



# St Edward's School

Unity · Achievement · Faith

# Easter Newsletter

## *In This Issue*

**The term's round ups  
from our subject leaders**

**School attendance review**

**Uniform consultation**

## *Welcome from Mr Antram...*

Welcome to our Easter Newsletter, with news of so much that has been packed into a relatively short term. Our students continue to enjoy great success on a range of impressive fronts from public speaking competitions, to sporting achievements. I am especially pleased to share that our school council won School Council of the Year in a BCP-wide competition. My thanks to Miss Elms, Mr Farrow, and the many many staff who form such leadership qualities in our students. Our range of educational visits, continues to widen, and as I write some of our staff and students are on the point of departure to Rome and Pompeii. With so many field trips, cultural visits to world-class performances, and opportunities to excel on a range of intellectual and sporting fronts, our brilliant staff team continue to invest significant time and energy in making sure that our students have the very best learning and formation experiences possible during their time at St. Edward's. I cannot thank or praise my colleagues enough, and on your behalf I thank them all.

There has been a very positive response to our uniform consultation regarding changes planned from this September.



Having been able to secure lower prices whilst holding up standards and quality, together with the ability to make purchases and returns online, we have sought at all times to make uniform affordable for our families, whilst continuing to reflect our excellence as a school. My thanks to Mrs O'Mahony and the team of staff involved in securing better value for parents and carers. Students have been especially positive about our new sports kit coming online – now in our school colours, to be worn with pride.

Planning is well underway for the adjustment to our leadership structure ahead, and we continue to prepare for our Section 48 inspection now scheduled for the Summer term, whilst ensuring that the small improvement recommended by Ofsted is attended to. Our Section 48 inspection is a review of our identity and practice as a Church school, and on this occasion it will be led by a Catholic Diocese, supported by the Church of England. Do please keep the work and mission of our school in your prayers, especially as we prepare for our 60th Anniversary Celebrations later this year, beginning from September. It is a source of great joy for me that over 10% of our staff are former students.

**Continues on p2**

As ever, the end of a term is a time to bid farewell to colleagues, and Rachel Dawson is leaving us for new ventures. Rachel Dawson has served our school community for over 17 years, and in her work as a TA has helped many children to grow in confidence and maturity as they progress their learning. We also bid farewell to Charlie Bulloch who has so brilliantly managed our communications; and to Olivia Martos-Fradsham who has so gently and thoughtfully cared for some of our vulnerable students. Our thanks and good wishes go with them all. In April we welcome our new Music teacher, Harriette Stacey, a former student, back to St. Edward's. Her arrival, working alongside Mrs Keene, enables us to reinstate the full music provision for Key Stage 3 with immediate effect.

Easter is a time of renewal so it is good to end on a note of optimism and creativity. I hope that as you read all of the events that have formed the life and community of St. Edward's over the past term, that you share my pleasure and pride in what we all together, school and family, achieve for our young people.

Happy Easter, and may God bless you and your families as we celebrate the still greater gift that we receive through the death and resurrection of our Lord.

Mr M Antram, Headteacher



*May we be One*

## School Uniform Consultation

Thank you to all our parents and carers who responded to our uniform consultation. From 1st April, we will be launching our new online store which will be offering the full range of uniform items and **89% of respondents agreed this change was a beneficial one**, with the significant reduction in prices being warmly welcomed by parents and carers.

The new online supplier offers free delivery to school where items can be checked for sizing and returned/exchanged for free if unsuitable. Home deliveries will incur a small delivery fee.

The new PE kit range will be on sale and this includes the new highly popular choice of leggings for girls as well as a full range of smart and practical technical items. The old PE kit can still be worn as the new kit is phased in from September but all new uniform purchases will be from the new range.

The new full pleated style skirt has been brought in for all year groups from September 23 in response to parent consultation concerns around the length of the straight style skirt. You can find out more detail about the uniforms on our website <https://st-edwards.poole.sch.uk/parents/uniform-policy/>

## 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.





## Key Stage Five

Year 12 and 13 English Literature students are taking a trip to The Globe theatre this half term to enjoy a live performance of Shakespeare's *The Tempest*.

## Literacy and Oracy

World Book Day took place on the 3rd March and we celebrated with a whole week of book related activities across the school including; a tutor time book quiz, a book character quiz in the library and a silent debate in sixth form looking at the very topical issue of banned books and censorship.

Lots of students engaged and participated and were rewarded with prizes for their efforts! Teachers across the school shared their favourite reads with students and we officially launched our Library Reading Challenge – engaging students with reading books in their own time, setting themselves a challenge to see how many books they can read before the summer break. The library has had a refresh of books both fiction and non-fiction and students have been recommending their own great reads which will create a new display for others to take inspiration from. As ever we are keen to encourage all our students to enjoy reading for pleasure and always welcome suggestions and recommendations for new books we can add to our school collection.



Students have had the opportunity to develop their oracy skills through engaging with competitions this term. For our year 7 students this has been through the national competition 'Poetry By Heart'. It was brilliant to see all students enthusiastically and confidently engage with this and we saw some very creative and original performances! Year 10 students have also gained public speaking experience, building on the success of the 'Speak Out Challenge' with the *Speakers Trust* earlier in the year.

We were delighted that Luca Thompsom and Hannah Stamp came 2nd and 3rd place respectively at The Catenians Public Speaking regional final. Both Luca and Hannah were superbly confident in their delivery whilst still maintaining warmth, personality and emotional belief in their topics. We are so proud of both of them for an outstanding achievement.

Mrs Motagghi, Subject Leader for English

It seems like we say this in every newsletter but it has, yet again, been a very busy term in the RE department!

Since Christmas, Year 7 has been encouraged to reflect on their religious position through completing a study of 'Does God Exist?', this included a variety of arguments from a wide range of key scholars. They are coming to an end of looking at a series of Old Testament figures as they move through a unit entitled "Who are the 'People of God'?"

Year 8 has deepened their understanding of issues arising from intimate relationships in their "What is love?" unit of study and have since moved onto a unit where they are learning about the meaning and importance of Jesus' parables.

Year 9 students were captivated by their unit on "Why is there suffering?" as they were presented with various attempts that theologians have made to reconcile the existence of God with the existence of evil and suffering in the world.

As we approach Easter, Year 9 is now finding out about the various reasons why political and religious leaders of the day wanted to kill Jesus and how this came to pass. The GCSE and A-Level classes have been continuing with their examination courses with Year 11 and 13 and are now busy revising for their March PPEs and their final examinations in the summer term.

Beyond the curriculum, we have once again benefitted from visits from Dave Pegg and his team from The PACE Trust, they have been into school and have delivered lessons to Year 7 and Year 9 RE classes on the themes of "Does God Exist?" and "Who killed Jesus and Why?"



Year 10 students have enjoyed getting out of the classroom and have benefitted from the knowledge and experience of Harry Vincent, our resident School Life Pastor and forest school practitioner, as he has been using our school forest school area to guide them through a time of reflection based on the theme of "What does Lent mean for me?"

Earlier on in the term, Miss Morgan and Miss Cooper took some of our highest achieving Year 10 and Year 11 students to run an afternoon workshop session to students at Ocean Academy on the theme of Jewish Key Beliefs and Practices. In addition, two representatives from each Year 9 class were selected to attend a Holocaust Memorial Day event at Talbot Heath School where they heard the testimony of Henry Schacter, a 'hidden child' that was taken in and hidden by a Christian family during World War 2. They were all deeply moved by the experience



and have been speaking about it to other students during both History and RE lessons.

We are delighted to have such a strong link with St. Cassian's retreat centre in Kintbury. This term, a group of Year 10 students enjoyed a weekend residential retreat there. The 'Kintbury experience' is always hugely enriching and it was great to take a larger group of students who had so enjoyed their 'mini-retreat' in Year 9 and were keen to return. We are grateful to the staff from across the school (Miss Cooper, Mr Parkin, Miss Meachin and Mr Keene) who supported the trip and gave up their weekend to enable to students to have a thought-provoking, reflective and engaging time.

Of course, the end of term is now fast approaching and with it the departure date for our trip RE and Geography trip to Rome and Vesuvius that has been mostly organised by Miss Morgan. I am sure that there will be much to write about that in the next newsletter!

Mr Willis, Subject Leader for Religious Studies

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Since the last newsletter many exciting opportunities for wider maths experiences have been available for students at St Edward's. Forty-five KS3 students were selected to attend trips to different educational centres due to their superb effort over the past two terms. Years 7 went to Legoland to explore the maths behind this iconic toy and the theme park itself. Year 9's have visited the Tank museum to understand the vast array of mathematics involved in Tank construction and operation. Year 8 will soon be visiting Bletchley Park, once the home to code breakers in WW2. Students will have exciting hands-on sessions to develop their resilience, teamwork, and problem solving skills.

In KS4 a number of year 10 students attended a problem solving day at Bourne Academy, hosted by world-renowned mathematician, Ben Sparks. A highlight of the day was Ben's talk on the history of number which lead to the Mandelbrot Set. Year 10 students have also experienced what maths past year 11 could look like for them, via a taster lesson delivered by our Advanced Maths Support Program link – Dom Burke. In these session, students have looked at what Core Maths, A-level 3 qualification equivalent to a AS-Level, is like and how lessons are structured and why it should be on their list of possible subjects after GCSE.



Twenty-seven year 11 students have been given the opportunity to work with Pearson tutors to support them in achieving the highest possible GCSE grade. These students have been asked to attend session at 8am Mondays or Tuesdays. It is a real credit to them to see how they are making the most of this opportunity.

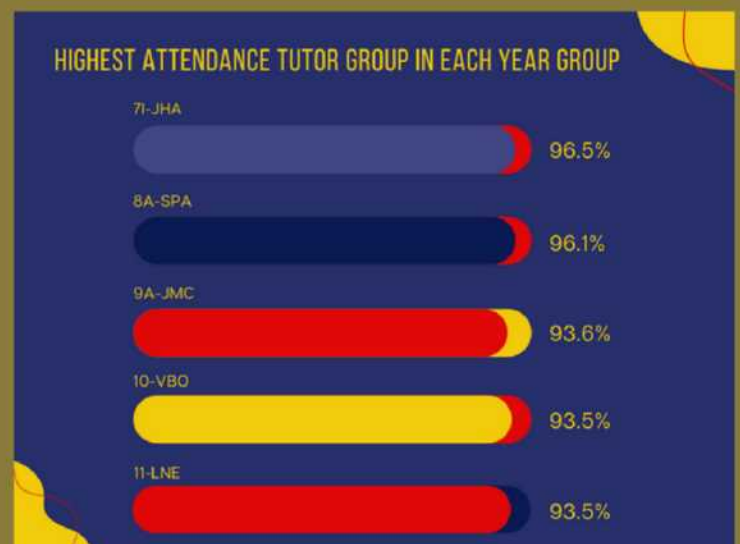
Mr Hegarty, Subject Leader for Maths

## School Attendance News

Once again we'd like to share our attendance figures with parents and carers.

Congratulations to each of the tutor groups who achieved the highest attendance figures in their year group shown in the graph opposite.

So far this term, Year 8 has achieved the highest average attendance figure at 94.2%. Well done Year 8!



# HELLO NĪ HẢO BONJOUR

## JOYEUSES PÂQUES AND FROHE OSTERN FROM THE MFL DEPARTMENT...

## Modern Foreign Languages

As well as offering extra-curricular opportunities to students, we also try to ensure that our curriculum provides plenty of opportunities for students to learn about culture and society in the countries whose languages they are learning. This term our Year 12 A Level students are studying the cinematic and literary elements of the course. German students are studying the film "Goodbye Lenin!", an award-winning portrayal of the impact of the fall of the Berlin wall on life in East Germany, whilst those in French are studying "La Haine", a hard-hitting and breathtakingly-effective film that holds a mirror to modern France's social and economic divisions. Meanwhile, our GCSE linguists have been learning about the many festivals and traditions in French and German-speaking countries and learning about their school systems. Year 7 students recently switched to study of their second language here at St Edward's, with final decisions regarding long-term provision to be made in the summer term.

One of the highlights of another busy term in Languages has been the success of our Year 7 German letter exchange with our partner school, the Gymnasium am Kaiserdom (GaK) in Speyer, Germany. The letter exchange, organised and managed by Mrs North, began in the autumn term and involves students writing to a nominated pen pal in the language they are learning. The latest letters from Germany arrived a couple of weeks ago and it is amazing how pleased the students always are to receive an actual hand-written letter! We are working hard to re-instate our full exchange programme with the GaK this year, with the current plan being to run the exchange in its usual window in the autumn term. We expect to distribute letters to interested students in Years 9-13 shortly after the Easter break.



Mr Lenarduzzi, Subject Leader for MFL

# Psychology

This term Year 12 has been studying the topic of Psychopathology and Social Influence, the latter concluding with the process by which social change happens. To help deepen students' understanding of this area, they were tasked with a presentation looking at a historical example of social change and to predict a future social change and how it might happen. It is always fascinating to see what the students choose as their social change of the future and this year has been no exception with topical issues such as ending environmental racism, gender pay equality and a wholly digital world. Beyond lessons, many Year 12 students have already started to explore their options in higher education, with a significant number looking to study Psychology.

Meanwhile, Year 13 has been studying Schizophrenia and Aggression, with both topics exploring the extent to which the behaviour is due to nature or nurture.



Whilst studying the different explanations for aggression, students have been introduced to the theory of Deindividuation; the idea that when we are part of a crowd or have a degree of anonymity we lose our personal identity and with it the restraints on our behaviour to conform to social norms. Students have been involved in replicating research by Dodd (1985) which posed the question: 'If you could do anything humanly possible with complete assurance that you would not be detected or held responsible, what would you

do?'. We have had an array of interesting responses, including both prosocial acts, and ones slightly less so, with the most popular response being to 'rob a bank', as was seen in the original study. As the final exams draw ever closer, Year 13 are preparing well and we are here to support them every step of the way.

Mrs Dell, Coordinator for Psychology

# Sociology

We started the Spring term by welcoming Rachel Small, local magistrate, to talk about her work with the Criminal Justice System. The session was aimed at Year 13 students who were, at that point, completing their work on the Crime and Deviance unit. However, we opened the session up to Y12 and KS4 and a good number of students attended and engaged brilliantly. Rachel took us through the workings of the magistrate system before outlining a case study for students to apply their understanding of sentencing procedures. The Year 12 students who attended are already looking forward to their Year 13 studies of Crime and Deviance.

Year 13 have completed the course and are well into the rigours of revision in preparation for their final exams. Some positive results in the March exams has been a good confidence boost to those who did well and I have been impressed with the determination to improve shown by those who found the assessment period more challenging.

Year 12 reviewed and completed exam-style questions on their learning in the Education unit. The two groups are slightly competitive with each other but it was great to see them channel this into trying to gain the very best results in their assessments. Both groups did brilliantly. Engagement with learning and motivation to succeed continues to be high as we work through the Families and Households unit; perhaps helped by the fortnightly tradition of Friday cakes!

Mrs Farrow, Sociology Coordinator



It has been brilliant to see the progress of students in Computer Science this academic year so far and I have no doubt this will continue into the warmer and lighter Summer Term.

This term **Year 7** has looked at algorithms (making an origami penguin!) and how computers represent numbers and text using binary. Year 8 have been looking at how computers represent sound, encryption and network basics.

We really appreciate the support with homework for Computer Science over the academic year so far. Based on feedback, we have now changed the homework tasks to be all on one sheet but still programming based. If any student is struggling with the homework at any point, then please do encourage them to come and speak to either Mr Lawler or myself for support.

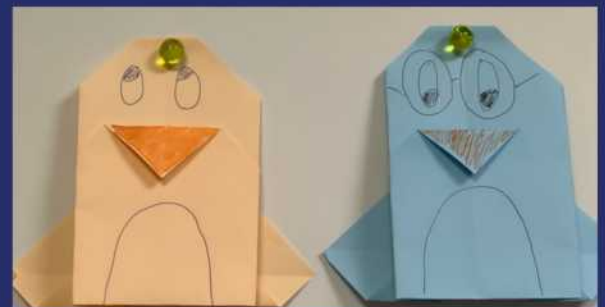
This term **Year 9** has been looking at systems architecture (how the computer actually works!) and built on their Year 8 knowledge of networks to focus on network hardware, how the internet works in more detail and threats to network security. We have also seen a number of programming rotations for Technology start and finish and hope students enjoyed learning a bit more about programming.

**Year 10** has been working well through the GCSE specification, completing the networks topic and moving on to network and systems security on the theory side. They have also been developing their programming skills further with lessons focused on iteration and subroutines.



Every student in Year 10 should now have a ClearRevise Revision Guide to borrow and use throughout the course. These are to be kept at home and need to be returned at the end of Year 11. Hopefully students will find them helpful!

**Year 11** are now well on their way to their actual examinations. I have been really impressed with their dedication to revision and how they have engaged with the structure we have put in place for them. They have been answering exam questions regularly with teacher feedback on these along with a number of other varied revision activities.



Homework for Year 11 is based out of the ClearRevise Exam Tutor book that each student now has a copy of to borrow. It is published on Teams what they are expected to do from this book but we are here to support if they have any issues. Please can I take this opportunity to request that all books that students have borrowed (in the majority of cases this should be 3) are returned after their last exam, which is before the May half term.

**Year 12** are progressing well through their A Level specification and we are now heading towards the end of year exams. For Computer Science, they will be sitting slightly reduced full A Level papers to enable them to get the most practice at exam techniques (particularly for the paper 1!). If you have any questions over this then please get in touch.

**Year 13** are now finishing their NEA Programming Projects, which are looking very impressive, and heading towards their final exams. The NEA is due in the first week back after Easter, after which we will focus entirely upon revision and skeleton code for their exam papers.

Mr Prince, Subject Leader for Computer Science

It's has been a busy few months in the Music Department.

As we knuckle down and complete coursework, compositions, ensemble work and more, our Music students are working harder than ever to meet deadlines and produce the best possible work. I have yet again, been utterly stumped, at the commitment, drive and focus from the Music students of St Edward's .

In May, our Year 13 students will perform for the last time together for their final unit. They, along with some very selfless students who are participating as non-assessed students are furiously rehearsing and sounding awesome. It certainly will be a bittersweet symphony before saying goodbye.

The Year 12s have been getting their heads around the music theory section of the course; writing their own melodies, working out chord progressions. It's demanding but will sculpt them into well-rounded musicians. I'm very proud of their resilience during these tricky subjects and the benefits will show when it comes to their turn at performing as an Ensemble next year.

Year 11s have been continuing to work on their albums which they rehearse, record and promote as online products- really exciting. Listening to their bands play has been a real joy, and students are learning all about the background work that goes into creating a successful album.

I am bursting at the seams with pride when writing this; three Music students are currently competing to participate in Soundstorm's Battle of the Bands competition, which is a county-wide search for the best band in the area. The three students have been practising non-stop and have passed through the first heat, against so many bands who weren't as successful. Good luck for the next heat!

Finally, invited students will enjoy a trip to Poole Grammar School at the end of March to enjoy a workshop with the very successful vocal group, 'Apollo 5' to learn about how to work in an ensemble, and how the voice can enhance musicianship. I look forward to more workshops with professional artists in the summer term too.

Mrs Keene, Subject Leader for Music

Year 10 are showing true dedication, working furiously hard on their first assessed unit on genres and products. I have been so impressed with their passion for the subject and how hard they work to learn difficult topics and push themselves out of their comfort zone time and time again.

Key stage 3 have been enjoying everything from composition, to learning the ukulele, to learning about musical theatre, to even writing their own songs!

The Music Department welcome a brand new music teacher after Easter, Miss Stacey. Key Stage 3 classes can finally return to being once a week. I am so excited to have another music teacher in the department, the sky will be the limit! Thank you to the teachers who have stepped in to cover lessons - it's been a big ask but they've been brilliant.

Extra-curricular music is back and bigger than ever, so please encourage your children to join in. Ofsted's newest report on Music having the 'power to change lives' is an insightful and positive read. It highlights the importance and values of music impacting the lives of young people and it is reassuring to have the support of the government during uncertain times in the Arts.



Soundstorm Battle of the Bands

As ever, the history and politics department have had busy terms.

Year 7 have been enjoying their studies of the Norman Conquest, and analysing the change that William the Conqueror brought when he took over England. They have engaged brilliantly with the scholarship of Simon Schama, reading his book and deciding if the evidence they have supports or challenges Schama's interpretation of a "truckload of trouble". They have also been completing a site study on Corfe Castle, one of the earliest stone castles.

Year 8 have been continuing their studies of Tudor England, but instead of looking at religious change, they have been using a social lens to analyse whether it can be argued that Elizabethan England was a "golden age". They have risen to the challenge of reading excerpts from Miranda Kaufmann's "Black Tudors", which has built on their literacy skills and allowed students to think about how history is shaped by the evidence that is available. Students were particularly taken by the "Westminster Scroll" which showed the trumpeter, John Blanke, as an equal to his white counterparts. This led to some extremely mature conversations around race and racism in the Tudor era.

Year 9 have been studying the changing relationship between the people and democracy in the 19th and 20th centuries, looking at movements such as the women's suffrage movement and the chartist movement. They have continued their skills in source analysis to decide why women were given the right to vote in 1918. They have also been paralleling this story with the Civil Rights Movement in America in the 1950s and 1960s, looking at how peaceful protest has contributed to change.



They also enjoyed looking at the Tolpuddle Martyrs, to continue building on their understanding of how history has shaped the story of Dorset.

KS4 have continued to impress us with their commitment to study, and their ability to rise to the challenge of a demanding GCSE. Our year 10's have been studying the rise of Hitler, beginning in the Weimar era. They have been developing their ability to apply their knowledge to a range of exam questions. Year 11 have officially finished the course, with time to spare! This is the first year that we have both taught the course in full, but also had revision time. This was as a result of a clear commitment across all students to finishing the course, and we couldn't be prouder of their achievements.

KS5 students have been excellent in engaging with the complexities of a history A level, and we have enjoyed seeing them approach their studies with creativity and resilience. In this term, students have been studying the liberalising agenda of the 1960s, moving into the strike action of the 1970s. With Mr Wood, the students have been enjoying their Russia course, looking at how Russian history has changed thematically. Year 13 have completed their NEA's, which involved students researching and writing a 4500-word essay on a topic of their choice. We are extremely proud of their work as a result!

Our year 12 historians, as well as year 12 and 13 politics students also had the exciting opportunity to meet with Lord Strathcarron as part of the "Lords Live" programme. Lord Strathcarron, a current member of the House of Lords, spent the morning with us, presenting on the role of the Lords and answering our students' questions. He captivated our students with stories of his travels, publishing career, and work in the House of Lords. He also asked our students their views on Votes at 16 and promised to report back to the House! It was a once in a lifetime opportunity, and we hope our students learnt a lot from it.

We are particularly excited for the summer term in the department. In June, we will be taking our year 10 students on the battlefields trip; this is the first time we have been able to attend since 2019, and we think the department may be as excited as the students! We will also be taking our year 12 students to Chalke Valley History Festival, which will allow them to listen to a range of historians first hand. Miss Elms also attended a conference at Bournemouth University, which has led to some exciting projects in the pipeline!

Miss Elms, Subject Leader for History



## Key stage 3

Year 9 Edge students enjoyed a STEM ambassador presentation about the role of Maths in Climate Change. The presentation was delivered by Paula McMahon from Sir Robert McAlpine Ltd, and she introduced the vital role that great architecture/planning and building should play in tackling climate change. Paula was very impressed by the quality of the questions posed by our students. They showed a high level of knowledge and understanding of this complex and multi-faceted challenge.



40 students are going on the School's visit to Italy. Visiting Rome and the Bay of Naples will allow them to discover first hand what life is like living in the shadow of a volcano. We hope that seeing Pompeii and experiencing the might of Vesuvius will be a highlight of the trip for them. Find out more by watching 'Living in the Shadow of Italy's Volcanoes' by watching the programme;

<https://timeforgeography.co.uk/videos-list/plate-tectonics/living-shadow-italys-volcanoes/>

## Key stage 4

Year 11 completed their final piece of field work, by visiting Boscombe on a bright but cold early March day. It appears that their study has allowed them to reach the conclusion that the time and money spent on trying to regenerate Boscombe has not been highly successful in improving the quality of life for the local residents. Going on these types of visits will hopefully inspire the next generation of experts and encourage them into considering ways that they can transform people's lives for the better.



## Latest News on 'The Creative Postcard Exchange Project'

As a school we were delighted to participate in the creative postcard exchange project, along with 45 other schools. The project was funded by the British Embassy in Ireland and the British Council. Students from year 8, year 10 and year 13 created postcards for the project after being given the title, 'Climate Change' as the starting point for their work.

The exhibition has now been held at The British Embassy in Dublin and in Leicester in the UK. We were incredibly proud of all the student's work created for the project, but would like to congratulate Catherine Warn in particular as her painting was selected to feature on the front cover of the catalogue produced to support the exhibition. Catherine's original painting was also framed and with her permission it was then presented to Counsellor Catherine Page (deputy to the Ambassador) from the British Embassy Dublin who had been supporting the initiative and the exhibition was her last official engagement.

The postcards created by our students will now be sent to participating schools and we are waiting to receive postcards created by students in Ireland and across the UK.



### Art Lecture on 'Art of The 21st Century'

Back in January, our A Level Art students along with teachers, Miss Biggs, Miss Perks and Miss Barter met at The Main Theatre of Arts University Bournemouth to attend the annual Arts Society lecture. This year the theme was 'Art of the 21st Century' and the lecture was given by Anna Moszynska. Anna Moszynska pioneered the study of contemporary art at Sotheby's Institute during the late 1980s, and oversaw the development of the MA in Contemporary Art. She has written a number of art books and has contributed to journals including Tate, Apollo, Arts Review, TLS and Art Monthly. Her lecture was fascinating as she encouraged us to consider the development of art in the 21st century, including the impact of AI.

### Art Lecture on 'The Psychology of Visual Art'

Art and Psychology students were invited to join a lecture by Dr Rebecca Chamberlain of Goldsmiths University on The Psychology of Visual Art. Dr Rebecca Chamberlain explored the questions, *Why do we make art?* and *How does Art work?* Before going on to explain how art changes the way we see the everyday and the changes in the brain that help us understand how and why art is good for our well-being.

# Art and Photography

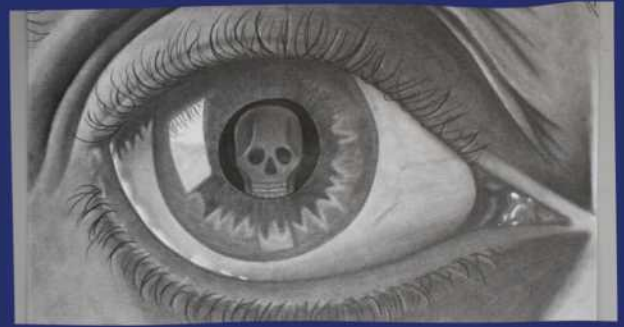
Our year 7 students have been experimenting with colour this term. They have been developing their colour mixing and paint application skills and are now completing some larger scale paintings using complementary colours.

Year 8 has researched a range of different artists who have created work in response to the theme of Natural Form. They have recently responded to the work of Georgia O'Keeffe, creating their own painted outcome.

Year 9 students are experimenting with how they can explore and present their own identity through their art work. Having looked at the overlapping number paintings by Jasper Johns they have created their own oil pastel studies by overlapping the letters of their names.

Year 10 are creating clay tiles as a final response to their current theme of water. They have explored this theme in a variety of ways including tonal mark making, painting and print making. They produced some very exciting large scale print making work by experimenting with colour mixing the inks and overprinting their designs.

Year 11 and year 13 are both now in the final stages of their art courses. Both these exam cohorts are now responding to starting points set by AQA. They are producing a wide range of exciting work in preparation for their final controlled test days. We wish them every success with these final weeks and look forward to seeing the fruits of their hard work after Easter.



*A range of pieces from our amazing art students*



Year 12 has now started their individual 'Personal Investigations', they have chosen a range of very exciting themes and are responding to a range of interesting artists such as Banksy and Escher.



Mrs Biggs, Subject Leader for Art

# Technology

The Spring term is always a busy period in Technology with students in Year 11 completing their NEA's (Non-Examination Assessment) across the department. The NEA represents 50% of their final grade and this term see's students pulling together their learning over the past 18 months to complete their submissions.

In the middle of March, the Year 11 GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition students completed their final practical exam. The students made three dishes in three hours that were suitable for a teenager on a plant-based diet. A huge range of different skills were showcased, and we were really impressed with the quality of the finished dishes. Well done everybody there were some lovely dishes made!

On Friday 10th March the department joined in with the annual #TECHOGNITION event to celebrate and showcase technical staff in schools and FE colleges across the UK. In Technology we are extremely fortunate to have Mrs Veale supporting us in the Food room and Mr Mullins in the Workshop. Mr Mullins has only recently joined the department from the site team and has spent the second half of the term learning the ropes from Mr Greenwood who is reducing his days from Easter and moving to take on a whole school support role. The Technicians are an invaluable part of the Technology team and enhance the learning experience of all the students that study in Technology. It was a great to take the time to recognise their contribution to the department and our students and to thank Mr Greenwood for the work he has done over the last 10 years.



Also in March, Mr Coles took three teams of four students each from years 9, 10 and 12 and visited Parkstone Grammar for the annual Rotary Technology Tournament. The event is attended by local schools from across Dorset and the students work in teams to solve a challenge. This year the teams were given the task of constructing a coin sorter, which would sort a variety of coins to enable them to be counted. The task allowed them to demonstrate a range of practical skills in a creative way. The day was enjoyed by all the students involved and our sixth form team won their event and in doing so were awarded the Rotary cup for 2023!



Students awarded Rotary Cup



cont'd...

And finally in preparation for September and our growing numbers of students at KS5 the department have been very excited to receive delivery of an additional centre lathe and a milling machine just before Easter. The new equipment will help to support learners primarily in Level 3 Engineering and A Level Product Design but will also be used in both KS4 and KS3. At the time of writing this we are in the process of installing the machines and look forward to “unveiling” them in the next newsletter!

Mrs Morris, Subject Leader for Technology

## Business



### VW Breeze

This year's Year 13 Business students are preparing for their final A Level paper which has a focus on the car industry this year. We would like to thank Mark Langford, Managing Director of VW Breeze in Poole for speaking to the students about how his business operates in such a competitive environment. It was an outstanding presentation with focused and incisive questioning by the Business students.

They left the session feeling much more informed and able to apply their answers to the context. Mark has invited the students to the showroom to continue their research after Easter.

The group will then be visiting VW's competitor BMW, for a tour of the Mini factory in Oxford.

### Young Enterprise

Congratulations to all those 6th Form students who are taking part in the Young Enterprise competition this year. Young enterprise is an international competition where students set up their own Private Limited Company and run it from October until April. In February Max and Brandon represented the team at a Dragon's Den Event in Blandford where they both presented superbly and were well received by the Dragons. Well done Max and Brandon.

Mr Kilpatrick, Subject Leader for Business





In the Science Department this term we have seen Mr. Jenkins, move from science technician to a teaching role to offer a longer-term replacement for Mr Lawson, to whom we give thanks for covering Mrs. Borda's classes in the Autumn term whilst she is on maternity leave. This has meant that Mrs. Canham has not only been the Senior technician, but the only technician in the department. Throughout this term she has worked immensely hard to allow all our students to continue learning in an engaging and hands on way which enables them to get the most out of their lessons. Thank you Mrs. Canham for all your hard work this term. We now welcome former student from the Year 13 leavers last year, Miss. Cousins, to the role of Science Technician.



In the classroom, Year 7 students have been learning about heating and cooling, chemical reactions, in-particular combustion, as well as movement of the human body. All topics get students to think hard about cause and effect through use of their investigative skills and developing their ideas through modelling. Mrs Dell's 7A1 class did this by comparing the movement of a marionette puppet with themselves to see the similarities and differences in how movement is achieved.



Year 8 classes have been comparing the ways in which animals and plants gain the nutrients they need with a focus on energy transfers, as well as going on a journey into space to explore the importance of satellites and the advances in space exploration in recent times to see if it would be possible to inhabit another planet in the future.

Year 9 students have begun their learning in the first GCSE topics. These Biology 1 - Cells, Chemistry 1 - The Periodic Table and Physics 1 - Energy. Students are taking to the new challenges maturely and making an excellent start to the course. Those students in year 9 who took part in the EACH-B trial last year will be taking part in the final stage of the research project. This will involve the research team investigating aspects of their lifestyle and students will spend a week wearing activity trackers to see if the activities they took part in last year have had a positive impact on their overall health.

Mr. McCabe has been leading the Careers in Science initiative with Year 10. Now is the time where they must begin to consider their next steps and how they might achieve these goals in the months ahead. Years 11 and 13 students have sat their last set of mock examinations before their final examinations in the Summer. As always, Science has a particularly heavy burden for them, with students sitting the full suite of 6 exam papers of 1 hour and 15 minutes each. Undoubtedly the pressure and stress will build in the weeks ahead but we are here to offer our full support every step of the way.

Finally, Mr Harris' green fingers are at it again! He has started taking cuttings of the many plants in his room in preparation for Spring. The engagement with many of our students last year with his plants was hugely inspiring! Over 100 cuttings were given away and he would like this to continue. Any student is more than welcome to come and get a free plant to nurture from his collection in S7.



Mr Dell, Subject leader for Science

# Physical Education

Netball and Football have been in the spotlight over the last few months, with Year 7-11 playing in PEDDSA Cup along with many friendlies. The very committed year 7's and 8 Netballers are also currently in the middle of their tournament. The Year 7 A's most recent success against Lockers' (3-1) have seen them move into the quarter finals and they are due to be play Ferndown soon. The Year 7 B's unfortunately lost against St Michaels ending their run.



Attendance at football for year 7 has been very successful with over 25 boys attending week in week out.

The year 8B's, although now out, had an incredible match vs. Cranborne Middle where the game went all the way to Penalties, with St Edward's winning 4-2. This was a hard-fought match for most of the game as St Edwards were under pressure from a strong Cranborne team. The Year 8A's are still in the Cup and their most recent wins over Emmanuel (3-1) and St Michaels (2-0) in the quarter final, they now move into the semi-finals. An outstanding display of determination, courage and tenacity from Jacob, as captain, pushed his team forward for the win.



The Year 9 Football had to navigate a tough match vs. Purbeck school to get through to the semi-finals of the PEDDSA cup. This match went the whole way to sudden-death Penalties. With Jodi saving the decisive penalty and an outstanding performance from Harry and James, with St Edward's managing to win 9-8 in the end, a massive achievement for the year 9 team.

The Year 10's were not too dissimilar as they went into extra time, but managed to win 3-2, thanks to two outstanding saves from goal keeper, Harry, and an outstanding performance from Lewis in central midfield.

The Year 11's made the semi-finals of the PEDDSA cup beating QE 3-1, with an outstanding second half performance. They are now awaiting to play Corfe Hills in the coming weeks.



We have been trialling some accuracy and precision sports within lessons to see if we can inspire our students to get involved. This included Archery, Skittles indoor curling to name a few. Students from years 8 and 9 seemed to really enjoy trying new sports. In PE, we try and give our students a broad curriculum and inspire them to take up sport outside of school. We have a display board outside the PE office with all local club links for those wanted to get more involved.

Luca, one of our elite swimmers, has just come back from Tenerife after a week long swimming camp, swimming with German, Swedish, Hungarian and Romanian Olympic teams. Following this Luca went to the Swim England Camp in Coventry. These are just some of the events Luca is attending leading up to the British Swimming Trials for the World Cup and Junior Commonwealth Games. We wait with bated breath and wish Luca all the best.

Year 7 girls took part in their PEDSSA Netball Tournament at PGS, unfortunately they didn't make it out of the group but did win a number of games. Year 7A and B teams are currently in the league at PGS and are progressing well.

# Physical Education

We had four Year 13 students (Dan, Christie, Adam and Alfie) attend a Dorset Young Coach Academy, where they received some training from Bath Rugby Coaches, Hampshire Cricket Coaches and a Volleyball specialist. They were developing their coaching skills and how to break down skills within these sports. This followed on from their previous sessions at Bryanston on Bouldering, Netball and Handball. They have their final sessions in June, before they go and run a school festival of sport.

Currently we have approximately 30 Year 8 students attending netball club which is amazing for the netball development in the year group. The A and B teams are currently playing in the PEDSSA Netball Leagues on Tuesdays at PGS. Both teams have won a number of games and we look forward to seeing how they place, once all their games are done. The A team have also played their PEDSSA Netball tournament finishing second in their group and qualifying to the semi-finals. Unfortunately, they narrowly missed out on qualification for the County tournament losing to Castle Court in the play-off match.



Girls football has been very successful this year with Yr 7/8 Winning the PEDSSA Cup to move into the County Finals. Playing some very impressive football against some good teams such as Poole High and Broadstone Middle to name a few. The girls have also qualified for the semi-final of the county cup.

We have two year 9 students, Alfie & Matteo, represent the county football team and win against Oxfordshire in the most recent match.

We've had vast numbers at our extra-curricular clubs this term and without the help of additional staff around the school, some of these clubs would not have been able to run.

Staff have volunteered their time to support our students in sports such as Basketball (Mr Kemish), Badminton (Mr Payne), Football (Mr Allard and Miss Tranter), High flyers (Miss Bland) and Fitness suite (Miss Menzie and Mrs Newton). We would like to say thank you for your support to our students!



*Thank you!*

Mr Pope, Subject Leader for Physical Education

