAVE SHOWN GREAT TALENT AND DEDICATION THIS YEAR.

These groups are designed to develop advanced ensemble skills as well as have fun making music together.

The Advanced Flute Group performed early in the school year at the Senior Ensembles Concert. The theme was to play pieces composed by female composers. They played a quartet entitled 'Flutes with Attitude' by Melanie Thorne. It was written in a lively swing mood and had finger clicks, and in one section the players had to hit the keys. Attitude!

At the Music Festival, they played a beautiful arrangement of 'Cantique de Jean Racine' by Fauré. Although not a particularly technically difficult piece, it requires the performers to be aware of the intonation between the different parts and play long phrases with a good tone.

The Intermediate Flute Group played 'Dream Theme', a movement from 'Flute Fiesta' by Colin Evans, at the Music Festival. Again, this piece required the performers to concentrate on their tuning as the first section had all three parts playing in unison. At the Summer Concert they played two movements, 'Spiritual' and 'Nocturne', from 'Caribbean Suite' by Bryan Kelly.

Both groups have enjoyed rehearsing and performing this year and we look forward to next year.

**MR G TURNER**



**BIG BAND**  
**Big plans for the band**

THE BIG BAND CONTINUES TO EXPAND ITS REPERTOIRE AND CONCERT PERFORMANCES.

The year began with our 'Jazz on the Lawn' concert, which was very well attended on a sunny September afternoon.

The band also took part in our usual performances through the year, including a Barn Hill

fundraiser which also featured Faryl Smith, who rose to fame on the second series of 'Britain's Got Talent', and our own Cantare choir.

In March, members of the band were fortunate enough to play with the Band of the RAF in a sell-out concert at the Corn Exchange. The repertoire of the band is continually widening. This year we played an eclectic mix of African work songs, Latin standards, Duke Ellington, and Lennon and McCartney to name a few. The band has increased in size this year, and the standard has been very high. Sadly we say goodbye to our stalwart Year 13s, wishing them well, but also looking forward to bringing in new players to push us ever upwards.

**MR G TURNER**

**SAXOPHONE ENSEMBLE**

**Getting the Sax**

THE SENIOR ENSEMBLE REACHED NEW HEIGHTS THIS YEAR, WHILE THE NEW INTERMEDIATES SHOWED HUGE PROMISE.

The Senior Saxophone Ensemble has been performing together for four years and allows pupils to experience the different saxes, including soprano, alto, tenor and baritone.

This chance to play different instruments in a small group setting allows pupils to consider what role their instrument plays within the group, and how a subtle change in dynamic or use of vibrato in their individual part can affect how the ensemble sounds as a whole.

The Senior Saxophone Ensemble have performed at a wide range of events, including Speech Day, Christmas meals, summer jazz concerts and in the Senior Ensemble concerts at SES. The group is now expanding and this is an exciting opportunity for pupils to explore a wider range of repertoire and practise working together without a conductor.

The newly-formed Intermediate Saxophone Ensemble have exceeded expectations in the short time they have been working together, performing in three concerts in just two terms. The girls, aged 11-14, have performed



an array of music from 'Eye of the Tiger' to the Harry Potter Theme. The aim of the ensemble is to have fun performing with others, build listening skills and improving sight-reading, alongside working on rhythms and pulse to stay together as a group.

The ensemble encourages discussion about phrasing and dynamics and which parts should be brought out and which parts are accompanying.

**MR G TURNER**

**TECH CLUB**  
**In Studio**

IN THE TECH CLUB, STUDENTS LEARN HOW TO RECORD AND PRODUCE MUSIC.

Tech Club is an after-school activity designed to introduce pupils from both SS and SHS

to the skills needed to record in our studio based at SS Music.

It is open to any students from Year 7 to Year 11 and no previous experience is necessary.

The pupils learn about the different types of microphones used, how to place them for the relevant instrument or vocalist and how to capture the sound to a high-level using Logic Pro, a high-end professional recording software.

We aim to record at least three pieces of music in different styles from the modern pop and rock world, and in doing so cover the nuances of capturing the styles through our implementation of a variety of recording techniques.

Once all the parts are captured, the pupils then learn how to mix them down, adding changes to EQ, and effects such as reverb, to produce a high quality stereo track.

This last year has seen a great mix of both boys and girls working together and we recorded styles ranging from punk to rock ballads and pop, all with great results. Each student takes on different roles in the studio, giving them a wide understanding of music technology and the whole process needed to create a professional quality track.

This activity has now been running for several years and has proved to be a great success with students going on to take Music Technology as an A Level subject.

**MR N GRAY**



**ROCK BAND**

**Rock of (Teen)Ages**

THE SCHOOL OF ROCK HAS CREATED BANDS AND PERFORMED HIGHLY POPULAR GIGS.

Stamford School of Rock is an after-school activity run every Wednesday. It is open to all pupils of SS and SHS, of all levels of ability, on any instrument, including vocals. The aim is to provide pupils with the opportunity to get together with like-minded students and form bands, with the goal of performing live at the end of the school year.

This year we had three bands ranging from Year 7 to Year 11. The students are taught to communicate in a band environment, and work together to produce a set of three to five pieces at performance level.

The pupils learn how to set up the equipment, microphone techniques, stage craft, balancing the sound of the band and live interaction, as well as many other skills.

This year, our end-of-year 'gig' was a great success, with a sell-out audience of both parents and pupils. The level of performance was high from all the bands, and lighting and sound was provided by our very own Kier Spalding, whom we borrowed from our colleagues in the Drama Department, giving the feel of a real rock gig.

Pieces played ranged from the White Stripes and Nirvana to modern rock such as Avenged Seven-Fold and System of a Down.

I am so proud of the time and effort that the pupils have put in over this last year, and the performance was of such a high level that any of the bands could have played at any venue and gone down a storm.

**MR N GRAY**



CHORAL

# A Choral Journey

WHATEVER YOUR AGE, THERE'S A CHOIR FOR YOU AT SES.

VOX

VOX is the boys' choir for Years 7 to 9. It is an open choir where everyone is welcome. The aim of the choir is to work as a team, to blend voices and to learn part-singing. The music choices are designed to encompass the changing voices and allow the boys to perform during this physical, transitional phase of their development.

In the spring term they joined forces with Cantarini, Sinfonietta and the Staff Choir for the Lower School Spring Concert, often referred to as VoxCanEtta. This year's piece was 'Ode to Joy' by Beethoven, which was a great success.

Also, during the spring term, the boys sang in the Malcolm Sargent triennial concert. This concert is a highlight of the school calendar, and this year the work was Bach's 'St John Passion' and the venue was De Montfort Hall in Leicester. In the summer term, the boys were joined by the girls from Cantarini to lead a Chapel service. Their singing was very strong, and they led the service with great strength and conviction.

The Summer Concert was the final performance of the year for the boys, where they sang two very contrasting pieces: 'Ev'ry Time I Feel the Spirit' and the Kings of Leon number, 'Use Somebody'.

Cantarini

Cantarini is the girls' choir for Year 7 to 9. Their aim is to sing in parts and blend their voices, and the repertoire is a wide range of styles. In the autumn term they joined with the older girls' choir, Cantare, to sing in the Chapel service in October. They then prepared for the carol services at the end of term. The spring term was an exceptionally busy one, with the girls taking part in the Malcolm Sargent concert in Leicester, and then joining VOX, Sinfonietta and the Staff Choir in the VoxCanEtta concert during the last week of term. During the summer term, Cantarini joined VOX in leading the Chapel service. This was a first for both choirs and was a great success.

The summer concert gave Cantarini an opportunity to sing in three parts and have soloists from within the choir. The performance of 'Three Little Maids' from the comic opera The Mikado by Gilbert and Sullivan was a challenge, but they rose to the occasion and performed it with a great deal of confidence. To end the summer term, Cantarini joined Cantare to sing to the whole school at the end-of-term assembly.

Cantare

Cantare is the girls' choir for Years 10 to 13. They work on a wide variety of styles and parts, and have had a very busy year with the usual school concerts and Chapel service, as well as external concerts.

In November they returned to perform at Collyweston Church to a large audience. This is a regular venue for the girls, and they are always made very welcome. In March, there was a return visit to Barn Hill Methodist Church together with the Big Band to support the guest artist, Faryl Smith.

Later in the month Cantare joined the other choirs in SES for the triennial Malcolm Sargent concert.

In the summer term, Cantare performed at the High School Speech Day and this year was exceptionally beautiful with some excellent soloists and with the choir producing sensitive singing in 'Six Bells' by Thomas Bell and then attack and verve in Bartok's 'The Wooing of a Girl'.



“CHRISTMAS IS ALWAYS A HIGHLIGHT FOR THE CHAPEL CHOIR. AS THE SINGERS GET OLDER THEY GLEEFULLY ADD UP THE NUMBER OF SERVICES THEY HAVE ATTENDED.”

SES Choral Society 2019

Choral Society is an SES choir which offers opportunities to pupils from both senior schools, SS and SHS, from Year 7 to Year 13, to sing a variety of popular styles in the world of vocal music. Choral Society performs on three occasions over the course of the year: in the SES Autumn Concert, the three SES carol services in the autumn term, and the Choral Concert in the spring term. This year, however, members of Choral Soc performed with all the other choirs in SES together with the town Choral Society in the triennial Malcolm Sargent concert.

Songs sung this academic year include 'Down to Earth' by Thomas Newman and Peter Gabriel from the 2008 film WALL-E, the Grammy-awarded 'You've got a Friend' by Carol King, from her Tapestry album, a selection of Christmas-themed songs in the carol services, and Bach's 'St John Passion'. Well done to every musician in Choral Society for a great 2018-2019 musical season.

Chapel Choir

Chapel Choir continues to be a very popular choir with around 40 members from Year 5 to Year 13. They are a dedicated group of students who rehearse twice a week and sing services on most Sundays. Their primary role is leading the services in the Schools. These include our regular Sunday services, Chaplain's assemblies, Ascension

Day Service, Ash Wednesday Service, Advent and Christmas.

In addition, they also sing in Schools' Concert Series. This year has again been busy with around 35 services and concerts. Christmas is always a highlight for the Chapel Choir. As the singers get older they gleefully add up the number of services they have attended. The most I know of at the moment is 25 across a school career, although I expect that to be topped by the those currently in Year 5 if they can still be singing in Year 13. The choir has a great sense of pride in its leading of this service.

But perhaps their greatest pleasure is reserved for the rather more relaxed Carols on the Stairs straight after the services. After the choir has processed out of the service they quickly change music and, joined by members of other choirs, gather by the stairs to wassail the congregation as they leave.

A new venture for the Choir is a Midnight Mass service on Christmas Eve. This has been a popular event now for a couple of years. The Chapel has been full every year so far and a large and lusty choir of current Chapel Choir members and ex-students gather for the festivities. It is a really rather wonderful occasion.

Staff Choir

The Staff Choir is now in its third year and is proving popular. The rehearsals are rotated around the three sites throughout the term, and there is a concert performance each term. All members of staff are very welcome. The choir explores simple harmonies and unison singing and work at bringing uniformity to the sound while having an enjoyable, relaxed time.

With an informal, friendly atmosphere, the Staff Choir is a great way to have fun and sing some well-known tunes from the past and learn some new ones.

MRS S BOND

DRAMA AND DANCE

# Stage Presence

SHAKESPEAREAN FLAPPERS, STEAMPUNK FAIRIES AND HIP HOPPERS PERFORMED IN FRONT OF AUDIENCES THIS YEAR.



## Macbeth & A Midsummer Night's Dream, by William Shakespeare

SES Y7 - 10 Play  
**December 5th-7th 2018**  
 Birkbeck Studio, SHS

The Year 7-10 play saw the creation of the SES Shakespeare Company, who presented one-act versions of two of Shakespeare's most famous works, Macbeth and A Midsummer Night's Dream, in the Birkbeck Studio at Stamford High School.

Returning home from battle, the victorious Macbeth (Max Dixon-Spain, Year 10) meets three witches on the heath. Driven by their disturbing prophecies, and with the encouragement of his wife (Eve McClarnon, Year 10), he sets out on a path to murder. Accompanied by a dark, mysterious soundtrack, audiences were drawn into the fight for power, and the demise of the Macbeths.

Act Two saw the audience transported to Greece, as an eclectic mix of 1960s psychedelic hippies, 19th century steampunk fairies and a merry band of modern-day tradesmen collided in the Athenian forest. Mischief-maker Puck (James Davies, Year 8) ensured the course of true love was anything but smooth, and the show enchanted those lucky enough to get a ticket.

MRS C HILL



## Dance Showcase: Cinderella

Years 7 - 13 Dance Showcase  
**January 24th-25th 2019**  
 SHS Hall

Students from Years 7-13 performed a Dance Showcase, following the story of Cinderella, in the refurbished SHS Hall. The showcase is a forum for students in Years 7 - 13 who have an interest in dance to exhibit their work to a public audience. The choreography comprised dance styles including contemporary, hip hop, musical theatre and ballet, with many of the pieces being choreographed by the students themselves.

MRS C HILL

## Twelfth Night by William Shakespeare

SES Year 11 - 13 Play  
**March 20th-22nd 2019**  
 Oswald Elliott Hall, SS

The Year 11-13 play re-contextualised Shakespeare's poetic comedy Twelfth Night into the 'Roaring Twenties', an age of flapper dresses, cocktail parties and jazz music. Creatively underscored by modern music with a 1920s' twist, and impressive live musical accompaniment by Joseph Jones (Year 13), students delighted audiences young and old, making Shakespeare relevant for a modern audience.

In the household of the Countess Olivia (Evie Baines, Year 12), two campaigns were being quietly waged - one by the lovesick Duke Orsino (David Wisdom, Year 12) against the heart of the indifferent Olivia; the other by an alliance of servants and hangers-on against the high-handedness of her steward, the pompous Malvolio (Dan Watt, Year 13). When Orsino tasked the cross-dressed Viola (Darcy Johnson, Year 12) to plead with Olivia on his behalf, a bitter-sweet chain of events followed, culminating in the eventual, and hilarious, downfall of Malvolio.

MRS C HILL





noun: a group of people  
living in the same place  
or having a particular  
characteristic in common.

# COMMUNITY



“EASTER SAW OUR LARGEST EVER GOLD PRACTICE, RUN BY MR LAIRD, WITH SIX GROUPS ALL IN THE LAKES AT ONCE.”

D OF E  
**Gold standard students**

THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD PROGRAMME CONTINUES TO PRODUCE HIGH QUALITY ADVENTURERS, ON LAND AND WATER.

**T**he main headline of this year was the launch of canoe expeditions for the Gold students. Two teams headed for the River Trent over Easter to complete their training and learn all of the necessary skills to be able to spend four days alone in canoes safely.

A few practice journeys and capsize drills later, all groups had convinced the instructors that they were ready for journeys without direct supervision. Fast forward to August, and they made their way on to the River Wye for an 82-mile route (over 30 miles more than the walking groups had to cover). The teams were blessed with high water levels, which sped them along nicely, and completed their assessment in fine style.

Meanwhile on dry land, this Easter saw our largest ever Gold practice, run by Mr Laird, with six groups all in the Lakes at once. We have been pretty lucky with the weather, which if I am honest is not normally something I can say.

Despite the huge amount of rain this year most groups seemed to dodge the worst of it (sorry Gold August assessment - you weren't so lucky). No Bronze groups failed to make it through assessment for the first time in a number of years, which is a real positive.

My personal highlight of this year has been seeing how well all of the groups who were not put together by choice have fared. It is only natural that people would prefer to do things with their close friends, but as this year has proved all of the teams which were put together through circumstances often beyond their control were brilliant, and also had a really good time.

It is important to do things because you want to, and, if your friends are there, then great, but believe me: spending a few days with some people you don't know so well really isn't that bad and you will probably surprise yourself by how well you get on.

**MR E SMITH**





CLIMBING CLUB

# Between some rocks and a hard place

THE CLIMBING CLUB HAS BEEN SCALING SOME HIGH WALLS AND MIGHTY BOULDERS THIS YEAR.

This has been a great year for the Climbing Club, with a real mix of the experienced climbers progressing with a strong core of intermediates, and then a keen set of beginners coming in at the lower end.

We have had some excellent sessions, with the senior members of the club leading right the way across the roof of the climbing wall. It is rare to find such a horizontal overhang which makes it very tough on the arms and demands good technique. We have discovered a new activity at the wall this year: the king swing. This involves climbing halfway up one side of the wall with a rope



attached in the centre of the roof and then jumping off. The climber flies towards the ground and the opposite wall with great speed, only to just miss both.

We have been frustrated by the weather on a number of occasions when we had hoped to head outside but we have had some great sessions at Northampton climbing wall, which, as Miss Allen can attest to, is a lot higher than the one at Peterborough. There have been a couple of outdoor bouldering trips to the Roaches and Burbage South, which showed us how much different climbing on real rock is to the climbing wall. Both times we managed to make the most of the days out and got some great climbs in.

It is now the end of an era, with almost all of those students who were members when the club was created moving on to bigger and better things. Although it is always sad to lose those who have been so involved for so long, we wish all of those leavers the very best and look forward to the younger members of the club stepping up and taking their place.

MR E SMITH

ASTRONOMY CLUB

# In a galaxy far, far away...

THE WONDERS OF THE UNIVERSE ARE REVEALED AT THE ASTRONOMY CLUB.

I remember the day when I came with my parents to view Stamford School, and we visited the Astronomy Department. I liked the students and Mr Jordan's presentation, and I knew that this subject would interest me. Attending after-school Astronomy Club was something I was looking forward to.

I was made very welcome by older pupils and Mr Jordan when I attended Astronomy Club for the first time. They showed me telescopes, helped me to do my first individual telescope settings, and showed me how to use all equipment. As a result, I was never afraid to ask for help, and I really enjoy this club. For me it's amazing to see stars, moon, planets and constellations so closely, and in such detail.

I never forget when I saw Mars, the Moon and stars so closely for the first time. How Ian Ridpath said: "Whether observing the smallest members of the solar system or the most distant galaxies, astronomy is a science that knows no bounds. It attempts to answer the most fundamental questions: where did we come from, and are we alone? Yet it remains a science in which amateurs can play a role."

We are very lucky at Stamford School to have such a great facility, equipment and teacher running the club. Mr Jordan makes my time in the Astronomy Club very enjoyable. He always tries to encourage us to develop additional skills, and to achieve above and beyond. He is always willing to share his knowledge and experience with students, which makes a huge impact.

Every year we go for an exciting day trip to Leicester Space Centre (which contains the largest planetarium in England) with students from Stamford High School and other schools, and I can't wait for this year's trip.

I am looking forward to starting Astronomy Club this year, and it would be nice to see more students attending too.

SIMON SKARZYNSKI



STAMFORD EXPLORERS

# High time in the Highlands

THE EXPLORERS WENT TO THE CAIRNGORMS FOR SOME WINTER MOUNTAINEERING. NOT SURPRISINGLY, IT WAS TOUGH GOING.

In the middle of winter, a small group headed off to the Cairngorms to do battle with the Scottish mountains.

After a massive drive, it was straight in to Aviemore to pick up our tools for the week. Winter boots, crampons and ice axes are essential for safe travel in the winter mountains and also rather fun to use as well. The next morning, we were up at the customary 6am and getting into the porridge to grab some much needed energy for the day.

Day one was spent learning basic skills: how to perform an ice axe arrest (stop yourself from sliding down an icy mountain side after a fall); how to walk with crampons; and some avalanche awareness.

After a first few goes on an ice axe arrest, everyone progressed to trying it facing head-first down the slope, both front and back, which was a daunting task. Having worked up a very steep snow slope, we were able to head onto the summit of Cairngorm itself. Day two showed us what the wind can really do in Scotland, and so after a tentative attempt to head up the mountain, we beat a hasty retreat and spent the day at the hostel. 80mph winds weren't for us.

Finally, on the last day on the hill, we headed up above the snow line and went exploring the snow holes that had been left by groups of winter mountain leader candidates, and got to see what people spend the night in! We finished the trip in style building our own emergency shelters and cutting blocks out of the snow. Well done to Mr Hilton, Mattias, Matthew, Tomas and Oliver for taking on the challenge!

MR E SMITH



SHS CHARITY WORK

# Helping out

AN OUTSTANDING EFFORT HAS SEEN SIGNIFICANT MONEY RAISED FOR VARIOUS LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL CHARITIES.

The year has been a superb one for charity work at SHS, with students and staff raising more than £6,000 for our nominated causes. Each year, the school selects three charities who work with causes which the students are passionate about. In 2018, we worked hard to raise awareness and funds for the Evergreen Care Trust, a local charity which works alongside the elderly community, offering advocacy, friendship and practical support, The Leprosy Mission, who work internationally supporting the physical, social, spiritual and psychological needs of a leprosy-affected person, and Anna's Hope, the leading children's brain tumour charity in the East of England.

The highlight of the charity calendar at SHS is the Evergreen Tea Party, a wonderful, festive event held at the school in which members of our elderly community (including many old girls and old boys) are invited to join us for an afternoon of tasty treats, musical entertainment and some lovely socialising with each other and current students. Our guests (and volunteers!) always leave with big smiles, full of cake and Christmas spirit!

Fundraising has carried on throughout the year with numerous cake sales, tombolas and fun events such as delivering Valentine's chocolates and messages, in which students were able (for a small donation) to send

their friends a short message to make them smile. The harvest festival collection for Stamford Foodbank also provided a wealth of goods to support those in crisis in our local community. For Children in Need, students were able to take part in a duck race sweepstake which was televised live in the Hall, where drinks, cakes and games were also available. The combination of sweet treats and competitive spirit culminated in a wonderful, lively atmosphere!

The end of the school year was topped off with approximately 300 girls and 40 SHS staff walking 15 kilometres, alongside pupils and staff from Stamford School, in aid of Anna's Hope, Great Ormond Street Hospital and the Children's Cancer and Leukaemia Group. Girls were encouraged to wear their fairy wings and tutus, and they spent the day enjoying the sunshine and fresh air. As a result of their hard work, we received some very generous donations from families supporting these wonderful causes.

The charity prefects and their committee are looking forward to another year of exciting fundraising for our newly selected charities: the Evergreen Care Trust, Parkinson's UK and Medecins San Frontieres (Doctors Without Borders). Many thanks to all of those who donated their time, money and enthusiasm this year.

**MRS K ALUZZI**

STAMFORD SCHOOL CHARITY

# A Good Cause

LOTS OF ACTIVITY AND SUPPORT ACROSS A WONDERFUL PROMGRAMME OF FUNDRAISING EVENTS.

Stamford School had another very enjoyable year on the charity front, with huge enthusiasm shown by students for the causes that they cared about. At the forefront of these were the summer tea party for the Evergreen Care Trust and the visit of children sponsored by the Friends of Chernobyl's Children (FOCC).

Both events gave our students the opportunity to engage with the community in a delightful way, either through music, conversation or games, or through ball games and swimming. Regular visits to Tixover Care Home also continued, showing an impressive commitment from many of our students who spent time with residents, playing games, doing quizzes, singing and taking part in arts and crafts.

Much fun was had throughout the

year. The sweets casinos and Frozen Fridays almost became institutions in their own right! Such events supported both #Team Fell and the Tanto Cosi Trust, which are other charities chosen by the SS Charity Representatives, while the Readathon paid its usual tribute to FOCC. A further institution also appears to be the growing of moustaches by the Year 13s in their support for Movember!

Landmark events included the first Charity Debate, which raised awareness of the importance of mental health as well as the profile of the local charity Mindspace, founded by Dr Dan Petrie. The Charity Rock and Acoustic evenings together raised almost £1,300, taking the total raised for the Tom Billington charities to £12,000 over four years. The Concert Band raised over

£500 for the Lincs and Notts Air Ambulance.

A number of excellent speakers also visited, including Joely Garner from Sue Ryder, and Matt Hampson. Matt spoke profoundly and movingly of his experiences and of the work of the rehabilitation unit at Burrough-on-the Hill.

In total, about £14,000 was raised by SS and SHS together, some of it from the sponsored walk. Once again fortunate with the weather, SS and SHS pupils walked 15 kilometres in support of Anna's Hope (SHS) and #TeamFell and the Great Ormond Street Hospital (SS). Other jointly-run activities included a clothing collection for FOCC.

In 2019-2020, our charity representatives are keen to continue to support both the Evergreen and the Stamford Foodbank, with its other selected causes being the Amazon Rainforest through the World Wildlife Fund (<https://www.wwf.org.uk/>) and mental health, through Mind and Young Minds.

My warmest thanks go to all parents, staff and students for their generosity and commitment.

**MRS H CHEW**





CCF ARMY SECTION

# Pouring fire

MANOEUVRES THIS YEAR SEEMED TO ALWAYS TAKE PLACE IN HEAVY RAIN, BUT OUR CADETS WERE UNDAUNTED.

In October 2018, the Senior Army cadets conducted manoeuvres on Yardley Chase Training Area, Northamptonshire, a one-time formal parkland, then ammunition depot, and ultimately a Site of Special Scientific Interest and training area. Persistent heavy rain had been booked, using Army Form 57643B/4578. As every cadet knows: "If it ain't raining, it ain't training."

This led to staff deciding to allow the cadets to use a hangar for a patrol base as the conditions would have made it exceedingly difficult for the cadets to administer themselves, which would have detracted from the main focus of the exercise.

Cadet CSM Sam Brunswick proved himself to be a most capable platoon commander, assisted by Cadet CSgt Brandon Crozier. Section command posts were rotated throughout the exercise to provide opportunities for more cadets to develop their leadership skills.

Each section conducted reconnaissance patrols to gain intelligence on the ground and identify signs of enemy activity; this tested their navigation and patrol skills, both of which were conducted to a good standard, despite the weather. The accumulated intelligence from the patrol reports set plans afoot for an ambush, for which battle preparation and rehearsals were conducted. An excellent set of orders, using a detailed model of the area, were delivered by the platoon commander.

The platoon demonstrated excellent skills again in this complex phase of the exercise, communicated well using

hand signals and ensured information was passed up and down the patrol. By this stage, they were improving their stealth, moving silently through the rendezvous points along the route.

Insertion into the final rendezvous (FRV) was done most efficiently and the recce party went forward to make final checks and mark the positions of the cut-off groups and killing group. A moment of eagerness nearly led to confusion as the main party got up to move into the ambush site, but quick-witted thinking by the platoon sergeant and his subordinate commanders had the situation under control and the patrol occupied the ambush site with minimal noise. Once the ambush was 'set', the patience and self-discipline of the cadets were tested to the extreme as they lay in wait for the enemy: the discomfort of earlier rain dripping down from the canopy while waiting in the dark certainly focuses the mind. There was little-to-no chance of any cadet falling asleep on this ambush!

A furious reaction to the appearance of the enemy saw the delivery of a heavy weight of fire; after the enemy had fallen, the cut-off groups dispatched those who tried to flee. Once done, withdrawal from the ambush site was swift and well conducted. After a head count in the FRV, the patrol returned to base by a different route, though the excitement of their action and tiredness saw a drop in communication and increase in noise, a common problem which the cadets must learn to overcome.

After a hot brew, tales of heroism and derring-do were duly exchanged with much excitement and appropriate exaggeration. The cadets finally settled to sleep after the option of setting up bashes in the (very wet) woods was presented to them. They made a wise choice as the rain intensified overnight.

Reveille arrived with a crescendo of activity and excited chatter which flowed seamlessly from my dream about being a farmer of battery chickens. Breakfast was being devoured when the news of enemy activity came in. A

warning order was issued and the sections prepared themselves for further action. Rehearsals of section battle drills followed and soon the battle-hardened cadets were ready for further action.

Each section cleared an enemy position in turn. The enemy had chosen positions which tested the leadership of commanders and some sections struggled to locate the enemy positions accurately until they broke cover, but the section commanders Lauren Watkiss, Charlie Foster and Ben Wilson gained valuable experience in preparation for the Senior Cadet Instructors Course over half-term.

The sections successfully destroyed the remaining pockets of enemy, conveniently, by lunchtime. Throughout the post-exercise administration, the cadets continued to work hard, cleaning weapons, packing kit and ensuring that on their return all paraphernalia associated with the exercise was stowed correctly and efficiently.

All cadets on the exercise learned much in rather unpleasant conditions. I would like to thank them for their hard work and excellent camaraderie and the Army section staff for their ever-diligent assistance in enabling this exercise to happen.

The junior field weekend, planned by Lt Davies, took the Year 10 cadets to Waterbeach training area in Cambridgeshire – the correct use of Army Form 57643B/4578 again ensuring that the weather provided appropriate levels of precipitation. This exercise was all about living in the field and learning basic patrolling skills. Various methods of 'how not to be seen' were demonstrated to and practised by the cadets, who passed the basic fieldcraft element of the Army Proficiency Certificate.

Central Camp this year was at Beckingham Camp near Newark, courtesy of 7x (Infantry) Brigade, of whom the SES CCF is a member unit. In hot conditions, the contingent worked hard, developing fieldcraft and shooting skills, practising foot drill, conducting a 24-hour exercise and enjoying a day of adventurous training at Rutland Water. I am glad to report that Stamford Endowed Schools CCF picked up a few trophies: Best Junior Shots (Oliver Macintosh and Louis Wibberley), Best Air Rifle Shoot, Best Drill and Turnout and, of course, Best CCF! Well done to all who attended.

I am grateful to all the CCF staff, whose efforts and enthusiasm are essential to making the CCF such a success. WO2 Denham's diligence in the background administration deserves particular thanks, but, for their service to the Army section, we are sad to see the departure of Lt Comdr Annabelle Holland, Capt Dexter and Lt Johnson (though we are glad to congratulate her on becoming OC of the Navy section). Lts Smart, Powell, MacCarthy and Davies continue to provide their excellent service as officers in the section.

**CAPT MIKE HOLDSWORTH**  
OC ARMY SECTION - SES CCF



CCF NAVY SECTION

# Sail Away

FROM DESTROYERS TO PADDLE BOARDS, THE NAVY SECTION PREPARES CADETS FOR LIFE ON THE WATER.

The highlights for the Navy section were the frequent trips to Rutland Water, where we were given the opportunity to try sailing, paddle boarding and kayaking. This helped us to develop leadership and empathy towards other members of the section, which is something that will be very important to us later in life - as well as right now.

I've made new friends through joining the Navy and it's given me some amazing opportunities which you can't get through any other extra-curricular activities. I love the fact that we get to teach the younger children our knowledge about the Navy section too.

We have annual trips with the Navy. Last year we went to HMS Bristol, where for two days we lived on board the decommissioned Type 82 destroyer, which has been turned into a training vessel. The trip was deemed enjoyable, as all of us learned new skills and information, whether it was how to drive a power boat or the history of the Royal Navy, as we visited a number of different museums.

The CCF offers lots of camps and courses to the cadets. Attending the lifeguarding course and junior leadership course allowed me to meet new people and take part in activities that have given me skills that I took away and use often. As a result of this I have also been able to get a job because of the lifeguard course, and it's a much cheaper process in comparison to taking the course outside of the CCF.

The lessons taught by the senior cadets are engaging and interactive, covering a wide variety of topics both relevant to everyday use and Royal Navy specifics.

**COMMENTS BY MEMBERS OF THE NAVY SECTION**



CCF RAF SECTION

# Learning to Fly

CADETS TOOK TO THE SKIES IN TRAINERS AND GLIDERS, AND PASSED MANY OTHER STERN TESTS.

The RAF section of Stamford's CCF always offers exciting opportunities to its cadets. The last academic year has been notably successful for the section, with many of our cadets completing courses and taking advantage of all of the opportunities we offer.

Last year, many of our cadets worked extremely hard and passed their Proficiency Examinations, allowing them to fly the Grob Tutor Aircraft at RAF Cranwell. This experience is particularly amazing: the cadets get to fly the aircraft themselves and even perform some in-flight aerobatics. Not only this, some of our cadets also completed their Gliding Training, where they learned the theory of flight and also got the opportunity to fly a glider at the end of their training.

Not only did the cadets learn how to fly, but they also learned how to lead efficiently through completing a total of 22 command tasks throughout the year. These tasks taught our cadets how to lead, how to delegate and how to support, preparing them for promotion.

A handful of cadets also went on leadership courses, with some completing the East Anglia Leadership Course and two of our cadets completing the highly prestigious Air Cadet Leadership Course. These gruelling courses teach resilience, perseverance and good leadership, which our NCOs implement while teaching the younger cadets every Friday.

Some cadets also completed their First Aid and Shooting qualifications. All of our Year 11 cadets successfully finished their Heart Start qualification in

which they learned basic first aid as well as CPR. Many Year 10s and 11s also completed their Weapons Handling qualification and were given the opportunity to shoot cadet rifles at our range at Stamford and on the electronic range at RAF Wittering.

In addition, the RAF Section competed in the Royal Air Squadron Trophy competition. We trained for this prestigious competition for three months, brushing up on our first aid, aircraft recognition, RAF knowledge, command task, shooting and drill skills. Our section did very well, coming third in the drill competition and placing seventh overall in the district. This competition allows our cadets to become experts in these areas, making it easier for our NCOs to teach these different skills to our new cadets.

In the summer term, Year 10 and Year 11 cadets were lucky enough to enjoy an action-packed summer camp at RAF St Mawgan, where they took part in a range of adventurous training such as paddle boarding, coasteering and shooting on an amazing 300 metre range facing the sea. A highlight for the cadets was a whole day on the Penhale training area, followed by a BBQ on a beautiful Cornish beach.

Overall, the 2018-2019 academic year was particularly successful for our cadets. They took full advantage of the opportunities which we presented to them, giving them brilliant new skill sets they can carry into the future.

MRS A LEWIN



CHAPEL

# Worship Full

A PACKED YEAR OF SERVICES, DINNERS AND ACTIVITIES IN CHAPEL FOR STUDENTS, TEACHERS AND PARENTS.

The last Sunday of the summer term always sees the Chapel packed out for its final service. This is the service where the Sixth Form High School and Stamford School prefects for the next school year come to Chapel with their parents. This is an important service as it is where the new prefects are commissioned for the task that lies ahead in the succeeding academic year.

This service is a recognition that the task of being a prefect is significant and stretches far beyond just having a title. It is a spiritual task, as much as it is a practical task. This is important to recognise when leading within any community.

This is a time when the values we live by at the Stamford Endowed Schools are expressed very clearly. It reminds us that Chapel, and what it stands for, lies at the heart of all that we do at the Stamford Endowed Schools.

We think about our purpose, service, wisdom and grace to lead. This is a focus that we keep all year round.

The following term, the Sixth Form prefects lead a Sunday Service, where again they bring their ideas of service to the worship that we do.

Of course, in the rest of the year, there is much else going on. Regular Sunday worship is led by the Chapel Choir and Mr Turner. There are Junior School services, the Harvest Festival, the St. Patrick's Day Service

and the Summer Service. Annual Confirmation and Commemoration Services also take place, and the Gideon's Society come and offer Bibles to Year 7s at Stamford School and Stamford High School.

There are informal evening Chapel services for boarders and this year we had our first evening Easter Service followed by an Easter-themed dinner afterwards.

We have our alternative Christmas Service as well as the great Carol Services in the Oswald Elliot Hall, where hundreds of students sing, and many more hundreds come and join in the celebrations. And, of course, day-by-day and week-by-week, there are the regular Chapel services and assemblies in each school.

Yet, behind it all, is the recognition of ourselves as spiritual people and what our calling might be, which is best perhaps expressed in the prayer that we use at the Prefects' Commissioning Service:

### Heavenly Father

*You have called us, your people, to fulfil your purposes in the world; and by the gift of your Holy Spirit to serve our neighbour and community.*

*Today we pray for all those who are beginning their tasks as school prefects at Stamford High School and Stamford School.*

*May your Holy Spirit grant each of them wisdom and grace as they carry out their duties.*

*In all they do may they show the virtues of wisdom and patience, loyalty and strength, faithfulness and purpose as they carry out their responsibilities.*

*May they bring grace and honour to all whom they serve. This we pray in the name of our Saviour Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

REV M GOODMAN - CHAPLAIN





BOARDING LIFE

## Welland House Rabbits and Racing

A PACKED YEAR OF ACTIVITIES INCLUDED TRIPS TO LONDON AND CAMBRIDGE, AND BUILDING A RABBIT HUTCH OF REMARKABLE SIZE...

Forty-three boarders called Welland House their home during the 2018/19 school year. At the start of the year, we welcomed Year 7 boarders who quickly adapted to their new routines in the house, including weekly trips to town each week, laundry days and access to the cookie jar in the kitchen.

In the annual tradition, elections took place early in the term. A rousing and humorous speech swept Shantelle Phillips (Year 11) into the top job alongside Kate Smith (Year 11), with Sasha Evans (Year 10) winning the deputy position.

The long autumn term is always a busy and purposeful one, as the academic routines are established. It's also a time to enjoy cosy winter activities like ice-skating, trips to the cinema and bowling.

In the new year, we held our first ever 'Murder Mystery' night. On a dark Saturday evening, with suitably stormy weather raging outside, the boarders looked for clues to reveal and solve a mystery that spanned three decades.

Over the winter, the Rabbit Club engaged in their most ambitious project to date and built a new hutch for the two house rabbits. Freya Godfrey (Year 11) and Megan Gunther (Year 11) constructed a hutch of gargantuan proportions over the course of three months, which could easily have doubled as a GCSE Design Technology project. Its sturdy construction will keep the rabbits safe and secure for years to come. They also passed the reins of the Rabbit Club onto Eloise Trushell and Charlotte Booth (both in Year 8), who will undoubtedly make sure they are well looked after.

The highlight of the spring term is our trip to London's West End, and this year we enjoyed watching the new production of 'Aladdin'. We took advantage of the better weather and longer days to get outside during the summer term. Once again the boarders fearlessly careered around the outdoor karting course at terrifying speeds, with the number of pile-ups markedly down on last year. Over a weekend of glorious sunshine, the girls dived into the Aqua Park at Rutland Water, braving the 20ft jump and drop-slide without a moment's hesitation. We also staged our own soaking session at the annual house water-fight, including water slide and more than 200 water balloons.

The term was rounded off with our inaugural house garden party, which had a Hawaiian theme. The girls dressed up in grass skirts, flower garlands and headbands, and took part in limbo and hula hoop competitions. A surprise bouncy castle made for a wonderful summer evening of fun and games, interspersed with mocktails and Hawaiian pizza.

These were just the highlights of a year full of new friendships, Saturday evening 'Just Dance' sessions (during which Mrs Deoraj impressed the girls with her moves), and surprise take-away nights.

**MRS DEORAJ**

BOARDING LIFE

## St Martin's House A Baptism of Fire

THE NEW GIRLS' BOARDING HOUSE GOT OFF TO A ROARING START.

In September 2019 St Martin's House had a complete 180° turn around and an injection of oestrogen as it changed into a Sixth Form girls' boarding house. With 13 new residents, two new house parents, two new matrons, five new tutors and one new part-time house dog, it was always going to be a bit of a baptism of fire.

The design of St Martin's means the kitchen is the hub, and the girls spent many happy evenings drinking copious amounts of tea, putting the world to right and eating their weight in cake made by our amazing matron Mel. Some of the best Friday evenings were spent having 'family dinners' where the girls cooked for the house parents, and in exchange the house parents let the girls win at board games!

Meg Kenny and Beth Gunther organised a brilliant Christmas Formal and made use of all our matrons' expertise in baking, writing calligraphy place cards and flower arranging. They managed the stresses and complications of organising such a large-scale event admirably and the evening was such a success.

Despite all the fun, the ultimate focus for all of the Year 13 girls was to secure places at their chosen universities and then work their socks off to get the best possible exam grades they can and, as housemistress, I was so proud of their hard work and dedication.

I have no doubt the Year 13s will go on to achieve great things, and I would like to thank them for their leadership and compassion when dealing with two new house parents. I am looking forward to watching them thrive.

I would like to finish by thanking my wonderful staff who have worked so hard to make St Martin's feel like a home away from home - in particular Mr Hilton, who has kept me cheerful by making copious cups of tea, Mel Russ, who has kept the boarding house in cake, and Manfy Herridge, who is so good she was poached from us and will take over as matron in Park House!

**MRS K WOODWARD**

BOARDING LIFE

## Park House A World Away

WHEREVER BOARDERS ARE FROM IN THE WORLD, PARK HOUSE IS THEIR SECOND HOME.

We undertake many different activities in the boarding house which help us bond as a community and make us feel more at ease living away from our families. Some of them help us bond not only with boarders, but with day students and staff as well.

An example of this was the 'Freakshake and Movie Night', when our housemistress, Mrs Smith, organised an evening where she and other members of staff made milkshake flavours according to our wishes, and we were able to add any types of candy and fruit to them. Once we finished making them, we proceeded to the living room, where we all watched a movie together. This included all the boarders, but we were free to invite any of our day student friends to join us. There were a lot of people in the house: some were just drinking their milkshakes and talking accompanied by music in the background, and others were sitting in comfortable bean bags watching the film.

Some activities include both full and weekly boarders, but some only include full boarders as they take place on the weekend. These provide a healthy distraction from the workload we get, and to which we are completely committed to during the weekend. An example of this type of activity is afternoon tea in a restaurant, The Orangery, in Burghley House. This is quite refreshing as we first take a stroll through Burghley Park and breathe in some fresh air, and then have a seat and enjoy some afternoon tea in a lovely restaurant. This also provides the international students with a bit of insight into the British culture, and brings us all together, as we have friendly conversations over tea.

As a full boarder I spend all of my time in the boarding house, and view the people in it more as a family than as friends from school. This is why we make sure to celebrate holidays together. For example, this year the full boarders assisted Mrs Smith in decorating the Christmas tree, and putting up decorations and fairy lights in all the communal areas of the house. This really contributed to the atmosphere in the house, and definitely raised people's holiday spirits, as it made us forget we were not spending Christmas with our own families.

December in Park House was definitely the highlight of the academic year for the majority of Park girls. We attended the annual Boarders' Formal dinner for Sixth Formers in the OE hall, along with students from St Martin's and Browne. All Sixth Form boarders consumed a large Christmas meal with plenty of cake, and to finish the night we had some music and dancing. It was an enjoyable evening where we all celebrated the end of term and the festive season.

In order for everyone to feel included and comfortable, we do not only celebrate British holidays, but the holidays of international boarders too. This is why we had a special



dinner and went to a performance for Chinese New Year, and we celebrated Orthodox Christian Easter. These activities broaden everyone's horizons, as you get an insight into other boarders' cultures and traditions, and they make everyone feel supported and seen.

Along with the religious and cultural activities, we all participate in some activities just for fun too. Some examples of this are trips to the cinema in Peterborough, the first big trip of the year to Alton Towers, a trip to the Aqua Park, and Sunday barbecues.

All of these activities are planned by Mrs Smith, but the beauty of them is in the fact that everyone is welcome to make a suggestion, and it will most likely be arranged, bringing the students and the staff closer, and giving us lots of fun memories. It truly makes the boarding house feel like a second home.

**MRS A SMITH**



BOARDING LIFE

## Browne House A home from home

EXCITEMENT AT A NEW, WELL-STOCKED KITCHEN, AND A COUPLE OF INTERNATIONAL SPORTS STARS TOO.

As the new academic year got under way, Browne House was once again bursting at the seams with buoyant numbers of new boys joining Year 12, and a strong Year 11 cohort coming up from Byard.

With a number of our long-standing tutors taking up houseparent and assistant houseparent positions across SES, we welcomed a new team of tutors. Mr Headley, Mr Stephenson, Mr Voltan, Mrs Blissett and Miss Halliday all quickly became an integral part of the boarding community, leading the house in their own, very capable styles.

At Christmas, we also said “goodbye” to Denise Boddington, our part-time matron, who was heading off to the sunny climes of Egypt, and welcomed in her place the wonderful Jocelyn Kedzlie.

One of the fundamental principles of boarding at SES is to try to create a home-from-home environment where

the boys can feel happy, and relaxed, and be successful, both in and out of school. Our new, fully-stocked kitchen has continued to provide a sanctuary for boys to practise their own cooking as well as allowing our matron to bake her amazing Wednesday brownies (often accompanied by Mrs Blissett’s fish dinner!).

Aside from this, the boys continue to be as busy as ever, with representatives from the house involved in every aspect of school life, from drama productions, music concerts, CCF parades and D of E Award expeditions to 1st team and school side representation in every sport including cricket, rugby, badminton, squash and basketball.



We even had our own new international sports stars, with Lodi Buijs gaining honours for Holland’s U20 rugby team and Lochlan Dudley playing for the England Lambs side. The sports centre also continues to provide the opportunity for every boy to use the swimming and fitness suite facilities on a daily basis, with many working hard on their bicep curls and six packs...

While Browne House remains at the very heart of the school, beating to the drum of the school calendar, we are also busy with our own events. These included trips to Alton Towers, paintballing, karting, Christmas shopping and a memorable final meal for our Year 13 Leavers at The George Hotel. As well as these trips, the SES boarding community continues to thrive, with Christmas also bringing with it lots of fun, which this year included the annual Sixth Form formal dinner and disco, the joys of ‘Secret Santa’ present-giving and, of course, the usual badly-decorated tree.

As the year marched on, it was not long before the exam seasons were once again upon us, and boys faced the challenges of external GCSE and A Level exams. The

daily rigour of two hours of fixed homework time proved invaluable as our Year 13 leavers successfully secured places at university or in work.

Particular congratulations must go to Sam Brunswick and Yang Tian, who achieved a string of straight A\* and A grades in their final exams. We wish all those leaving at the end of Year 13 every good fortune for the future, and particular thanks must go to Lochlan Dudley who, as Head of House, led the senior boys’ boarding community with maturity and vision. The senior boys have certainly left a legacy in the corridors of Browne House.

Finally, I cannot finish this article without mentioning our leaving members of staff. Mr Laird leaves us after six years of dedicated service to Browne House, Mrs Blissett moves to Cambridge to be with her family after one year in the house, and Mrs Backhouse, our wonderful matron of nearly six years, retired with her husband Justin and set sail into the Mediterranean on their beloved yacht ‘Belle Helene’. We wish all those leaving, staff and students, the very best of fortune in the future.

MR L WARE



**BOARDING LIFE**

# Byard House Growth at Byard

IT'S NOT JUST THE BOYS WHO ARE GROWING IN THE HOUSE - PLENTY OF VEG IS TOO...

The year began with the arrival of the boarding boys from Years 7-9 to our wonderful, newly-refurbished house. A further excellent addition to the house has been developed this year in the form of our garden, where, with the help of the Grounds and Maintenance staff, we have created a lovely home-from-home style garden complete with veg beds, BBQ and a range of outdoor games – these finally came into their own with the somewhat late arrival of the sun this year.

But enough of the facilities and on to the boys: a cracking group of young men who have bonded together to create our tight-knit community. Brilliantly led by Benjamin Foster Jones (Head of House) and Edward Richardson (Deputy Head of House) from Year 9, this is a group of boys from near and far who have forged great friendships together here in Byard. Whether this was in the regular Tuesday night five-a-side footie competition, run by Mr Di Cataldo (our Assistant Housemaster), carving beautiful pumpkins for Halloween (William Ren with the winning design), playing manhunt across the grounds of an evening, or any number of occasions when the boys come together in the house, they have undoubtedly grown in independence, resilience and community spirit.

Some notable highlights from the year include the regular appearance of several of the boys in concert platforms, from whole scale orchestras to smaller ensembles and soloists, and they have been helped by our regular weekly music practice supported by Mrs Gawley from the Music Department. In addition, the boys have excelled in a host of sporting endeavours, with Logan Carter and Hugo Porter doing particularly well in the annual SES Burghley Run, Elliot Dee receiving the Speech Day Prize for physical endeavour and Charlie Perring proving to be a brilliant athlete with his javelin throwing during the athletics season. Speaking of physical exertions, Benjamin Foster Jones headed up an 11-man strong team to enter the 'Rat Race, Young Mucker' at Burghley Park, which was a fabulous day showcasing superb team spirit

and camaraderie amongst the boys. Matron Tamar's 'Magical Hot Chocolate' was never more welcome than after that event!

Our garden has thrived in recent weeks with a group of Year 7 and 8 boys, led by Jack Hays as Head Gardener, growing a range of veg. The Year 9s have developed their leadership this year, with them having many opportunities to help our younger boys. Whether this is in the form of Albert Astley, Elliot Dee and Edward Richardson on bedtime duties, Logan Carter, Fred Bicknell supporting boys during prep time or W. Ren being a great weekend 'big brother' to Daniel Tomlinson, they have all been more than happy to take on these opportunities, which bodes well as they move further up the school and travel across to St Paul's House. I'm sure our Year 8s are looking forward to stepping up to these responsibilities as they move to become the leaders of Byard House.

As the year draws to a close, it gives me an opportunity to thank my house team. Matron Tamar is at the heart of the house, looking after the boys, and is ably supported by our relief matron, Sue. These ladies keep the house running and are 'on the ground' to support and nurture the boys each and every day. Mr Di Cataldo has been an excellent right-hand man as my Assistant Housemaster this year and we look forward to continuing to develop Byard House next year together.

My daily team of tutors - Ms Aziz Khan, Mrs Benton, Mr Backhouse and Mr Richardson - have been absolute stalwarts across the year, looking after the boys, playing with them, supporting them and helping to make Byard House the thriving community that it is. My sincere thanks to every one of them.

**MISS A DAVIES**

**A farewell to Mr and Mrs Colley**

In July of 2018 Mr and Mrs Colley left Byard house after being house parents for many years. Life in Byard house with the Colleys was a great benefit to those of us who were lucky enough to have experienced it. They were the house parents of the Lower to Middle School boarders (Year 7-10). A houseparent's role is defined as 'being responsible for the supervision and care of boarders living in the house.' And I for one can certainly say that the Colleys met this standard and

surpassed it. They were considerate, approachable and just, giving all the additional support needed and more without delay, solving any problems that arose. I had a great deal of fun and many fond memories were made when I boarded with the Colleys as my house parents. To Mr and Mrs Colley, on behalf of all the boys you have been house parents to, I would like to say a huge thank you for the many years of your life you shared with us.

**Sasha Barker-Pilsworth**

**BOARDING LIFE**

# St Paul's A Place to Aim High

FROM LAZY BREAKFASTS TO WEEKLY DISCUSSION SESSIONS, THERE'S ALWAYS SOMETHING GOING ON.

In St Paul's, every day, pupils embrace the concept: "Coming together is a beginning, keeping together is progress and working together is success".

This year, changes were afoot within the newly-developed boarding house, with myself as the new housemaster at the helm, and Head of House, Seb Porter, who had superb deputies in Charlie Osborne-Smith, Vincent Cheung, and Toby Potts.

The house was previously known as the Old San but this is a new chapter, and I'm keen for the house to form its own place within Stamford School community, establishing its own traditions and making sure the boys make a significant contribution to the school.

The life of a St Paul's student takes on many challenges, but the spirit and camaraderie that has been instilled within the boys is very much evident in the numbers playing roles in the school play. Several talented pupils within the house also represent the school in rugby, basketball, athletics, tennis and hockey, and we have some excellent musicians and gifted academics. We want every pupil to find his own niche and to aim high.

With a plethora of activities taking place throughout the year, particular highlights according to the boys were the cooking with Matron on a Tuesday night instead of doing prep, the opportunity to sit and have discussions with Mr Kersey in the office (another excuse to not do work!), the end-of-term awards celebrations, Bruce asking "Can it be a lazy breakfast every day of the week?" and the



weekend trips that have included outings to the cinema, Aqua Park, punting and skiing.

One area in which St Paul's thrives is in the weekly topical discussions in our house meetings. Our consideration of whether 'No news is good news' has helped to underline how better thinking leads to better decisions. We all like a good flick through media pages, but taking the time to take on board important information is an essential part of being a St Paul's pupil.

The house has undergone a wide-ranging redevelopment and is at full capacity in both Years 10 and 11. The boys know they will be fully supported during these crucial years in their educational development by our exceptional tutors and Matron, and I'd like to thank them warmly for the wonderful support they provide.

There is more to follow next year, with many exciting 'inter-tribal' competitions, and we look forward to welcoming the new house team of Vincent Cheung (Head of House) and his deputies of Charlie Osborne-Smith and Ollie Macintosh.

Whatever your talents, St Paul's House is a place where they will be developed, and you will be given every opportunity to be your best. As Archie puts it: "I'll remember my time here."

**MR A KERSEY**



PROM

# Four letters, one magical night

THE YEAR 11 PROM HAD EVERYTHING FROM STUNNING DRESSES AND A GLORIOUS LOCATION TO AN EPIC AFTER-PARTY.



“Prom”. It has such a magical ring to it. Those four letters stand for so much more than just three hours of socialising in a long, formal dress. It is the celebration of the years gone by, and the years yet to come. It marks a ‘coming of age’ as girls spend hundreds on beautiful dresses, and hours steadying their feet in too-high heels, with their best smiles practised, ready for the eager photographers.

The boys...buy a suit.

I arrived at the prom in a blue and cream vintage bus, my friends waving through the windows to the awaiting parents. Gathering my emerald dress and gripping my best friend’s hand for emotional - and physical - support, I said good-bye to the dashing bus driver and stepped out onto the gravel of Grange Farm.

I’m not normally one to cry. Put ‘Titanic’ on in front of me and I will not shed a tear, yet when faced by a sea of parents’ faces, and searching the crowd for those related to me, I felt - just a little - emotional.

The photographic flashes followed my emerald green dress up the path, the reflections of the water already coming into view. Opposite the lake, fairy lights and people creating a pointillism of colour was a large, ivory marquee. Upon entry, I was greeted with a mocktail, my eyes darting around the room to spot the photo booth in



the corner, a traditional sweets trolley and the sparkling dance floor, already vibrating with thudding shoes and spinning dresses.

The ceiling was layered with white drapes, green vines hung from the walls and purple lanterns hovered over the round white tables. The white panelled dance floor was tainted with red and green circles from the spinning strobe lights, while fairy lights amongst the dark material above gave a celestial, magical atmosphere.

Outside, luckily for my growing appetite, I found tasty food and drink to quench my growing thirst, and I ventured down the grass verge holding a tasty slice of pizza. Here I found the boys attacking the Swingball and girls throwing bean bags as they took part in the different games provided.

Though our time at the prom drew to a close, as the teachers retired to their beds, the night was not yet over for us Year 11s. ‘After-prom’ loomed and in just an hour we would be dancing yet again, a glass of... water... in hand, and the DJ keeping the party alive until the early hours of the next morning.

Overall, the prom was indeed the fairy tale girls imagined in their younger years, and our memories will stay with that little white marquee by the water - along with Freya’s phone and purse still at the bottom of the lake...

MADDIE BROOKS



“I WAS GREETED WITH A MOCKTAIL, MY EYES DARTING AROUND THE ROOM TO SPOT THE PHOTO BOOTH IN THE CORNER, A TRADITIONAL SWEETS TROLLEY AND THE SPARKLING DANCE FLOOR.”

# Questions for leaving staff

## Mrs Fox

**Tea?** Fresh mint tea  
**Curry?** Chicken tikka masala, sag bhaji, Peshwari naan  
**Most memorable moments?** All the wonderful school trips to France, Germany, Norway, Iceland, skiing and Israel.  
**Cultural highs?** Visiting Sixth Form students on their work experience during the German Exchange. Sharing in the tremendous pride they felt at the end of a challenging and rewarding week in placements such as in a radio station, TV studio, publishing company, primary school and the iconic offices of DHL in Bonn.  
**Why languages?** Because it's such fun to communicate in another language! Language learning is about so much more than just memorising vocabulary and grammar. It's about opportunities to travel and make friends from different countries and cultures. I'm still in touch with my French Exchange partner from my school days.  
**Best musical?** Very hard to choose. I've loved them all! Probably 'Les Mis' – the first of the many outstanding Turner/Davies/Hill collaborations. It took the Schools by storm.  
**Biggest changes at SS?** More female staff, a joint Sixth Form, and the atmosphere is friendlier and less formal. The expansion and development of drama, music, debating and the Foundation lectures have greatly enriched the cultural life of the schools.  
**Most inspiring teacher?** All the staff, teaching and non-teaching, inspire me every day with their passion and commitment. But, if I had to choose one, Mr Brown – the embodiment of a true schoolmaster.  
**What shall I miss the most?** The friendliness of the pupils and the staff camaraderie.  
**What would I have liked to be if not a teacher?** Working abroad for the Foreign Office, the British Council or in the travel business. Running my own boutique hotel on a Greek island...  
**What characteristic do I want to be remembered for?** Being enthusiastic and encouraging. There is a lot of goodness in people and there is always hope.  
**Plans for the future?** There is a whole world out there waiting for me to explore, and I have a very long list to keep me busy and active. But most important of all is the chance to spend time with my brand new twin grandsons – this is a magical moment for me to leave the Endowed Schools!



## Mrs Blissett

**What was your favourite air freshener scent (to cover up the smell of Year 11s)?** Glade Fresh Linen (or Vanilla) – whichever is cheapest in Wilkos.  
**Wallet or money clip?** Wallet over money clip – it's softer and smells nice.  
**Cinema or the theatre?** Cinema over theatre any time. You are positively encouraged to take in as many snacks as you can.  
**What's your cup of tea?** Two teabags in a mug and add a little bit of milk at a time, until it looks the right colour.  
**Worst book you have taught?** 'Spies' is the worst novel I have ever taught. Even though Keith's father had a big vice in the garage. What did actually happen in the novel? I do remember Beryl tried to seduce Stephen in a bush with her bobble purse! That was quite a memorable moment.  
**Which fictional character would you be?** If I could be a fictional heroine, I'd either like to be Katniss Everdeen or Lady Macbeth. But I'd only agree to be Katniss if I ended up with Gayle, not Peeta. After all, Peeta is quite wet and nowhere near as manly as Gayle.  
**Favourite text you teach?** My favourite text to teach is probably 'Of Mice and Men' because I get to read using different voice and everyone knows that my rendition of Curley's wife in a Texan drawl is really quite sublime.  
**Favourite curry?** In terms of curries, I usually opt for a chicken tikka bhuna or a prawn bhuna. Onion bhajis are the obvious starter – in fact that's a no brainer – and I don't fill up on naan bread. Too many carbs.  
**Favourite place to hide in the school?** Favourite building in the school is the Fiction Library – always. I wish I could be locked in there and simply be left alone. You don't need people, if you have a great novel to keep you company. This summer I am looking forward to reading 'Big Sky' by Kate Atkinson and 'The Gifted, the Talented and Me' by William Sutcliffe.  
**What will you miss about Stamford School?** What I will miss most about Stamford are definitely all the students at Book Group who are extremely funny and great company. Ellis writes amazing quizzes on the books while Anuraj simply eats most of the bananas in the packed lunch box. Our annual school Readathon is the most relaxing day of my year – 12 hours of non-stop reading on a bean bag.  
**What would you write on your tombstone?** 'She came, she saw, she conquered.'

## Mr Lester

**What are your plans now that your life won't be dictated by lesson times?** Actually, working at Stamford has made me realise that I can't really function properly without the structure of lesson times, so my plan is to carry on teaching. My wife says I'm a workaholic and will still be working at 90. Fingers crossed, I hope so!  
**What three words would you use to describe your time at the school?** Enjoyable, entertaining and a total blast!  
**What advice would you give to the students at the school?** Make the most of the wonderful opportunities you are given and try to make your dreams into your goals.  
**Can you recount some of your favourite memories of your time at the school?** There are many, and some I probably shouldn't share. An online French numbers song called 'Rasta worms' certainly gave us some memorable moments; I'll always remember Year 7 boys doing the conga around the classroom and singing it at the top of their voices.  
**In your opinion, what makes Stamford School so unique?** Without doubt the students. In 38 years of teaching, they are the best bunch of students I have ever worked with.  
**Who has been your best chum or 'go to person', at the school?** A no-brainer: The inimitable Monsieur Braud. Ex-gendarme and total gent.  
**What is one thing you'll miss about the school?** School dinners. I've had years of curly fries, turkey twizzlers and watery beans. The proper three-course dining here is second to none.  
**Is there anything you would like to own up to, now that you are leaving and can't get into trouble for?** How much space do I have?

## Miss Parslow

**What three words would you use to describe your time at the school?** Challenging, rewarding, FUN!  
**What did you do before becoming a teacher / moving to Stamford?** I actually came straight from the University of Sheffield where I studied modern foreign languages. I dived straight into teaching at Stamford, and it was the best decision I've ever made!  
**What will you miss about the school?** I will miss so much about it - the staff, the students, the town itself, and especially the sports facilities!  
**Favourite language / sporting personality?** I suppose as a French and Spanish teacher I should say French and Spanish are my favourite languages! But if I could learn another then it would definitely be Arabic. It's so interesting and I'd love to learn to write it.  
**How do you take your tea/coffee?** People always think I'm weird as I drink my tea really weak and black. The idea of milk in tea is awful to me!  
**Plans after Stamford?** London! After living in Stamford I think it's going to be a big shock moving to North London, but I'm very excited about the new experiences it's going to bring down there.  
**If you hadn't been a teacher, what would you have done?** I would have loved to have been a professional squash player, but failing that, something to do with sports for sure.  
**Any standout individuals here at Stamford?** Maybe not an individual, but the whole MFL Department at SS has just been so fabulous and I couldn't have got through these years without their support.



## Mr Backhouse

**What is your most memorable moment at Stamford?** Back when I arrived for the first time in 1992, I moved into a house in Maiden Lane which the school owned at the time. We moved into a fully-decorated house, and were welcomed with wine. This was a gift from the Bursar. Right from the start, we felt so very welcome. After unloading the removal van, there was a knock at the door from a woman named Betty. She had a tray of sandwiches from the Bursar who wanted to give lunch to me and the men who helped us move. It was that sense of community that really stayed with me. For years I would skip to work, loving that sense of community the school offered. One of the things I'll miss is that personal touch.  
**What did you do before becoming a maths teacher?** I did many things before becoming a teacher at 37. I worked in insurance, owned and ran a pub, sold ice cream and was a Mercedes truck salesman.  
**What will you miss about the school?** The main things I'll miss is the boys and the pastoral side of things. Being a form tutor, being a boarding housemaster - that was what it was all about for me. I'll also miss those personal relationships I formed here, especially with some of the lads. I'll miss having a laugh with my form.  
**Favourite Mathematician?** Bill Chadwick.  
**How do you take your tea?** White, no sugar.  
**Favourite Curry?** Chicken jalfrezi  
**Plans after Stamford?** There are 217 inhabited Greek islands in the Mediterranean. My plan is to visit each and every island on my boat, and of course have a pint on every single one of them.  
**If you hadn't been a maths teacher, what would you have done?** I would have liked to be a builder – being able to point to something and say I made it. Or a helicopter pilot. I went on one of those simulators a few years ago, and even though you had to control the height with your feet, the speed with one hand and the direction with another, it was so natural to me.  
**Any standout individuals here at Stamford?** Geoffrey Timm (Headmaster when I first joined) and Bill Chadwick. Both had a very similar outlook on the school, the sense of community. Geoffrey asked me within a few months of being here what I wanted to do – and I said I wanted to be Housemaster of Southfields Boarding House – and together we managed to make it happen.  
**Any tips for the new teachers?** Look after the boys and look after yourself.  
**Words on your tombstone?** I'd like it to say something along the lines of 'He was a caring and approachable man'. That's how I want to be remembered.

verb: make a journey,  
typically of some length.

# TRAVEL

## CLASSICS TRIP

## Rome and Empire

THE CLASSICS TRIP TO ITALY TOOK IN MANY OF THE WONDERS OF THE ANCIENT WORLD.



Our trip began from Stamford School in the early hours of March 31st with a coach ride to Gatwick Airport, where there was a short stop for breakfast before we had to catch our plane to Naples.

Following our arrival at 10am local time, the trip around Italy had officially begun. It started with a visit to the Amalfi coast, which was a great place to see how beautiful the scenery was in Italy and how much nicer the weather was compared to that in England. After a long day of travelling, we checked in at our first hotel of the stay and rested for the remainder of the evening.

Our second day began with a guided tour of the site at Herculaneum. The most impressive aspect of this location was how everything was found beneath ground level, as a result of the eruption of Vesuvius burying the city with all of the ash and pumice it produced. We saw the houses that people inhabited at the time, including different styles of wall paintings and mosaics still standing to this day.

This was followed by a visit to the National Archaeological Museum, which housed various statues as well as the mosaic of Alexander the Great, originally found in the House of the Faun in Pompeii. Following this, it was time to actually climb to the top of Vesuvius, after being driven about half-way up.

Mount Vesuvius is most famous for its eruption in 79 AD which caused the destruction of Herculaneum, as well as Pompeii and Stabiae, which has also led to these locations being preserved so well. Fortunately for us, it is now just a crater at the top of a mountain, which makes it an excellent place from which to view the whole bay of Naples from above. It also gave us a view of Pompeii, the location we visited on day three. As it provides the most famous representation of what life was like in the ancient past, Pompeii had many places for us to visit throughout the day. There was the huge theatre and amphitheatre for large scale events of entertainment, the Stabian Baths



which provided both a practical bath and a social hub, the Forum (including what remained of the Temple of Jupiter and Temple of Apollo) and even an old brothel.

I had studied many of these places during GCSE Classics, and so being able to actually visit them with background knowledge of how they had been 2,000 years ago was something that made the trip much more exciting and fulfilling. This marked the end of the first half of our trip, and so on day four we began the bus ride to Rome. However, before going right into Rome itself, we stopped at Tivoli to have a look around Hadrian's Villa, used by the Emperor of Rome during the second century AD. The area spans more than 250 acres, which is actually larger than Pompeii, and was built so Emperor Hadrian could get away from his palace in Rome.

It featured several fountains, pools and gardens, including what was known as the Maritime Theatre, which had a multitude of uses. The day ended with a night-time tour around Rome, looking at some of the best monuments and fountains in the city, including the Trevi Fountain and Fountain of the Four Rivers on Piazza Navona, situated on the site of an old stadium from the first century AD.

Despite the cold and wet weather (not so different from home after all, then!), day five proved just as enjoyable, with a visit to the Colosseum, that housed gladiator fights and exotic animal shows for an audience of around 50,000 people. As well as this, we got to walk through the Roman Forum and look around the Palatine Museum, which showcases various artefacts from throughout Rome's history. Once the weather cleared, this allowed a short tour around Rome once again, but this time to appreciate the great number of churches and cathedrals the city has to offer. We finished our final evening in Italy with a lovely meal at a local restaurant, before having to leave our hotel the next morning.

The final day began with a visit to the Ara Pacis Museum, which also featured the Res Gestae alongside it. These are connected to Emperor Augustus, with the Res Gestae providing a record of all of his accomplishments throughout his life, and the Ara Pacis (Altar of Peace) acting as a depiction of Roman peace after Augustus' return to Rome.

We were then led to see the Vatican from Saint Peter's Square as well as the site where the Circus Maximus once stood, the location of chariot racing in the Roman world, though all that remained of it was a rough layout of where the track would have been. This concluded our trip to Italy, and so we boarded our flight from Roma Fiumicino Airport that took us to Heathrow, then took a bus ride back to Stamford School, arriving at around 12:30 the next morning.

Italy provided an insightful look at an ancient civilisation through the many parts of life that have survived today and the trip was enjoyed by those both with and without any prior knowledge of the classical world.

MATTHEW FRASER



## ENGLISH TRIP

## Around the Globe

THE YEAR 9S VISITED THE GLOBE THEATRE FOR A BEHIND-THE-SCENES LOOK, AN ACTING CLASS AND TO TAKE IN A PLAY.

After studying Romeo and Juliet in class and researching a brief history of the Globe Theatre, the Year 9 pupils embarked on an English outing to London. An early meet time (7am!) meant that we had plenty of time to travel to London, and, after an uneventful journey, we walked a short way along the Thames to reach the third recreation of the Globe Theatre.

Then, we assembled into our groups and met our tour guides, who showed us around the theatre and explained its history. Originally the Globe had a strict system of where you were seated based on how much you paid. The poor, referred to as groundlings, were packed tightly into the pit, which was open to the elements, because there was a giant hole in the roof which let natural light through.

However, for an extra fee, which normally cost two pence, slightly richer people could sit in the lower galleries, and they had a roof! For even more money, visitors could sit in the upper galleries, and the most exclusive seating area was behind the stage. Although it didn't have the best view, it was a chance to be seen by everybody and to show off your affluence.

We then had the chance to participate in a dramatic workshop. The workshop was led by an actor who regularly has parts in productions at the Globe, and so she knew just how different performing there was from acting in a conventional theatre. The seating was 360 degrees and large pillars holding the stage roof up meant that the actor would always have their back to someone, so there would always be an obstructed view or 'blind spot'.

Our warm-up was to pace around the room, completely filling the space while obeying simple instructions such as "stop", "start", "clap" and "jump". We were told that an actor must stay alert but energetic at the same time, so she said we must reverse the action that was called. For example, if "clap" was called, we should jump then 'start' became 'stop', and vice-versa. Following the warm-up, we were grouped into twos, and this time, we were tasked with keeping as close to our partners as possible while they were trying to get away.

We later understood that this was to replicate the scene in which Romeo must get away from Verona, as he was banished from the Italian town. But Juliet wants Romeo



to stay because of her undying love for him. As if by magic, we were each given a short extract from this scene and talked through various techniques which we could use to add emphasis to certain words, and to keep the audience captivated. We did this to mirror the amount of energy that actors at the Globe must use in all their performances. By changing volume and the emotion in our voices we learned to strengthen any word we chose, and, simply by stepping forward or back, could determine the longing Juliet has for Romeo. We combined all we had learned in the session to create a final performance which concluded the drama workshop.

The performance of Romeo and Juliet that we saw on Friday was a production by the RSC. The actors did well to get the different objectives of their roles across and showed the story through fluid transitions between scenes and well-spoken lines.

At the beginning of the play the actors' energy levels were high and they remained like that throughout the performance. This helped us, the audience, to stay engaged with what was happening in the play, at all times. The Globe has seating all around the stage, but the actors managed to talk to everyone by use of energetic movement and expression through gestures. They also often made eye contact with members of the audience to show where Shakespeare had written some soliloquies. I thought there was an excellent and surprising start, as the trapdoor and loud bang managed to get everyone's attention, but at points they could have done a bit better to attract the audience's focus (especially when two people fainted!). I also thought that the costumes and minimalist set were interesting but effective. Overall, we believed the trip to be fun and educational with many highlights - and worth missing school for!

SAM BARWISE AND HARVEY MORSE

BERLIN TRIP

# A city once divided

FEW PLACES SIT AT THE CENTRE OF MODERN EUROPEAN HISTORY LIKE BERLIN. AN SES GROUP VISITED TO UNDERSTAND ITS PAST, AND FUTURE.

This year, the History and German departments at SES joined forces and took a group of 15 students to Berlin. Neither the ongoing uncertainty about Brexit nor losing an hour to British Summer Time could dampen our spirits as we arrived in Berlin on a sunny Saturday afternoon in March.

Having occupied our rooms at the youth hostel, we immediately made our way to Checkpoint Charlie, one of several former border crossings between East and West Berlin. The nearby museum gave us an insight into the many ways in which East Germans tried to escape to the West, often risking their lives.

We then walked to the Holocaust Memorial, where wandering around some of the 2,711 concrete slabs left us with an uneasy feeling of what life for Jewish people must have been like in the Third Reich. Our subsequent visit to Brandenburg Gate then reminded us of the more recent German history, which was marked by division into fundamentally different political systems.

Sunday was mostly dedicated to exploring the work of the Stasi, the former Secret Service of East Germany. We started the day with an interesting, although somewhat unsettling, visit to a Stasi prison. In the afternoon we made our way to the former Stasi headquarters, where we learnt more about the way the Stasi was organised and their



spying methods. As a reward for our patience, we went up the TV Tower, which offers superb views of the city.

Our programme for Monday had to be amended slightly, as we had to make our way around Berlin on foot all day. In a completely non-German fashion, all public transport in Berlin was on strike.

Luckily, our first stop was only a short walk from the youth hostel. We enjoyed a thought-provoking tour of the Bendler Block, the German Army's headquarters during World War Two. This was followed by a walk to Emperor William's Memorial Church on Ku'damm, where we also had the chance to hunt for souvenirs. A leisurely stroll through Berlin's Tiergarten, with a climb up the Victory Column, led us past the Soviet War Memorial to the former Reichstag. The building now houses the German Parliament, and during our tour we learnt a lot about the differences between the way the German and British parliaments work, as well as seeing graffiti left by Soviet soldiers after WW2 and visiting the impressive glass dome, designed by British architect Sir Norman Foster.

On our final day, we went for a walk along Bernauer Straße, where metal rods remind visitors of the houses that used to separate East and West when the Berlin Wall was built in 1961. Photos and film footage showing people jumping out of windows to get to West Berlin went around the world. From a viewing platform we had a look at a short section of the death strip.

Our final stop was the Sony Centre, a huge modern complex of buildings that attracts many visitors, before collecting our belongings and heading back to Tegel Airport. We arrived back home exhausted, but full of new impressions.

MRS A CHAUVAUX



FRENCH TRIP

# Paris in Spring – what a thing

THE YEAR 8/9 FRENCH TRIP IN MAY FEATURED MUCH EATING, ROLLERCOASTERS AND SOME NEW FRIENDS MADE.

**Day 1:** We arrived at Stamford High School at 6am for a 6:15 departure but we then ended up leaving at 6:30 with bags on our back and smiles on our face. The bus journey wasn't as bad as we thought, as we had many stops to get food. It was clear who liked whom at this point.

**Day 2:** We went to the market, having had a nice night's sleep in our rooms. The highlight of our visit was Ted and Dom buying a watermelon and eating it all. So, we bought our lunch and went back to the place we were staying, and we sat down and ate our lunch. After lunch we went to the Tour Montparnasse and saw the Eiffel Tower. After this we went on a river cruise and saw the Notre Dame Cathedral with lots of scaffolding. We went back to where we were staying, and played activities, ate food and went to bed.

**Day 3:** We all woke up excited to go to a theme park, the legendary Parc Astérix. We all had tonnes of fun on the rollercoasters, many prizes were won and everyone had a fun day.

**Day 4:** This day, we went to a French school and learned more French and met our pen pals, and we made friends for life. They gave us a tour round the school; it was very big and we discovered that their schooling system was very different to ours. We then ate lunch and people all gathered outside because there was an argument between a French dude and Dominic White. Then, we had a football match between France and England, but it got ruined because a teacher took the ball away. After that, we went to the Basilique du Sacré-Coeur and we went to a little market next to it and bought paintings and drawings. Then we went to the Champs Elysées and almost broke some things, but had an all-round great time.

**Day 5:** This was the last day and when we were travelling back it was so much fun. We were singing and eating lots of food, and then we got back to Stamford at 9 o'clock.

DOMINIC WHITE



BUSHCRAFT CANOE TRIP

# A Bush and Tucker (and Rain) Trial

TAKING TO THE RIVER, BUILDING A CAMP AND STARTING FIRES AND COOKING ON THEM TAUGHT USEFUL SURVIVAL SKILLS.

The May half-term Bushcraft Canoe trip has been a highlight of the Stamford Explorers' calendar for several years, and this year did not disappoint. There was a mix of students from Year 7 to 9, but it is always great to see everyone get along so well while out in the wild. The whole group was able to build shelters and sleep out in them, learn knife skills and light fires, and then cook their food over them. We even cooked a salmon caveman-style!

Finn the adventure dog was on his first trip, and as a three-month-old he wasn't super-sure about the canoeing, but definitely loved spending time in the woods and eating what people dropped on the floor at mealtimes.

On our last day we got hit by the mother of all rain showers while canoeing out of the woods for the pick-up. It was an exciting way to finish, even if it wasn't what you would have chosen - but that's what adventure is all about!

MR E SMITH





MONACO F1 TRIP

# If I had one wish...

ISAAC FELL BATTLED LEUKAEMIA FOR THREE YEARS, AND, AS HIS TREATMENT ENDED, TOOK A TRIP TO THE MONACO GRAND PRIX.

In December 2015, when I was nine-years-old, I was training with my running club when I started to suffer with back pain. My parents thought it was a pulled muscle but after several weeks, when it was still hurting, we went to the doctors.

The doctor referred me to a paediatrician to monitor it. The pain increased, however, and other parts of my body also started to hurt, and then, on January 22nd, 2016, I became very ill with a fever and was admitted to hospital.

Eventually, I was diagnosed with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia, a type of a cancer.

I had to have three-and-a-half years of treatment that included going to the hospital a lot for a cocktail of medication, including chemotherapy, that resulted in me being very poorly and caused all of my hair to fall out. By September 2016, I moved to the final, but longest phase of my treatment, which still involved lots of chemotherapy, but at this point the medication doses were such that my hair grew back. Quite early within my treatment, I was given an end-of-treatment date of 23rd May 2019.

As my treatment neared its end, my parents nominated me to Starlight Children's Foundation for them to grant me a once-in-a-lifetime wish. Starlight asked me to think of several ideas that I would love as a wish, as well as to tell them of my interests. I asked for a wish that was Formula One-related, and that I was a Lewis Hamilton fan.

I was absolutely stunned that they not only managed to grant my wish to meet Lewis Hamilton. But that would be just a fraction and I would be going to the Monaco Grand Prix weekend! If that wasn't exciting enough, the day of the flight out coincided with my end-of-treatment date!

So on my last day of treatment, we met the Starlight team and the other three Starlight Wish children and their parents at the airport. We arrived at the hotel in Monaco in the early evening and I took my very last chemotherapy tablets, before we then headed out to an Italian restaurant for dinner. When we returned to the hotel we discovered that the Haas racing team were also staying there.

On the Friday we were up and out early as we had to be down at the harbour to meet the Red Bull boat crew for a trip on their speedboat to the Red Bull Energy Station. When we arrived, we were greeted by the Red Bull team and spent time hanging out with them and paddling in the famous Red Bull swimming pool.

They hosted us for lunch and then we met the Red Bull drivers who gave us goodie bags which included team caps that they signed. We then met Team Manager Christian Horner and the Toro Rosso drivers, along with the Sky Formula One presenters, and had the opportunity to interview them live for Sky.

We then met Sebastian Vettel, who spent lots of time with us and showed me all the controls on his steering wheel, and let me hold it too. We also watched the Ferrari pit crew practising wheel changes. We then headed down to the Williams garage where I got to sit in George Russell's car, met both the drivers and got signed caps, and tried on one of their helmets and got to change a tyre.

We then went down to the Mercedes garage where I got to sit in Lewis Hamilton's car. Next, we had half-an-hour with both Lewis and Valteri Bottas, got team caps and autographs and had the opportunity to ask them questions.

We headed to the safety car, and I got to sit in it and rev the engine. It was then time to leave the pits and head to the McLaren motorhome, where we met both of their drivers, Carlos Sainz and Lando Norris.

On Saturday, we visited the car collection of HSH the Prince of Monaco, and had lunch in the Place d'Ames. It was then time to meet the rest of the Starlight group to go to the Williams motorhome for qualifying, where we got to meet Claire Williams.



Charles Leclerc got knocked out of qualifying in the first round, so as he passed the Williams motorhome on the way to the Ferrari motorhome, I got his autograph. We then walked back to the hotel and got ready for our evening at the Cafe de Paris in Casino Square, for a meal hosted by Senate. When we finished we had a little walk around some of the race track and also saw some amazing cars.

Sunday: race day! As we were getting our breakfast, Johnny Herbert came over to sit with us and have a chat. It was then time to go to the grandstand opposite the pit lane, where we watched the race. It was so exhilarating with the deafening noise of the cars, combined with the commentary blaring out over the speakers and the sheer speed at which the cars flashed past, mixed with the pace at which the pit crews worked. To top it off, Lewis Hamilton took the victory!

On Monday, the day to go home, we couldn't leave without going for a walk around the racetrack, then it was time to head to the airport. It was an emotional farewell to our Starlight family, as we had become so close over the weekend, sharing such an unbelievable experience. I spent the whole weekend feeling like it was a dream, it was so incredible! It truly was a once-in-a-lifetime wish come true.

I cannot thank Starlight enough as well as all those who have generously donated to the charity.

**About the Starlight Children's Foundation**

Starlight Children's Foundation is a national children's charity dedicated to brightening the lives of seriously ill children and their families. One of the ways they do this is by granting personalised wishes for children who are suffering from a life-threatening or life-shortening illness.

SPANISH EXCHANGE

# Spanish Steps

EXCHANGE STUDENTS HEADED FOR LA CORUÑA TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE CULTURE AND LANGUAGE.

Following a minibus journey from school, we left Heathrow Airport, and, once we had collected our luggage in the airport at La Coruña, we were greeted by our Spanish exchanges and their families.

The next morning, after an introduction and a night's sleep, we met at the school for a Spanish lesson with our exchange student. We then explored the city before meeting back up with our exchanges for the rest of the day.

The rest of the week consisted of more lessons with our partners and more sightseeing. We climbed the Torre de Hércules, toured the University of Santiago de Compostela, visited Rias Baixas, splashed on the beach and ate churros. At the weekend, we spent time with our exchange students, getting to know each other and having a great time. After a week in sunny Spain, we had to say goodbye, but only until they returned to stay with us.

After a few weeks, we met the Spanish group at the High School and introduced them to our families. They joined us for lessons throughout the week and they explored Stamford, Cambridge and London. Again, we had time together on the weekend. They joined a Junior School lesson before departing back to La Coruña. ¡Adiós estudiantes de intercambio!

HARVEY MANSELL

SCOTLAND TOUR

# An Auld Reekie Recce

"YOU TAKE THE HIGH ROAD AND WE'LL TAKE THE LOW ROAD": SES ON TOUR IN EDINBURGH.

October half-term 2018 saw most of the SES pupils take the opportunity to put their feet up and take a well-earned break from their academic, sporting and cultural pursuits. But not the boys and girls of Year 6 and Year 8!

A touring party of more than 115 awoke early and descended on Peterborough Station to catch the 0756 to Edinburgh in pursuit of culture and a sporting challenge!

Off the field, the party enjoyed a great day out at Murrayfield for the Edinburgh v Toulon European Cup game, a tour around the city, the 2018 'SES Indoor Crazy Golf Champs' (won by the staff...), Laser Quest shoot outs and a hike up to the castle.

On the rugby fields, the U11s enjoyed excellent fixtures in the Scottish mud with Dunfermline Rugby Club, Warwick School and George Watson's College, Edinburgh. The girls also braved the howling polar winds to go toe-to-toe in some great nail-biting encounters with



both the college and their hockey club.

Scorelines were all very tight, with some wins and losses, and, all-in-all, we were pretty competitive given the lack of sleep...

Touring is an important part of the Stamford sporting experience and hopefully this has given our young charges a taste of what is to come, whether on an astro in South Africa, a wicket in Sri Lanka or in front of a haka many, many miles away!

The staff and pupils were magnificent, accepting the challenges that tours throw at you (including the six hour delay on the way home!). They all worked very hard and gave it their all: the return journey was a great deal more peaceful than the outward one!!

**MR D LAVENTURE**



GERMAN EXCHANGE

# A fine time by the Rhine

A CHOCOLATE MUSEUM, THE HARIBO FACTORY AND BEETHOVEN'S BIRTHPLACE WERE SOME OF THE HIGHLIGHTS.

Having hosted our German partners for a week in October, this year we returned to Bonn much sooner than usual, going at the end of October instead of in the Easter holidays. A small group of Year 10 students was ready to explore the Rhine Valley and practise their German.

We arrived around lunch time and immediately realised some of the stark differences between the British and German school systems, as our German exchange partners finished school much earlier than we do. However, this was followed by the realisation that they had to get up every morning much earlier too.

On our first full day in Germany, we attended a variety of lessons in the morning before making our way into the picturesque town centre of Bonn, the former capital of West Germany, passing by important landmarks, including the birthplace of Ludwig van Beethoven, and taking in the wonderful views over the River Rhine. Having explored the town, we headed towards the Haribo factory shop to stock up on essential supplies for the week and sweet presents for the family. This was then followed by a welcome evening in school.

Wednesday started with a very interesting and thought-provoking tour of a former Gestapo prison in Cologne, where opponents of the Nazis were held before being taken to various camps. The following visit to Cologne Cathedral and a climb to its top is simply a must - the views are



breath-taking and conquering the 533 steps also made us feel better about the amount of Haribo we had consumed.

The next morning, we took the train to the beautiful medieval town of Ahrweiler. After a tour of the former Cold War Bunker, we enjoyed a tour of a wine cellar, where we learnt more about the wines that are produced in the Rhine Valley (and also sampled just a drop to be sure it really was wine - all officially approved, of course!).

Friday started with a visit to the history museum, where we learned a lot about German history after 1945 in their interactive exhibition. We then returned to Cologne, where we split into two groups, with one group exploring the chocolate museum while the other group visited the sport museum.

After the weekend, which was spent with our host families, we only had one day left in Bonn. We made our way to Königswinter, taking a train to the top of the Drachenfels and exploring the beautiful Castle Drachenburg. In the evening, it was time to say "Auf Wiedersehen!", having made some wonderful friends.

**MRS A CHAUVAUX**





**noun: an activity involving physical exertion and skill in which an individual or team competes against another or others for entertainment.**

# SPORT



1st XV RUGBY

SS RUGBY

# Rugby

ANOTHER GREAT SEASON OF SUCCESS AT ALL AGE GROUPS ILLUSTRATED THE TREMENDOUS DEPTH OF TALENT IN THE SCHOOL.

The players, coaching staff, medical staff, grounds staff and supporters all played their part in making 2018-19 another sensational rugby season at Stamford School.

Both home and away, England's "green and pleasant land" provided the backdrop for great drama across the country, and in the various age groups.

Pre-season saw the 15s, 16s and seniors head north to the wilds of Lancashire and a stay by the beach at Rossall School. The group endured everything the north-west could throw at them, before some cracking games with King's Macclesfield showed that these groups could look positively at the season ahead.

The new boys (Year 7) had a superb first season and played some sumptuous attacking rugby. All the sides, A-E, can be proud of the progress they made as they all experienced winning seasons. The U13s can also boast a great record, especially the mighty D team, who nearly



swept all before them with their infamous attacking flair and pace.

The U14s, on the other hand, relied more on size and guile to outwit their opponents, but outwit them they did, as they proved a match for all sides on their circuit.

In the Middle School, however, there was a different challenge, as injuries swept through the sides in the first three weeks of term with a significant knock-on effect for the other sides. Of course, like all Stamford sides, they were highly competitive, with some outstanding performances, home and away. Congratulations go to



all those boys involved in the Tigers, Saints and county programmes.

For the senior squad, there was an extra incentive to work hard as the 2019 tour of Australia and New Zealand loomed large on the horizon.

It's a big "hats off" and salute to the 5th XV who proved a match for anyone and finished the season unbeaten. Not to be outdone by the 5ths, the 4ths also swept all before them during the season. This is their fourth unbeaten season in a row - a phenomenal achievement for all the players and staff that have had an impact.

It's a great statement about the depth and enthusiasm at Stamford School in the rugby programme and a great indicator of what is to come next year so well done to coach Brewster for hiding all the talent from Mr Headley - yet again!

The 3rd XV only lost two games all season and supplied many players to the seconds during their injury crisis. This included a number of wins over some opposition 2nd XVs. Our 2nd XV enjoyed a rollercoaster of a season and fought through a tough injury crisis along with the Firsts. They were a young side who no doubt will have learned a lot for next year. Of the four games they lost, none of them was by more than four points.

The First XV finished with a superb record despite never having fielded their strongest side. They proved a

significant hurdle for all their opponents and proved as much, defeating the number one team in the country in November.

Congratulations go to the following on representative success: Lodi Bujis (Netherland U18 and 20s); Patrick Harrington (Irish Exiles); Lochlan Dudley (Independent School Lambs); Shaun Allsop, Bobby Singer, Will Bailey, Rory Nickols (Leicester Tigers); Rory Ward (Northampton Saints); and Patrick Harrington, Ben Richards (Midlands U18).

Post-Christmas saw Stamford enjoy plenty of success in the shortened formats of the game. The U13s went unbeaten at both the Rosslyn Park and the Leicester GS 7s, with the U14s also winning that tournament.

The U18s won the Nottingham 7s before losing two heart-breaking games in the final of the Leicester 7s and the Uppingham 7s. The 18s qualified for the Cup group at the National Tens at Sedbergh, and lost a great final in the Trent Tens too.

All in all, a superb season enjoyed by all players, coaches and spectators, with bags of physicality, enjoyment, hard work and learning along the way. Thank you and good luck to all the Year 13s who leave, and, for the rest - bring on 2019-20 and more challenges!

**MR D LAVENTURE**



2nd XV RUGBY



U15A XV RUGBY



3rd XV RUGBY



U15B XV RUGBY



4th - 5th XV RUGBY



U15C XV RUGBY



U16A XV RUGBY



U14A XV RUGBY



U16B XV RUGBY



U14B XV RUGBY



U13A XV RUGBY



U12A XV RUGBY



U13B XV RUGBY



U12B XV RUGBY



U13C XV RUGBY



U12C XV RUGBY



U12D XV RUGBY

“THE U13S CAN ALSO BOAST A GREAT RECORD, ESPECIALLY THE MIGHTY D TEAM, WHO NEARLY SWEEP ALL BEFORE THEM WITH THEIR INFAMOUS ATTACKING FLAIR AND PACE.”



U13D XV RUGBY



U12E XV RUGBY



SHS HOCKEY

# Hockey

ANOTHER SOLID YEAR, AND NEARLY 200 GAMES PLAYED.

The 2018/19 girls' hockey season saw an increase in participation from the previous season, with 19 teams playing weekly and 21 teams competing in total, for both National Cup and National Plate, and also weekend block fixtures. As a result, Stamford High School played in just under 200 competitive fixtures across the season. It is great to see the hockey numbers continue to grow, and we hope that this continues year-by-year.

Overall, the 1st XI had a challenging year, but their determination and work rate on the pitch was excellent week-in, week-out. It was great to see the values and ethos of the school displayed on the pitch each week, despite some of the results they experienced as a group.

It was also pleasing to see numerous Year 11 girls playing up and in the 1st XI. This will be valuable for them as players as they transition into the Sixth Form. In the national competitions, the 1st XI were knocked out of the England Hockey National Cup in round one by King's Ely in what was a close encounter, but they bounced back in the first round of the National Plate against Kimbolton

School. Unfortunately, they were knocked out of the plate in the second round by a strong Uppingham School, in what was a tough game that finished 0-4.

The 2nd XI had a superb season where they won 10, drew two and only lost two matches, against Oakham and Uppingham, and they had a depleted side on both of those occasions. They scored an outstanding 42 goals across the season, with Annabel Dallas the 2nd XI's top goal scorer for the season. Annabel managed to score 13 goals in 12 matches, with a number of these influencing the final result in matches. However, Kitty Alcorn, Eve Reading and Olivia Fairburn-Wright, who scored eight, seven and six goals respectively, should also be recognised for their efforts this season, and their impact on matches. Finally, a strong season in goal from Lucy Porteous meant that the 2nd XI finished the season with a positive goal difference of 32.

The U16s also went on tour to South Africa in the summer, on the SHS Hockey & Netball Tour. They played numerous competitive fixtures against some strong South African schools and made some good friendships as a result, on the pitch and at match teas. The students also got to experience lots of the local culture, visiting a local cheetah outreach sanctuary and enjoying some thrilling toboggan rides. The girls and staff had a great time and the trip will be remembered by all. The next tour sees the SHS Year 8s visit Edinburgh for the Year 6 and 8 Hockey/Rugby tour. Lower down the school, the U13s defended their county champions' crown. They progressed onto the National Schools' Regional round, but unfortunately did not go any further.

MR N CHANDLER



### Under 13 Regionals

What an honour and a great achievement it was for Stamford High School to be (once again) one of 16 teams from the counties of Lincolnshire, Kent, Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Suffolk, Essex, Norfolk and Hertfordshire to compete in the National Schools' (Regional Round) In2Hockey Championship.

The U13s were pooled against Coopers Coburn, Town Close and Bedford Girls' School, drawing (0-0), winning (1-0: Charlotte Dean) and losing (0-3) in each respective game. The results of the pool games were close and SHS narrowly missed out on progressing to the later rounds of the regional championships.

So, game faces on, Stamford headed into the play-offs for ninth to twelfth position versus Framlingham, which they lost 1-3, Lincoln Minster, which they won 4-1, and finally Haileybury, which they lost 0-2. A final position of eleventh out of 16 is very creditable against some outstanding teams. Well done to the squad for remaining tenacious throughout the day. This was clear evidence of the Team Around You, Lighting Fires and massive Stamfordian Spirit!

MS SMITH (TEAM MANAGER AND COACH)

Stamford High School also had a large number of players in county hockey programmes again this year, which is pleasing to see. The county programmes are great for players' development and we hope to see more students going through the player pathway in the coming years.

All this success and achievement this year puts the school and the girls in a great position for their first hockey season in the ISHL next year. The Independent Schools' Hockey League, which will run from U14s to Seniors, will see the girls play some of the region's and country's strongest hockey schools, such as Repton. This will push the players to their limits and in turn will result in continued progress and development on and off the pitch.

MR N CHANDLER



U13A XI HOCKEY



U12A XI HOCKEY



U13B XI HOCKEY



U12B XI HOCKEY



U13C XI HOCKEY



U12C XI HOCKEY



U13D XI HOCKEY



U12D XI HOCKEY



U13E XI HOCKEY



U12E XI HOCKEY



1st XI HOCKEY

SS HOCKEY

# Hockey

MORE COMPETITIVE DEVELOPMENT ON THE ASTRO THIS YEAR, AND A YOUNG INTERNATIONAL STAR TOO.



2nd XI HOCKEY

In the 2018-2019 hockey season, Stamford School had 20 teams out every weekend, playing in more than 230 fixtures overall. The 1st XI took part in the Tier 2 National Cup, and played well enough to qualify for the quarter finals. They came up against a strong Merchant Taylors' side, unfortunately narrowly losing out 4-2.

The first team had a good season regarding block fixtures and won all their games, apart from against local rivals Oakham. Similarly, the U16s had a very impressive season, finishing in the top eight in the country, losing only to St Lawrence's School in Canterbury.

Stamford School proudly produced many county and regional players, highlighting just how effectively hockey

has developed at the school. A huge achievement was that we had Eddie Harper get his first cap for England and he has had many more since.

Hockey at Stamford is developing nicely and this has already been recognised in the Independent Schools' Hockey League, where we played against very talented hockey schools such as Repton, Trent and Stowe. The fixtures against these schools were competitive, from the 1st XI to the U13D team. All our boys were a credit to the school when they represented the Stamford School in a fixture and every game was played in true Stamfordian spirit.

MR C WHITE



3rd XI HOCKEY



U14A XI HOCKEY



U16A XI HOCKEY



U14B XI HOCKEY



U15A XI HOCKEY



U14C XI HOCKEY



U15B XI HOCKEY



U13A XI HOCKEY



U15C XI HOCKEY



U13B XI HOCKEY



U13C XI HOCKEY



U12A XI HOCKEY



U12B XI HOCKEY



U12C XI HOCKEY



U12D XI HOCKEY

TABLE TENNIS

# Table Tennis

ALL CHANGE FOR THE CHAMPIONS, BUT A DECENT SEASON NEVERTHELESS.



As we were reigning Division 1 champions – indeed, Rutland County Champions – the challenge was set to retain the title. Sadly, with players transferring to other teams in need and a new points-scoring system introduced that would benefit teams with regular players, this challenge proved beyond our reach. Overall our record was played 22, won 15, drawn one and lost six.

However, a final league position of fourth is a fair reflection of a season during which the team encountered Kipling's imposters of triumph and disaster, and treated them both with magnanimity. Exams and injury affected availability following the Christmas break, but LHW enjoyed his most successful season for a number of years. With just three defeats all season (and a final average of 92.86%), he was challenging for the individual averages trophy until the final match of the season. Sadly, this was not to be. However, some consolation was gained when he beat the eventual winner of the averages in three straight games at the divisional championships.

LHW won the Tier 1 doubles shield with Andy Goodacre (OS 1979), a member of this season's champions MTTG. For the second successive year, he finished runner-up in the Tier 1 singles.

Jamie Anderson enjoyed a number of wins, and finished runner-up in the Tier 2 singles to Paul Ramm (OS 1979). Jamie also enjoyed success in the National Cadet League and in the Northamptonshire county championships, and he should continue to improve as his experience increases and game develops.

My final words are for the departing Ryan Chung. Ryan arrived in Year 10 and announced himself by winning a game in his first match 11-0; later in the season he defeated a player listed in the England rankings.

In recent seasons, Ryan has been part of Ketco Cup- and Championship-winning teams, and was also part of the team that won the Butcher County Cup in 2018. His average this season was 76.47%, five per cent better than that of RJBH.

**M R J B HENRY**





1st VII NETBALL



U16A VII NETBALL



U16B VII NETBALL



U15A VII NETBALL



U15B VII NETBALL



2nd VII NETBALL



3rd VII NETBALL



U15C VII NETBALL

SHS NETBALL

# Netball

NETBALL CONTINUES TO THRIVE, WITH NEARLY HALF THE SCHOOL PLAYING.

**T**his year, we had a total of 26 teams playing from Years 7 to 13, which resulted in a staggering total of 179 matches!

The U12s and 13s have consistently had more than 50 girls attend training on a weekly basis, showing their dedication and commitment to the sport. Many of them have regularly taken part in extra training at either early morning shooting or after-school fitness sessions. This has led to these age groups having A to E team fixtures, giving so many girls the opportunity to compete.

The numbers have remained high as we move up the school, with A to D teams at U14 and A to C at U15. At U16 level, the three teams have shown great resilience and determination on court, stepping up to play some tough opposition. The Sixth Form have had 1st to 3rd teams playing regularly, with a number attending early morning S&C sessions to support their netball development.

There have been some notable performances along the way, including the U15B team narrowly missing out on a place in the semi-finals at the Uppingham tournament. The U16A team took on a Repton 2nd/1st team and

through their hard work, tactics and team dynamics, came away with a win. The 1st team won the district tournament and fought back against The Perse to come away with a draw.

For the first time this year we hosted a friendly session with Uppingham in the Year 9 games lesson. Uppingham brought over their whole Year 9 group during a games lesson. This was an excellent opportunity for every student in that year to play and experience competitive netball.

Let's not forget the U12 and U14 netball trip to Leeds, either. The girls travelled to Leeds for the first weekend of half-term and played against both school and club teams, as well as being coached by former international player and Loughborough Lightning head coach Anna Carter. The girls also went to watch Superleague teams Manchester Thunder and Loughborough Lightning play each other, with some excellent support for Loughborough led by Miss Smith. They finished off with a paintballing session on the way home.

As well as school netball, we had six students in the Netball Academy programme, which is the first step of the performance pathway. A further six were selected for the Loughborough Lightning hubs, with one going on to gain a place in the U15 competition squad.

It has been great to see a grand total of 248 SHS students represent the school in netball fixtures. Participation is fundamental to performance and we are getting close to half of the school playing netball, and so I am looking forward to seeing how netball develops next season.

**MRS HORWOOD**

“IT HAS BEEN GREAT TO SEE A GRAND TOTAL OF 248 SHS STUDENTS REPRESENT THE SCHOOL IN NETBALL FIXTURES.”



U14A VII NETBALL



U14B VII NETBALL



U14C VII NETBALL



U14D VII NETBALL



U13A VII NETBALL



U13B VII NETBALL



U13C VII NETBALL



U13D VII NETBALL



U13E VII NETBALL



U12A VII NETBALL



U12B VII NETBALL



U12C VII NETBALL



U12D VII NETBALL



U12E VII NETBALL



SES GYMNASTICS

# Gymnastics

The SES gymnasts have had a very successful year. In the Independent Schools' National Championships, the U15 team finished in an amazing 4th place in both Team and Group routine events. The U13 team also competed well, gaining valuable experience for the future.

In the National Floor and Vault Finals, East Midlands were represented by our U14 Mixed team, who put in some amazing performances to finish in 2nd place. Individual honours went to Elysee Mordel, who finished 3rd overall.

SJS hosted The Midlands Independent School Championships and this is always a highlight for the gymnastics teams with SES being represented in all age groups : U7, U9, U11 and Senior. The senior gymnasts excelled at this event with a first place for both the boys and the girls. Many individual medals were won but a particular mention must go to Daisy Fox who scored a perfect 10 on the floor. Captains Sophie Mihil and Dan Smith have done a wonderful job this year and continued to be excellent role models for the younger gymnasts.

MRS T SMITH





1st XI CRICKET

## SES CRICKET

# Cricket

DESPITE SOME VARIABLE WEATHER, THE CRICKETERS HAD A GOOD SEASON ACROSS BOTH SCHOOLS.

Cricket became a full two-gender sport in Stamford Endowed Schools for the first time in 2019. The aim is to enthuse our pupils into cricket, and sport in general. Our staff are the secret to this wave of cricket on our fields, along with the parents who fetch and carry their children to and from practice in the spring term while supporting in the summer.

## SS

Despite the weather we have seen our busiest cricket season at the school. The senior teams have developed a 4th XI and each year group, from Years 7 to 10, have established a C team and even the odd sighting of a D team in Year 7. This dedication is highlighted no better than the raft of children turning up for net sessions in the dark at 6.30am every morning in the spring term.

Success has supplemented the participation. The 1st XI had an outstanding season. Losing only three players from the previous year meant 2019 held lots of promise, which the team fulfilled admirably, recording seven victories and only one narrow loss, by one wicket against Wellingborough.

Patrick Harrington was a quiet, yet assertive captain, backed up by vice-captain Sulieman Saleem. Star performers were Joey Evison with two centuries against the XL Club and MCC while Harrington and Hamish Bell scoring one each against Wanderers (Sydney) and Warwick School respectively.

The bowling attack was led by Kieran Calnan, Hamish Bell and George Hooper with the new ball and backed with the spin duo of Caius Headley and Mark Saunders - both getting on the honours board with six wickets against Warwick and five wickets against the MCC.

The team bids farewell to Patrick Harrington, Mark Saunders, Hugo Bell, Sree Subramonian and Jack Martin, all of whom have served the first team well, and set standards for future players. The fortunes of Stamford School 2nd XI mirrored that of the national side: capricious batting displays, followed by dogged fightbacks in the field which led to some exciting games. The batting unit never really got going, with Tate Breen the only one to make it to 50. Fergus Cato astutely balanced the dual challenges of defending low totals and giving all of his team a game: he had an excellent season as captain.

The 3rd and 4th XIs, after the highest turn-out to pre-season nets, were unfortunately let down by the weather with four out of the eight planned fixtures cancelled.

The 15A's capped an up-and-down season by reaching the Midlands regional T20 finals, beating King's Grantham in the final. In the regular games, the



soft underbelly of the batting line-up was too frequently shown and culminated in potential successful chases falling short. Batting always requires a linchpin and this team needed Ben Saunders to score big, which he did versus Oundle, with a fantastic 96.

With team spirit in the field and resoluteness with the ball, like England in the 1980s, meant the team to always have a chance. The opening new-ball pairing of Josh Hull and Will Baker terrorised opposition, including the Australian touring teams of Kent Street and Wanderers - it was like a post-modern bodyline series on Northfields! The calm after the initial storm never came for opposition with Seb Porter swinging his way to glory often, including for 6-8 off 4.1 overs versus Uppingham.

The 15B's maintained an unbeaten record for the 2019 season, challenged only once in an unfortunate wash-out against Uppingham. This was thanks in no small part to power hitting at the top of the order from Jake Leeds, with a strike rate in excess of 100, including top score of 50 off 29 balls against Oundle. This was supported by workmanlike performances in the middle order from Dom Measures, Elliot Mitchell and 'Mr Reliable' Roddy Mountain, who topped the batting averages with 37.0.

Bowling performances were a highlight, with Tom Cox's extra yard of pace pinning batsmen to the crease, and making life particularly uncomfortable on the damp pitches. Jacob Young, George Kerr and Max Dixon-Spain ably tied up the other end. Roddy's slow-medium pace tortured opposition batsmen into submission, taking his wickets at a miserly 7.88 a piece and completing a standout all round performance in a very successful team. The 15C's only had two matches due to the weather taking care of six matches.

## U14

In the 14A's, Billy Harris bowled with pace up front, while Angus Owen and Rohan Kundaje were an effective spin partnership, regularly taking wickets with good economy rates. Ben Goold showed a range of scoring methods at the top of the innings, while Archie Barnes batted with power. Charlie Fytche was consistent and scored a half-century against Kimbolton. The 14B's had a positive season with winning more matches than losses. Strong performances with the bat from Charles Anslow, Matt Linsel and Jacob Marshall-Taylor gave the team a consistent score for the opposition to chase.

Stand-out bowling performances from Eddy Sullivan, Sam Bird and Archie Fletcher meant the pressure was always on to score runs. The team massively improved in their understanding of effective fielding and the gradual reduction of the oppositions score proved this. The 14C's only managed two fixtures but the win against Oakham would have been enjoyable.

## U15

In the 13A's, George Sansom and Felix Morgan both bowled extremely consistently with the new ball and were ably assisted by Joe Simmons and Finn Moloney in the middle overs. Zak Scarborough deceived many batsmen through the year with his slow right-arm bowling. Ollie Dring lead by example with the bat scoring 340 runs including four fifties, as well as excelling behind the stumps. Jairus Charles had a brilliant season with both bat and ball, picking up crucial wickets and vital runs.

The 13B's started strong by winning in the fourteenth over Kimbolton, with key batting performances from Rufus Walker (28 runs) and Tom Mills (38 runs). This season has been very successful with many tight wins. We saw many changes in the team with players coming up from the A team or going down to the C team.



The highlights of the season included getting wins over two of our rival teams, Oakham and Warwick. Individuals improved too such as Henry Tipping and Tom Mills on the bowling front as well as Harley Brown and Dylan Turnell on the batting front. The innings of the season was Dylan's 75 not out against Warwick in the very hot weather, as it was 31 degrees all day. The most consistent bowlers were Fred North, Sam Munro, Henry Mahan, Reuben Solly and Luke McKeivitt. The most consistent batsman was the opener Sam Wilson, ably supported by Hugh Seary and James Egerton. The 13C's unfortunately lost both their matches with the last one by only one run.

**U12**

The 12A's went unbeaten, with a formidable strength in depth in all departments of the game. Easily the team of the season, winning the county cup in style by bowling St Hughs out for 15 and winning by eight wickets.

The pace of Alex Green and Raiffe Headley proving too much. They will be looking forward to finding out how

good they are next year in the national rounds. There are too many performances to mention but Freddie Hayne's maiden hundred against The Perse was a special moment. The 12B's had a 50/50 season and performed well considering some of the fixtures were against A teams of other schools. The 12C and D seasons were curtailed due to weather and managed only a couple of matches

All in all, a fun, a competitive season supplemented by the Year 7 to 9 house competition and the hotly contested Gloucester Cup, in its second year, which sees the Browne House (Senior Boarding House) take on a Prefects XI on Mainfields, umpired by the fantastic groundsmen team headed up by Bob Carder.

A special thank you goes to Mr Esson for his two years as Head of Cricket at Stamford School and the dedication he showed the sport. Mr Esson has stepped down from his position to centre on the more academic and pastoral side of school life taking on the role of Housemaster of Radcliffe.

**MR D W HEADLEY**



# Evison ever so good

JOEY EVISON HAS TURNED PRO WITH NOTTS CCC, AND REPRESENTED ENGLAND YOUNG LIONS IN A BREAKTHROUGH YEAR.

Stamfordian cricketer Joey Evison has had an unforgettable season. Through dedication, working hard with Nottinghamshire County Cricket Club since he was 13 years of age, Joey has now become a full-time professional as of October.

Success has been no stranger to Joey in many sports, but cricket is the one that has risen to the forefront, with recognition from England U19s (Young Lions), who picked him for the India and Bangladesh series this summer.

Further selection for the team has been announced and Joey will travel to the West Indies in December before the selectors pick their final squad to represent the U19 team in the World Cup. To cap off this incredible year, Joey made his first class debut for Nottinghamshire in their penultimate championship match of the season against Warwickshire. It was no surprise that he excelled, scoring 45 from 54 balls. Joey is the youngest player to make his debut for Nottinghamshire for 18 years and is the first player born in the 2000s to represent the county.

Joey joined Stamford Junior School in Year 5 because of the sporting opportunities, and he certainly has made every use of the them. He is still to complete his BTEC in PE, and the school will continue to support Joey in both his professional and school life. Who knows: we may well see Zak Chappell (OS 2014) and Joey gain further honours in the future and, let's hope, for the full England side.



U15A XI CRICKET



U14B XI CRICKET



U15B XI CRICKET



U14C XI CRICKET



U14A XI CRICKET



U13A XI CRICKET



U13B XI CRICKET



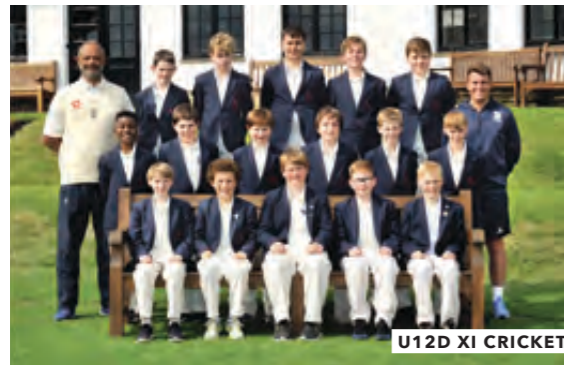
U12A XI CRICKET



U12B XI CRICKET



U12C XI CRICKET



U12D XI CRICKET

**SHS**

The cricket explosion has been monumental at the School, and this year has seen cricket played as a major sports option in games lessons for Years 7 to 9, building on the adoption of cricket instead of rounders at the Junior School. Mr Murphy kick started the cricket at the school and established links with Burghley Cricket Club, which the girls have adopted as their main ground.

The season, however, has been badly hit by weather and the emphasis in the next few years is to make cricket fun and engaging. Indoor pre-season saw music being played at net sessions and it was clear that cricket gave the girls a real social side to sport, attracting many who don't normally gravitate to the more physical major sports.

The 1st XI, captained by Emily Lamb, beat Rugby convincingly in their only game, before losing to Shrewsbury School in the national quarter finals. This is an exciting team with a core of talented year 11 pupils, Kaushicca Vaseeharan, Grace Kendall, Sophie Mihill and Isabelle Hudson, moving into the Sixth Form.

A special thank you to Mr Hudson for managing the 1st XI. Success was also achieved by the U13 indoor team, captained by Maeve Sinfield, winning the Huntingdonshire County Cup and the Lincolnshire County Cup. Progression to the regional finals was a good experience and will give the girls an idea of the levels they can aspire to.

Fielding three teams in all age groups has been great but unfortunately 90% of games were cancelled due to weather as the rain levels were the highest in my nine years at Stamford. The cricket at SHS is set to grow further and I look forward to gradually resourcing the growth with facilities to match.

**MR D W HEADLEY**  
DIRECTOR OF CRICKET



U15 XI CRICKET

“SUCCESS WAS ALSO ACHIEVED BY THE U13 INDOOR TEAM, CAPTAINED BY MAEVE SINFIELD, WINNING THE HUNTINGDONSHIRE COUNTY CUP AND THE LINCOLNSHIRE COUNTY CUP”



U13A XI CRICKET



U13B XI CRICKET



U13C XI CRICKET



SS CROSS COUNTRY

# Cross Country

BOYS TOOK ALL CONDITIONS IN THEIR STRIDE, AND HIT THE HEIGHTS THIS YEAR.

It has once again been an excellent season of cross country over the autumn and spring terms. With a host of different competitions for boys from Years 7 to 11, there have been plenty of brilliant races.

In the local Fenland League the Year 9/10 team won the overall competitions. There were led superbly by Tom Hattee and Sam Hughes, who finished in the top three in all races. These two boys have been the cornerstone of the cross-country team over the last few years, and they both show that hard work clearly pays off.

Following the success in the Fenland League, for the first time Stamford entered a team in the English Schools Athletics Association (ESAA) County Cup. The boys came through the first round at Crowland in the East Midlands region, coming second to a strong Bourne Grammar team. This meant they progressed to run against 13 other schools who qualified through opening rounds at Mount St Mary's College in the regional round. On an undulating course, the team performed superbly well, coming third and securing qualification for the National Finals at Woodbridge School.

It was a perfect day for running on a challenging course at Woodbridge, and the boys all performed at their best, finishing in 23rd position on the day. In total in the competition, more than 600 schools entered, so it was a great achievement. Individually Sam Hughes came 21st with Tom Hattee a second behind in 23rd. The whole team of Sam Hughes, Tom Hattee, James Rothwell, Oliver Macintosh, Elliot Dee and Sam Gordon-Kerr should be very proud of their performances.

Away from school competitions, the district trials took place at Burghley Park. 20 runners from across Years 7 to 11 entered, on a gorgeous sunny day. Running against 10 schools from the Kesteven district, all runners did themselves proud. Special mention must go to the runners who finished in the top 20, securing their place to run for Kesteven in the next round of the competition. Sam Gordon-Kerr was third and Elliot Dee seventh in the Junior Boys' competition, while Sam Hughes came second, Tom Hattee third, Benji Davies fifth, James Rothwell sixth, JJ Harrison tenth and Oliver Macintosh sixteenth in the Inter Boys' competition, winning that age group.

Tom, Sam and Sam all qualified for the English School Nationals in Leeds, which again showed the talent they have in the sport. Overall, it was an outstanding season of cross-country from the team and everyone should be proud of how they ran.

MR J MITCHELL

# SHS Cross Country team



SS SQUASH

# Squash

A GREAT VINTAGE RESULTED IN AN EXCELLENT SEASON FOR THE FIRST V.

## First V

This was always going to be a good year, as we had four of the five players playing at least their second season in the First V, and so the First V won 11 matches and lost one.

Tom Andrews took over from Ethan Archer at No 1 and competed excellently throughout the season, winning nine of his 12 matches. Ethan was much happier at No 2 and gained a lot of confidence as a result, winning eight of his 12 matches. William Barker, still in Year 11, was a very strong No 3, winning all of his 12 matches. Edward Gallacher was a very strong No 4, winning nine of his 11 matches.

Sam Brunswick played No 5 at the start of the term and sadly was unable to register a win. George Bingham took over and managed three wins from his eight matches.

## 2nd V

This was a very young side who will be forming next season's First V. Sam Brunswick was playing No 1, Rohan Kundaje (Year 9) No 2, Gabriel Rudman (Year 9) No 3, with Year 8s Harry Smith No 4, and Archie Barnes and Felix Morgan playing at No 5.

With such a young side we were always going to be struggling with the power of the other schools' older boys. We lost our first five matches all 5-0, but in December we got our first win against Oundle 3-2, and the following week we beat Oakham 4-1 at home. After that we won all of our remaining five matches.



1st V SQUASH



2nd V SQUASH

This was a great effort by all the team, and thanks go to those who were close to the team for pushing them in training too. It will be a different story next year as there is a big jump up to the First V.

Miss Matilda Parslow joined the school as graduate gap student and turned out to be an excellent squash player (she did not lose to any of the boys all year) putting in many hours on court with the boys, which helped me in my ageing years, as the legs don't work as well any more.

Matilda also introduced racketlon to Tom Andrews, Ethan Archer and Mr Ware. Racketlon is a relatively new competition where you play your opponent up to 21 pts at table tennis, followed by badminton, followed by squash, followed by tennis. Tom and Ethan played in five tournaments around the country during the year and were very successful. Many thanks, Matilda.

Well done to all squash players and many thanks to Mr Ware and Miss Parslow for their help with the coaching and encouragement of all our boys.

MR D F WILLIAMS

# Tennis

THE FIRST EVER JOINT TOUR, AND A GREAT TOURNAMENT VICTORY FOR THE SENIOR GIRLS.

The tennis season kicked off with the first-ever SES joint tennis tour. Thirty-four boys and girls, some of whom had yet to start life in the senior schools, travelled to the Lousada Tennis Academy in Portugal for a four-day intensive coaching programme. Unfortunately, we forgot to take the sunshine with us. However, in true Stamfordian spirit, the boys and girls lapped up the opportunity to experience some high quality European coaching and embraced every minute. As could only be expected from the young players, every pupil conducted themselves superbly, from the minute they left Stamford to the minute they returned. Coaches Mr Williams and Miss Parslow praised the pupils on their behaviour and intensity throughout, both on and off the court.

## Seniors

The highlight of the senior girls' season was the first team's amazing success at the Independent Schools' Tennis Association (ISTA) tournament, held at Eton College.

This was the first time a Stamford High School team had ever entered the competition, so as the girls stepped on to court on day one, not really knowing what to expect, it was game time. Sixty four schools entered in a range of age categories. Stamford High School was represented by Ella Moger, Annabel Dallas, Sophie Golland and Isabelle Sharpe.

The players faced tough opposition, Reigate Grammar, St Helen & St Katherine's and St Mary's, Ascot. While all played well and with passion and determination, Stamford second pair (Sharpe and Golland) were unfortunately defeated. Moger and Dallas, however, progressed into the later stages, first having to dispatch the St Helen & St Katherine's first pair, then Claremont in a very close match - taking victory in a championship tie break set. The final saw Stamford meet St Peter's York. Dallas and Moger had to dig deep after a long two days of tennis. Despite losing the first set 6-3, the girls had to find the extra gear required to keep themselves in the tournament, and find the extra gear they did.

A second set win took the girls into another championship tie break point. With determination, great skill and smiles, the girls won the tie break and took the victory in the final! Bringing silverware home after a debut entrance into the tournament is a brilliant achievement, and all girls should be proud of how they performed on and off the tennis courts.

First six coach Miss Parslow had nothing but praise



SENIOR TENNIS



1st TENNIS

and admiration for the whole team and the way they battled on court throughout the three long days of tennis. Throughout the course of the season, the senior girls competed well on a tough fixture card.

The dedication to training and Saturday fixtures was obvious throughout the course of the year, even for those balancing their school representation with their intense exam study. Tough fixtures against Framlingham College, Felsted and Bedford Girls' School saw the girls narrowly miss out on victory, but Kings' High, Warwick were to struggle against the quality of the senior first team.

The senior boys had a mixed season in terms of results, but a hugely positive one regarding their development. Competitive fixtures against Felsted, Warwick and Uppingham saw the senior first six of Leon Kewney, Will Barker, Tom Andrews, Ethan Archer, Archie Adams and Archie Hubbard fall just on the wrong side of tight final results. The boys returned to business as usual against very good Kimbolton and Bedford sides.

The senior boys' second six also struggled to find a final result but the never-faltering intensity throughout the season of Harvey Seel, Lloyd Durno, Oliver Davies, Will Rodriguez, Louis Vergette and Gareth Mok must be credited.

The senior boys finished their season on a high with an intense battle with Millfield School in the second round ▶



U15A TENNIS



U13B TENNIS



U15B TENNIS



U13C TENNIS



U14A TENNIS



U12A TENNIS



U14B TENNIS



U12B TENNIS



U13A TENNIS



U12C TENNIS



U15 TENNIS



U13 TENNIS



U14 TENNIS



U12 TENNIS

of the Independent Schools' Tennis Association (ISTA) tournament. Having seen off a challenging Hymer's College team earlier in the day, the second round was fraught throughout, as first pair Kewney and Andrews (both OS '19) engaged in a full-blown attack against an extremely strong Millfield pair. At four-love down, the game was all but over, but a resurgence from the Stamford pair, winning four games on the bounce, put the boys firmly back in the match.

The next two sets were of the standard seen only a few miles down the road at Wimbledon, with the boys exchanging volleys and drives, but unfortunately it was not to be as the Millfield pair proved just too good, taking the match 6-4. As the boys walked off the court to a standing ovation from the onlooking and hugely impressed crowd, it was smiles all round as the boys knew that they had left nothing on the court.

### Juniors

The Under 14s and Under 15s enjoyed competitive seasons against a range of new opponents. It was great to see A, B and C teams on court for the boys and A to D teams for the girls. The Under 15s began to set up their tennis careers as senior players, and I look forward to seeing them compete in the summer of 2020. Huge block and mixed ability fixtures against Witham, Maidwell and Brooke Priory gave every junior (U12 and 13) tennis player the chance to represent the school throughout the course of the season, with some even playing one or two age groups above themselves. The coaching expertise of C J Selvidge has increased year on year and we look forward to seeing C J even more, with some exciting prospects ahead.

### LTA Tennis League

Both the boys' and the girls' teams experienced a mixed run in the competitive LTA Schools League, that sees the

best of the best battle on the county, regional and national stage. The U13 teams played brilliantly against Queen Elizabeth Grammar and Priory Ruskin respectively, but unfortunately weren't quite able to progress into the regional stages of the competition.

The U15 boys' team had success in their games against Boston and QEGS Horncastle but unfortunately were not able to progress further into the regional rounds of the competition. The U13 boys suffered a similar fate to their older peers, competing well throughout the year but never quite making the grade in order to progress into the later stages of the competition.

### Individual success

We are fortunate enough to announce a series of individual successes. Chase Burgess (Year 8) went from strength to strength in his tennis this year, competing in competitions and tournaments all over the UK. Chase has represented Lincolnshire at U14 level and has also been successful at U16 level.

Leon Kewney (OS '19) also had county success, representing Cambridgeshire at U18 level. Leon was selected to represent Cambridgeshire in the Aegon County Cup, one of only four boys to be selected for the squad in the county. We wish Leon the best of luck as he continues his tennis journey at Culford School for sixth form.

Isabelle Sharpe continues to lower her LTA rating, competing in tournaments around the county, and we look forward to seeing more of her talents on court.

We also look forward to seeing some exciting developments within the tennis programme moving forward. My personal thanks go to all the boys and girls who dedicated so much time to developing their tennis, the coaches who spent so much time helping the young players, and the parents who spent their Saturdays standing and supporting.

**MR B KIRKPATRICK**



### SES GOLF

## Golf

ANOTHER SOLID YEAR FOR AN EVER-IMPROVING GOLF TEAM.

It has been another busy year for the Stamford Endowed Schools golf programme. 2019 has allowed us to strengthen our links with Burghley Park Golf Club, offering more coaching and greater opportunities for the students. Despite the golf season officially starting in the summer term, we started our Year 7 and 8 co-curricular training, which was open to all abilities, in the autumn term, with weekly sessions looking at all aspects of the game, including putting, chipping and the long game.

The golf programme started up again in the summer term, where, despite some rainy sessions, we took 12 talented students to Burghley Park Golf Club, where they had expert coaching from Miss Haslam and PGA professional Mark Jackson, honing their golfing skills on the driving range, putting green and the impressive three-hole academy golf course.

In more recent news from our senior team, following on from a successful 2018 season as champion in the individual girls' gross prize in the Lincolnshire Schools Golf Championship, Matilda Kedzlie successfully defended her title as Lincolnshire Girls School Champion at Blankney Golf Club this April and we wish her the best of luck in the National Schools final in August. Hugo Kedzlie, our U18 golf captain of 2019, and the winner of the county boys' championship last year, is continuing to represent the county and playing in national competitions across the country as he prepares for his departure to America on a full golf scholarship.

We say goodbye to Miss Haslam at the end of this year, but we have no doubt that the programme will continue to grow as we continue to link with local golf clubs and offer greater opportunities across all year groups. The future is very bright for Stamford Endowed Schools Golf.

**MR M NASEY**

### SS RACKETLON

## Racketlon

THE TEAM HAS PASSED ITS TEST OF RACKET SPORTS WITH FLYING COLOURS.

Over the past year, I have managed to convince three members of Stamford School to get involved in a sport called racketlon. This is the ultimate test of racket sport ability: the 'triathlon' (despite there being four!) of racket sports, where every point counts in table tennis, badminton, squash and tennis.

Played first to 21 points in each sport, it requires great mental strength as well as an ability to switch racket sports in a second. Throughout the year, Tom Andrews, Ethan Archer, Mr Ware and I have competed in numerous tournaments across the UK, picking up plenty of silverware on the way!

In their first ever tournament in Nottingham, both of the boys played extremely well, showing their squash and tennis abilities to power to victory, with Ethan winning the E grade and Tom the D grade event. This was despite their never really having played badminton or table tennis competitively.

Their second tournament was a much bigger affair: the British Championships! Ethan and Tom played doubles together in the men's B grade and showed that ability can top anything as they powered through all the way to the final, despite some heavy losses in the badminton on the way. In the men's C grade singles, Tom had a tough first round, but then managed to go on to win the plate event, while Ethan had a brilliant run, falling in the semi-final, but showing some great resilience and determination on the way. Even I had a good tournament here, getting to the final of the women's A event before losing to the British number one. Mr Ware also did well, coming a very respectable fifth in the men's C grade.

The most recent tournament was a little different, as we competed as a team representing Lincolnshire (but actually representing Stamford School!) in the county championships. It was a tough draw and unfortunately the squash abilities couldn't make up for the weakness in badminton, but the boys had a brilliant day representing the school and the county, so well done to them. We hope that Tom and Ethan will continue to play racketlon and maybe compete in an international tournament soon!

**MISS PARSLOW**







SS BASKETBALL

# Basketball

A BRILLIANT TURNAROUND IN FORTUNES AND SOME EPIC, CLOSE GAMES.

After a very tough 2017-18 basketball season for the First X, which included eight losses and only two wins, 2018-19 had a lot of potential, with new faces from those boys moving into the Middle School, as well as some new Sixth Formers ready to show their ability on the court.

Two games were played before Christmas, with the team winning one and losing the other against a very strong Loughborough Grammar, as experiments were still being made in terms of playing relationships and team cohesion. However, once January's fixtures came around the boys hit the ground running, with four wins on the bounce, including two games that were won by just two points, including a county cup semi-final. A tough game against Stowe at Stamford followed, with the boys again winning ever so narrowly by two points before travelling to Uppingham where, again, the team won in the dying seconds by two points.

The team, led by Joe Carter, were now looking at a County Cup Final against Carre's Grammar with a seven-game win streak under their belts, but despite this they still felt the pressure going into the final. It had every ounce of drama you would expect, and the stakes were high for all including old Carre's Grammar pupil and now one of Stamford's main players, Bobby Singer.

The boys took the game to Carre's in the first quarter and really showed early on that they were there to compete, so much so that point guard Alex Tse committed himself to winning a loose ball that resulted in him getting injured, and being unable to continue for the rest of the game.

Harvey Ratcliffe (Year 10) had to therefore step up and take Alex's place, as the experienced Year 13 watched

from the bench. As the first quarter finished, the boys trailed ever so slightly – but held their heads high and went out into the second quarter and managed to turn the game in their favour, before the third quarter ended with the scores tied. As the fourth quarter went on, the scores remained very close: Carre's would score down one end and we would reply with the same number of points at the other end.

Within the final minute, Carre's called a time-out and set up a play to score a three pointer – which came off. The seconds were running down, but the pressure did not affect Joe Carter who on the turn pulled up from beyond the three point line and matched the shot made seconds before by the opposition.

Again, Carre's called a time-out and this time the boys knew how to defend the play. The score was still tied, 12 seconds were on the clock and it looked as though the final was going into overtime. However, to the players' disbelief, on the final play and despite defending so well, a foul was called once the final shot was made by Carre's. It was such a shame that such a debatable decision ultimately decided the game, as three free shots followed and Carre's managed to score two, with no time left on the clock after they were made. Despite the final piece of drama, the boys remained impressive characters and sportsmen, but eventually the pattern of winning games by two points came back to haunt them in the biggest game of the season!

Despite this, the boys went back to play Loughborough Grammar in the return leg and, after the loss early on in the season, they showed their progression with an excellent win – again by two points after a brilliant performance by Bobby Singer and the young Billy Harris (Year 9), before beating Rugby School for the first time in three seasons to close out a very impressive run of nine wins and just two losses for the 2018-19 year. The future looks bright for the young basketballers of Stamford and, with a full fixture list ahead of them in 2019-20, as well as another dabble in the county cup, who knows which way the two points will sway this time around?

MR D DI CATALDO

SES SWIMMING

# Swimming

ANOTHER YEAR, AND EVEN STRONGER PERFORMANCES, AS THE SWIM TEAM DEVELOPS.

More swimmers and more competitions in the calendar have meant that the swim team has had an amazing year. The first annual event on the calendar is the Stowe Relays, which this year provided some of the best results the team have delivered. All age groups performed exceptionally well, with the Under 18 boys bringing home the silverware in both of their respective events. The competition, as always, was some of the best the team came up against all year, but our swimmers stepped up to the challenge.

This season saw Stamford enter the English Schools' Swimming Association team event, competing in the regional qualifiers in Nottingham. In tough conditions, the swimmers performed extremely well, with the girls producing some of their fastest times on record. Again, the Under 18 boys really pulled through, narrowly missing out on national qualification.

After a few intense weeks of training and preparation, it was time for the Warwick 100s event, where all of the swimmers had to race 100m distances, as well as their respective relays. What an event! Finn brought home the victory in 100m Butterfly with Matthew coming a nail biting second place in the 200m Individual Medley. The team shone at this competition, where their team spirit



really pulled them through some gruelling events.

The swimmers competed against their usual rivals throughout the year in a series of friendly galas. Events like this prove invaluable as they give the team a chance to not only showcase their talents but to put their hard work in practice into their racing.

Warwick also hosted their annual 50m event, where the younger years were able to compete against different schools. They thoroughly enjoyed coming together as a team, which really showed in their team spirit and support for each other during racing.

The last major event for the team is always the prestigious Bath and Otter Cup. Teams from the length and breadth of the country attend this event, held in the London Aquatic Centre, where the building comes alive with the hustle and bustle of all things racing. As always, the competition was nothing short of national standard, but the young swim team proved they were a force to be reckoned with. Every year the standard gets better, but every year our swimmers get stronger - both mentally and physically - taking on what faces them to produce some outstanding swims and skills to match.

MISS A WHITE





SHS/SS SAILING

# Sailing

A GOOD SEASON WITH PLENTY OF NEW SILVERWARE IN THE CABINET.

With the worst of the winter weather out of the way, the sailing season opened with the Alton Regatta, hosted by Royal Hospital School. It was still a very challenging day from a weather point of view, though, with violent squalls frequently interrupting racing and necessitating the boats being brought off the water. Nonetheless, at the end of the day only two teams remained with 100% wins; both teams had dropped only one point, and they had not sailed against one another, so there was no way of separating Stamford and Oakham as joint winners.

The BSDRA Eastern Region Championships, hosted at Rutland Water, was the complete opposite, with so little wind that racing had to be abandoned without a conclusive result, although the Stamford U19 and U16 teams had progressed well and won the majority of the races that proved possible to sail.

The BSDRA South Eastern Region Championships at Bough Beech were hosted by Sevenoaks, and here the training and experience paid off, with Stamford's team winning the U16 event to collect the Hoard Shield.

The BSDRA National Championships at Oxford brought together the best teams from around the regions. Stamford's team was in seventh place at the end of the

first day's racing and qualified for the Gold B fleet, finishing fifth in their fleet.

The Itchenor National Schools Sailing Championships are a highlight of the sailing calendar, offering a change from team racing and the chance to compete individually, with 50 or so other boats of the same class from all around the UK. Stamford's Ewan McAnally and Isabel Leetch won the Firefly mini series, while Alice Lucy and Ellie Hattam picked up the Astral Trophy for the most highly placed all-female team in the main competition.

The Youth and Junior Championships at Rutland Sailing Club gave a further opportunity for our sailors to challenge themselves individually, and Ewan McAnally won this overall with Alice Lucy coming second, and Oliver McKee from Stamford Junior School picking up the first under 13 trophy.

The season draws to a close with the Eric Twiname National Team Racing Championships at Oxford. Having made the semi-finals in previous years but never won this challenging two-day competition, we decided to combine our sailors with Oakham School and with other top Rutland Sailing Club youth sailors to maximise our chances. This strategy worked, and the 'Rutland Green' team, with Alice Lucy helming, won the U19 event, with 'Rutland Blue' (with Oliver Fraser, Isabel Leetch, Mattias Morgan and Ellie Hattam) coming sixth and 'Rutland Purple' (David Turner) coming ninth out of 24 teams, while in the U16 competition, 'Rutland Gold' (Caleb Jelf) came third out of 30 teams.

In conclusion, a highly satisfactory season with some really nice additions to the trophy cabinet. As I step down as sailing coach and hand over to our new coach, Nick Neve, I am happy that the team is in good shape, and under Nick's expert guidance will go from strength to strength.

**DR A CROOKELL**

SS ATHLETICS

# Athletics

VERY FINE PERFORMANCES THROUGHOUT THE SEASON.

Athletics is very much a sport for everyone at Stamford. With a range of competitions, from friendly local meets to students racing at national finals, all abilities and experiences are catered for. The Year 7/8s had some excellent competitions at Oakham School, competing against a range of local schools. There have been several stand-out performances, with Ed Delaney winning every shot-put competition, Myles Starbuck running brilliantly in the 300m and 1,500m and both the Year 8 and Year 7 relays doing well.

As the season progressed, the Wednesday Athletics Club became even more popular and it was great to see the boys and girls training together. This led into the district trials, where a full team from Year 7 to 10 competed against other schools in the Kesteven region. Once again, there were some outstanding individual performances, with Elliot Klemstine winning the 200m, Oliver Mollett the 300m and Jamie Nel the javelin, to name a few. These performances led to 13 boys qualifying to represent Kesteven at the Lincolnshire County Championships, which were held on a windy day at Boston. Once again, the boys did Kesteven proud, with Oliver again winning his 300m and strong performances from Tom Hattee, Jamie Nel and Archie Davies, all finishing second in their respective events.

Special mention must go to two students. Ed Delaney qualified for the Prep School Nationals in Birmingham, where he came third in the shot put, while Benji Davies competed at the English Schools Nationals in the 800m. This is a superb achievement, as the qualifying standards are extremely high. It has been brilliant to get Stamford back on the national stage and everyone who competed over the season should be proud of their performances.

**MR J MITCHELL**



1st BADMINTON



2nd BADMINTON

## SES Badminton



## SHS Football



## SHS Athletics

noun: a community of students of different ages who compete against other groups in sports and other activities.

# HOUSES



# Anderson

Throughout the school year, Anderson girls have been extremely dedicated to all challenges and competitions thrown their way.

One of the biggest House events, House Music, was a fight fought well, with our seniors kicking off with 'Ocean Eyes' by 17 year old artist, Billie Eilish and the Whole House Choir following up singing 'Mamma Mia' from the popular musical 'Mamma Mia 2'. It was an afternoon enjoyed by all of the Houses, with girls and teachers present.

There have been multiple sporting events including the Burghley Run, Football, Netball, Hockey and the first ever House Cricket competition. We had great participation in everything, especially House Football, even though it isn't the most popular sport within Anderson.

However, the girls enjoyed this event and had an energetic afternoon of football. We also had many individual and team successes at a very hot Sports Day, where Anderson's 'Sea of Sunshine' shone brightly!

Anderson success did not stop at sport, with a brilliant second place result in the House Drama competition. We are excited for the year ahead!

MRS K ALUZZI



# Beale

Beale's new House Captains, Lara Monahan and Lily Borley, started their House duties in the summer term where they paraded the new House banner. Grace Kendall's 'tongue in cheek' caption encompasses the spirit of this unique House!

Lily and Lara's first competition year started extremely well, as they managed to motivate Beale to first place on Sports Day, which was a huge achievement.

On returning in September, new Year 7 Bealians were welcomed into the House with a party in the first week. A half-term's worth of practice then culminated in Beale winning the Whole House Choir competition and earning the plaudit of being the 'smiliest House'. Particularly good smilers on the day were Vicki Sims and Grace Young!

Please note that the photo supplied was taken during a House practice during lunch time - not many smiles then!

The Christmas period consisted of many sports competitions in which all Bealians played a part. A new 'House Bake-Off' competition was also introduced and two Bealians made the final: Abbie Walster and Erin Patterson both made "extremely good cakes", according to the judges.

The autumn term culminated in Beale winning the Senior House Drama competition, which was another huge achievement. Our Christmas-themed play was written and acted superbly and congratulations to all our actors.

Unfortunately, the post Christmas competitions did not reach the same heady heights but Beale did have some successes, particularly in House Dance, where Year 9, ably coached by Jess Westwood, won their competition for the second time in a row.

One of the highlights of the Burghley Run for Beale was Leonie Harte winning her third title in succession for the Year 9 race, which was another great achievement.

The summer term included a cricket competition for the first time and our Year 7/8 team proved worthy winners. While Sports Day was not as successful as the previous year, there were many students who excelled in the extremely hot conditions. Abigail Sole-Porter and Grace Clifton completed the 1,500m in style, whilst Evy Dickie-Meadows was awarded the Bealian Spirit Award for her positive attitude and willingness to be involved in many events.

This award was created by Lara and Lily as a farewell gift, and Beale wishes them well for the future!

MR G WEEKS



# Cavell



The year got off to a very strong start, with Cavell being placed first or second in the majority of the autumn term's competitions.

House Music dominated the first half of term, and all our students, in true Cavellian fashion, worked tirelessly in rehearsals of our Whole House Song, 'This Is Me', from the film 'The Greatest Showman'. At the same time, our Senior Choir grabbed every spare moment they could find to practise 'Fix You' by Coldplay. Both our pieces were arranged by our own Year 13 Prefects, Amber Anderson and Olivia Delaney. On the day, all our hard work paid off, and we were delighted to come first in Senior Choir and second in Whole House – a clear first place overall.

With that success under our belts, we went on to come second in several other events: Football, the first-ever SHS House Bake-Off; Senior Drama, and Dance. Our Senior Quiz team was awarded third place, and we finished the term with fourth place in Hockey. This was our only real disappointment of the term, but it was perhaps a sign of things to come with regard to Cavell's performance in team sports this year.

The spring term was equally successful for Cavell. Public Speaking was the first competition of 2019 and our team - Annie-May Cannings, Evie Joyce and Hannah Watson - got through the first round with their entertaining presentation on 'The Pros and Cons of School Uniform'.

We were feeling quietly confident about the final round against Anderson, when, at the very last moment, we were forced to find a replacement for Evie, who was unwell. Tabitha Findlay nobly offered to step in, and she and the other two members of the team gained another first place for Cavell, this time discussing the topic of Vegetarianism. The Spellathon followed shortly afterwards, and once again we were placed first. Then came a succession of second places in House Netball, Year 9 Fashion and at the inaugural Year 8 Activities Afternoon at Stamford School. We were also thrilled to improve upon our fourth place at last year's Burghley Run, this time achieving a much more creditable second place.

We started the summer term in an optimistic mood. Our disastrous result in Hockey, however, was repeated in almost all the team sport competitions of the summer. We were fourth in Cricket, Tennis, Swimming and Rounders. Remarkably, though, we came first at Sports Day, and our spirits were lifted considerably by this unexpected bonus. A few days later, we won Junior Drama with our well-rehearsed and entertaining performance on 'The Role of Women'.

It seemed that our fortunes had turned, but would that be enough to win the overall House trophy? Sadly, the answer was no, and, just like last year, we were pipped at the post by Eliot.

Amber and Zoe were excellent House Prefects, and I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to them and also our Deputy House Prefects, Alice and Olivia, for all their commitment to Cavell House. Thanks are also due to the six Year 12 Assistant Prefects, who supported Amber and Zoe so well throughout the year.

MRS V WILSON



# Eliot

Another big year for Eliot! The leadership of our House Captains, Annie Wells and Patsy Brake, led us to an almighty victory in multiple events as well as overall - although, it must be said that all the girls within Eliot contributed to the win.

House Singing started us off, as we enjoyed singing our Whole House Song, 'Grace Kelly' by Mika, and a beautiful performance of 'You Raise Me Up' by the Senior Choir. Despite not winning, it was a great event and we hope to match it this year, if not improve on it.

The girls have striven to succeed in many events, particularly in sporting competitions, with excellent performances and wins across the board in cricket, cross-country, netball, tennis, swimming and rounders.

Winning the Merit Cup meant that our girls' academic achievements were also recognised within the school, and were a large contribution to the overall result. Furthermore, a favourite of ours is the amazing House

Dance competition, with numerous girls across Year 7 to Year 10 demonstrating outstanding commitment and creativity, which allowed Eliot to leave as overall winners of the competition.

Another highlight of the year included the General Knowledge competition, which saw four senior girls test their knowledge on a variety of topics from 'Napoleon' to 'Different types of rice', and yet still they came out on top.

A big thank-you must also go to Sonia Cheung and Sasha Pollock who were a major help in House Singing and House Drama this year. We are very proud of all the girls in this house, who have continued to put in 100% effort and gained the overall winner's trophy again this year.

It was Miss Leddy's first year as Head of Eliot and, despite large shoes left behind by Mrs Dias, she was extremely successful in filling them. Her support and enthusiasm have been very motivating, and we couldn't have done it without her. We're very proud to be a part of, and now help to lead, this close-knit community, sobriing on this coming year! We hope we can be as successful as we were last year.

LAUREN DUROSE & LILY DODDS

# Ancaster

## Junior

**M**r Morris passed the baton over at the start of the 2018-19 academic year and, with it, 75 boys sporting the red of Ancaster awaited.

What a start they got off to: the brilliant new Year 7s winning the first event of the year and showing the other three Houses that third place would not suffice this year! Besides the Chess competition, the autumn term was not the kindest to the boys in red. Fourth place finishes in Hockey and Rugby, as well as third in Drama and Debating, left us in last place at the end term. Once Christmas had come and gone, morale was low, but the with the House Music event on the horizon, the boys knew this was the opportunity to regain points and drag themselves back into the race for the trophy.

B Wegg took it upon himself to lead the boys through endless rehearsals of singing during lunchtimes, while also taking charge of the band pieces as well, with some difficult songs from our Disney theme. Despite every rehearsal having a different problem, come the final day of half-term, Ancaster performed first in the competition and sang 'Let it Go' like never before and in return were rewarded with first place! Surely this was the turning point? Unfortunately not. After the House Music win there were three fourth place finishes on the bounce and, despite a win in the 'Iron Man' challenge and excellent running from M Starbuck, fourth place awaited us in the Burghley Run as well. As the spring term ended, Ancaster were still in fourth place – 14 points behind first.

After meeting in the summer term for the first time, all that could be asked of the boys was that we continue to put in effort with all competitions and finish with our heads held high. S Barwise, House Captain, ensured we gave our all in the ACT competition, leading the way in Year 9, with F Hewitt in Year 7 scoring the most points across the board with a superb effort throughout the week which ultimately resulted in an astounding victory in a competition that threw the boys right back into the race for..... second place.

Exeter had been running away with the competition all year and showed no signs of slowing down, but with Sports Day and two double-point events coming up there was still hope.. A superb silver medal for the House at Sports Day gave hope going into the Swimming event, where M Starbuck, S Zeng and M Linsell lead the red army to a first-place finish. The final event of the year



would take place on a wet and miserable Saturday morning. But that did not stop the red of Ancaster being out in full force for the Cricket competition, where a second-place finish again left the boys with hope. The Reading competition and merits had been going on all year and it was announced in assembly that Ancaster had pulled through in the final term and won both.

As the final assembly loomed, the boys as well as their housemaster were still unsure how the crazy events of the summer term had affected them in the overall standings, but one thing would be for certain and that was that we would certainly finish with our heads held high.

Fourteen points was what was asked of the 75 Ancaster boys. Six-and-half points was how many points they won the House Competition by.

**MR D DI CATALDO**

## Senior

**I**t was a titanic sporting contest that had raged for months, but had ended in a tie. I am not referring to the 2019 Cricket World Cup, but the SS Senior House competition. So it was, that after three terms of 50 diverse tournaments, Ancaster and Radcliffe finished exactly level on points.

Unlike in the World Cup, there was not to be a tiebreaker; although I had suggested to Mrs Blissett that we might find a way of deciding an overall winner. I declined her challenge - a personal wrestling duel in jelly - on the grounds of the indignity.

Secretly, I was fearful that she would fight dirty, and I was likely to lose. Ultimately, a dead heat was a fitting conclusion and a deserved way for Mrs Blissett to end her tenure as Radcliffe Housemistress; during her time in charge, Radcliffe had been transformed from game also-rans into formidable competitors. She will be missed.

It should also not be forgotten that Exeter (under Mr Kirkpatrick) had finished only a couple of points behind. Indeed, for much of the year they had made all the running, only to be pipped at the last. It was the closest overall competition in memory. To select highlights or outstanding individuals is challenging, and seems unfair on those not mentioned, but on a year group basis, I must make an attempt.

Ancaster Year 10 began the year by coming last in the Five-a-side Football, Basketball and Chess. But after Christmas they came storming back by winning the Swimming Gala, Burghley Run, Badminton, Six-a-side Cricket and the Speech Day Athletics. Among others, great credit goes to Will Baker, Tom Brown, Tom Dancy, Oli Macintosh, Ben Saunders, Sinan Senol and Thomas

Upton. Year 11 had spent most of the 2017/18 campaign on the wrong end of a series of severe beatings. However, they bravely hung in there, enthusiastically fulfilling all their commitments. It is said "every dog has his day", and so it was that they won the Table Tennis, Chess and (even more incredibly) the Burghley Run. This represented a remarkable turnaround and their contribution was crucial in our overall success. Tom Hill, River West-Gomila, Dennis Zeng, Charlie Weavers-Wright, Sam Thomas, Daniel Smith, and Hue Jones all made valuable contributions.

The Lower Sixth proved to be the engine-room of Ancaster: talented and utterly reliable. It was they who started our revival with morale-boosting wins in the Rock and Drama contests: David Wisdom and Hal York-Forward were instrumental in those victories. There are virtually no passengers in this year group. Their efforts reached a triumphant crescendo on Speech Day, when they dominated the senior athletics: Harry Smith and Ryan Spall were among the key performers.

The Upper Sixth will all have moved on and probably won't be reading this report, so I will take the liberty of not detailing their contribution to our overall victory (albeit shared), which was all the more pleasurable because it was unexpected.

**MR T JONES**

“UNLIKE IN THE WORLD CUP, THERE WAS NOT TO BE A TIE-BREAKER”



# Brazenose

## Junior

Brazenose had a brilliant year for drama this year, with the annual competition being won by us! This was quite testing as this year's theme was the First World War, which required all three year groups in Junior Brazenose to work together in a large collaborative project over the space of many laborious lunchtimes! The challenge was interesting, as it not only allowed us to work on more serious subject matter, but also for Year 9 students to build on their directorial skills with the younger years, while also letting them have creative freedom. Overall, Junior Brazenose should be very pleased with their drama work this year!

The sport competitions have been a huge part of Brazenose's success, with lots of fun, and the boys have been given opportunities to try new things. Hard work in the basketball saw us come second and we claimed victory in the hockey for the Year 7/8s. Into the summer, we started with the Burghley Run. Cameron Drutman came fifth in the Year 7 competition. Dylan Hopper and Elliot Klemstine both came second in their years' competitions. The tennis competition saw another victory, and Jamie Anderson and Rohan Kundaje won their singles matches. Archie Barnes, Yahul Sivarajah, Oliver Collet and Jac Crane rotated in the doubles to secure the win.

Sports Day was a wonderful event, bringing our house together. Big congratulations to Ed Delaney who broke the Stamford School shot put record, which had been held for 27 years before this. Well done too to Charlie Anson, who won all his events in the House Swimming competition. Finally, the House Cricket competition: it was a massive surprise to everyone when Brazenose brought the win home. Congratulations to all the seven teams that participated in the victory. What a year we have had. The hard work, team spirit and dedication has proven to be worth it and we look forward to achieving bigger and better things next year!

This year, House Music was also a huge success for Brazenose. We won both ensembles but unfortunately came fourth in the unison singing. This put us second overall. The ensembles' success was hugely down to commitment from our talented musicians, as we rehearsed each ensemble piece at least once a week for most of the spring term, with a very high attendance rate. Our theme this year was songs from films. The pieces we chose were: in the Year 9 ensemble, 'Pray for Me' by The Weekend (from the film Black Panther); in the Year 7-9 ensemble, 'Heathens' by 21 Pilots (from Suicide Squad); and in the unison singing, 'I'm a Believer' by Neil Diamond (from Shrek).

Throughout the year, Brazenose has had some key

moments in their chance of winning the title for the Junior House. We have been outstanding in the academic aspect of the events, with general knowledge and Chess being two of our top events. Chess was an intriguing competition where the two houses, Brazenose and Ancaster, had to battle it out in the final match to win it. Both Houses finished well, but one made it out on top. Next, General Knowledge was a key event for the House, with the likes of Caleb Jelf, Isaac Fell and Adam Dodd all playing their parts for the House, resulting in an excellent result for Brazenose. Overall, Brazenose has performed outstandingly well in the academic aspects of the events and are hoping to keep this up in future years.

**CHARLIE MCLAREN (DRAMA), LOUIS DARBOST (ACADEMIC), CALEB JELF (MUSIC), ROHAN KUNDAJE (SPORT)**



## Senior

This year has seen some excellent performances from many members of the House. Highlights include victories in Senior Hockey, the Colts' Debate (well done to Olly Fraser and Harry Laventure) and the summer Polyathlon.

There are now a healthy number of Year 10s who have a bronze medal, and my thanks especially go to those who went out of their comfort zone and participated in swimming and athletics when they wouldn't normally do anything like this. Some of the rising stars include Joe Evans, Ewan Criddle, Robert Williams, Jamie Nel and Tom Chesworth.

Congratulations to Toby Nelson, Sam Bradshaw, Archie Adams, Sasha Barker-Pilsworth and Fergus Cato for achieving their gold badge. This shows their enormous commitment over the last few years, and hopefully it won't be long until they gain the coveted house tie.

Toby Rickett has proved to be an exemplary Head of House and I would like to thank him for his contributions over the years and his leadership this year. He had this to say:

"Members of Brazenose showed great character and enthusiasm through a tough year of competition, demonstrating it is not all about winning but more about consistent effort. Experience shows that during a difficult year, more than anything else, the pupils with the competitive spirit and all-round excellence that house events require shine among the rest.

"After four years of outstanding effort, Patrick Northwood achieved the house tie, surpassing 50 credits,



and his contribution was highly-valued. Other creditable contributions this year (excuse the pun) came from Sam Bradshaw, Fergus Cato, Archie Adams and Cormac Calnan. The Head of House commends his deputies Isaac Bachl and Sam Bradshaw for their excellent service this year, with outstanding performances at House Music and House Rock. Congratulations also go to Finn Corbett and Toby Rickett for their outstanding performances at House Swimming and the Burghley Run.

"We welcome for next year Archie Adams and his deputies Andy Kot and Eddie Wurr, whose aim will be to develop the House spirit and win some more silver."

**MR R DEXTER**

**"MEMBERS OF BRAZENOSE SHOWED GREAT CHARACTER AND ENTHUSIASM"**

# Exeter

## Junior

In terms of academic events, Junior Exeter has been fairly successful over this year. We were particularly successful in the House Maths Problem Solving, Debating and Drama competitions, winning the Maths Problem Solving easily and narrowly missing out on the House Debating trophy in a close final against Radcliffe.

A range of boys in all of Junior Exeter took part in the House Drama, performing spectacularly, but again just missing out on victory to Brazenose. The General Knowledge competition was very close between second and third place (Exeter and Ancaster), and it went down to points as both Houses had won one game. And unfortunately we came third by only 10 points (one correct answer is worth 10 points).

House Music was a focal point of the year, marking the halfway line, and was certainly one of the most exciting House events. There is nothing quite like its atmosphere - a hall full of students, excited and cheering on their House, be it Exeter or otherwise. It was hard work for all of us involved, and I would like to mention a few key

individuals: Oliver Cengarle-Desforges, who conquered his nerves and led both the House Ensemble and the House Singing with his talented voice; Will Johnson, who worked further beyond any of us would expect and supported the ensemble greatly with his guitar; and Ellis Wren, who guided the ensembles throughout the rehearsals, keeping everyone in order and ensuring the time was spent efficiently. In the end, we produced renditions of 'Happier', 'We Are Number One', and ended it singing George Ezra's 'Shotgun'.

Back in September, we were looking to dominate in various sports events. It didn't take long for Exeter to win their first events, the Year 7 and 9 House Rugby competitions. The autumn term saw numerous second and third of places in events such as the House Tug of War competition and the Year 7 Relays. The spring term saw success in the Year 7 and 8 A team Hockey and the Year 9 Hockey, along with many second places which were vital to our efforts to win the House competition.

During the final term, all Houses found an extra gear, and success in Pétanque was useful. However, average performances in Sports Day, Swimming and House Cricket meant we were just beaten to the House trophy.

**MAX HALDEN, ELLIS WREN AND BEN GOOLD**



## Senior

Exeter started the year in flying fashion, taking first place in the Year 11 and Year 13 Five-a-side Football competitions respectively. The Year 11 'Dream Team' (squad) of Charlie Agnew, Miles Anderson, Tayte Breen, Henry Brewster, Bosco Chio, JJ Harrison, Oliver Henson, Sam Potter and Alex Timson saw the boys in green take their first trophy of the year.

The blistering pace of Nandeli Pelembe combined with the genius football brain of Will Leech set the Greens up for title number two, the Year 13 Five-a-side trophy!

The prestigious House Music competition requires hours of commitment and practice from the whole House. As one of the few competitions that involves every single member of the House, it was fantastic to see all 108 boys stand on stage and give it their all.

The leadership of Joseph Jones and Charlie Goldspink was exceptional, and listening to the rendition of 'Things we lost' by Bastille really did emphasise how hard the young Exeterians had worked. The ensemble team of Asa Monohan, Charlie Goldspink, Will Smye, Jasper and Dominic Measures, Nandeli Pelembe and, of course, Will Leech, backed up the stellar performance with Exeter winning two of the three music competitions.

The second half of the term bought victories in Year 10 Chess competition thanks to the skills of Robert Chew, Charles Morrison, William Radley and Tom Hattee. The Year 12 Five-a-side Football tournament was also won, completing the coveted hat-trick. Several of the Lower Sixth contributed to the House's success, but the leadership of Harry Tidswell certainly steered the team to another footballing victory. Exeter finished the autumn term two points clear in first place.

The spring term saw victories in the pool during the Senior Swimming Gala. Matthew Rothwell and Lucas Bromley swam brilliantly throughout and demonstrated great leadership. Matthew Rothwell was successful again, in the Senior Chess competition. Ryan Chung, Tom Nottingham, Ben Edwards and Charlie Kidd all performed brilliantly too.

The Year 10 team of Raef Parker-Humby, Stanley Brake, Sam Cannings, Toby Potts, Tom Hattee, Asa Monohan conquered the pitch and took a victory in Year 10 Hockey. In the Burghley Run, Benji Davies and Tom Hattee both ran exceptionally, coming first in their age groups.

The summer term saw a mixture of results but the ever-committed and highly-skilled Year 13 volleyball team of Lucas Bromley, Henry Doe, Rory Edens, Charlie Kidd, Alex Kroese and Ben Pennington bought another victory in April.

As the competition entered its final weeks, the Year 10 tennis team of Stanley Brake, Samir Shah, Toby Potts, Max O'Flathery and Raefel Parker-Humby gained a valuable win, having only lost one game. The Year 12 pub games team consisting of Henry Broadhurst, Joey Evison, Caius Headley, Josh Heyworth, Freddie Pacey, Matthew Rothwell, Harrison Sheppard and, again, Harry Tidswell took first place across a mixture of disciplines: pool, table football, table tennis and poker. Exeter finished strongly with a win in the Year 12 Six-a-side Cricket tournament, with a mixed team of Caius Headley, Harry Tidswell, Suliman Saleem, Mark Davies, Josh Heyworth and Harvey Seel.

Despite all of their successes throughout the year, Exeter couldn't quite make the mark for first place, falling just two points behind Ancaster and Radcliffe at the end.

Every member of the House should be exceptionally proud of the hard work, commitment and dedication they gave their peers. In only a few short months the boys will be back fighting for their House once again. I look forward to seeing them back in action in September.

**ME B KIRKPATRICK**

“THE LEADERSHIP OF JOSEPH JONES AND CHARLIE GOLDSPINK WAS EXCEPTIONAL”





# Radcliffe

## Junior

Radcliffe had its work cut out this year. After having achieved second place under Sam Hughes' tenure in 2018 and winning under William Lewis's tenure in 2017, we had a proud track record to maintain.

We were poised with the top team of C Anslow, F Bicknell and E Sullivan to show the other houses what we were made of. Well, at least that was the plan! Regrettably, in the autumn term we had something of a 'failure to launch' issue in the majority of the events. The notable exceptions were Year 9 football, where we achieved second place, and our victory in the general knowledge competition, with a squad led by the intimidating intellect of J Broom. Thanks go to H Aspill, E Mitchell-Clarke, E Winstanley, H Watts, J Simmons, F Bicknell and H Mahan. Fresh off this success, C Anslow and J Broom debated superbly, bringing another trophy home for Radcliffe. It was also encouraging to see that, although generally we didn't fare well in many of the other competitions, we did show that Radcliffe were at least the most erudite house, achieving an impressive tally of reading passports and merits! However, we were at this point in last position in the competition overall.

Things improved considerably in the spring term, with second place in the following events: the music ensembles, house music and table tennis. Radcliffe then stepped up another gear to really shine in the individual music competition. Congratulations are due to J Li, S Doody and Jamie Broom, who were all winners in their classes and played a huge part in Radcliffe's success. We won the music competition overall for the third year running! Radcliffe also really stepped up in the Year 7-8 football and squash, taking home the trophy in both events, thanks to G Rudman, H Smith, D Vaseeharan, F Morgan, F Kewney, H Mahan and J Marshall-Taylor. Mr Stamp introduced some new events, such as five-a-side football for Year 9s and the Iron Man Challenge. These events were a big hit with the boys. We were now in third place in the competition overall.

In the summer, Radcliffe was closing in on a better placing in the competition overall. The Burghley Run was inspirational with boys from Year 7 to Year 9 releasing their inner Forest Gump. We had top ten performances from O Frost, D Vaseeharan, H Mahan, O Mollet, and W Sanderson, and a hat trick of wins across the year groups from H Mountain, F Morgan and S Gordon-Kerr. Then the ACT competition hit us like a sledgehammer! Radcliffe didn't shine overall, but O Hull and H Brown did make a special effort, winning their classes. Sports Day was an amazing event and Radcliffe won overall.



First places went to J Hector (long jump and 200m), C Burgess (javelin), F Morgan (100m, 200m), E Dee (800m), and E Sullivan (300m). There were other acts of courage too numerous to mention. In contrast, petanque and tennis were both a write off for Radcliffe. The fight for the cup now looked to be a two-horse race between Ancaster and Exeter.

The swimming gala was a hotly contested event with Ancaster tipped as the runaway favourite. They did dominate, but Radcliffe went the distance and finished second overall with several 1st and 2nd places. Special congratulations go to H Brown, E Dee, O Frost, E Winstanley, S Doody, S Gordon Kerr, H Smith, F Kewney, H Mahan, H Wordsworth and E Winstanley, who won their races outright or came second in two or three! The quiet man Harry Smith won both of his events without missing a heartbeat!

The final large event of the year was the 'Festival of Cricket', aptly named as it showcased cricket as the unique sport that it is. Mr Headley's booming 80s' play list help keep the mood upbeat and nobody really noticed the constant drizzle and looming clouds. It was a fun morning and the games were played in a gentlemanly way that would have made W.G. Grace proud! Unfortunately, many close calls didn't go our way, which led to an overall placing that didn't match the commitment of the huge Radcliffe turnout for the event.

It was not our destiny to lift the cup as we did two years ago, and our finishing at the bottom of the table should not discourage the boys, as it was an amazing year with some memorable high points.

It is important to make a special mention of the service of J Day he was always devoted to Radcliffe's cause and I thank C Anslow, E Sullivan and F Bicknell for their service to the house, and believe that next year, under our indomitable captain H Mahan and his deputies S Munro and J Simmons, Radcliffe will be a force to be reckoned with.

**MR S JORDAN**



## Senior

And so the Good Ship Radcliffe has finally sailed into the harbour in first place, anchoring safe and sound, after so many lost years blown and buffeted by the winds of Exeter's powerful success.

And what a voyage it has been this year, the ship being steered most confidently and ably by its captains: Ben Richardson, Ethan Archer and Jack Martin.

Radcliffe ploughed ahead confidently in the autumn with strong performances in both the Music competition and the Drama, securing first place in the Part Song, and second places in both the Unison Singing and House Drama. The whole crew must give thanks to Brandon Crozier and Dan Watts, who navigated us through the choppy waters of both these cultural events with calm and poise.

Meanwhile, below deck, the seasoned gamblers were seated at the table for Year 12 Poker. James Everitt and Oscar Dixon-Spain put on their Lady Gaga faces to collect the chips and then take the glory for Radcliffe in the most noble of all the sporting arenas at Stamford: Pub Sports.

“WHAT A VOYAGE  
IT HAS BEEN FOR  
RADCLIFFE THIS YEAR”

Such resounding glory was later to be matched by the Seniors reigning supreme at the Burghley Run, and snatching firsts in both Tennis and Badminton.

Much of Radcliffe's success this past year has been due to the commitment and the talent of the younger mariners in Year 10, who won a huge array of trophies and cups including those for football, badminton, table tennis, volleyball, basketball and general knowledge. Particular thanks must go to Sam Hughes, Callum Worthington and Harry Simms who took part in nearly all of these tournaments, leading and assisting with great skill and enthusiasm.

The Year 11 students also had a huge part to play, winning first place in the hockey, badminton and racquetball competitions. Will Barker and Seth Astley take much of the credit for rallying the Year 11 crew on many occasions. Thanks also go to Benji Davies and Oliver Sturnham, who both performed so magnificently for Radcliffe House at Sports Day - not forgetting the mighty victories by athletes such as Lochy Dudley and Ethan Archer, and powerful, spirited performances from runners Jack Martin, Connor Butterworth and Xiaotung Ciu.

As the ship's captain, I want to thank everyone in Radcliffe House for the most amazing journey over the last three years. Everyone on board has had their strengths and talents and used them well to steer us along so smoothly and magnanimously as we navigated the peaks and troughs of success and failure.

Having bored you all to death with my rather strained nautical metaphor over the last few paragraphs, all I have left to do is to say a final thank you to all the able seamen of Radcliffe House, and sign off.

**MRS L BLISSETT**



BURGHLEY RUN

# Park run

THE WHOLE OF SES RUNNING TOGETHER AGAIN





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