



St Edward's School

Unity - Achievement - Faith

SUMMER NEWSLETTER

In This Issue

**Art Awards, Musical Extravaganzas
& Oracy Excellence**

Sports Presentation Evening Recap

Dear Parents and Carers, another term ends and as you will see, life and learning at St Edward's continues to be as busy as ever. I'd like to thank our staff for the rich provision that they help to provide every day of the academic year, and our students for being such a source of joy and inspiration. As you read of life in our school, I hope that you will experience something of the St Edward's Way, a 'way' that has grown for 60 years, and continues to go from strength to strength. We are a happy and successful school, and long may we continue to be so. We wish you a restful and enjoyable summer as students and staff go our separate ways for now.

Mr M Antram
Executive Headteacher



May we be One

ST. EDWARD'S PRAYER

HOLY ST. EDWARD
AS WE GATHER EACH DAY
UNDER YOUR NAME
INSPIRE US TO SEEK THE
KINGDOM OF GOD
IN ALL THAT WE DO.

MAY OUR EYES BE OPENED
TO THE RICH POTENTIAL
WITHIN OUR WORK;
AND AS WE SERVE GOD,
AND ONE ANOTHER,
MAY WE BE ONE
AMEN.



HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we look back over the summer term, we again have so much to celebrate and to be proud of. It doesn't seem long ago that we were looking ahead to a new academic year, the time goes by so quickly. Our students continue to show their resilience, engagement and determination in everything they do both in lessons and through their participation in the wide range of opportunities available to them.

I would again like to take the opportunity to thank you for your support over the last academic year. The working relationship between school and home remains so pivotal to ensure we continue to move forwards as a school community and I am so grateful for the positive relationships that we have with our families.

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The term has again been extremely busy with a large number of whole school and year group events. Students have had the opportunity to attend residential retreats including Kintbury Retreat Centre and a Battlefields History trip. Other opportunities have included visits to The Houses of Parliament, Mayflower Theatre, The Lighthouse, The Chalke Valley Festival and Salisbury Cathedral as part of a joint RE and Art trip to name just some. These opportunities play a significant role in the development of our students. They are associated with an increased confidence which helps our students to develop their social interactions, have a real aspiration to be the best version of themselves and a sense of wellbeing and belonging. I continue to be so grateful to the staff who give up their time to create opportunities for our young people.

The exam season has just come to an end and our Year 11 and 13 students have completed this busy period with confidence, maturity and much needed humour. They all worked so hard during this period and as they finished, we had two lovely leavers' days for each year group, where we celebrated their success and they were able to finally put their pens, flash cards and revision booklets down.

Just before the exams started, we celebrated with students, parents and carers at their formal presentation evening where all students were presented with a certificate which indicated the virtues which staff had seen in them during their time with us. These are always lovely evenings and an opportunity to celebrate our students character formation and the values that they live out every day. We look forward to celebrating with them again in the August when they all receive their results.

At the beginning of summer term, we were informed that we had been selected as a finalist in the 'Staff Wellbeing School of the Year' category for this year's National TES Schools Awards. We continue to work hard to ensure everyone, be it students, families, staff or governors, have a real sense of being part of the St Edward's family where they feel valued, supported and connected. Our school is a lovely place to be and I'm proud of all the staff and all the students who create and sustain the atmosphere and culture every day.

At the end of term, we sadly say goodbye to a number of staff who have contributed so wholeheartedly to the education and development of our young people. Ms Sinnott leaves us after 20 years having overseen the Drama department, organised and produced countless performances and created many other opportunities for our students. Her dedication and desire to see students develop and progress in her subject area has enabled students to perform, develop confidence and has opened doors through the skills and knowledge they have gained. Mrs Scott will also be leaving us to take up a new role at a school in Christchurch. Her contribution to the development of Robotics and Graphics has created wonderful opportunities for students and much

excitement as they battle their robots against each other. Mr Jenkins, who will be taking up a new teaching role at a local school, has been both a Technician and Teacher of Science during his time with us. His care and desire for students to succeed has meant our students have been able to progress and develop their own passion for the subject. We also say goodbye to Mr Clarke who has been part of the Maths department for the last 2 years. His willingness to step in and support individuals and groups of students whilst teaching his own classes have meant our students have been able to succeed and progress. Miss Bland will also be leaving us and moving to Cornwall after three years as a teaching assistant. Her commitment to the students she worked with have enabled them to have experiences and opportunities which without her, may not have been possible. Her positive outlook everyday has made school more enjoyable and accessible for our students. We also say goodbye to Mrs Leedham who joined us a cover supervisor as the start of the year. We are so grateful for her willingness to step in and cover lessons enabling students to continue their learning. We wish her all the best as she goes back to University to start her teacher training in September. I am so grateful to all six colleagues who have given so much to our students and wish them all the best as they take up the new opportunities.

When we return in September we will continue to ensure we have a high focus on standards and ask that you continue your support with our school dress code. We will continue to support those who, for one reason or another, may find purchasing uniform more challenging and I would ask that you contact the school if this is the case.

Attendance and punctuality remain a key part of a young person's success and whilst we understand pupils are very occasionally ill or have medical appointments that cannot be arranged outside of school time, we urge all parents and carers to encourage and support the school's mission to achieve 100% attendance. Evidence shows that if a student is not in school they do not do as well as their peers.

As we look back over the year and notice all the wonderful things that our students have been involved in, I'm so grateful for each of them and that we have the privilege of helping shape them into young adults who can and will do amazing things. I stand in the middle of the campus every day and have seen our students grow in confidence, maturity and empathy and all with a smile on their faces.

I wish you a restful and refreshing Summer break. I look forward to welcoming all our students back into school at the start of the new term with a fresh energy and excitement for what's to come.

Mr C Barnett
Headteacher



FUTURE CHOICES: CAREERS

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THIS TERM IN OUR CAREERS DEPARTMENT



UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHAMPTON TRIP

A group of Sixth Formers visited the University of Southampton to learn more about applying to university to help them prepare for their university applications at the start of Year 13. They were given a talk on how to choose a course and university as well as speaking to the student ambassadors about student life and having a tour of the main campus.

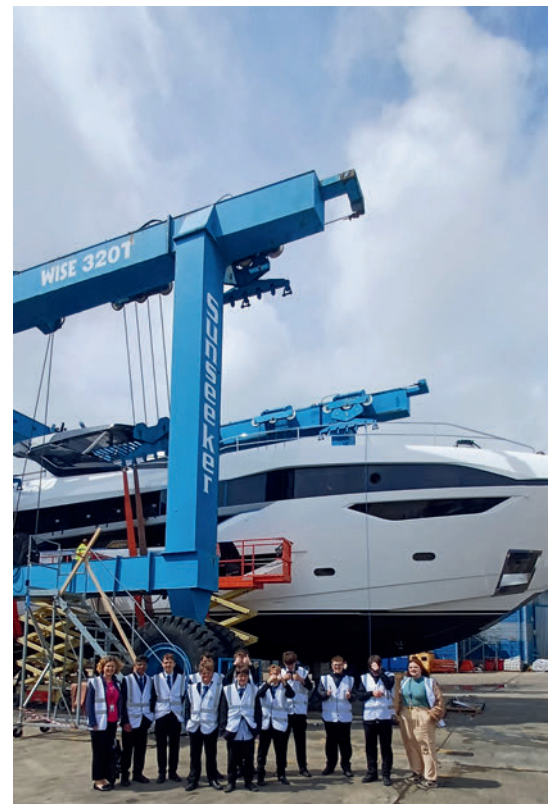
WORK EXPERIENCE

Year 10s spent a week on work experience in May. Most of the students were in the work place experiencing different working environments and learning new skills. Here is a picture of Joe working at Greendale construction where he was able to work alongside the construction site teams. Here are some of the comments we received from the employers:

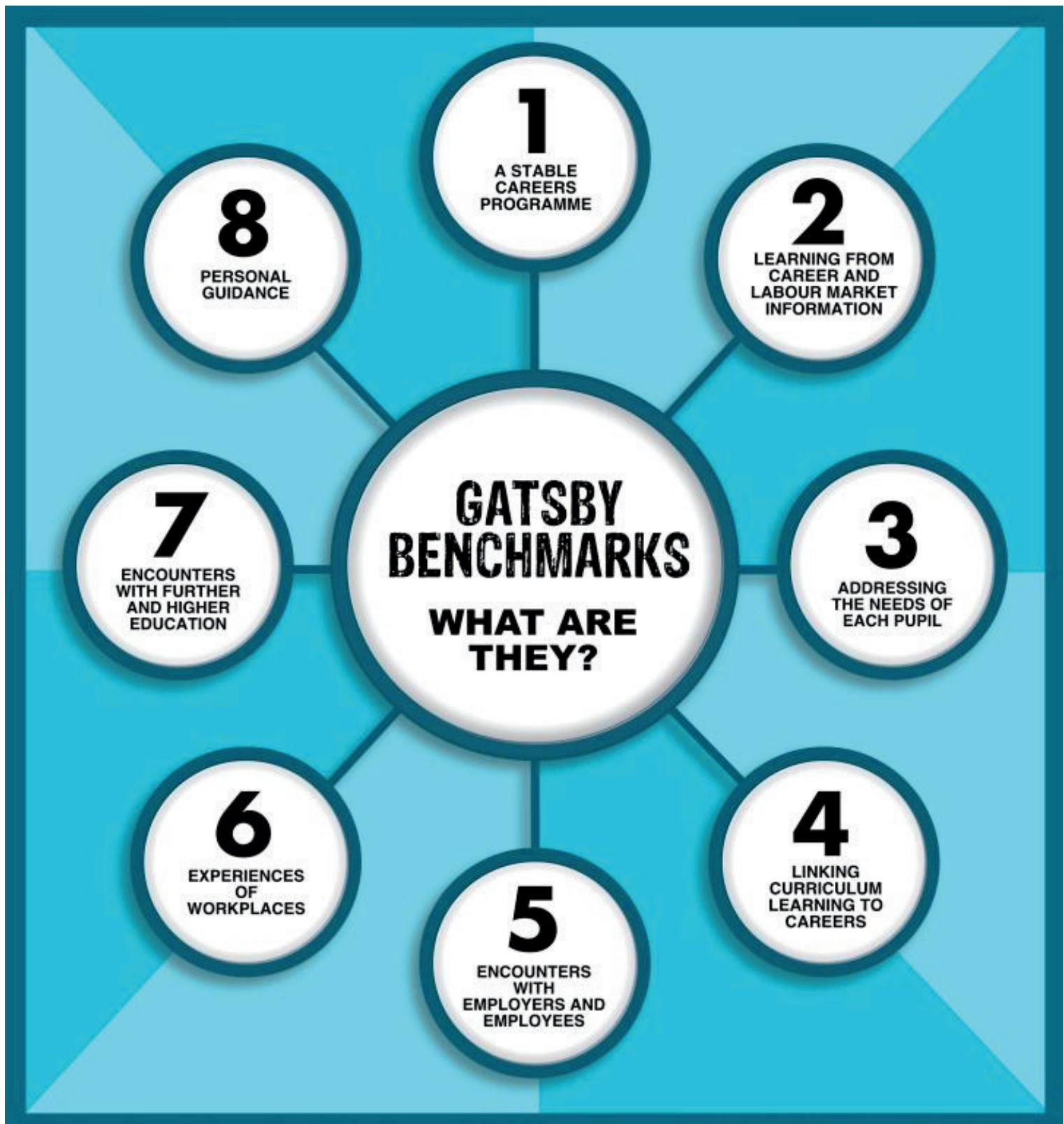


SUNSEEKER

As part of the welcome to work week a group of Year 10 students visited Sunseeker International shipyard to learn more about the manufacturing process of building a luxury yacht. They also completed a CV, mock interview with our enterprise adviser and visited Poole College to find out more about their post-16 courses.



We're looking forward to an exciting new year with many careers events planned including a Careers Fair and work experience for Years 10 & 12. If you would like to be involved in the Careers programme either through coming in to speak about your career or offering a work placement, please email Mrs Ruby.



The **Gatsby Benchmarks** are a framework which defines what good careers education and guidance should look like in schools. We are delighted to say that the school has achieved all 8 benchmarks in 2023/24 and Mrs Ruby was presented with the Careers and Enterprise Certificate at a recent celebration.

If you want to learn more about Careers and read our Careers Policy, please contact Mrs Ruby, Careers Manager, on nruby@st-edwards.poole.sch.uk or visit the Careers Education page on the school website.

Key Stage 3

Year 7 have explored the magical world of Shakespeare's 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' this term. We have been able to use our woodland space at as a classroom where students have read and performed key scenes from the play. It has been wonderful to bring Shakespeare to life in the woods for this text! Students have been able to delve further into the world of fairies and fantasy as they have focused on creative writing skills to create magical characters and settings. Year 7 had an update from the national 'Poetry By Heart' competition and we are delighted to announce 7-A3 received 'Commended' with 7-L3 achieving 'Highly Commended'. Congratulations to both classes for this success in a national competition!



In Year 8, our students have been following the 'Trapped' unit of work where they have studied to play version of 'Frankenstein'. Again, we have seen students bringing this play to life and performing key scenes which helps student understanding of dramatic conventions in English. Students have also studied a non-fiction anthology on animals, exploring what it means to be an creature in captivity. This has really captured students' interest and we have seen lots of engaging writing as a result with Year 8 writing speeches and letters

to express their views on this topic.

Year 9 have explored the unit 'Dystopian Discoveries' which has led to lots of interesting discussion about our world (especially when looking at rather dystopian activities like cloud seeding in Dubai!). Students have been emersed in lots of different dystopian worlds through our anthology study. They have then been able to use this knowledge to create and craft their own dystopian characters, setting and stories.

We hope you have a wonderful summer and we are happy to include a QR code to enable you to access 'First News' resources over the summer. This is a weekly newspaper, aimed at children, that includes lots of topical resources that would be great to read over the summer.



Key Stage 4

Year 10 have explored a range of interesting, personal and important issues through their engagement in the Speaking & Listening component of their GCSEs. Working with real independence and thoughtfulness, students have chosen and examined their own topics before utilising their persuasive writing skills to deliver for members of the English department passionate and contemplative speeches. To have completed this alongside a pacy and comprehensive approach to both wider GCSE skills in the Language qualification and beginning to delve into the range of poems in the Literature qualification speaks to the effort and engagement shown by our Year 10 students!

Year 11 performed admirably in their preparation for their exams. We are so proud of them and the determination and effort they showed in attending revision sessions, showing commitment in their classwork and the confidence with which they went into their exams. We so enjoyed getting the opportunity to celebrate with them during Prom, and look forward to doing the same on results day!

Key Stage 5

Is there an assumption that, as we get older, our language becomes more standard? Apparently, we stop swearing, use more standard English, and eventually become 'posh'!

A Level Language students have been exploring language and identity this term. They have been reading spoken and written texts from a variety of contexts and applying their knowledge of language frameworks, levels and theory to explain how language shapes our perceptions of people. We have been thinking about issues such as age, gender, occupation, region and technology and their influence on speech. Are young people sloppy speakers? Do the older generation only complain about the state of society? Students have been sharing ideas about their own use of language and challenging stereotypes and assumptions about language and age. According to year 12 students, once you become 30 you'll adopt more 'professional' speech habits, and in your 50s you'll become very serious in tone and use lots of jargon. We discussed comparisons between modern day slang and colloquialisms with the language of the English Department's youth, which was illuminating for both parties!

SPARX Update

As you will be aware we launched a new reading platform, SPARX reader at the start of the academic year. This platform is used by all students from Year 7 through to Year 11. All students have been expected to read for a minimum amount of time each week and then answer questions to check understanding. Students choose from a range of ebooks at their appropriate level and as they read, they answer questions to check they are reading carefully. Careful readers earn points meaning they can track their progress and climb the league table! Motivated readers who demonstrate consistent, careful reading can unlock Gold Reader (See our article on Gold Readers!)

Extensive international research shows that being a frequent reader is associated with a range of academic, social and emotional benefits. Wide reading expands students' knowledge about the world and about language, as well as their understanding of subject-specific academic and technical vocabulary. Such knowledge eases their access to the whole curriculum and supports their attainment as there is a significant correlation between students' reading ability and eventual performance across all subjects.

We know it took time for students to familiarise themselves with the reading platform but we have been so proud of the progress the majority of students have made with SPARX this year. Details of our impact report from SPARX Reader is detailed below/in this article. In addition to the amount of reading that students at St Edwards have undertaken we have also been able to assess reading ages at the start of the academic year and then re-tested all students this term. We are very pleased to inform you that after some comprehensive analysis of results, 78% of our students have improved their reading age from September which is amazing. Well done everyone! Great work!

Gold Reader

We are thrilled to share that with our launch of Sparx Reader, we have had over 150 students achieve 'Gold Reader' status. This is where students have gone above and beyond in their Sparx reading to earn Gold Reader stars. Each star is earned by doing an extra 300 Sparx Reader points on top of regular homework, once a student has five gold stars, they receive a Gold Reader pass. Throughout the year, we have been awarding our Gold Readers through celebration assemblies, giving out certificates and gold badges to these students who have demonstrated exceptional dedication to reading this year.

At the end of this year, we hosted a special Gold Reader celebration morning to celebrate all of our students who achieved this reading milestone! A

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huge thank you to our wonderful librarian, Mrs Lumber, who created special bookmarks for this event. Mr Barnett awarded certificates to our top readers in each year group: congratulations to Chloe R (Y7), Catriona F (Y8), Ben A (Y9) and Eldon H (Y10) for this amazing achievement. At our celebration morning, we also held a voucher raffle to reward those students who received Gold Reader status on multiple occasions throughout the year. We are incredibly proud of these students for their exceptional commitment to reading across this academic year.

As we celebrate our Gold Readers, we also look forward to the next academic year. Our Sparx Reading platform will continue to evolve and we will continue to offer new challenges and rewards to motivate our young readers. We are committed in the English department to nurturing a lifelong love of reading. Remember, Sparx Reader can still be used over the summer to read novels online, by doing 30 minutes of reading a week your child could return in September with Gold Reader status!

Once again, congratulations to our Gold Readers. Your hard work and dedication to reading have truly shone brightly, and we can't wait to see what you achieve next.



Oracy at St Edward's

There have been lots of exciting oracy opportunities and events happening at St Edward's this term. We are thrilled to share the exciting news of our students' achievements in public speaking. Their hard work, dedication and passion have led to outstanding performances in recent competitions and events.

We had our annual 'Festival of Speech' event, which is a celebration of speech and ideas at St Edward's. A huge congratulations to all students who took part in this event, it was excellent to hear from our students on so many engaging and emotive topics where they showcased their speaking skills. Thank you to the Catenian Association for judging the 'Festival of Speech' and for providing feedback to our speakers. Well done to our Key Stage winners (Andrii, Daisy and Lucy) for their achievements at this event!



SCENE II.] This is the sergeant, four
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Literacy Trust, WWF, Sky Kids, and the Children's Commissioner. Andrii has been invited to the Department for Education in September to attend a special ceremony to read his speech at. We are so excited for Andrii to deliver his speech at such a prestigious venue and congratulate him on his success in this national competition.



Daisy, Andrii and Lucy progressed to the regional final of the Catenian Association public speaking competition with their speeches on anti-bullying, conflict and politics. They competed against other students in the local area and it was great to hear such a range of inspiring and interesting speeches. We are delighted to share that Lucy has been invited to the national final of this competition, which will take place in September in Manchester. We wish Lucy all the best in this upcoming national final for public speaking and congratulate her on this exciting accomplishment.

Literacy Trust, WWF, Sky Kids, and the Children's Commissioner. Andrii has been invited to the Department for Education in September to attend a special ceremony to read his speech at. We are so excited for Andrii to deliver his speech at such a prestigious venue and congratulate him on his success in this national competition.

Students also entered a national speech writing competition hosted by the children's newspaper, 'First News'. This is a newspaper that has over 2.6 million weekly readers and is sent to more than 9,500 schools. We are incredibly proud of Andrii (year 8) who came 2nd place in this competition for his speech 'Building a world without war'. His speech impressed the judging panel of the Editor-in-Chief and other senior figures from the National



MATHS

Firstly, I'd like to say a big thank you to all parents and carers. Without your support with homework, revision, parents' evenings, and equipment our ability to offer fantastic maths learning would be diminished. Secondly, well done to all our students and staff for their hard work. In the next few paragraphs, we will try to highlight some of our pupils' best achievements over the year.

The world is filled with Mathematics, in all different aspects of life. As a reward for consistently excelling in their mathematical journey, at St Edward's, Mr McRill organised three exceptional rewards trips for a small number of Year 7, 8 and 9 students.



Bovington Tank Museum: Year 7 students visited the Tank Museum at Bovington. They had the unique experience of building a quarter-scale Sherman tank from World War II and investigating the surface area of tracks and fuel consumption.

Legoland: Year 9 students enjoyed a fantastic day at Legoland, where they participated in a workshop to build and code a Lego robot.



Marwell Zoo: Year 8 students attended Marwell Zoo and took part in a maths workshop in the Tropical House.



Within the Maths department we continue to ensure there is no ceiling to the academic outcomes. To promote this, our more able students in Years 7, 8 and 11 undertook the reintroduced UK Maths Challenge. We are so proud of the fantastic results across all year groups. It was energising to see and hear the buzz when students received their certificates, especially from our year 7 students. This will now be a yearly event and Year 12s will be taking part in the Senior Maths Challenge next year.

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It is a mixed feeling when our Year 11 cohort leave us after their last exam. We feel proud of the efforts they have made, we're sad that they are possibly leaving us to follow a different path in higher education and we wonder what next year will hold for them. Luckily, we get a glimpse into the next academic year with our Sixth form transition day. This year saw a fantastic turnout for the Sixth Form course we offer. Our A Level Maths students explored the properties of quadratics, while A Level Further Maths students were introduced to complex numbers. Core Maths students engaged in Fermi estimates. It was wonderful to see some returning students and new faces, the maths team cannot wait to explore deeper mathematical concepts with them all next year.

A great number of our Year 13 students have applied to pursue STEM course and careers. We are proud to have been a part of their journey as they transition to this next step and wish them well for the future.

As one cohort's time at St Edward's ends another one begins. This term, we welcomed our future Year 7 cohort. The maths team were inspired by how these year 6 students engaged with the activities we put on for them. All Year 6 students explored the properties of 3D shapes, with each student building their own 3D models of a frustrum, which would interconnect to make a larger polyhedron. A major surprise was a student who knew pi to 50 decimal places. That's this :

**3.1415926535897932384626433
8327950288419716939937510**

WOW! We are eager to see these young minds flourish in the coming years.

Parent and Careers may be aware that our department has a successful history of training wonderful maths teachers who go onto successful teaching carers across Dorset, the UK and even worldwide. This year we would like to congratulate

Miss Hosier and Miss Begum, who successfully completed their teacher training placements with us. Both became valued members of our school community during their time here and we wish them the best starting their fulltime teaching roles in September.

As we look ahead to the new academic year, we will continue to have high academic expectation of our students. Our team will continue to support in enabling students to achieve to their highest ability. To do this we want to reiterate the maths equipment required for lessons. We recommend that all students have, at a minimum, a Casio FX-83GT CW calculator, as well as a compass, protractor, and ruler. There will be opportunities throughout the year to purchase these items on WisePay at a discounted price.

We're thrilled to announce that, starting this September, Miss C. Tranter will be stepping into the role of Head of the Maths Department. Having been an integral part of St. Edward's for the past two years as Second in Maths and KS5 Leader, Miss Tranter brings a wealth of experience and passion to this position.

Miss Tranter's background as a pastoral lead and curriculum leader will undoubtedly enhance our already outstanding mathematical outcomes. We're confident that her leadership will inspire our awesome students to achieve even greater heights.





This term in Science, Year 7 students have been learning about fuels and burning. They have especially enjoyed conducting some practical research into which fuels have the highest energy content using spirit burners. This is a very valuable opportunity for students to recognise the need for more efficient and sustainable fuels is now more important than ever.

The GCSE course will commence in September for our Year 8 students and it seems only right to celebrate all the knowledge and skills they have gained in Science during their time in Key Stage 3. The Curiosity Show, an event led by Mr. Harris took place last week, and the standard of entries was exceptionally high. There were only a minimal number of entries about the effect of Mentos in Coke!!

This time around, the event could have been named the Creativity Show as many of the entries showed much originality in the subject being investigated. The overall winners of this year's exhibit demonstrated excellent scientific curiosity and skill in a very creative way. Congratulations to the winners of the Student Vote, Mia, Kaya and Frank for their investigation into how long different brands of bubble gum last, Harry, the winner of the Staff Vote for his work on the effect of fertiliser in tomato plants and Leanne and Maisie for impressing the Leadership Team for some excellent work on chromatography.

In addition to this, some students took a trip to Xtreme Falconry in Dorchester where they were treated to a display of birds including a Chilean Blue Eagle, Buzzard and ironically a Harris' Hawk. As well as educating the students on the birds present, Martin from Xtreme Falconry gave excellent advice to those interested in following a similar career path.



So many of our students this term were preparing for exams in Science. Years 11 and 13 have now completed their GCSE and A-Level examinations respectively. Years 9, 10 and 12 have also seen completion of their internal exams. I must take this opportunity to congratulate and thank every single one of them for their hard work, determination and resilience, and to all parents and carers for your continued support and guidance in what can be a very challenging and stressful time for all. I hope you all enjoy a very restful Summer and recoup some of that family time together.

Sadly, it's that time of year where we sometimes have to say goodbye. I'd like to say a heart-felt goodbye to Mr. Jenkins who will be leaving us to join Parkstone Grammar School. I know the students you teach will be very sorry to see you go! We thank you for all you have done for them in your time here at St. Edward's and wish you all the best in your new school.

Finally, I'd like to say a huge thank you to all teachers and support staff for all you have done over the course of this year. The experiences you provide to our students gives them a fantastic learning journey and I am proud to be a part of such a fantastic team! Enjoy your well-earned rest over the Summer also!

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Every term is busy in RE and this one has certainly not been an exception!

The highlight of the term has got to be the Year 7 trip to Salisbury Cathedral that we ran collaboratively with the Art and History departments. As well as the usual tours of the cathedral, it was lovely to see students completing artwork on the floor of the cathedral and for students to experience the world renowned Doom painting in St Thomas' Church first hand; the latter being explained enthusiastically by Mr Kelley and Mr Henry. Thank you to all of the students in Year 7 for the fantastic way that they represented our school and to all the staff that accompanied the trip and covered lessons back at school.



In school, Year 7 students have completed their study of "Who are the people of God?" which focused on a range of Old Testament figures and have now on to explore the theme of diversity through an in-depth study of Hinduism which also featured some interesting discussions on the topic on animal rights. More recently, students have been completing a mini unit of study based on Social Justice Heroes; considering what virtues are required to be such a person and how we might follow in their foot steps on a personal level.

Year 8 have focused on the concept of 'Dukkha' through their study of Buddhism and have been considering the Buddha's response to what causes suffering and what the cure might be. Towards the end of term, they have been focusing on "Does all life have value?", looking at the distinction between the Sanctity and Quality of Life and applying these concepts to modern day issues such as Animal Rights and the Euthanasia Debate. Year 9 have completed their in-depth study of Sikhism, with an emphasis on the importance of equality and the oneness of God (Waheguru). Year 9 students have also recently benefitted from either a residential retreat at St Cassians Retreat Centre, in Kintbury or from a retreat that was run in school hours by the PACE team at a local church.

Having completed their internal examinations, Year 10 students are now nearing the end of their first year of GCSE study; the absolute majority of them are doing really well in RE with some of them surpassing their GCSE target grade already. Year 10 classes have also recently enjoyed a session lead by Harry Vincent in the Forestry School area where they have been reminded that we are 'Human Beings', not 'Human Doings' and that it is important to take time to reflect and to just 'be'. Year 11 have now completed all of their final GCSE examinations in RE; we would like to thank them for all their hard work in RE and wish them all the best for the future. We are delighted that a large number of students expressed their intention to study RE at A-Level!



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RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Year 13 RE A-Level students have also completed their course and their final examinations; we would also like to thank them for their dedication to the subject and wish them well with their future endeavours.

Another highlight of this term was the Year 12 Personal Enquiry session that featured a multi-faith panel called the 'Many Faiths Workshop'. Students particularly enjoyed asking questions after the panel had debated a variety of modern-day issues. We will definitely be repeating this session in the future, as one particular student remarked "This was the best RE lesson ever!"

Thank you to all students for their hard work in RE lessons this year and we wish them a safe and happy summer!

DUKE OF EDINBURGH

Over the past term, we've had a large number of students complete their Bronze and Silver Expeditions across Dorset and The New Forest.

At the beginning of June, 37 Students successfully completed their 2 day Bronze Expedition in the New Forest. Each group walked unsupported around 14km each day carrying everything they needed including food, camping equipment and cooking equipment. Prior to this, they completed a training day and a practice expedition East of Blandford. At the end of the expedition, Mark the expedition leader said "All of the students applied themselves to the task and the attitude and behaviour was very good throughout."



For the first time in several years, we also had our first group of Silver students complete their assessed expedition up in Cranborne Chase at the start of July. 8 students in 2 teams trekked unsupported around 17km each day for 3 days. Like the Bronze students, they had to be self sufficient for the whole time, carrying everything they would need. They also had to cope with some pretty poor weather on day one. All the students should be congratulated on their achievement, and I know that some are already considering Gold next year.

Finally, the expedition only makes up one part of the award. Students also have to complete a period of volunteering, learn and skill and take part in something physical. All of these need a goal and have to be assessed by an external adult. Over the past 6 months, we've had 26 students fully complete their Bronze award and receive their certificates. Many of these are now working on finishing their Silver Award.

Well done to everyone involved.

HISTORY

This term has been incredibly busy, with students completing their history examinations, as well as the running of trips and visits designed to give students the opportunity to enrich their studies of history beyond the classroom.

This term, we also are welcoming Miss Wright. We are really excited to have Miss Wright join us as a permanent member of staff, and we look forward to all the expertise and knowledge she is going to bring to the department.

KS3

This term, year 7 have been continuing their studies of the development of rights and power in England. Students have studied the Peasants Revolt, the murder of Thomas Becket and the Magna Carta. Excitingly, year 7 students have visited Salisbury Cathedral in June, to see the best-preserved copy of the Magna Carta, as well as visiting St Thomas's Church to see a surviving doom painting! It was a pleasure to run the trip alongside the RE department, and as ever, year 7 exemplified excellent engagement throughout the day.

Year 8 have entered the modern era in their studies, looking at the Industrial Revolution. They have been reading first hand accounts of the stories of those impacted by these events, such as reading "Liberty's Dawn". Year 9 have shown incredible maturity as they studied the Holocaust this term; as a Holocaust Beacon School, students have been engaging with the stories of the victims of the Holocaust, such as Leon Greenman, to study the scale of the Holocaust. All of year 9 teachers have been impressed with the maturity and humanity shown, as well as their ability to sympathise with challenging historical events.

KS4

As ever, a huge congratulations are in order of the class of 2024, who have sat their GCSE and A level papers this Summer. Despite some challenging questions, they have worked extremely hard, and

we wish all our historians the best of luck with their future studies. We also look forward to welcoming the new year 10 and year 12 historians, as they continue their studies at an increasingly high level.

Year 10 have continued to show dedication and commitment to their GCSE, completing their course on Germany from 1914-1945. They have now begun their Elizabeth course.

Year 10 have also recently returned from a three-day visit to the Battlefields of Ypres and the Somme. Despite an extremely early 2am start, the students learnt a huge amount from the trip, and it was a privilege to see history come to life and to witness students considering the human impact of World War One with great maturity.

The students visited a range of sites across the three days, from going underground to Wellington Quarry to visit the underground world that housed 15,000 men in the days prior to the attack in Arras, to the trenches of Vimy, Arras and the Somme. The students also laid a wreath for William Ings, a young man who lost his life in the First World War and is buried at Tyne Cot cemetery, the largest CWGC cemetery in the world. The students were moved to hear that William lived on Dale Valley Road, and that he represents the connection to home that reinforced the magnitude of the first World War. The students also had fun in the trenches at Sanctuary Wood, and no one made it out without getting a little muddy! However, the highlight of the trip, as it is every year, was also the Belgian chocolate shop!

KS5

Year 12 historians have also returned from their trip to Chalke Valley History festival, whereby students met and heard talks from a range of historians. They attended talks on topics such as the French Revolution, Elizabeth I and Stalin and Churchill's relationship. They also enjoyed the living history element of the festival, with all of the year 12's partaking in SOE training, learning how to be a spy! They also had a trench experience, as

as well as meeting history enactments of the Battle of Trafalgar and Tudor kitchens.

The year 12's have also been working hard in class; the students have selected their NEA topics, and have begun to research an area that interests them. As ever, year 12 have been a joy to teach, and we look forward to seeing how their studies develop in 2024/5.

The upcoming year brings new opportunities for the History department; we are looking at sixth form trips, the continuation of our Parliament and Battlefields trips, a review of the KS3 curriculum and the continuation of the development of our assessment policy to best meet the needs of the students.



DID YOU KNOW?

St Edward's students get access to the full suite of **Microsoft Office** apps for **FREE**. They can use them at school or at home by following these steps:

- Go to **Office.com**
- **Log in** using your student login
- On the homepage, click **Install apps**

Get instant access to the following programmes:

- Word
- Excel
- PowerPoint
- Outlook
- Teams
- OneDrive
- OneNote
- ...and more!

MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

This term we have been delighted to welcome students from Cherbourg in France to our school on the British leg of our French exchange. We are one of the few schools which offers a full exchange programme to our students rather than a trip. This means that students get the full cultural and linguistic experience of life at school and with a family. This is something we are immensely proud to run. As well as joining in with lessons, the French students enjoyed visits to Bath, Stonehenge and the New Forest, as well as getting to know Poole. It was an absolute joy to see them all having such a wonderful time, and our students have been an absolute credit to our school whilst hosting their exchange partners.



Planning for the German exchange is in full swing, and we are looking forward to taking a group of 20 students to Speyer in Germany this winter. The students from Germany will be visiting us mid-October and we will make the return journey to Speyer in December, in time for the Christmas markets and hopefully even some snow! This is a particularly special year for us, as it will be the 25th anniversary of the Speyer-Poole exchange.

Throughout the year we run competitions which our students are invited to get involved with. This term we have asked students to make a famous landmark out of food and we have had some really creative entries. The winners are Leon in Year 8, Lorelei and Lucy in Year 7 and Tyler, Andreii and Robert in Year 8. A special mention also goes to

Chloe, Dan and Peter in Year 12 for their entry!



In lessons this year our Key Stage 3 students have had some lessons themed on the Euros and the upcoming Olympics, which are being held in Germany and France this year. Our Year 9 lessons have had a cultural and social focus, where we have done an historical project and analysis of a film in the foreign language, which has proven hugely popular with our students. Our Year 10 students have successfully completed mock exams and had a first experience of a speaking exam, and our A level students are part way through a literary study.

We hope you all have a lovely summer, and we look forward to welcoming our students back in September. Bonnes vacances! Schöne Ferien!

The summer term is always a busy term in the Technology department with students in Years 10 to 13 completing controlled assessment elements of their courses in preparation for submission to the exam boards. This involves a lot of hard work from the students to get their work together for submission.

In other year groups, students in Year 7 have been getting creative making pop-up cards in graphics. Students learn about motion and paper engineering and have been really innovative in putting this into practice in their work.

Year 9 Resistant Materials students have produced a great range of both original and eye-catching tea light holders using acrylic as a source material.



The incorporation of a tea light in this type of product has been a welcomed challenge and something that has encouraged students to be daring with their ideas. With the use of an array of different specialist tools and machines this has provided an opportunity for all students to develop new skills/techniques with great outcomes.

Year 12 Engineering and Product Design students visited Eaton Mission Systems in Wimborne to look at engineering and manufacturing in practice. They had talks on avionics, systems engineering and modelling and simulation. The group were also given a tour around the manufacturing and testing facilities and got to try their hand at inflight refuelling on a simulator.

The Arts University Bournemouth (AUB) visited school and held a workshop for our Y10 Graphic Design and Resistant Materials students. The workshop focussed on teaching students how to use different design strategies, and to encourage divergent thinking. The skills learnt from this



workshop will help them to develop their design ideas for their upcoming GCSE coursework projects and will be useful if they choose to continue their studies with us in Sixth Form, for A Level Product Design.



In Food key stage 3 students have been busy at the ever-popular Cooking Club. Students have been enjoying making a range of summer treats and desserts. These have included delicious cheesecakes, homemade ice cream, decorated Swiss rolls, chocolate mousse and summer fruit gateaux. They have produced some really high-quality products so don't forget to sign up early in the new year if you would like to take part next time.

At the end of the summer term, we will be saying goodbye to Lynn Scott who has been with us over the last 2 years. Lynn has taught both Graphics and Robotics and helped the department develop and grow both of these areas. She will be missed by the staff team and the students. We wish her good luck in her new school as she moves to teach closer to home.

GCSE & A Level Art Exhibition

Our year 11 and year 13 art students worked incredibly hard to produce their Externally Set Task work which is the final component of the GCSE and A Level Art and Design courses.

A diverse range of imaginative and creative work has been produced and it was therefore wonderful to celebrate the student's achievements at the summer art show. The show was an opportunity for the GCSE and A Level students to show their work to their family and friends and for staff to celebrate the amazing art outcomes with the class of 2024. The A level students spend a great deal of time putting their own work up and we would also like to thank the site team and the art department for their hard work preparing the exhibition rooms and screens, the work looked stunning!

The Josh Taylor Memorial Prize

An annual highlight of the art exhibition is the announcement of the winner of The Josh Taylor Memorial Prize. The Prize was set up to commemorate the life of Josh Taylor, a talented artist and former A Level student. The prize celebrates both Josh's artistic talent and the talent of students at the end of their A level course. This year Mrs Morris selected the winner and we were again delighted that Mr and Mrs Taylor were able to attend the art show and present the prize, alongside Mrs Morris. Congratulations go to Tash Ellis who is this year's winner of The Josh Taylor Memorial Prize.



Visit to The AUB Summer Shows

The year 9 artists that have selected art as a GCSE option had the opportunity to visit the Undergraduate degree shows at The Arts University Bournemouth along with our year 12 students and some of our year 10 students. Students viewed a range of work in Textiles, Model making, Architecture, Fine art and illustration. The visit allowed students to see a wide range of inspiring work in a range of media and also introduced our students to the wide range of creative courses on offer at degree level. The behaviour and engagement of the students was excellent, they were great ambassadors for our school and each department we visited commented on how engaged and impressive the St Edwards students were during the visit.



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Year 7 Salisbury trip visit

During the year 7 trip to Salisbury Cathedral all the year 7 pupils had the opportunity to discuss and respond to either the art exhibition 'Our Earth' and in particular the work of Dryden Goodwin or the Prisoners of Conscience Window and the Amnesty International Candle, in the Trinity Chapel. We were very impressed with the engagement and creative response of our year 7 students.



Year 10 and Year 12 Art Mocks

Our year 10 and year 12 artists have been working hard right up to the end of term as the art mocks are completed later than the other subjects. We would like to congratulate the year 10 and year 12 students for their preparation and hard work during their mocks, some excellent work was produced and the students made really good use of the time allocated. Well done!

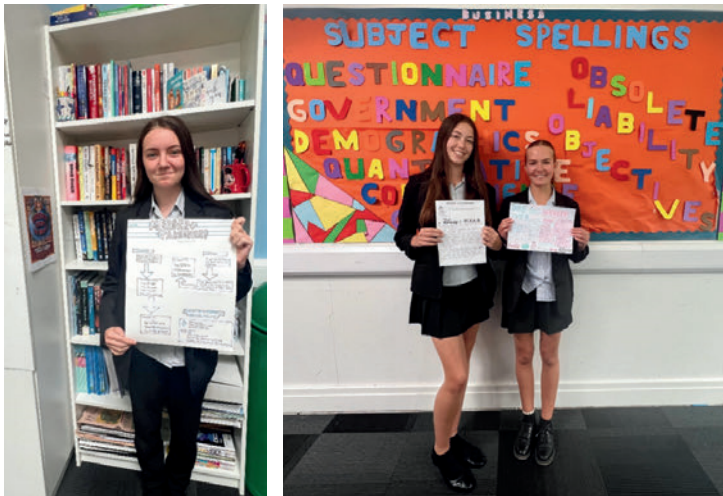
'Freestyle'

On Tuesday the 17th July five of our GCSE male artists participated in an Illustration workshop called 'Freestyle', accompanied by our art technician Mrs Cole. The boys used skateboards as a canvas for their own exciting graphic statements. The workshop informed the boys about the subject of illustration, envisioning themselves as the artists who generate the visual content that surrounds them.



Y10 Business Literacy

This term Year 10 Business students have been improving their literacy skills through storytelling, poster making and mind map preparations. As a Business Department, we provide explicit vocabulary instruction related to Business Growth strategies to help students access and use academic Business language. One of their tasks focused on understanding organic (internal) growth and inorganic (external) growth strategies. The students have chosen two businesses that have grown through a takeover or merger and then designed their poster considering the benefits of growing this way. Not only did the students draw a poster, but they also provided relevant business terminologies and critical analysis of their researched case studies. Using verbal and visual representations at the same time have improved their learning and helped them retain information over time.



Additionally, our students draw and explain a couple of given legislation and economic climate business case studies by using the storytelling technique. They have not just enjoyed their drawings but also felt very creative while writing their stories. We are pleased to use storytelling to help our students' learning journey because as we all know stories are easy to remember. We learn by both hearing and telling stories and practising through stories. Let's encourage our students to be a good storyteller!

Year 12 Business Oracy

This term Year 12 Business students have been improving their oracy skills through assessed presentations. The two tasks this term have been focused on applying Porter's Strategic Matrix and Ansoff's Matrix to multinational businesses such as IKEA. Not only did the students have to produce an industry standard presentation and speak convincingly to their audience, but they had to add a touch of humour to the proceedings. This helped engage the audience and aided in making a complex topic palatable.



What a fun packed term we've had. Busy, as usual, but a completely joyous time for both staff and students. Let's find out what we've been up to this Summer term.

A Melodious Journey: Music Tour to Belgium

This Easter, 42 of our talented students embarked on an unforgettable Music Tour to Belgium. Our young musicians delivered captivating performances in the historic settings of Ypres, Saint Omer, and The Menin Gate. Their exemplary behaviour and musical prowess made us immensely proud, showcasing the spirit of St Edward's. We eagerly anticipate planning another tour in the coming years to continue this wonderful tradition.



New Musical Ensembles

We are thrilled to announce the introduction of two new ensembles at St Edward's School. Our Brass Ensemble and Guitar Ensemble are now in full swing, thanks to the dedication and expertise of our fantastic peripatetic teachers. These new groups provide exciting opportunities for students to explore different musical styles and develop their skills. Brass ensemble meet Tuesday tutor time and Guitar ensemble meet Thursday tutor time. Speak with Mrs Keene about getting involved as it is currently invite-only!

Curriculum Music Excellence

KS3 have been developing their knowledge and understanding of song composition and having a hands-on approach to learning real instruments, including Ukuleles, Guitars, Bass, Drums and singing, rap. Some students have even had chance to record their music in our high-tech recording studio which has been very impressive.

Our KS4 and KS5 BTEC music students have been hard at work, producing outstanding performances and compositions. Their dedication and creativity are evident in every piece they perform and create, setting a high standard for musical excellence at our school. As usual, I am blown away by the talent our students have in the curriculum setting, and so immensely proud of them. I am positive this will be reflected on results day.

We are very excited for September when we re-introduce GCSE into the Music curriculum, giving students the ultimate flexibility to access Music at Key Stage 4, to choose from GCSE or BTEC Tech Award, both excellent qualifications for young people interested in Music.

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Summer Concert: An Eclectic Mix of Talent

The Summer Concert was a resounding success, offering a captivating evening of diverse musical performances. Our talented students wowed the audience with an eclectic mix of genres, including opera, musical theatre, film music, pop, and classical. The concert truly had something for everyone, and the range of talent on display was nothing short of astonishing. From soaring operatic arias to toe-tapping pop hits, each performance was a testament to the dedication and passion of our young musicians. We extend our heartfelt congratulations to all the performers for making the evening so memorable.



Battle of the Bands: A Fierce Musical Showdown

This year's Battle of the Bands was a thrilling event, with five bands competing for top honours. The competition was intense, but in the end, James McGregor was named Best Performer for the second year in a row, impressing everyone with his outstanding stage presence and musical prowess, not to mention playing the guitar solo to Purple Rain behind his back! The band IDK also celebrated a second consecutive win as Best Band, delivering a performance that left the audience cheering for more. Daggery and Daisies took home the award for Best Original Song, showcasing their songwriting talents with truly unique and captivating pieces.

A special thank you goes to our esteemed judges, Mr McCabe and Miss Elms, and our special guest judge, Joe Musker, whose expertise and generosity added a special touch to the event. Joe not only provided valuable feedback to the bands but also generously donated drumsticks to the drummers who participated. His support and encouragement were greatly appreciated by all.



T-Break Dance Company Workshop: A Fusion of Cultures

The T-Break Dance Company recently hosted an inspiring workshop for 25 of our Year 7 and Year 8 dancers. The workshop culminated in an incredible outdoor performance that fused breakdancing with Indian tabla music, captivating the entire Year 7 and 8 cohorts. The dancers' energy and creativity were on full display, and the feedback from students and staff alike was overwhelmingly positive. The performance was a true testament to the power of cultural fusion in the arts, and we are grateful to T-Break Dance Company and Pavilion Dance South West for providing such a unique and enriching experience for our students.



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Welcoming A New Department

We have had a shift around the Music and Drama departments and have united for ultimate excellence! We are delighted to introduce staff members to their roles from September:

- Lauren Keene will be Head of Performing Arts. With her wealth of experience and passion for the arts, we are confident she will lead our department to new heights.
- Harriette Stacey takes on the role of Music Co-Ordinator, bringing fresh ideas and energy to our music program.
- Carl Christopher is our new Drama Co-Ordinator, ready to inspire and guide our budding actors.
- Chantelle Brown is our wonderful Drama teacher who continues to inspire and nurture our young people's talents as well as leading Edge this year.



Exciting Upcoming Events

- **The St Edward's Fringe Festival:** On Thursday 4th October, join us for a celebration of creativity and talent, featuring performances, exhibitions, and workshops from various disciplines.
- **Peter Pan:** Mark your calendars for Thursday 28th November for our highly anticipated production of Peter Pan. Our students have been working tirelessly to bring this magical story to life.
- **PSMA Concert at Poole Lighthouse:** On Thursday 12th December, our students will perform at the prestigious Poole Lighthouse as part of the Poole School's Music Association annual Christmas Concert. It is always a pleasure uniting with schools across Poole to produce such a wonderful memory for all students involved.
- **St Edward's Christmas Concert:** Date TBC. Our annual Christmas Concert will feature a variety of festive performances, showcasing the talents of our students and spreading holiday cheer. This will be at St George's Church, Oakdale, this year.
- **Shakespeare Schools Festival:** Spring 2025. A unique opportunity to participate in a theatre performance of a Shakespeare play at the prestigious Lighthouse Theatre, Poole.
- **TIE:** A fresh idea in the making, this will be a new creation of multi-disciplinary talent who come together to deliver a performance which educates young people on the current challenges. The first project will focus on the rising problems police are facing with County Lines.

We are immensely proud of all our students who participated in these events, and we look forward to more opportunities to celebrate their talents in the future. Thank you to everyone who supported and attended these events, making them truly special occasions for our school community. And thank you for your continued support of the Performing Arts at St Edward's School.

PSYCHOLOGY

This term, Year 12 students have been starting the topics of Biopsychology and Issues and Debates, with the latter involving an in-depth look at the big questions of Psychology – to what extent is our behaviour due to nature or nurture, and how far are we responsible for our actions or is our behaviour pre-determined by biological, environmental or unconscious factors beyond our control. Students have also been developing their mathematical skills in Psychology with an introduction to statistical analysis which has enabled them to draw conclusions about the significance of research findings, such as whether mind power works to flip a coin to land on tails (surprisingly the difference in results was not found to be statistically significant!).

Finally, with the exam season drawing to a close, we would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Year 13 on their hard work and efforts preparing for the exams. With Psychology being one of the first external exams, we were proud to see how well they coped with their nerves and took it all in their stride.



SOCIOLOGY

As we prepared to say a fond farewell to the Year 13 students it was great to see so many of them at the half term revision session. Students reviewed key topics, discussed exam strategies, and clarified misconceptions. They also ate an impressive number of snacks and learned a little bit about sharks as my 8 year old joined us for the morning! It was heartening see so many of the topic predictions come up in the final exams and was great that students were able to approach some tough questions with confidence.

Year 12 students have thoroughly enjoyed the introductions to the Crime and Deviance and Beliefs in Society units. The Crime and Deviance unit offers a unique opportunity to analyse social norms, deviant behaviour, and the complexities of crime in society. We encourage students to delve deeper into this topic, exploring real-world case studies and current events that illustrate the theories and concepts discussed in class. This will be particularly important over the long summer break. If students need any further guidance with wider reading, viewing or listening they can contact staff via email.

Sixth form Induction Day saw a good number of Y11 students enjoy a taster of a subject that most of them have not studied before. We look forward to welcoming the new cohort in September!

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

A massive well done to all our students taking part in sport in and outside of school. Has been an exceptional year of sport at St Edwards. With both participation and achievements. With the focus of sporting values at the forefront of what we aim to achieve here at school. We are very proud that we can take our students anywhere and they show respect, sportsmanship and excellence all areas. This is always highlighted by staff from other schools and this year is no different.

School Sport Success Summer Term

- Year 10 Girls Volleyball PEDSSA Champions
- Year 9 Boys Volleyball PEDSSA Champions
- Year 10 Boys Volleyball PEDSSA Runners up
- Year 9/10 Mixed Rounders Champions



We have also had friendly matches in both cricket and rounders where we found some success. This including winning a Year 8 cricket match v Ferndown along with many wins at the Year 7 and 8 rounders festivals. Our Highflyers also came third in the Table Cricket tournament.

The PE department have had a very busy end of term with Sports Day and Sports Presentation

During our sports presentation evening we celebrated some highly successful students who are playing/ Competing at the highest level. Here is some information about their achievements. Which we love to celebrate.

Academic Award Key Stage 4

Reegan Stanley & Abi Devonish

Academic Award Key stage 5

Thomas Fu

Sports Leadership

Lola Taylor, Dorethy Lawrence, Megan Goldsmith, Wei Chan, Lucy May.

Sporting Excellence

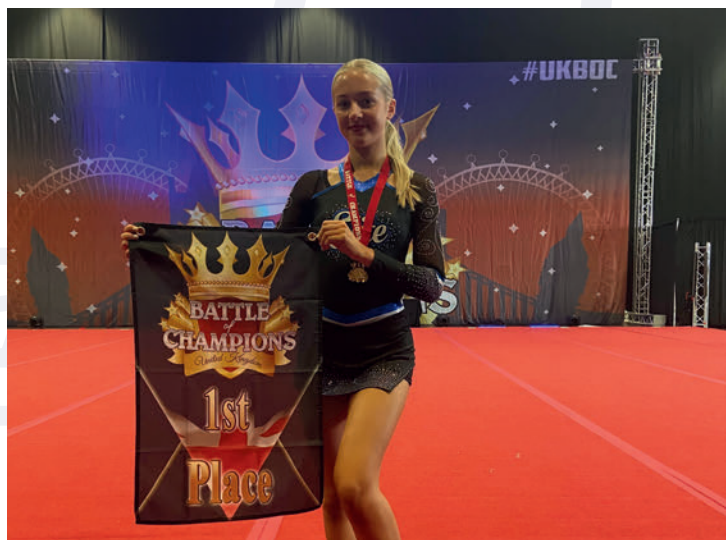


Richard Tsui – Richard has been sailing since he was 7 year old and has developed his skills to a high level. Some highlights of Richard is representing Hong Kong at the Youth European Championships switching to ILCA (Olympic Class). Richard also placed 6th in the UK Open National Championships (2021) and 3rd in the Welsh National Championship (2022). Well done and we look forward to seeing how Richard progresses as he does his A levels at St Edwards.

Ava Hutchings – Ava has only joined Cheer since 2022 after watching a documentary on Cheer. Before that she was a Regional Gymnast. Ava joined Bournemouth Elite Level 1 team before being moved and offered 2 Level 4 spots. Ava chose to join Aqua who went on to be National

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Champions. Ava's role as a Flyer means she spends much time in the air. Keep your eyes out for the Cheerleading Worlds competition on ESPN where you might see Ava. Where over 11,000 cheerleaders will be competing. Ava is hoping to try out for Team England again this year. Keep up the good work Ava.



Joel Tidey – Joel has been sailing for a short time of 3 years. However, this has not stopped him climbing the ranks. Joel is now ranked 23rd in the nation at Under 16's (2 years above his age). Joel is part of the RYA SW Regional Squad and has been selected to train with the regional group. We look forward to hearing how Joel does in the Topper Regional Junior Championships in June, which is 6 days of racing.



Maisy Houlton – Maisy developed her skills originally with Dorset Storm playing in the boys team in the Dorset and South West Regional

League. Maisy has moved on to play for Southampton Kestrels. Maisy is competing in the National Under 16's girls League. Maisy was top scorer last year and won most improved player. This is incredible as it's her first year playing National League. Maisy juggles both playing Basketball at a high level with her GCSE's, including GCSE PE. Maisy is an all round Athlete too which we often rely on for her help when needed.

William Bland – William has been playing Hockey since he could walk. Williams Hockey has developed over the year and at the age of 12 he was selected for county. At the UK festival William was selected to play for UK Lions in Holland. Where he travelled for a week. William then trialed for the High-Performance Academy in Southampton at 14 where he played his hockey for the past 2 years. William is now currently playing for Bournemouth Men's Hockey where they compete at 1 league below National level. William most recently has been asked to trail for England which will be a 2 day trial at Lilleshall and Nottingham Under 18's. We look forward to having you back in Sixth form next year.



PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Extra Sporting Achievements

Jacob Wilson and Theo Nixon-Young – PEDSSA Football

Alfie Fudge and Matteo Verqara – PEDSSA Football

Fleur Moxam (County Level) and Kaitlyn Henderson-Flood – Bournemouth ETC

Austin Anokwuru, Kacper Kobylinski and Alfie Curtis – Volleyball Nationals

Amelia Bishop and Mia Cooper – County Cup with Bournemouth Academy

Rhys Griffin – PEDSSA Football

Emily Hasler – Bath Hub

Cassie Wilkinson, Eva Harris, Amelia Spaulding – Regional Netball Leagues

Sam Sinclair, Abson, Charlie Why – National League Basketball

Amelie Nott – Cheerleading

Izzy Erminasa – Swimming/Water Polo

Hatty Fudge – Gymnastics

Natalia Palka – Cycle Speedway

Harry Swann – County Cricket with Poole Town





St Edward's
School

Unity - Achievement - Faith

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