



St Edward's
School

Unity - Achievement - Faith

Christmas Newsletter



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from our subject leaders**

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A message from our Chair of Governors

This term we welcomed Gary Prazer as a new Foundation Governor. He is a parishioner at St Mary's RC Church and has vast experience in teaching and governance. Marie Cleary and Teresa Stanley have left us and we thank them for their valuable contribution to life at St Edward's.

Governor meetings continue to be held via Microsoft Teams in line with guidance due to Covid 19 restrictions but we look forward to face to face meetings hopefully in the near future along with the reintroduction of governor monitoring visits into school.

Be assured that the Governing Body is intent on taking a strong stance in supporting staff so that the school can act with confidence in implementing our policies.

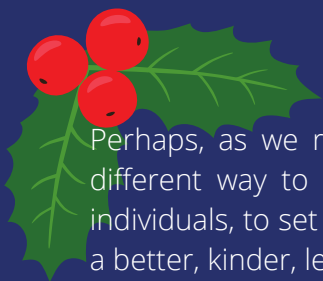
We trust that you will all enjoy a very Happy Christmas as we celebrate the birth of the Lord Jesus, followed by a safe and Happy New Year.

Wyn Jones (Chair of Governors)

Mr Antram reflects...

There are no streetlights where I live, and during Advent the Church lights come on at midnight, and are the only source of light as I begin my daily commute. Every year I forget that this happens, and so each Advent I am caught anew by such a visible symbol of hope. There are many things that currently encroach upon our desire to be free, and at peace. As we raise children we do our best to preserve them from the worries that we all have; and continue to commit ourselves to form children who are happy and optimistic. We all bear the strain of preserving normality, when the world seems resolute in severing us from everything we knew as normal. And yet the lights of the Church shine in the darkness, encouraging us to be people of hope. Where there are scarcity and restrictions, it is natural for people to adopt a 'me first' approach, and yet this tried and tested perspective seems to lay at the heart of so many of humanity's troubles.

Continues on p2



Perhaps, as we realised in the first lockdown, but had forgotten by the second, we need to find a different way to build a better future for our children. This will call for young people, who are all individuals, to set aside concepts of 'me first', and grow in the ability to collaborate within the creation of a better, kinder, less selfish society.

So it is with school, which seems like such a big part of students' lives now, but is a tiny fraction of the futures of their lives to come. In this place we have the privilege of participating together with you in the formation of such people; irrespective of the values and attitudes 'out there'. This term has seen such work, day in day out, with our amazing staff lifting aspirations, and raising hopes despite all that has battered education during the past two years.

Since September we have sought to bring school fully back to life, with small-scale trips, sporting fixtures, and performances; and it has been wonderful to see the optimism and resilience of our school community – staff and students working as one. Such commitment was exemplified in the National recognition of Dorota Hall as TA of the year last month. The full day of filming by the BBC resulted in just over four minutes of television, but managed to capture so well the spirit of St. Edward's.

At the end of the Autumn term I thank you for your support and encouragement of our work as a school; and your collaboration in the formation of young people who will go on to let their light shine. I wish you and your families a happy Christmas and we look forward to seeing you in 2022.



*May we
be One*

HELP US REACH OUR £5,000 CHRISTMAS TARGET!

BUILDING FUND PRIZE DRAW
Donate £10 or more before Christmas to be entered into our prize draw to win a cocktail making master class for six people at 1812 in Bournemouth!
VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE DETAILS www.st-edwards.poole.sch.uk

We're encouraging all parents and carers who are able, to support our efforts to raise £5,000 before Christmas toward the Building Fund. There's still time to donate and help us on our way to achieving this ambitious target and you will also be in with a chance to win our prize draw through your donation!

Everyone who donates £10 or more before Christmas, will be entered into a draw to win a cocktail making masterclass for six people at 1812 Bar & Restaurant in Bournemouth.



The Building Fund is aiming to raise 10% of the costs required to provide a new dining hall and sixth form area for our students. As a church school, we are voluntary-aided which means that we need to financially contribute towards the development to secure the rest of the funding. Can you help....? Donations through Wisepay or via bank transfer please. **Thank you.**



Teaching Assistant of the Year on BBC's The One Show

We were so proud to have one of our staff recognised nationally as one of the nation's most inspirational educators on The One Show on BBC One in November. Selected from thousands of nominations, our HLTA, Dorota Hall won a Gold Award in the Pearson National Teaching Awards for Teaching Assistant of the Year.

Students and staff took part in a day of filming with the BBC and presenter, Matt Allwright, on campus focusing on Dorota's work with students before surprising her with her award and the announcement that she had won the national title.

Since joining St Edward's School, Dorota has made a significant difference to the learning of each child through her meticulously planned and engaging literacy lessons. Her patience and determination with students with considerable speech and communication challenges have enabled children to socialise and engage beyond expectations.

Dorota supports students and families beyond her role within the department and frequently liaises with students in English and Polish as needed, working closely with Polish families in their first language.

The Pearson National Teaching Award winners have been honoured for their incredible work supporting learners across the country. Each award winner has repeatedly gone above and beyond their role to change the lives of their students and help them move towards a brighter future.

Dorota commented; "I'd like to thank the students and staff at St Edward's School, especially Mr Antram for their support and faith in me. It is an honour to be nominated and truly overwhelming to win. I can't put into words the love I have for working with my students, it is a privilege to watch them learn and grow into independent young people. I take inspiration from the students and staff I work with every day and strive to continually improve my practice. Can I also take the opportunity to thank Pearson for this award, it means so much knowing that the hard work we do as educators is recognised."

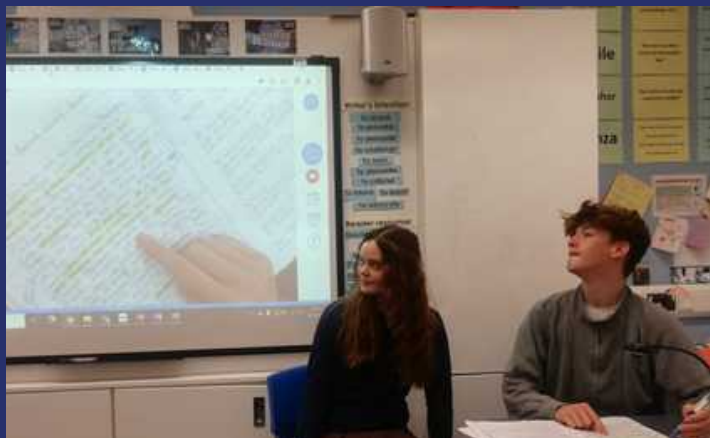


English

This term, as part of our theme of remembrance for Armistice week, Year 7 students learnt about the horrors of war through a study of the poem 'Dulce et Decorum Est' by Wilfred Owen. Students went on to develop their own interpretations of the poem by performing their chosen lines to their class. Prizes for the most imaginative performances were awarded to: Joe Bacon, Logan Dixon and Noah May; Paris Underhill, Raul Carlos, Lilly Sykes, and Bianca Zebik; Sienna Spaulding, Ava McCarthy, Ted Short, and Colten Rees; Leon M'Lenga, Zachary Stone, George Scroggie and Kacper Kobylinski.

Year 12 English Language A Level students have been learning about how language reveals and creates identity. In particular, they have studied how power is displayed through written and spoken language, including a comparison of a speech by Donald Trump and Jacinda Ardern.

They have also studied how gender inequalities are present in our everyday use of language and have been recording friends and family speak in order to examine how the men and women in their lives use language (hopefully with their permission!).



Year 12 A Level English Language students explain their writing live to their class using a visualiser to display their work.



This half term, GCSE students attended a series of mini lectures on English Language in a 'taster' A Level English session as part of the *Edge* programme. They enjoyed live talks by expert linguists on how language forms our sense of identity. In, perhaps the most popular lecture, students learnt about how a team of Forensic Linguists examined a series of text messages in order to solve a murder. Links were made to career pathways including publishing, forensic linguistics and occupations in Law. At the end of the session, students were able to ask teachers and Year 12 students about the A Level course. We are aiming to host another session on English Literature later on in the year.



We have had an exciting start to the new school year in RE as we have welcomed Miss Cooper into the department and have had a focus on Identity and Tradition throughout the classes in Key Stage 3. We have also welcomed back Mrs Bain and said goodbye to Ms Tennant.

In terms of curriculum, in the first half term, Year 7 studied the story of St. Edward and the history and development of our school and then moved on to learn about why there are different Christian traditions and the major similarities and differences between them. Each Year 7 also enjoyed a session in our school chapel with our new school chaplain, Fr. James, where they were introduced to the main features of the chapel, their importance and how they are used within Christian worship. Year 8 focused first on the meaning and importance of vocation in the lives of Christians and then moved on to learn about the key beliefs and practices within the Jewish tradition, with a particular emphasis being placed on the concept of 'covenant' and how the relationship between God and humans has developed over time. Year 9 really enjoyed studying a range of both religious and secular ethical theories and then reflecting on how they solve moral dilemmas before moving on to explore key aspects of Islam.



We have again benefited from visits from PACE (Programme for Applied Christian Education) in our Year 10 and 11 lessons this term. They ran Year 11 sessions that debated the key issues of Christianity and Humanism and Year 10 sessions that focused on Christian perspectives on love, marriage and families in preparation for the Issues of Relationships topic that the students will be moving on to after Christmas.



In the Sixth Form Year 12 students have made an enthusiastic start to their study of A Level RE and have already been introduced to and started to evaluate a number of high-level concepts such as Rationalism, Empiricism, Utilitarianism, Kantianism and St. Augustine's theories on human nature. Year 13 students have been working hard in preparation for their examinations and have enjoyed debates surrounding topics such as Conscience, Religious Pluralism, Gender Roles and Religious Experience.

Overall, students and staff alike have enjoyed another busy and successful term in RE!



This term has seen a relative return to normality within the Maths department. We have even been on a trip to Bournemouth University with some Year 9 students and the Mathematical Problem Solving Club is going from strength to strength.

A focus this term has been how Maths links to other areas of the curriculum and the wider world. As part of this we set a "Famous Mathematicians" task to our KS3 students. Students were tasked with creating a poster about a particular famous mathematician. Year 7 looked at Pythagoras, Y8 Hypatia and Y9 Cardano. These tasks gave students the chance to learn about the mathematicians behind some of the great discoveries in mathematics and an opportunity to use their literacy, comprehension and design skills within a Maths setting whilst learning History, Geography, Science and Engineering discoveries.

We were so impressed with what the students produced and class teachers awarded lots of credits for the fantastic efforts. Three particular student efforts stood out:

Thomas Smith – Year 7

Ruby Yelling – Year 8

Ophelia Furbank – Year 9

PYTHAGORAS

$a^2 + b^2 = c^2$

Where was Pythagoras born?	When is Pythagoras' Theorem?
How and when Pythagoras when did die?	Which letter stands for the longest side in the right-angled triangle?
Did he have any siblings?	Which two letters stand for the shorter sides in the triangle?
Pythagoras was born in 570BC. What does BC mean?	Pythagoras moved to Crotona and set up a school. What does that mean?
Pythagoras had a great impact on mathematics and which other two areas?	His followers had the monks and were vegetarians. What does this mean?

Hypatia

Hypatia became a brilliant public scholar, and she followed her father library's faculty. There she wrote on and astronomy. She did work on algebra equations and conic sections. She in astrolabe for ship navigation and measuring the density of fluids.

Fun fact!
This is how you write Hypatia in Greek: ΥΠΑΤΙΑ like is the future about?

Did you know?
But she was also being a philosopher, astronomer and astronomer, she was the

Hypatia lived in Alexandria, Egypt, she was born in 360 AD and died in 415 AD. She grew up to be a Hellenistic Neoplatonist philosopher, astronomer, and mathematician. Hellenistic Neoplatonist is a brand of philosophy based on Plato's philosophical thinking based in a time of philosophy which came from the time of Aristotle, another Greek philosopher.

Cardano was 74 years old when he died.

The combination could be for a lock or safe to keep someone or something out.

It means having the same center.

Rotation around a fixed axis.

It could be used to turn the wheels on vehicles.

Cardano

Proficiency means having great knowledge and experience in a trade or profession.

Paradoxical means the removal of doubt about something and the statement under the influence of paradoxical nature in the 16th-17th century.

Probability is the branch of mathematics concerning numerical descriptions of how likely it is that a proposition is true.

Yes, we benefit from this because it means that we don't have to wait for hours to print things and we can have a printer at home that does not take up a lot of room.

Probability of 1.

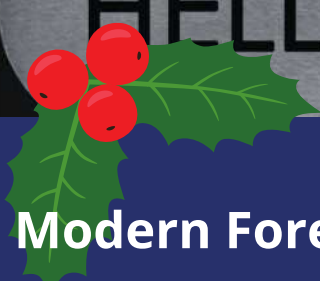
In the new year, students will get the opportunity to complete a similar task based on some of the engineering wonders of the world.

In Year 11 students are working hard on revision for their mocks with drop-in sessions, we have been overwhelmed with how many have been proactive in their approach to their revision turning up to voluntary drop-ins. After the mocks, we will be giving out further information about tailored revision sessions for each class working on specific topics highlighted by the mock feedback. The Dr Frost resource is now being used alongside Hegarty Maths so students can practise exam papers online and receive personal feedback from their class teacher.

After Christmas there will be a focus on year 10 pupils with exciting online enrichment courses : 'Which career - meeting people in roles', and 'Space!'.

Lastly the Maths team would like to thank you all for the support you have shown us over this past term and we wish you all a Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year.

The Maths department will begin topic specific revision sessions starting every Thursday 3:15-4:15 in the New Year. Your child's class teacher will be publishing weekly topic foci via their class Teams page, so please remind them to check this alongside their personalised Mock feedback sheet that they will receive at the end of this term.



HELLO NĪ HẢO BONJOUR

Modern Foreign Languages

The Autumn term began as usual with a celebration of European Day of Languages in September. This year we marked the occasion with a quiz, completed by tutor groups, and a baking challenge, in which students were invited to bake the European dish of their choice. We had a huge number of fantastic entries, including dishes from Italy, Poland, Romania, France, Germany and many other countries, with all entries receiving a small prize. Here are some of the delights prepared by our students:



Unfortunately for the second successive year we are forced to enjoy Christmas without our annual visit to Speyer as the second leg of our German Exchange, which prior to Covid, had run seamlessly for more than 20 years. The Christmas markets here just aren't quite the same! The picture below shows the market we usually enjoy in Speyer:



We have however, kept the relationship with our partner school, the Gymnasium am Kaiserdom, alive in the form of a letter exchange for students in Year 7.

The first letters were posted to Germany recently and we are awaiting replies as I write. In the meantime, as our students have been studying vocabulary relating to schools, we have been comparing our timetables to those of students their age in Germany, and students were really interested in the differences (especially the 1:05pm finish to the school day!) Here is an example:

Zeit	Montag	Dienstag	Mittwoch	Donnerstag	Freitag
1 08:05 - 08:50 Uhr	Latin	Kunst	Sport	Latin	Englisch
2 08:50 - 09:35 Uhr	Sport	Deutsch	Erdkunde	Englisch	Mathe
1. PAUSE					
3 09:50 - 10:35 Uhr	Sport	Mathe	Reli	Mathe	Mathe
4 10:35 - 11:20 Uhr	Reli	Musik	Musik	Musik	Mathe
2. PAUSE					
5 11:35 - 12:20 Uhr	Mathe	Latin	Latin	Deutsch	Erdkunde
6 12:20 - 13:05 Uhr	Mathe	Englisch	Englisch	Deutsch	Deutsch

Whilst it is nice to find new ways to bring the French and German speaking world into the classroom there is no question that foreign exchanges are the best way to show students how the ability to speak languages can transform their lives and we will be running both our exchanges again as soon as we can.

Other highlights in the classroom this term have included Year 8 French students discussing their holiday plans, including looking at popular French holiday destinations, whilst our new GCSE students in Year 10 have adapted superbly to the demands of GCSE study and will shortly be discovering the world of French and German music. Meanwhile, our impressive A Level students have been debating the complex issues of multiculturalism and crime and punishment, and have completed their study of German and French literature. They are now able to conduct detailed critical analysis of the books they have read in spoken and written French and German – it is a huge privilege to work with such intelligent and capable young people!

We wish all of our students and their families a very...
Joyeux Noël et bonne année / Frohe Weihnachten und
ein glückliches neues Jahr.
Mr M Lenarduzzi, MFL Subject Leader

Student Awards

This term, we were delighted to award our previous Year 11 students with our Virtue Awards and Progress and Attainment Awards in an evening ceremony at school.

The Virtue Awards, with sponsorship from HSBC, saw five students presented with our elegant glass awards to mark the individual's character virtue of either Courage, Spirituality, Discipline, Humanity or Wisdom in their time at St Edward's.

The Virtue Awards will be displayed in our Legacy Chapel at school and the names of the award winners will be inscribed onto our honours boards for future recognition.

The Progress Awards, with sponsorship from Bournemouth University, recognised three more students' achievements, as did the Attainment Awards. Congratulations to all our winners!



All award winners



Virtue Award Winners



Mr Antram presents award to Mara

Virtue Award Winners

Discipline - Maria Wawrzyniak

Wisdom - Mara Bajescu Concita

Courage - Ethan Auld

Humanity - Spencer Blissett

Spirituality - Daniel Campbell

Attainment Award Winners

Daniel Windridge-Smith

Lauren Trevett

Megan Flatt

Progress Award Winners

Megan Flatt

Maria Wawrzyniak

Spencer Blissett

Would you like to support our school by helping to recognise some of our award winning students?

Sponsor our
Virtues Awards

Become a sponsor of our Virtues Awards and your organisation's name will become synonymous with one of our awards. Our student awards reach throughout thousands of families within Poole and our surrounding areas' school community.

Find out more on our website under Awards Sponsorship www.st-edwards.poole.sch.uk

BU Bournemouth University

Sponsored by
HSBC

In Memoriam...

In November, we announced that we will be featuring a Memorial Book to remember those who have died who may have had an association with St Edward's in the past, be it previous students, governors, staff or others within the school community. This book will become a permanent feature within our Legacy Chapel in school. If you know anyone who you think should be remembered in this book, please complete this [form](#) with their details.





It has been a really great start to the year in Computer Science and I am really pleased to welcome Ms Jones to the department this year who is teaching alongside me. I have also had the pleasure of working with Mr Portman who has just completed his short teacher training placement with us and I wish him all the best in his long placement. All of the year groups have come back from such a disrupted year with a really positive attitude to Computer Science and we have all really enjoyed working with them this term.

Key Stage 3

The highlight of Key Stage 3 so far this year has been the annual Bebras Computational Thinking Challenge. This challenge is run in conjunction with Oxford University and all our Key Stage 3 students participated over a 2-week period.

I am really pleased to announce that we have a number of students who were in the top 10% nationally and have been awarded a Gold Award. This also entitles them to compete in the Oxford Computing Challenge if they wish (see Mr Prince for details). Congratulations to all of the following students for getting a Gold Award:

Year 7

Ben Adams (Best in School – Juniors)
Amelia Kenchington
Harry Canham



Years 8 and 9

Joe Drissell
Julija Kleinovaite
Benjamin May
Zane Millward
Daniel Stonier (Best in School – Inters)
Julia Zebik

Joseph Moody
Liam Bertrand
Lily Harris
Eddie Hunter
Cerys Kenchington
Hannah Stamp
Abigail Devenish
Oliver Hanka

Key Stage 4

It has been really positive to see Year 10 and Year 11 both start out on and continue their GCSE learning journeys respectively. Year 10 are the biggest option group that we have had for Computer Science and all the students have started out well with their studies on Systems Architecture, Memory and Data Representation. Year 11 have just sat their mocks, which was a great chance to see where they are currently and what they need to work on to further improve. I have been really impressed with their attitude towards the exams and their results, so a massive well done to them!

Key Stage 5

The highlight of the year so far for our Sixth Form students has been the joint trip with Engineering students to BCP's Smart Hub (see separate piece). Year 12 have started out excellently in their A Level studies and I have been really impressed with the commitment and dedication that they have shown so far this year. Year 13 have also just sat their mocks, which was a chance for them to experience full A Level papers for the first time! They now have no new theory content to cover and their focus will be on 3 things: revision, NEA Programming and Skeleton Code (pre-release material for their Paper 1).

Joint Trip with Engineering to BCP's Smart Hub

Sixth Form students studying Computer Science or Engineering were invited by BCP Council to visit their Smart Hub in Boscombe, where they are demonstrating how they are trying to make the BCP Conurbation into a 'Smart City' through the use of technology. It was a really interesting visit with students getting to see how a 5G Mobile Hotspot can be created from a trolley that is easily wheeled around, how Wi-Fi is affected by the number of users and other environmental factors, and how fibres are spliced together which then allow for faster internet access for various types of premises.

Thanks to BCP Council for inviting us and we look forward to seeing what else they have at the Smart Hub in future!



It was fantastic to do our first trip for nearly two years at the start of term. Around 50 Drama and Music students travelled to the Mayflower theatre in Southampton to watch Blood Brothers. For many it was their first experience of watching an award-winning professional musical and the students were captivated from arriving at the theatre to the final curtain.



Many of these students were clearly inspired by what they saw as they have gone on (with many others) to audition for Grease which St Edward's Performing Arts team will be putting on in March 2022. Rehearsals are going very well and students are hugely benefiting from rehearsing together in a way they haven't been able to for a while.



The Music department have also put on Friday lunch performances where students have performed to peers in the canteen, it has been great to have the school alive with music this term.



Behind the scenes we have also launched a technical team involving 10 students who applied for the position at the end of the summer term. This group has received training from Mr Cummings, our IT Technician, in sound and lighting equipment, and are looking forward to running all things technical for upcoming school events. The first opportunity to employ their new skills was at the Christmas Concert, which was broadcast virtually through the school website on the 15th December. Almost 100 students were involved performing a range of pieces in bands, orchestras and choirs from every year group in the school. It was a fantastic experience for all involved to take part in a live recording session and be able to watch performances back with family and friends. The video is still available through the school YouTube channel for viewing.





The popularity of Sociology as a subject continues to grow to the bitter-sweet extent that we needed to put students on a waiting list to join the Year 12 group as final subject choices were being made in the first two weeks of the year. Our bumper class of 26 students has engaged enthusiastically with the subject and many of them are already proving to be excellent independent thinkers. They are enjoying the benefit that further curriculum changes have brought with Mr Farrow taking them through the Research Methods unit alongside the studies of Education (Autumn Term) and Families and Households (Spring Term) with Mrs Farrow.

The Year 13s continue to get fired up by the Crime and Deviance unit. We welcomed Rachel Small, local magistrate, to talk about her work with the Criminal Justice System. As many students are looking ahead to their university courses, it's been good to see some of them engage with the virtual taster lectures offered by Durham University. There have been a range of fascinating titles explored, including who the police are and how much we need them and whether we should even study crime at all. We have also refreshed the Year 13 curriculum and students are enjoying the Beliefs in Society unit that is being taught by Mr Farrow.

Politics has had an incredibly successful term at both subject and school level. We have welcomed a new cohort of Year 12 students, who have enthusiastically begun their studies of UK politics, studying areas such as Democracy, elections, and the UK Constitution. Our Year 13 students have continued their study of the US, finishing learning about the US electoral process alongside their study of Congress. Both Year 12 and Year 13 had an exciting opportunity to partake in a conference on US foreign policy, hearing from speakers across the world who spoke passionately about global affairs, ranging from China, Iraq, Russia and Africa. This sparked exciting discussions amongst students around how America guides and responds to foreign affairs, and how it fits with our wider studies.

At a whole school level, we have held our first elections for student leadership. Students from every year group across the school had the opportunity to stand on a virtue and a campaign. The election manifestos were insightful and reflective, and represent the virtues that our students develop on a daily basis. Students ran on issues such as litter, the environment and mental health, and presented clear and creative solutions. A huge congratulations to those involved, and we are all excited to see the student leader councils in action!

POLITICS

POLITICS



Furthermore, Politics Club has had a successful start; we have had students attend from every year group, and have been preparing a series of debates on issues such as COP26. A big well done to Politics Club, and especially to the sixth form team that have shown leadership skills in running the Club every Thursday lunchtime!

It has been another busy and vibrant term in the History department with a combination of local, British and world history being explored through a variety of historical enquiries. We are delighted by the efforts of Year 7 who have embraced their introduction to historical skills through a unit on the Silk Roads and are now exploring the House of Wisdom in medieval Baghdad. Year 8 were introduced to material and oral sources as part of a study of the African Kingdom of Mali and are now learning about the Renaissance and the New World, whilst Year 9 considered the role of British and African authorities in the development of the transatlantic slave trade. Year 10s have made an excellent start to their GCSE course and are being encouraged to listen to the Voices of the First World War podcasts from the Imperial War Museum.

We have been fortunate this term to have visiting international students who have shared their experience of studying history in their home nations. Iliana, from Germany, shared her award-winning project on Johann Trollman, the Sinti boxer who challenged the Nazi regime. This will help our students to consider resistance and the Porajmos, alongside their study of the Holocaust. Chise, from Japan, reviewed our key stage three curriculum and mapped the history of Japan across the same time period, highlighting the Kamakura and Edo periods as ones which would enrich our Year 7 and 8 students' understanding of the wider world. She is currently working on some 'Meanwhile Elsewhere...' home learning resources to share before she leaves us to continue her studies in Ireland.

All of our students, from Year 7 to Year 13, have access to the Historical Association and a wealth of resources, including articles and podcasts and we would encourage them to explore further: history.org.uk **Student Username: 54826**
Student Password: edwards1234.

Building on our status as an alumni school with the UCL Centre for Holocaust Education, students have been involved in a nationwide initiative to raise awareness of genocide as part of Genocide Prevention Week, 2-9 December. Year 12 historians have conducted live interviews with the survivors of four genocides: Henry Schachter (the Holocaust), Alma Mustafic (the Bosnian genocide), Eric Murangwa Eugene (the 1994 genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda) and Sokhpal Din (the Cambodian genocide). They have contributed written reports to a special edition newspaper with a print run of 2021 copies, which will support knowledge and understanding of genocide – copies of the newspaper are available in school for the wider student and staff community to read. Students have made reflections on this extraordinary opportunity:



Our student interviews and reflections on genocide survivors





'We now have a responsibility to spread awareness, to give our time and to pass on his [Eric's] story and his message to other students and our local community. Without Eric, we might have learnt about the 1994 genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda, but we would not have the depth of understanding that we now have to feel confident in sharing our knowledge.'

Kaden, Finlay, Callum, Emerson, Alfie, Lauren, Kiana, Jack

'We were inspired by Henry's courage in spreading awareness of genocide... in the hope that knowledge and awareness will lead to prevention. He encouraged us to learn from this, to understand that everyone's unique qualities should be embraced rather than discriminated against, that whatever your personal beliefs are, everyone should be accepted as equals.'

Laura, Bella, Iliana, Mariangela

'His [Sokphal's] story taught us just how important it is to raise awareness of genocide, especially as it is ever present in our world today... the opportunity to interview Sokphal allowed us to gain a new perspective; we learnt about an event which, admittedly, we had no previous knowledge about, and it opened our eyes to the first-hand trauma experienced by the survivors of genocide.'

Mara, Tino, Miranda, Abi, Reuben

'I am truly honoured that I was able to interview Alma and learn about her story, it was an empowering experience and one that I will never forget. Listening to a survivor, who experienced severe injustice and lost everything to war, makes me so much more passionate to not only share her story but to do everything in my power to prevent future generations from experiencing genocide.' Julia



Geography

Key stage 3

COP26 that took place in Glasgow during November has clearly engaged our students with the plight of our environment. Many of our Year 8 Students have been applying this to what they have been learning about with the destruction of the rainforest. They have showed a very mature understanding of the complexities of global issues such as this, but also echoed many of the frustrations that many young people have about the future of our planet.



Key stage 4

We would like to congratulate our Year 10 students for making the transition to GCSE Geography. Year 11 has been getting to grips with the issues generated by the oil industry in Nigeria, having studied a pre-release document in advance of their Paper 3 PPE. As the first students to attempt a pre-release booklet at this stage of the course, we are eagerly awaiting their results.



Key stage 5

Year 12 and 13 students opted to get involved in an outreach project that was aiming to canvass views of young people about the regeneration of Poole Town Centre High Street. It was really interesting to hear the views of the next generation of geographers, presenting about the opportunities and challenges that this area faced. We look forward to seeing their ideas presented when it is widened to local consultation phase in Spring 2022.



Art and Photography

It has been a pleasure welcoming our new Year 7 students into the Art department, we have been impressed with their engagement and enthusiasm as they have experimented with mark making on paper, with paint and into clay. We have been particularly impressed with the standard and creativity of their home learning tasks on the work of the artist, Van Gogh. Well done Year 7! Here are just a few examples of work;



Year 8 has been responding to the theme of *Nature as Inspiration* and have designed and created their own clay sculpture after looking at the sculptor Peter Randall Page. Year 8 has responded very creatively to this task and worked hard to produce their sculptures in the time frame.



Year 9 has been exploring the theme of *Identity*. In their home learning they have been challenged with the task of looking at how artists have used art to bring about social change and will then decide how they would like to use art themselves to explore a theme or message that they feel strongly about. In class they have been experimenting with media and starting to consider how to convey messages in their own work.

Our Year 10 artists are producing exciting work exploring their theme of water, they have been developing their own ideas and responding to a wide range of artists such as Japanese woodblock printmakers, Leonardo Da Vinci and William De Morgan.

Roche Court Trip

Our Year 11 and Sixth Form artists were excellent ambassadors for our school during our recent visit to Roche Court Sculpture Park. The students had the opportunity to view work first-hand and discuss the artwork in the Park. Despite the cold weather conditions, the students were fully engaged and insightful, impressing ourselves and the specialist staff at the sculpture park. We now look forward to seeing what the students produce as they respond to the experience back at school.

Our Year 13 artists and photographers are all working on highly original Personal Investigations, exploring themes ranging from *The Natural World* to *Monsters*! Students have been exploring a wide range of techniques, experimenting with both 2D and 3D outcomes.



Inktober

We were amazed by the creativity and imagination of the students who shared with us the work that they created during Inktober. Our challenge to you all is to now keep this exciting work up and keep drawing all year!

Christmas Card Competition

We would like to say thank you and well done to everyone who entered this year's Christmas card competition. Students were asked to create a design in the style of a stained glass window or to respond to the idea of the light in the darkness by creating a design in black and white or strongly contrasting tone. The standard of entries was very high and it was a difficult choice selecting just five winning designs to be printed. We would like to congratulate all the students who submitted an entry and the following students in particular.

The winning designs; Lilia Catford, Annaliese Love, Catherine Warn, Livia Cunha, Elizabeth Taylor.

The runners up; Giya George, Maria Ellison, Catilin Roe, Minnie Barratt, Alissia Boghitoi, Ava McCarthy, Thomas Hawkins, Sophie Payne, Charlee Warren, Chloe Manundo, Eleanor Henderson-Flood, Daisy Holloway, Wes Brodie, Alissa Ford and James Watts.



Technology

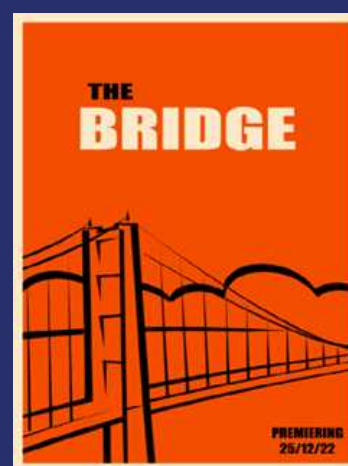
September saw the start of two new courses in Technology; *BTEC Level 1 Construction* course and the *NCFE Level 2 Technical* award in *Graphic Design* to expand our offering at KS4.

The *Level 1 Construction* course is offered to students previously studying *BTEC Level 1 Award in Home Cooking Skills* in Year 10. The course aims to develop the student's skills needed to make minor home improvements and maintenance. Throughout the year, the students will be learning about the best methods, tools and materials to use when making a minor repair. So far this term, the group has been tackling a range of projects from wiring a plug to building flat packed furniture.

The second new qualification is the *Technical Award in Graphic Design* which focuses on an applied study of the graphic design sector. Through the course students will gain a broad understanding and knowledge of working in the sector.

This qualification consists of 4 units: *Introduction to Graphic Design, Graphic Design Practice, Responding to a Graphic Design Brief and a Graphic Design Portfolio*. This term the students have been studying the seven elements of design and applying their understanding to design a film poster using *Photoshop* and looking at the use of typography in graphic products.

This term has also seen the start of two new clubs at KS3, both running after school on a Wednesday. The Cooking Club has been working on a theme of energy boosting sweet treats and have made a range of products featuring chocolate decorations and icing. The Resistant Materials Club has focused on making wooden products which have included a bird knocker and trinket box. Both clubs have been oversubscribed so students are encouraged to sign up early for next term.



Young Enterprise

Congratulations to all those Sixth Form students who have chosen to take part in the Young Enterprise competition this year. They have started enthusiastically, and are already demonstrating their commitment, creativity, determination, independence, and entrepreneurial flair.



Young enterprise is an international competition where students set up their own Private Limited Company and run it from October until April. This year we have one company made up of Clelia Landi, Jody Verrinder and Freya Taylor.

The company is currently raising capital to fund their business idea which they will develop and innovate with the objective of making a profit. They will then showcase their business at the County competition online in March against other companies in Dorset. Success at this stage would allow them to compete against schools in the South West.

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You can download a pdf of this email here.

This term has seen a flurry of practical work in Science. It has been great to see students getting out the apparatus and investigating their ideas. Many of our topics at KS3 have investigations and GCSE students have required practical activities, it is far more rewarding to complete the practical than to watch a YouTube clip. It has been rewarding to see the students regain their practical skills; when weighing masses and measuring volumes and periods of time in the laboratory. They can continue their practise at home if they help out with cooking meals as all of these processes are routinely called upon.

There have been many topical science issues to explore; from the continued presence of Covid to the COP26 summit and various space missions dispersed throughout; there have been many discussions in lessons that have linked into our curriculum.

New for this term has been the opportunity for students to explore careers in science within their lessons, the first session was on roles in the NHS. We are also encouraging and promoting engagement in science beyond the classroom curriculum by showing the students local science-related museums, nature reserves, gardens and more in the tutor bulletin. Several students have already received free tickets to the Dorset Museum and will be writing about their experiences in a later edition of the newsletter. We also have tickets for the Tank Museum and Abbotsbury Subtropical Gardens if any students would like the chance to explore these places and share a short summary of what they find there. Also shared in the bulletin have been science apps, websites and competitions, and based on the responses from a survey of the students, we will be sharing some of the latest scientific research too.

Our practical work hasn't just been limited to the classroom setting. Students have been using the campus to investigate biodiversity and ecology as they conduct sampling of different sites. Some of our Year 10 students visited Arne RSPB nature reserve to apply their sampling skills and to investigate the heathland habitat. Students discovered harvestmen which at first glance appear to be a spider but only have a single body segment whereas spiders have two. This became very apparent when students caught a wolf spider and comparisons could be made.





This term has been incredibly busy with everyone returning from their summer break and reintroducing previous procedures and events we had in place before Covid. Our students have thoroughly enjoyed returning to a full extra-curricular timetable and fixtures returning for every year group.

On the 14th October, we attended a cross country tournament at Canford School. We had a group of runners from Years 8-10 who entered the event and ran really well. Congratulations to all students who competed and completed the gruelling course.

On the court...

This term we have hosted our Year 10 and Year 11 PEDSSA leagues at St Edward's School where local Poole schools have been competing. In the Year 11 league, we entered two teams who were both amazing! Both teams showed real resilience and development on the court with our A team being crowned winners of the event. Our Year 10 teams were equally as determined with two teams entered in addition to an all-male guest team who played in the league. All students have improved upon their game-play and showed real perseverance when games got difficult but overall our A team placed second in the tournament. A huge well done to all students involved in the leagues.

We've had some huge successes with our netball teams and their county qualifying rounds. Our U16 and U14 teams both qualified to the Dorset tournaments. Our Under 16 team attended Budmoth School on the 11th November and got through to the semi finals to lose to Canford School in an extremely difficult match. On the 18th November our Under 14 team attended Canford School for the Dorset tournament and played in several tough rounds. They worked really hard and showed such fabulous teamwork and support for each other.

Congratulations to all students who worked so hard and competed in the county qualifying tournaments. We are so proud of you all!



Physical Education



Our sixth formers attended their first friendly game against Poole High earlier in the year and demonstrated some fantastic game-play. This was the first time these sixth formers played together for a fixture and were hard working throughout, winning their game.



The Year 7 boys rugby team have played their first few fixtures this term and showed a fantastic rate of progression in their skills and game-play. Not only is the club well attended but they are all keen and eager to learn. Keep up the good work boys!



We have had some fantastic football fixtures throughout all year groups this year. We have been fortunate to have a large number of students who enjoy playing football and want to represent St Edward's School at home and away fixtures. The Year 8 and Year 11 football team have had a great success this year so far in going through to the first round of the County Cup, with their next round scheduled after the Christmas holidays. Congratulations boys on your success so far!

The Sixth Form football team has also played a couple of friendly fixtures this term. This is the first occasion where most of them have played together in a fixture and showed some great sportsmanship and support for each other.

When we return from the Christmas break, we will be returning to a new extra-curricular timetable. Please find the [new timetable on the website](#) which will begin on 4th January 2022.

Drama

The Year 13 Drama and Theatre A level students recently presented their devised play on cohesive abuse and domestic violence. It was an extremely moving and thought-provoking piece, and the students were able to welcome an audience for the first time in 20 months to witness their success.



Year 11s are currently in process of completing their final preparations for their performances, based around stimulus from OCR. The themes range from Chernobyl, Equality and Alcohol Abuse and Pearl Harbour. They promise to be really exciting.

Key Stage 3 students have been working hard on their end of unit assessments and both Ms Sinnott and Mr Christopher are so proud of their endeavours.

It is fabulous to see the Drama Studio brimming with enthusiasm and talent once more, here's hoping the doors continue to stay open.

The Drama Department have been working closely with AUB, and in the process of forging even stronger bridges and arranging to work closely together, not just for practical, but technical aspects of the theatre, including set, costume and lighting design. After Christmas we hope to see their students visit the department, to begin making plans for St Edward's Creative Arts Week.



Ms Sinnott was privileged to see the new West End production of Cabaret, with Eddie Redmayne and Jessie Buckley. It was a completely inspiring and innovative realisation. The performance of the song, Cabaret, was possibly the single most powerful piece of theatre Ms Sinnott has ever seen. Unfortunately she can't divulge any secrets, because what takes place in the Kit Kat Club, stays in the Kit Kat Club!

