



BROMSGROVIAN

2020

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Editorial

'The New Normal' - a phrase that has been banded around by politicians, medical professionals and the media has become synonymous with the coronavirus pandemic of 2020. Little did we know, when the clock struck midnight on 1st January 2020 that our School, along with many other institutions around the country, would be forced to close and go into lockdown in March for more than three months. Even during the School's evacuation to Wales during World War Two, Bromsgrove was able to continue 'as normal'. Despite all of the challenges that we have faced over these months, and many of us should remember that we are still luckier than most, our Bromsgrove pupils and staff have stepped up to the challenge of online learning and working from home.

Although we were not able to hold sports days in person, perform plays on the Cobham stage or continue with House competitions, The Bromsgrovian 2020 showcases the resilience and ingenuity of our Bromsgrovian community in ways I never thought possible when I was writing this exact same editorial at this exact same time last year. From virtual challenges that saw whole families joining in, and online assemblies where Prep and Pre-Prep children sang their hearts out, to the same songs they had been singing in School just weeks before, to the ways in which our staff were creative and thoughtful with end of year presentations for their leavers.

As Vincent Van Gogh said, *"Normality is a paved road; It's comfortable to walk, but no flowers grow."* And, although it might not have been very comfortable at times, our pupils have certainly blossomed and grown, not only in stature but also in new ways of thinking, working and living. This is the new (ab)normal and you have risen to the challenge.

Enjoy this 2020 edition.

Megan Griffiths
Editor

Headmaster's Introduction

What words can close a year that seemed determined to close itself?

Much of Bromsgrove's charm, not to mention its success, lies in its traditional rhythms. The familiar, seasonal sequences that tap out a tempo to each successive term. As Spring began to make its presence felt this year, goal posts came down to be replaced by cricket wickets. Public examinations loomed and revision commenced in earnest. Summer camps and trips were booked, end-of-year concerts planned, and thoughts turned to prizegiving and the celebrations of Commemoration Day.

Then came the global pandemic and, although Lent finally did give way to the Summer Term as normal, all else was turned on its head. Momentously, the national lockdown forced the School to close, with lessons migrating online as one end-of-year tradition after another was wiped from the calendar. No public examinations, no prizegiving, no Commemoration Day.

It would be easy to dwell upon those losses. To rue the way that the pandemic assaulted our School identity, separating us at the very moment when we usually unite in shared celebration. Easy to focus upon regret, but also shortsighted, for two reasons.

Firstly, disruption in the final term did not negate all the gains made during the rest of the academic year. This edition of the Bromsgrovian attests to that. It is packed with the usual harvest of team triumphs, individual accolades, initiatives and achievements from every section of the School. COVID-19 may have been a blight on its final months, but the rest of the year still produced a bumper crop of success. Just as I encouraged the graduates of 2020 not to allow themselves to be defined by this unexpected bump in their educational careers, so too must we ensure that our archives record that the School's accomplishments far outnumber its disappointments.



The second reason not to consider the disruption of the Summer Term as a calamity is that it served to highlight the very fabric of the School family. Despite the challenges that their own families faced during lock-down, our selfless and dedicated teachers focussed upon making sure that their pupils lost no ground, seamlessly delivering engaging online lessons. Our pupils in turn, responded with remarkable resilience and maturity in their virtual classrooms. And through their loyalty and generous encouragement, our parents supported those endeavours. Although dispersed and disrupted, the School family was drawn even closer together, united in our shared ideals.

Let this issue of The Bromsgrovian stand then, as a testament to tenacity, optimism, innovation, and empathy. A record of a singular year in the School's long history, yet one from which we emerged unbowed. Shielded from the pandemic by the best of antidotes; unity and the momentum of 500+ years of educational aspiration.

2019/20 may have been an extraordinary year at Bromsgrove, but then again, isn't every year?

Peter Clague
Headmaster

Prep and Pre-Prep Headmistress' Overview

This academic year has been a unique one. Never in my many years of teaching did I ever think schools would be closed and that the world would appear to have stopped turning. Yet, despite all the turmoil, confusion, anxiety and uncertainty, Bromsgrove Preparatory and Pre-Preparatory Schools have continued to flourish. The staff embraced new methods of teaching and the pupils have, as I always knew they would, engaged with their lessons, demonstrated resilience and enthusiastically participated in challenges and activities.

Working with children is a privilege and there is nothing as important as helping a child to grow as an individual, to develop skills that will steer them through life in an ever changing world, and to challenge them to make the very most of their unique talents.

The staff in both schools work tirelessly to ensure that every child fulfils their potential; that every child enjoys learning and that every child is given the opportunity to do their best and to flourish within a safe and caring community. Even during the Summer Term, this has been evident, and I thank my colleagues for their care of your children. I am filled with an enormous sense of pride. The family ethos and nurturing environment within Bromsgrove, and the warmth that everyone associates with us, is of immense value.

Although our physical time in School this year has been cut short, The Bromsgrovian offers a glimpse of the many exciting events that the children have enjoyed. Sports tournaments, drama productions, concerts, trips out, themed days and art exhibitions are just a few. Please enjoy browsing through the following pages to see the wealth of opportunities that your children have experienced.

This busy academic year has now drawn to an end and so we reflect on the memorable moments we have experienced. We also say goodbye to our impressive Year 8 leavers and wish them every success in the Senior School, and welcome the Year 2 pupils into the Preparatory School for another exciting year.

The Year 8 pupils have truly been a wonderful group of young men and women. I would have dearly loved to have had the opportunity to celebrate their achievements with them all in person and to tell them what a special group of people they have been throughout their time in the Preparatory School. The loss of our annual Prizegiving and Speech Day, in both the Pre-Preparatory and Preparatory Schools, is a sad time for our entire School community. The younger pupils have had excellent role models in Year 8 and none more so than my outstanding Heads of School. Head Girl Isabelle Kavanagh, Head Boy Bobby Riley, Deputy Head Girl Teah Petrova and Deputy Head Boy Darcy Dines have proven to be the most impressive of young people; they each personify a true Bromsgrovian. It has been my pleasure to work closely with them this year and I thank them for their time, hard work and commitment to their roles.

In preparation for my Prizegiving speech, I was planning to end with a quotation from Mark Twain for the Year 8 leavers, which I use now:

"Twenty years from now, you will be more disappointed by the things that you didn't do than by the ones you did do, so throw off the bowlines, sail away from safe harbour, catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore, Dream, Discover."

I wish the Year 8 leavers every continued success.

Jacqui Deval-Reed
Headmistress of Prep and Pre-Prep





Nursery

Nursery children began the year talking about themselves and their family. Pupils enjoyed creating their own portraits and looking at photographs of their families. The children enjoyed discussing Harvest Festival, healthy foods and ways to keep their bodies healthy. They took part in some lovely practical cooking activities, such as making vegetable soup, hedgehog bread and muffins.

Pupils have particularly enjoyed their visits to Forest School. They have toasted crumpets on a campfire and looked at different plants and trees, noticing the changes which occurred due to the autumn season.

A popular topic during the Michaelmas term was 'Sparkle and Shine', where the children explored many sensory experiences and studied space. They have participated in many science activities, which have included making firework patterns in a jar and designing and making their own rockets using recyclable materials. As part of this topic, children participated in maths activities involving shape, size, colour and weight. Mrs Martin, our music teacher, taught the children some lovely songs to accompany our activities.

We celebrated Diwali and listened to the story of Rama and Sita in the forest, which was lit with diva lamps the children had made. Mrs Ali Baig came into School to show the children some Henna patterns and they enjoyed creating their own designs. The term ended with Advent, making their own Christingle and decorating our beautiful Christmas tree.

During the Lent Term, Nursery children enjoyed our 'Big Freeze' and 'Enchanted Wood' topics. We also celebrated Chinese New Year and have enjoyed some lovely themed days. Pupils participated in some exciting number activities as part of the NSPCC Number Day and took pleasure in dressing up, going on a number hunt and playing parachute games. They also took part in Wellbeing Week, which involved activities such as yoga, making healthy smoothies and mindfulness. World Book Day was another success and the children enjoyed discussing their favourite books and sharing them with pupils in Year 1. Great fun was had by all making pancakes for Shrove Tuesday and choosing from an array of toppings available.



For our Enchanted Wood topic, the children engaged in various imaginary play activities. They delivered a fantastic performance to parents where they sang beautifully, danced to songs and performed with confidence. In PE, the children developed balance and coordination by using low and high level apparatus, as well as listening and movement skills through our Music and Movement sessions. We have studied growth in our environment and the children have been very keen to plant flowers and seeds to decorate our outside space.

During the first half of the Summer Term, our virtual School continued at home. Despite the circumstances, it was wonderful to see so many inventive tasks completed, from making human sundials to creating story bags and rain collectors. The children enjoyed listening to songs and stories and they continued their learning with enthusiasm.

Topics covered during the second half of the term included Under the Sea and Mythical Creatures. During this period, we had children both in School as well as at home and we are so proud of how well the children adapted in both environments. We have truly missed all of the children but feel very thankful that we have been able to provide meaningful activities and have had continual communication through our online learning platform.

I would like to thank the Nursery staff for providing care for our Key Worker children throughout the School closures during the lockdown period. They have shown dedication and worked hard throughout the year.

Finally, we wish our Rising 4 pupils a very happy and productive time as they move into Reception and look forward to seeing them around the School and following their progress with great interest.

J Townsend





Reception

Reception pupils started the year with the introductory topic, All About Me. The children learnt about themselves and their classmates - every child gave a talk called Marvellous Me where they spoke about their families, talents and hobbies. Miss Waldron brought baby Ella to visit the class and everyone asked her lots of questions about looking after babies and what babies can do at different ages. Mrs Dunlop and Mrs Cooper talked about being very proud grandparents to their grandsons. The Michaelmas Term closed with a wonderful performance of the Nativity Play, A Miracle in Town. The children sang beautifully, danced, spoke their lines clearly and performed with enthusiasm. They were very proud to perform their play to the parents, grandparents and special visitors.

During the Lent Term, pupils studied a topic called Paws, Claws and Whiskers, where they learnt about animals and their habitats. Kerry Chamblor from The Dog's Trust came to visit and spoke about how to care for dogs and about the work she does for her charity. There was a visit to Umberslade Farm where everyone had the chance to hold the pets and learn about the farm animals. Towards the end of term, Reception held their Keeping Safe and Healthy week, learning all about the emergency services and how they keep us safe. One of our parents visited the class and talked about her job as a police officer.



For World Book Day, Cat Weatherall visited and told traditional stories, which pupils helped her to act out.

The Summer Term was a completely new experience for everyone, but the children responded brilliantly to being taught online through Seesaw. Everyone enjoyed their summer topic, The Big Red Bus, and the children worked creatively and practically, as well as accessing the online activities set daily.



After the half term holiday, some of our Reception children returned to School, whilst some remained at home completing the Seesaw activities. Pupils researched mini beasts and enjoyed creative activities based on this topic. All of the children continued to work hard whether they were at School or at home.

This year, children have received specialist French, Music and PE sessions each week. The children have learnt basic French vocabulary through practical activities and songs. In Music, the children have enjoyed making music with various instruments and they can now play in time to music, tapping out the syllables. They have loved singing a variety of songs and have even started singing songs in two parts. Mrs Webley has taught PE sessions each week and pupils have developed their skills in gymnastics and with using small apparatus. Everyone started swimming in September and I am very pleased with the progress the children have made in swimming throughout the year. Many Reception children have enjoyed after-school activities of football and ballet this year.

Hopefully this gives a flavour of how hard we work in Reception while having great fun.

C Dunlop



Year 1

Year 1 commenced the new academic year with their topic, Into the Woods. They visited Lower Smite Farm, where pupils made delicious apple juice. Back at School, pupils were excited to explore the new sensory garden and enjoyed a barefoot walk as part of their Science lesson. Year 1 continued their learning journey using iPads to create their own animations with the clay hedgehogs made in Art. The woodland party in Forest School was a fantastic finish - the children invited their cuddly toys to share a joyful day with them, and collected and identified special treasures found in the School garden.

In the Lent Term, pupils went on a voyage of discovery for their next topic. With maps and compasses at the ready, they travelled around the world to cross the five oceans and see some sensational sights in the seven continents. Highlights included playing the didgeridoo, exploring under the sea and learning about famous explorers. Pupils celebrated Australia Day, learnt about new cultures and welcomed a special explorer, Mr Airston, who told them about his trekking trips through the Himalayas and around Everest Base Camp.

There were lots of activities that kept Year 1 busy and active in School – for Number Day, pupils came to School with their teddies. They enjoyed weighing and measuring their teddies, and then shared delicious number cakes with their furry friends at lunchtime. They also took part in Sport Relief and the Children in Need Ramble with other year groups.

In March, when all Pre-Prep pupils moved to online learning, Year 1 children enjoyed using the online platform, Seesaw, to complete a variety of learning opportunities and activities at home. The children were well prepared and confident at using the app to share videos, photographs and messages with their teachers, all of whom thoroughly enjoyed receiving their hard work. Each day began with a song and reading, then a Maths and an English activity. Online yoga, Forest School and PE were definitely some of the highlights and the teachers saw many photographs of these activities in action. The virtual skipping challenge proved popular, as did the Science lesson, where pupils were tasked with identifying lots of beautiful flowers and plants in their own gardens. Discovering cities and landmarks around the world using the flyover option on maps ensured the children were able to use technology to enhance their learning. Creative lessons were included in the activities and the pupils demonstrated a wide variety of skills with wonderful artwork, model making, animations and design challenges.



The 'Toilet Paper Challenge' completed by the Year 1 pupils during lockdown, and put together by the parents, was a great success over the Easter holiday. The children enjoyed seeing their friends in the final video and completing this challenge as a team.

For Beat Your Best, Year 1's Phonics and a French lesson, the children learnt the colours and then listened to a French story. In Art, the children produced their own fruit faces in the style of Giuseppe Arcimboldo.

In their PSHEE lesson, the children listened to a story about how we are all different and all special. Continuing with the food theme, Year 1 were asked to design and make a crisp packet for either children, teenagers or adults, and their responses to the challenge were fantastic. In Computing, they created wonderful animations retelling the story of The Hungry Caterpillar.

The children enjoyed learning about the artist Mondrian and created their very own turtles in his style. In Forest School at home, the children were asked to make a natural collage, though they had to be resourceful as the weather was somewhat damp.

Particularly apt for the Summer Term, the children enjoyed the theme of ice cream. They listened to the story, *Should I Share my Ice Cream?* by Mo Willems and discussed sharing and being kind.

They found out about the features of a fiction story and came up with interesting adjectives to describe ice cream.

In their final week as Year 1 pupils, the children heard all about Cody, the rather cautious caterpillar who is nervous about turning into a butterfly. Mrs Finlay and Mrs Western read some stories about a Worrysaurus and a crocodile who didn't like water as part of their transition. The children used a net to create a worry box - but we found that there weren't many worries to go in there at all, as everyone is looking forward to moving up into Year 2.

Everybody loved Mrs Symonds' story about Le Grand Monstre Vert, which inspired many amazing works of art on Seesaw. The children learned a new song about summer fun to get in the mood for the long holiday ahead, and we were delighted that Louisa and Ellie-Anna performed in the music department's Zoom Concert with wonderful renditions of Minuet and the School Prayer. Such a fabulous way to end the year.

The Year 1 pupils who have been in School left a special "thank you" display for the Year 3 teachers and children for lending them their Maple classrooms. Well done to everyone in Year 1 for another successful year of learning.



Year 2

Year 2 took part in Wizard's School as a stunning start to their topic. They explored the Magic of Science in an interactive workshop with magic tricks and spectacular experiments. They also enjoyed making magical fizzy sweets and gooey slime, as well as attending a potions class.

From Wizards to Astronauts, pupils enjoyed an exciting Rocket Day where they made and launched their own air-compressed rockets, all of which reached spectacular heights. During the day, the children also learned more about space technology and explored space artefacts.

Whilst the end of the Lent Term and all of the Summer Term was not how we expected our last few months of Pre-Prep to be, Year 2 stepped up to the challenge at home and enjoyed many busy and exciting weeks of online learning. They were introduced to a new topic, with the children embarking upon a journey through Africa. They have learned about the Sahara desert and discovered how well adapted the camel is to living in this dry, hot habitat. The children enjoyed singing many songs about Africa with Mrs Martin, and we have loved the video clips of the children joining in with the songs at home. Despite the wet weather, pupils have been outside bird watching and shared their beautiful desert art pictures with teachers.

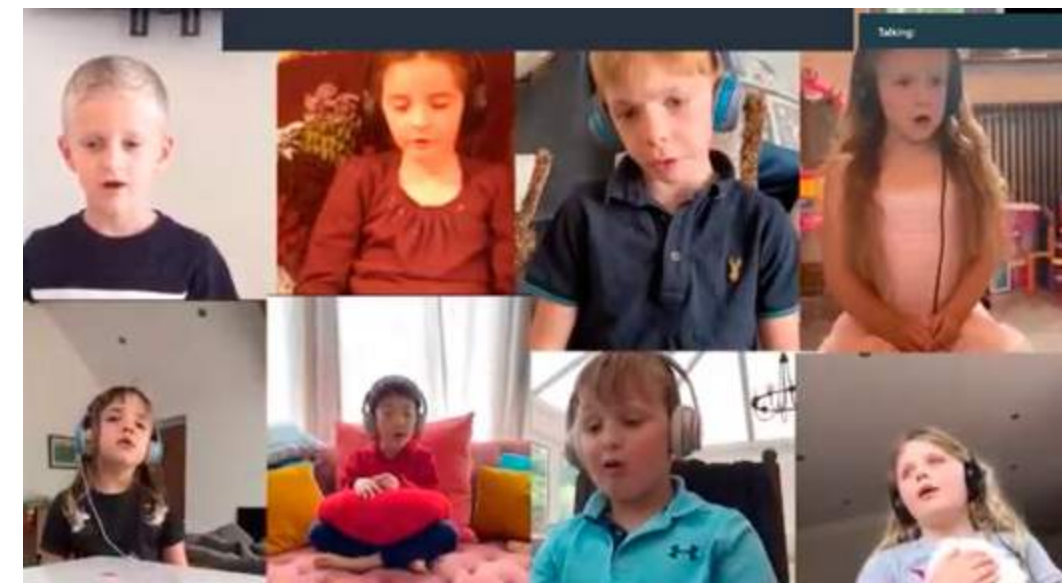
Year 2 have continued to enjoy French with Mrs Symonds, and DT involved weaving with wool. The children also explored relationships with their friends in PSHEE. They have relaxed with mindfulness breathing and many stories have been listened to at the end of each day.



In English, pupils were introduced to famous poet, Wes Magee, and after reading his poem, *Down by the School Gate*, wrote a countdown poem with African animals. The children are now experts at drawing giraffes, and after listening to the story, *Giraffes can't Dance*, they completed a 'growth mindset' activity and listed three things that they can do and three they cannot do yet. Continuing with the animal theme, the children had fun playing a game and saying animal names in French.

Maths involved problem solving with Jack's Beanstalk and practical activities with capacity. After singing the song, *Juicy Fruit* with Mrs Western and Mrs Martin, the children loved measuring ingredients to make smoothies. In Computing, pupils used Chatterpix to create fruit and vegetable characters and used voice annotations to encourage healthy eating.

Science has focused on living things and variation within a species. The children have compared the African and Asian elephant and were surprised by how different they actually are. They also wrote exciting stories about an elephant calf that gets lost in the African savannah. In PE, pupils attempted to master their skipping and control a racquet and ball, as well as an egg and spoon.



As our Pre-Prep leavers, Year 2 have been reflecting upon their time at the School and were busy recording their memories and learning the words to a number of songs in preparation for their special online leavers' assembly. This was a wonderful occasion for pupils, parents and staff who have been so lucky to teach the children throughout their time at the Pre-Preparatory School.

As one journey comes to an end, another is about to begin for our pupils who are moving up to their new year group. The Year 3 teachers welcomed Year 2 children in the final week of term, and the Head Boy, Head Girl and Deputy Heads have met with them on Zoom to talk about their transition to the Preparatory School.

It has been a year of unforeseen challenges and we are very proud of the way the children have met, and adapted to, the changes. They have been a wonderful year group and we wish them all the very best for the future.

There were some very funny video clips of smashed eggs and the more sensible hard-boiled ones, which were then made into egg and cress sandwiches upon completion of the activity.

Towards the end of the academic year, pupils embarked upon the final leg of their journey through Africa and the children found out about Mount Kilimanjaro. They also learnt about Victoria Falls, the largest waterfall on the border of Zimbabwe and Zambia. In South Africa, they were introduced to a very unlikely little bird, the black-footed penguin, which has made its home on Boulders Beach in Cape Town. The children then completed an origami activity, folding a piece of paper to make a little penguin. They also learnt about the role that Nelson Mandela played in abolishing apartheid.

Pre-Prep Activities

Children in Need Ramble

All pupils in Nursery and Reception enjoyed participating in the Children in Need ramble to Avoncroft Museum. Years 1 and 2 joined with their friends from Bromsgrove Prep for a walk around the Senior School grounds with Monitors. Once the ramble was complete everyone enjoyed a well-earned mug of hot chocolate and a homemade cookie; a great reward for their efforts.

Chinese New Year

Pre-Prep enjoyed learning all about Chinese New Year with Senior pupils from Bromsgrove School. They made lanterns, wrote their names in Chinese and received lucky red envelopes.



Christmas Shopping

Pre-Prep pupils enjoyed a Christmas Shopping event at the end of the Michaelmas Term. Organised by the Parents' Association, the children were able to pick out some special gifts for their families, which were wrapped by our parent helpers and then taken home to be put under their tree ready for Christmas morning. Thank you to the PA for organising this.

Coding Club

Pre-Prep children have been learning about algorithms and sequencing in Coding Club. This helps them to understand computers, which in turn helps to develop an appreciation of how things work.

Cookery Club

Our Pre-Prep Cookery Club participants are very proud of the 'melted snowmen' biscuits they decorated as part of their after-school Christmas activity.

NSPCC Number Day

Pre-Prep children had a day of fun-filled maths activities to raise money and support the NSPCC Number Day. They were entertained by a 'Bubbly Maths' show and enjoyed workshops using bubbles and balloons to explore measuring and 3D shape. Children performed in a Maths concert on the Cobham stage and loved the outdoor maths trails, maths puzzles, songs and games.

Nursery children also participated in an array of number activities, including number parachute games, singing number rhymes, forming letters in shaving foam, digging for numicon in the sand, a number hunt and musical games.

K Western and J Townsend

Wellbeing Week

For Children's Mental Health Week 2020, Nursery pupils made their own healthy smoothies and participated in Yoga sessions. Other year groups took part in mindfulness activities and explored the outdoors by hugging trees and taking some time out for quiet reflection.



Pre-Prep Parents' Association

2020 began with Movie Night for our extremely excitable Year 1 and 2 pupils, organised by the Pre-Prep Parents' Association. The children returned to School on a Friday evening, wearing their favourite pyjamas and carrying pillows. They enjoyed a sweet treat and watched Secret Life of Pets 2.

In February, the children took part in the NSPCC Number Day and the PA were delighted to fund The Bubbly Maths Show, held in Cobham Theatre.

The children wrapped up the Lent Term with a visit from the Easter Bunny, who hid paper eggs that the children had beautifully decorated around the School grounds. Children went home with chocolate Easter eggs, purchased by the PA. During the final assembly of the term, the Easter raffle was drawn. The prizes were all outdoor games, such as Swing Ball and Giant Jenga.

We didn't have the opportunity to give the Year 2 children the send-off we normally would, so this year, the PA gifted them their Leavers' hoodies, which we've seen modelled by some of the current Year 3 pupils.

In light of these exceptional times, we have been working closely and creatively with the School to do as much as we can to keep the traditions alive and the magic happening for the children.

None of this would be possible without the help of a fantastic team of parents who help, donate and support us throughout the year. We always welcome new members, so please email us at bpppassoc@gmail.com

M Wilkes

Chair of the Pre-Prep Parents' Association



Pre-Prep Drama

Year 1 Production – Nativity

Mary Florence Walker

Joseph Fred Titterton

Angels
Ellie-Anna Baker, Isla Browning, Etta Daly,
Olivia Ford-James, Maia Goold,
Isabelle Rea and Louisa Sutor

Stars
Clarice D'andilly, Venise Moodley,
Aaliya Sitlu, Harriet Smith, Sophie Smith,
Annabelle Thompson-Brown,
Matilda Wilkes

Carol Singers
Clara Bradbury, Summer Dad,
Lulu Jewkes, Imogen Lewis, Iris Martin,
Aleah Ogunsola, Victoria Oladini,
Violette Sharwood, Camille Wallington,
Elodie Wallington, Harriet Warman,
Bella Wight

Shepherds

Harry Beckley, Ben Davies, Henry Foster,
Louis Fountain, Alfred Grey, Finlay Halls,
Hudson Lancaster, William Morris,
Finley Mullan, Henry Stones,
Rory Townsend

Wisemen

Yuvraj Bhandal, Max Morgan,
Kishan Ratra

Pages

Brer Pilling, Teddy Tyler, Oscar Wilson

Innkeepers

Philippa Bailey, Dexter Colley,
Oliver Gibson, Nia Roberts,
Freya Singleton, Jenson Wright

Thank you to our Year 2 pupils who read in
Chapel during the Year 1 Nativity.



Year 3

Year 3 learned to *Walk Like An Egyptian* in the Michaelmas Term. Their journey began with an entertaining and informative visit from Egyptologist Dr “Doc” Worrall. Throughout the term, the children engaged in a wide variety of experiences, including creating Egyptian wall paintings, jewellery and cartouches, making their own papyrus, deciphering and writing in hieroglyphics; they also wrote some incredible stories and hypothesised about why Herodotus called Egypt “The Gift of the Nile”. The children performed a wonderful show to their parents as their fabulous finish to the topic, where they sang, danced and acted their hearts out.

The Lent Term saw Year 3 looking a little closer to home with their new topic, Cool Britannia. They began with a very lively interactive quiz and a delicious afternoon tea. They enjoyed exploring the geography of the British Isles and the etymology of British place names - including the name of Britain itself - and put together a timeline of significant events from British history. The children designed new coins and made some amazing pieces of artwork featuring famous landmarks. The children learned about local musical hero Sir Edward Elgar, which led to a visit to his birthplace in Lower Broadheath. There was a discussion about what being a ‘hero’ means; the children discovered some historical heroes, which ended with each child making a case for which one they believed was the greatest.

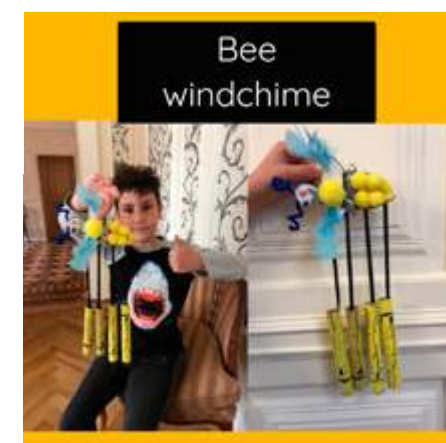


The children very much impressed the Year 3 teachers with their commitment and dedication to their learning in the Summer Term, where they studied the Yee-Ha! topic via Seesaw while the School was closed due to COVID-19. The term commenced with a message from a Wild West sheriff, which led to the children making some fantastic ‘WANTED’ posters to help capture the terrible outlaws. They learned how the Wild West came to be, about the geography of the USA and the Great Plains, and about the people who lived there. They did some brilliant remote learning and should feel very proud of themselves.

What an interesting year it has been.

R Ivison





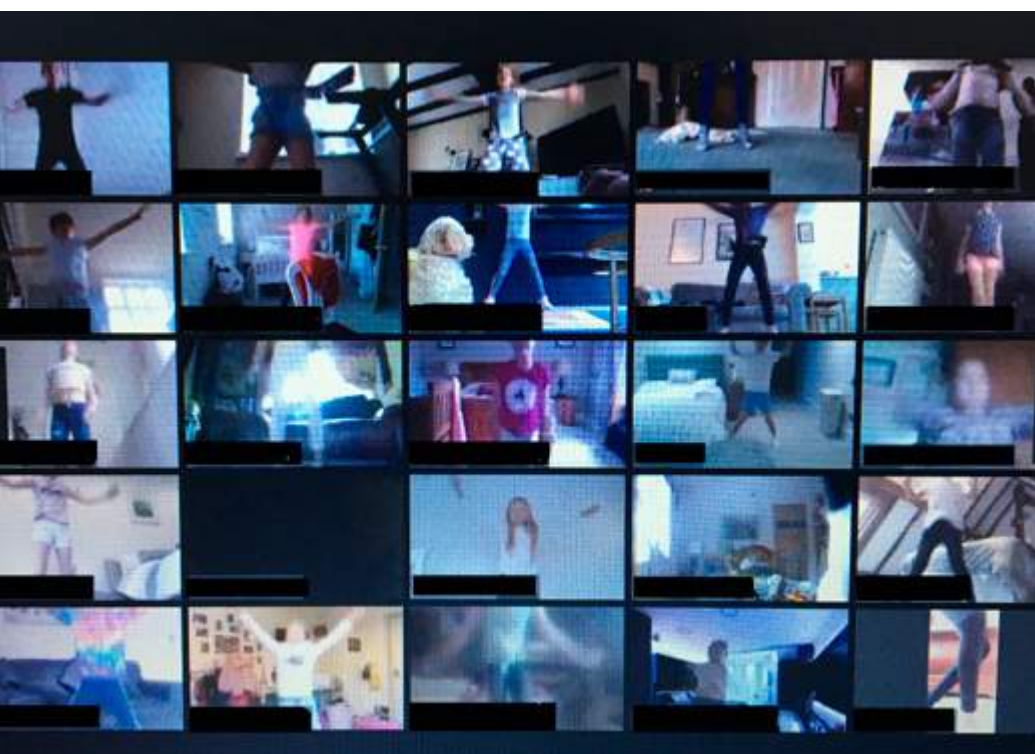
Year 4

In the Michaelmas Term, Year 4 discovered the different layers of the ocean and the variety and range of creatures that live there. They researched the challenges facing deep-sea explorers and produced stunning information pages about the Mariana Trench. The year group enjoyed an informative tour of the Sea Life centre and, as a fabulous finish, the sports hall was temporarily transformed into the depths of the ocean, where the children came face to face with life sized inflatable sea creatures, including a giant squid. They were taught how to work as a team to rescue a stranded dolphin and competed to clear litter from a beach in the quickest time.

During the Lent Term, the topic was Through the Dragon's Eye. Everyone enjoyed exploring the fantastical myth of dragons through the study of *How to Train Your Dragon*. They placed the story in historical context through study of the Vikings, with an exciting experience day where they dressed as the part, took on the role of Viking craftspeople, warriors and storytellers. Despite the disruption brought in the final two weeks of Lent by COVID-19, the teachers were extremely proud of the year group who still managed to pull together a fantastic performance of the musical *Dragon Days* in Cobham Theatre, which was filmed for parents to enjoy at home.

Tackling our final topic, Beyond the Great Wall through our online learning platform Seesaw, the children delighted us with their enthusiasm, resilience and determination. Their recorded presentations detailing their learning at the end of the topic were truly testament to this. We will miss you Year 4, you are destined for great things.

R Laurenson



Year 5

Year 5 were visited by Titus Lustus, a soldier from Ancient Rome. The children learnt all about the life of a Roman child and brought this to life by dressing up as different characters. Some of the boys became Roman soldiers and were surprised by how cumbersome the armour was. They commented on how difficult it would be to fight and defend themselves whilst wearing it. The girls were shown the traditional roles of females during Roman times but soon decided that they were happy with all the mod-cons they have now.

During the Lent Term, pupils stepped back in time at the Roman Baths to discover how the elite bathed and socialised together. They took part in different workshops where they had the opportunity to create mosaic artwork. Pupils also enjoyed a great day at Safeside in Birmingham, where they learnt all about staying safe. They were put into small groups and were taught how to look after themselves in unknown situations.

Then everything took a strange turn... Classrooms across the country were shut, activities ceased, socialisation was non-existent and actually being in School became a distant memory. Our teaching and learning continued through Zoom, and I could not be more proud of how the Year 5 children coped. The technical side was complex and yet they managed admirably showing us 'old ones' how to do 'stuff'. They had to juggle WiFi issues, as well as get to grips with learning in this alien way – and they managed it with very little complaint. If you are reading this Year 5, I cannot tell you how proud we all are of you.

S Keynes

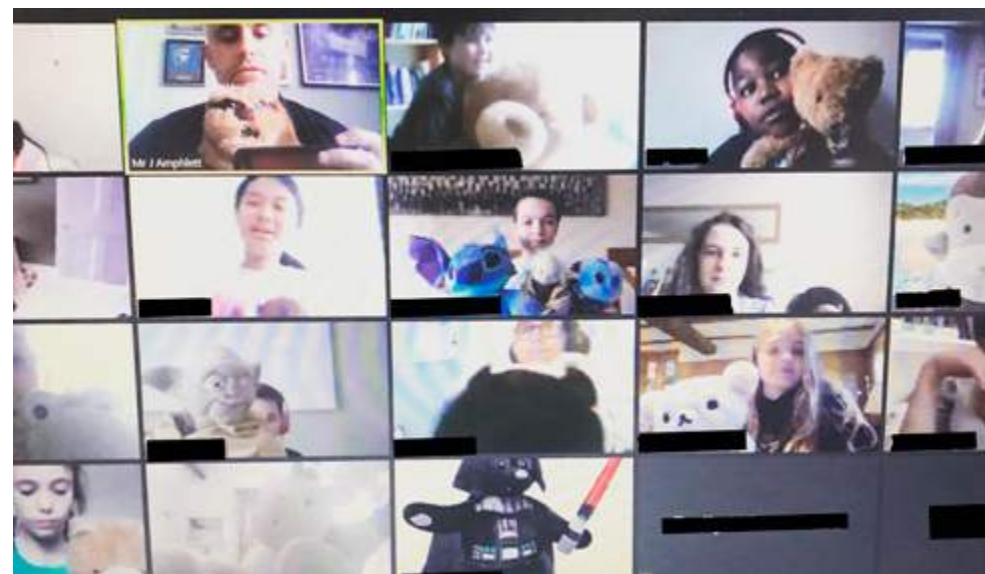


Year 6

It has been an absolute pleasure to spend time with Year 6 this year. They have had a busy, successful and happy year. As tutors, we have been so impressed with how the pupils have matured on their journey through Year 6. They arrived in September quite small but willing to learn, and they have emerged with much more independence, confidence, and in many cases height. We look forward to watching them continue to blossom in Year 7.

The group visited Hartlebury Museum in October, where the children spent the day in a very strict Victorian classroom. They played with Victorian toys on the cobbled streets and worked as scullery maids and boot boys. The trip is always an enjoyable experience and enhances the pupils' historical understanding and writing in English.

Christmas is a favourite time of the year, especially as soon as the trees begin to appear around School. Years 5 and 6 visited the Palace Theatre in Redditch to watch the pantomime, *Cinderella*, followed by Christmas jumper day, which brought the Michaelmas Term to a fabulous close. At the start of the new term, Year 6 enjoyed an open classroom afternoon and it was a pleasure to welcome so many parents into the classrooms and watch the children talking, with great enthusiasm and excitement, about their lessons and School work.



Sadly, the Lent Term came to an abrupt close, however the Year 6 Form Tutors have been extremely impressed with the way in which the pupils adapted to the change and challenges of virtual learning. Year 6 enjoyed virtual VE Day celebrations, where we all raised a glass to the soldiers who fell in WWII, and enjoyed Zoom style musical statues to the tunes of Glenn Miller.

Unfortunately, we were unable to head off to Dorset on our annual Beachcraft trip, but we did enjoy an online end of term assembly, where many pupils dressed up in their finest attire, sang along to *Sweet Caroline* and looked at photos from their time at School. We are all so disappointed not to have celebrated the end of such a great year in person, but every child in Year 6 should feel proud of themselves. We wish all of Year 6 the greatest of success as they continue with their journey through the School. For those pupils who we sadly say goodbye to, we will miss you, but hope that you are happy and successful in your new school.

S Cadwallader and the Year 6 Team

Year 7

Year 7 pupils have participated in trips, taken part in charitable activities, performed on stage, became Geography quizzers and enjoyed a variety of sport, whether in School or at home. Unfortunately the traditional Big Bang visit, charities week events, farm visit and trashion show were all cancelled this year due to COVID-19. Here is just a flavour of their year at Bromsgrove.

Visit to Berkeley Castle

At the beginning of November, Year 7 pupils visited Berkeley Castle to bring to life their study of medieval castles. They took part in a workshop on castle defence, producing a drawbridge made from newspaper, sellotape and string. They were then given a tour of the castle, focusing on the different features used to attack and defend. They also learnt about the residents of the castle, including Edward II, who was imprisoned there and where he met a gruesome death. They were interested to learn that members of the Berkeley family still live in part of the building.

A Scheppel

Inter-Form Basketball

The whole year group had great fun in the inter-form basketball competition at the end of the Michaelmas Term. There was a healthy competitive spirit and everyone played their part. The eventual winners were 7MT.

G Clark

School Production

The Year 7 members of the cast did a fantastic job in A Midsummer Night's Dream. They worked brilliantly as a team and were a truly indispensable part of the company. I hope that they enjoyed the experience and that they audition for future productions.

J Amphlett

Geo Champs

Many Year 7 pupils enjoyed taking part in the Geo Champs competition. Unfortunately, the finals could not take place but well done to the following pupils who made it to the final: Euan Choi, Oli Dieppe, Josh Glaze, Tom Grove, Ilerioluwa Odugbesan, Aarush Thapa

R Widdop



Flourishing Fivers

Year 7 took part in the flourishing fivers activity with Mrs Leather, starting off with £5 per person, which could either be put together in a group or launch a solo effort to see how much money they could raise for Primrose Hospice. A full report is included in the Activities section.

G Clark



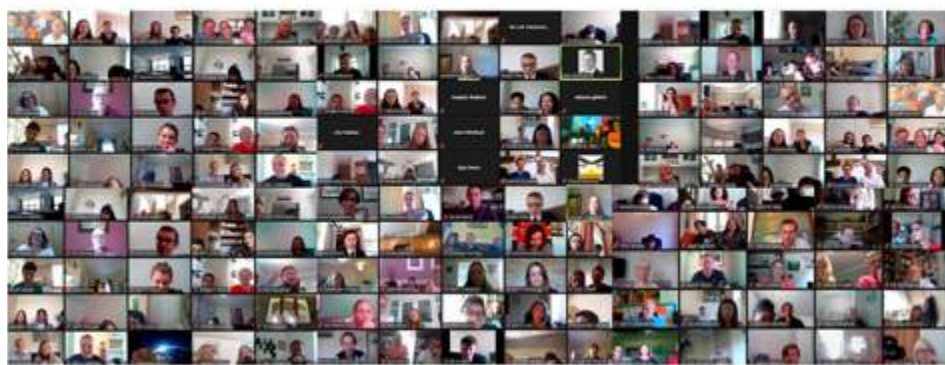
Year 8

This academic year, Mrs Webley, Dr Barron, Mr Amphlett, Mr Barnett, Mr Wilkinson, Miss Balkham, Miss Langston, Miss Gonzalez and Mr Jones, have had the pleasure of watching our Year 8 pupils grow beyond their expectations. Notably, Mrs Leather was hugely impressed by the Year 8 uptake with Stressbox, and their growing interest in mental and emotional health. Additionally, Mr Amphlett is still brimming with pride, when reminiscing over the pupils' production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

Whilst this particular cohort have undertaken their education in the usual and expected Bromsgrovian manner throughout the first half of this academic year, their determination, care, dedication and thoughtful natures shone through their individual lives. Little did we know that our Year 8 pupils were going to uncover unknown strengths, often seen when situations turn. And turn this year did, in Lent, in the most unexpected manner.



Year 8 Leavers' Virtual Assembly



It is at times of adversity that people show their resilience and creativity. I am so proud to say that our Year 8 pupils have worked tirelessly, with dignity and pride, supporting others through our time in lockdown. I have seen them being charitable, looking after their families, supporting one another online and those in the community at large.

Their take on a Bromsgrove-Zoom education; throw it at us and we will catch it, learn how to run with it, then win with it. It is with great confidence then, I can write that I know that that whilst our Year 8 pupils leave us in the Preparatory School, they will make a success of their lives at their next school whether it is Bromsgrove Senior School that beckons them, or another.

We owe a special thanks to our Heads and Deputy Heads of School who have never ceased in their endeavour to be perfect role models - Teah Petrova, Isabelle Kavanagh, Darcy Dines and Bobby Riley.

V Barron

Page House

Although the academic year has drawn to an unusual conclusion, the time we have spent together in Page House has been full of fun, noise and laughter. We introduced a new family tree in the House this year, led by our Monitor team, and this has brought the children closer together and helped them to make stronger connections across all the age groups.

The House has been led exceptionally well by Hriyaj Gurung and Lucy Scott. Assisted by James Tuladhar Cardosa and Ashna Ghale, as well as a confident and thoughtful Monitor team. They have helped us with great dedication and enthusiasm. They will be missed next year.

Our boarders did have the opportunity to enjoy many Sunday trips this year - paintballing, Go Karting, Cinema to name but a few, as well as the popular shopping trips to the Birmingham Bull Ring and Worcester for some Christmas shopping.



We started the year with a welcoming party for our new boarders and tutor team. We had a huge inflatable obstacle course set up on the green, and our resident cooks, Mr Windo and Miss Smith, manned the BBQ. Throughout the year, we have celebrated Nigeria's Independence Day, Chinese New Year, Dashain, Hallowe'en and Christmas. The children always enjoy celebrating the different cultural festivals at a time when they miss their families the most.

The weather has been kind to us this year and the children have spent a lot of time outside playing hockey and football on the Astro and fields. Our Year 8 pupils spent most evenings, after Prep sessions and phone time, on the patio area playing basketball together.

We have watched with pride our boarders take part in many sporting fixtures, achieving academic scholarships, performing in concerts and drama productions. They should all be proud of their hard work.

We wish all Year 8 boarders the very best with their move to the Senior School. This will be a sad time for us as they have been a pleasure to have in the House this year. They have been great examples to the younger children, with their kindness and willingness to help others. They should be very proud of themselves. We hope they achieve great things as they progress through School and in their new Houses.

We are sadly having to say a farewell to Mrs Ormonde, Mr Albutt and Miss Lockett who are moving on to pastures new. We would also like to congratulate Mrs Judson and Mrs Hepburn on the birth of their first children and say a big thank you for all their help as evening tutors in the House, you will both be missed by staff and children.

Mrs Wheeler, our Housemother, will also be retiring to spend more time with her family and grandchildren. She has been one of our Page Housemothers since we opened in 2011 and before that she was the Housemother of Honeysuckle. She will be greatly missed by everyone and we cannot thank her enough for all her hard work and support she has given us over the years.

Caroline and I would like to personally thank Miss Smith (Kelly) for all her help and support this year. We would also like to thank everyone who has assisted us this year and who do so much for our boarders. Mr Sutherland and Mr Lane (our assistants), Miss Lockett (resident tutor), Mrs Wheeler and Mrs Lisa Back (Housemothers), all our Tutors, weekend staff, graduate teachers, gap students, housekeepers, Mrs Taylor, the nurses at the Health Centre and the catering team in the dining hall. Without all of their support, Page House would not run as efficiently as it does.

C & T Windo

Year 8 Prize Winners

Subject Prizes

Lynch Cup - Mathematics
Hailey Li

Cockin Cup - English
Sebastian Bullock

Lee-Smith Cup - Science
Ava Colley

English as an Additional Language
Bernice Tse

Geography
Jessica Fleming

History
Ben Hornigold

Sumner Cup - Religious Education
Alex Cheung

French
Ffion Wright

German
Romana Thompson

Spanish
Christina Bai

Talbot Cup - Latin
Ruvimbo Madzingo

Dual Linguist
Rukhsang Tamang

Llanwrtyd Wells Cup - Art
Amelie Jackson

Haslam Cup - Design Technology
Lucy Scott

Warne Cup - Textiles
Lily Milojevic

Cuckson Cup - Music
Lauren Baker

Holland Cup - Performing Arts (Drama)
Tilly Richardson

Sport Prizes

Bentley Cup - Greatest Contribution to Boys’ Sports throughout the year
James Hobbs & Jack Wilkinson (shared)

Staff Cup - Greatest Contribution to Girls’ Sports throughout the year
Honey Bo Luscombe

Pritchard Plate - Commitment to Boys’ Sport
Alexander Lobban & Hriyaj Gurung (shared)

Pritchard Plate - Commitment to Girls’ Sport
Ava Colley & Scarlet Preston (shared)

School Prizes

Donovan Plate - Head of Boys’ Boarding
Hriyaj Gurung

Donovan Plate - Head of Girls’ Boarding
Ashna Ghale

Walford Cup - Social Awareness (Charities)
Nimreth Mahal

Webber Bowl - Endeavour (Effort)
Harley Smith & Abigail Palmer (shared)

The Wingfield Cup - Outstanding Academic and Music Achievement
Emily Bower

The James Young Bromsgrovian Cup - Best All-Round Contribution
Isabelle Kavanagh

Deputy Head Boy Prize
Darcey Dines

Deputy Head Girl Prize
Teah Petrova

Head Boy Prize
Robert Riley

Head Girl Prize
Isabelle Kavanagh

Headmistress’ Prizes
Lucy Cattell, Henning Wu, William Pridden

Year 8 Valete

AGRAWAL, NEEL, 8YL. Prefect, IAPS National Hockey Final (Plate), recipient of a few badges. I enjoyed how we had lots of freedom and also how we had some laid back teachers. It was the best of both worlds.

ALANI, HASAN, 8MW. Cricket A team. I have enjoyed the sports at Prep School.

ALI BAIG, KAASHIF, 8MW. Prefect, Maths Olympics (third place). I have enjoyed the residential trips, all of the sport and the quality of the teaching at the Prep School.

ANJUM, AISHA, 8MW.

ASHTON, THOMAS, 8RB. Prefect. IAPS hockey finalists. I have enjoyed meeting lots of new people.

ATWAL, JAYA, 8YL. Subject Helper. I have enjoyed having fun with my friends and experiencing the kindness throughout the School.

AUSTIN, FINN, 8MW. Rugby, Rugby Sevens. I have really liked the sports at Prep School.

BAI, CHRISTINA, 8YL. Subject Helper, Linguist of the Month, Academic Commendation. I have most enjoyed the art lessons and School trips.

BAKER, LAUREN, 8JA. Prefect, Academic Scholarship, Music Exhibition, winner of District Discus, IAPS Hockey National Finals (first place), Art Prize in Eisteddfod, Barnardo’s Choir of The Year, recipient of Most Improved Player (Year 6 Hockey), winner of Cheltenham Music Festival, West Midlands Hockey Finals (two years in a row), Westminster Cathedral Carol Service. I have enjoyed my entire experience at the Prep School, with moments such as Bushcraft and activities with my friends, both of which really stood out as the best moments of my School career.

BATTELLEY, JAMES, 8YL. Prefect, Linguist of the Month, A team Cricket. I have most enjoyed the sports and academics. The teachers are good here too.

BENNETT, LIAM, 8JB. Form Monitor. I have most enjoyed playing House rugby.

BILLIG, GABRIELLA, 8RB. Form Monitor. During my time at the Prep School, I have most enjoyed being in the choir, being with my friends, the array of opportunities and how fun it was.

BLACK, BEN, 8RB. I have enjoyed moving to the Prep School and the better education, plus it has been easier to make new friends here.

BLACKWELL, HUGO, 8MG. Form Monitor, Drama Colour, Art Colour, Art Scholarship. I have really enjoyed the Prep School and I have many fantastic memories that will stay with me.

BOONNAK, LEO, 8JA. Prefect, Pupil Voice, Chapel Service, Saxophone Grade 4. I enjoyed going on the French trip.

BOWER, EMILY, 8RB. Chair of Pupil Voice, A team for swimming (Years 7 and 8), IAPS National Swimming Finals (fourth in the 50m Breaststroke and relay team final), ESSA National Finals (reaching final in the medley relay as a team), IAPS Swimming regiona qualifiers (50m breaststroke), qualified for National round in 5th place (cancelled because of the pandemic), School record for 50m breaststroke (2019 and 2020), awarded Most Outstanding Female Senior Swimmer in Years 7 and 8, A team netball (2019 and 2020), winner of IAPS netball regional round (2019), U12 National Netball Champions (2019), winner of the IAPS netball regional round (2020), defending our title. We would have gone to the National finals but they were cancelled due to the pandemic. I have enjoyed the opportunities that the Prep School has given to me. The School has helped me develop new skills that I didn’t realise I could have, and the teachers pushed me to achieve things I never thought I could achieve. I believe the Prep School has helped me to become more self reliant and independent, preparing me for the next steps to Senior School.

BROADHURST, AVA, 8YL. Form Monitor, Vice House Captain, Captain for hockey, Year 6 House Music competition (Piano), drama sound tech crew. I have most enjoyed the bushcraft and beachcraft trips during my time at the Prep School.

BROBBEY-SARPONG, CHARISSA, 8JB. Prefect, two drama colours, two academic colours, music colour. Being in the Prep School, I have enjoyed having two different places to spend lunchtimes.

BULLOCK, SEB, 8JB. Scholarship, various prizes at Prizegiving, Words and Music finalist. During my time at the Prep School, I have enjoyed having fun in class and all of the School trips.

CATTELL, LUCY, 8RB. Prefect, 13+ Sports Scholarship, Swimming Colours, IAPS Swimming, ESSA Swimming, a member of the tech team for the Years 7 and 8 Play. I have particularly enjoyed all of the sport and extracurricular activities.

CHANCE, BELLA, 8RB. Buddy, Telford House Captain. I have made some really great friends in Year 8 and Prep School became really fun this year.

CHAWLIA, SHIVAM, 8RB. Art Scholarship. I enjoyed playing sports for Bromsgrove School this year because it was a lot more fun and I have improved a lot since last year.

CHEUNG, ALEX, 8MW. Chapel Choir, Chamber Choir, Senior School Competition Choir, Orchestra, several Academic Commendations, Goblin Car (2019), Music Colour, Barnardo’s Choir (2018, 2019), Cheltenham Festival Choir Competition (2019), Cross-Country, World Scholar’s Cup (2019), Geography Championship (2020). I really enjoyed my time at the Prep School as I found the curriculum very good and the teachers are supportive. I came here in Year 7 and enjoyed Bromsgrove from the very start. From Rugby to Music, I think the Prep School is a great place for a good education and a balanced level of curriculum and sport.

CHOMANICZ-HODGSON, RHIANNA, 8MG. House Monitor, Deputy Head Chorister, Barnardo’s choir competition, Cheltenham music competition, Pupil Voice. I love my friends and I have really enjoyed being in Miss Gonzalez’s form. Science was also fun.

COLLETT, EMILY, 8JB. Prefect, vice house captain (Watt), hockey colour, netball colour, reached semi final in hockey Nationals. I have most enjoyed all of the trips because of all the new experiences.

COLLETT, JOSHUA, 8MG. Year 4 Form Monitor, A team hockey, winner of the National Hockey Cup (Year 8), House Music Competition (guitar). I enjoyed the Prep School because of the opportunities it has given me. There was so much to try and have a go at, even if you were no good at it, we were always encouraged to just do our best.

Year 8 Valete

COLLEY, AVA, 8MW. Prefect, Vice-Captain of the Netball A team, awarded the Lee Smith Cup, awarded the Pritchard Plate, Netball, Hockey, Athletics, Academic, Music and Art Colours, IAPS National Champions (U12 Netball), 1st in U13 Netball Regional round, 3rd in U13 Hockey Regional round, 3rd in sports day (Year 6), winners of the Barnardo's Choir Competition, 2nd in RGS U13 invitational tournament, Most Improved Athlete (Year 6).

COLLYER, MEGAN, 8MG.

CROW-MARCETIC, HECTOR, 8JB. Joined Bromsgrove Prep in Year 7, Goblin Car team, Rugby. My major sporting achievement in Year 8 was a rugby match against Dean Close, where I went in for a tackle and had a boot to my eye, resulting in seven stitches!

DANIEL-UMOH, MARVELLOUS, 8MG. House Monitor, Vice House, Form Monitor, Form Captain, Scholarship, awarded Best 'B' Back and Best 'B' Tackle (Venice Tour), awarded Most Improved (Venice Tour). I have enjoyed making news friends and learning new skills.

DAVENPORT, ROSE, 8MW. Prefect, Barnardo's Choir, District Athletics (Year 7), District Cross-Country, Eisteddfod, Senior Art Colour. I have enjoyed all of the trips in Prep School. I made so many friends along the way as well. I will really miss my time here.

DINES, DARCY, 8MW. Deputy Head Boy, member of the bands, Split Second and Armpit WiFi, Bass Guitar, Black Belt in Karate. During my time at the Prep School, I have enjoyed the amazing amount of opportunities in my every day learning and extra-curricular activities.

FALAHEE, LILY, 8MW. Hockey A team, Tennis A team, Hockey Colour, IAPS Hockey, qualified for the National Hockey Finals, reached second stage of the Hockey Cup. During my time at the Prep School, I have loved playing hockey and taking the coaches to away matches, and being with my friends.

FENNELL, AMBER, 8YL. Snowboarding: currently standing 1st Place U16 World Rookie Ranking and 26th Woman in World Rookie Ranking. Last season snowboarding: 2nd place Valley Ralley, 1st place U16 and 1st Woman Van's from Open, 1st place U18 and 2nd Women Q Parks Sick Trick Tour, 2nd place U16 and 3rd place Woman Burton tour, 3rd place U16 Penken Park Battle, 3rd place Boarder cross, 2nd place boarder cross. Skiing: 3rd place Lowlands European Championships. Wakeboarding: 2nd place GB National Championships. During previous years, I have won many races in both snowboarding and skiing: GBR Indoor Champion (U12 and U14), GBR Outdoor Champion (U12 and U14), Irish Champion for two years, Scottish Champion for two years, Lowland European Champion, All English Champion, many more Club Championships over the past two years.

For two years, I won the overall Valley Ralley 'Queen of the Valley' (snowboarding), plus other snowboarding competitions. Both snowboarding and Skiing (Indoor and Outdoor), and Wake Boarding, was cut short due to COVID-19. I have enjoyed the friendships I have made and am grateful for how the School always help me when I am competing abroad.

FLEMING, JESSICA, 8JA. Maths Olympics finalist (x2), Geo Champs finalist, Library Monitor, Flute Grade 3, Headmistress' Commendation, Linguist Of The Month, Academic Badge, Academic Commendations, Recorder Group, Orchestra, Orchestra Monitor, Sports Matches. I have enjoyed all of the opportunities at Prep School and all the matches that we played in Hockey and Netball. I also enjoyed watching the drama production, which was really good.

FOUNTAIN, TILLY, 8RB.

FRANCIS, LOUIS, 8YL. Winner of IAPS Rugby Shield. I enjoyed the rugby season the most.

FRYER, POPPI, 8MG. Form Monitor. During my time at the Prep School, I most enjoyed the beachcraft and bushcraft trips.

FULLARD, TOM, 8RB. Form Monitor, IAPS hockey plate competition. I enjoyed the sport the most at the Prep School, and also the variety of subjects and facilities on offer.

GHALE, ASHNA, 8JB. Deputy Head of House, Activity Monitor, Pupil Voice, awarded most improved hockey player 2020, half colour for hockey. I have enjoyed being in the Prep School and it has helped me to become more independent.

GILBERT, JACK, 8JA. Drama Scholarship, PE Monitor, winner of sports day (Years 5 and 6), Year 6 Rugby (whilst still being in Year 5), Year 7 Rugby (whilst still being in Year 6, main role in School play, Rugby, Hockey , Cricket, Rugby Sevens, Athletics A team. I have most enjoyed playing sport at the Prep School.

GOODWIN, MAX, 8MG. Form Monitor, winner of three music competitions, School play, awarded Best Defender prize (Venice Tour). I most enjoyed going on the sport tour to Venice.

GOWAN, OLIVER, 8RB. Library Monitor. The thing I enjoyed the most about Prep School was the beachcraft trip because it helped me as a individual to excel in independent skills.

GURUNG, BIJEN, 8MW. Barnardo's Choir. I have enjoyed the variety of lessons at the Prep School.

GURUNG, HRIYAJ, 8MG. Head of House, Form Monitor, Form Captain, winner of the Jones Cup (Rugby 7s), rugby colour, hockey colour, junior hockey colour, junior rugby colour, winner of Plate competition in IAPS hockey, second place in the Bishop Veseys Rugby 7s competition, winner of the KES Birmingham Rugby 7s final. I have most enjoyed the sports at Prep School and being a boarder.

GURUNG, NIJEL, 8RB. Lost Property Monitor. I enjoyed break times and spending it with my friends.

GURUNG, NORAH, 8JB. Library Monitor, House Monitor, Pupil Voice. I have enjoyed making new memories with my friends and meeting new people.

HAMILTON, ALANAH, 8MW.

HARRIS, KATHERINE, 8MW. Hockey A team, IAPS Hockey. I have loved being with my friends at the Prep School.

HART, TONYE, 8MG. Form Captain. My favourite part of the Prep School was going on the Venice Tour.

HAUGHTON, JOSH, 8JA. IAPS Athletics, ESSA. I enjoyed the Venice tour as it was great fun, plus the rugby matches and athletics competitions back at the Prep School.

HO, AMBROSE, 8MG. House Monitor, Form Monitor, Library Monitor, Form Captain, Maths Olympics (second place). I have enjoyed learning Spanish for two years with Miss González.

HOBBS, JAMES, 8JA. Prefect, IAPS Hockey National Final, Rugby Sevens (captain), Rugby Union (captain), Hockey A team, Rugby A team, Cricket A team, IAPS Athletics National Final, Rugby Scholarship, Port Regis Tournament (Years 5 and 6).

HODGSON, RHIANNA, 8MG. House Monitor, Pupil Voice, Deputy Head Chorister, Barnardo's Choir, Cheltenham Festival. I have enjoyed being with my friends at the Prep School.

HOLLAND, SAM, 8JB. Form Monitor, WWI creative writing competition. During my time at the Prep School, I have most enjoyed playing sports.

HOLLINGWORTH, GEORGE, 8MW. Form Monitor, Subject Helper. I have most enjoyed the sport at the Prep School.

HORNIGOLD, BEN, 8RB. Academic Scholarship, Buddy, rugby full colour, Eisteddfod overall winner for music, being in the top sets for everything, rugby sevens team, art full colour, music full colour. I have most enjoyed the sports and extra-curricular activities, as they have given me chance to find new strengths and to be a part of a team.

HU, EDWARD, 8RB. Activity Monitor, Academic Scholarship. I have enjoyed learning to play rugby for the first time in the Prep School and subsequently playing fixtures for the School.

HU, TOM, 8JB.

HUNT, THOMAS, 8RB. Librarian. I loved the lessons, hanging out with my friends and the range of activities that the Prep School offered.

JACKSON, AMELIE, 8RB. Prefect, Art Scholarship, CREST award, School productions, Barnardo's choir, Eisteddfod final round (Year 6 poetry). I have enjoyed all of the opportunities and trips that I have experienced throughout Prep School, as well as being with all my friends.

JACKSON, WILLIAM, 8JB. Form Monitor, Barnados choir. I have enjoyed all aspects of School life, but particularly the trips, and have made some great friends.

JONES, FRAZER, 8RB. IAPS Swimming. I have enjoyed all of the trips that we went on, such as bushcraft.

JONES, ISABELLE, 8JB.

KABALAN, LORA, 8JB. It was nice meeting new people and getting to know them during my time at the Prep School. I most enjoyed experiencng and trying new things.

KAVANAGH, ISABELLE, 8MW. Head Girl, participant in the Words and Music Final (four times) and overall winner in Year 5, IAPS Swimming National Finals (twice), IAPS Athletics National Final (tenth in shot put), Sports Scholarship (Year 8), ESSA Swimming Finals (twice), ESSA Regional Cross-Country. I have enjoyed the way that the lessons are so interactive and that the teachers are so friendly. I love the way that everyone contributes to the Prep School and has their individual part to play.

KIPPAX, JOSEPH, 8JA. Prefect, IAPS Hockey National Finals, Hockey (captain), Rugby Sevens, Hockey Scholarship, Hockey A team, Rugby A team, Cricket A team, Port Regis Tournament (second place), winner of sports day (Years 3 and 4). I have most enjoyed the sport at the Prep School.

LANGFORD-FENNELL, AMBER, 8YL.

LI, YINJUN, 8JA. Librarian, Percussion Group. My favourite trip was to bushcraft.

LI, HAILEY, 8MG. Music Scholarship, Subject Helper.

LOBBAN, ALEXANDER, 8JA. Academic Scholarship, Sports Scholarship, Property Monitor, winners of two Rugby Sevens competitions, Venice Tour, Cross-Country National Final, Athletics National Final, Sports Day (third place), County Final, Sport Scholarship, Academic Scholarship, U13A Rugby, U13 B Hockey (captain), Cross-Country National Final, Maths Olympics, U13A Athletics. I was proud to qualify for the National Cross-Country Final, where I came 48th in the country. Before I joined Bromsgrove, I had never taken part in this sport before.

LUSCOMBE, HONEY BO, 8MG. Form Monitor, IAPS Nationals. My favourite trip was beachcraft in Year 6, and I have most enjoyed all of the sports at the Prep School.

MADZINGO, RUVIMBO, 8JB. Form Monitor, Academic Prize, CREST Award, World Scholar's Cup - Tournament of Champions (1 gold and 3 silver medals). One of the many moments that I enjoyed during my time at the Prep School has been making friends with some of the most amazing people that I still know to this day.

MAHAL, NIM, 8MG. Form Monitor, Charities Committee, Year 7 prize winner. I enjoyed taking part in the School play with my friends.

MALEKI, SHONLI, 8JB. Lost Property Monitor, Pupil Voice. During my time at the Prep School, the children and the teachers have been extremely kind to me and I am going to miss that.

MATTHEWS, HESTON, 8JA. Library Monitor. Everything at the Prep School was kind of the same amount of joy.

MCKELVEY, OLIVIA, 8MG. Form Monitor, Head Chorister. My favourite part of Prep School was definitely all of the acting and drama opportunities.

MCLEAN, REUBEN, 8MW. Clay Pigeon Shooting. I have enoyed the trips and the good friends I have made.

MEADOWS, LUCIANA, 8MW. Form Monitor, IAPS U12 Netball National Champions. I have enjoyed being with my friends.

MEHJOO, MONTAGUE, 8RB. Lost Property Monitor, Drama, Art. I have most enjoyed the sport, drama and DT activities at the Prep School.

MILOJEVIC, LILY, 8YL. Form Monitor, Barnardo's finalist, drama productions. I really enjoyed doing the Year 7 and 8 play - it was a great experience where lots of useful skills were practiced.

MISKIN, ISOBEL, 8RB. Buddy. I have enjoyed being with my friends at the Prep School.

MOODLEY, REESEN, 8MG. House Captain. I have most enjoyed the RE lessons during my time at the Prep School.

Year 8 Valete

MORGAN, SADIE, 8JA. Library Monitor, School play, House Drama, Netball, Hockey. I have enjoyed being involved in the drama production and going away to play matches against other schools. I have also enjoyed the many opportunities that will help me in my ideal future career.

MULRONEY, CHARLIE, 8YL. House Monitor, Activity Monitor, Academic Commendation (x2), Pastoral Commendation, Barnardo’s competitor. I most enjoyed the French Trip in 2018.

NAIVALU, MERESEINI, 8MW. I have most enjoyed boarding with my friends and playing netball.

PALMER, ABIGAIL, 8JA. House Monitor, Deputy Head Chorister, Chapel Choir, Buddy, Pupil Voice, History Subject Helper, Music Colour, Linguist of the Month, Barnardo’s Choral Competition winner, Year 7 and 8 Drama production (A Midsummer Night’s Dream), Cheltenham Choir Competition winner, Westminster Cathedral Concert, Senior Choir Austria Tour. I have really enjoyed going to competitions with the Chapel Choir over the last year. It is an amazing experience.

PARKS, FLETCHER, 8YL. I have enjoyed the variety of lessons, the great friends I have made and how much I have learnt.

PETROVA, TEAH, 8JA. Deputy Head Girl, Sports Scholarship (hockey), winner of sports day (Year 6), winner of music competition (Year 6), IAPS Hockey National Finals (2019), IAPS Netball Regional and National winners, Barnardo’s Choir of the Year, awarded Most Valuable Hockey Player (Year 8), Year 8 A team Hockey captain, winners of Cheltenham Music Festival, West Midlands Finals for Hockey (two years in a row), Singing Grade 4, Cello Grade 3, Piano Grade 2, County Cross-Country, Westminster Abbey Carol Service, County Athletics. I have enjoyed all the trips in the Prep School with my close friends - my favourite trip was Bushcraft in Year 4. I have also enjoyed sports, especially Hockey.

PHILPOTT, ELIZABETH, 8YL. Form Monitor, Art Colours (x3). I have most enjoyed the creative subjects and all of the trips.

PORBANDERWALLA, ARWA, 8MG. Form Monitor. I have enjoyed spending time with my friends at the Prep School.

POWELL, ALFIE, 8YL. I have enjoyed growing up and growing through each of the different stages, watching the School develop around me, as I not only grow but so does my intelligence and my understanding. The Prep School has been a good and challenging experience, which has helped me evolve in many ways.

PRESTON, SCARLET, 8YL. Hockey Scholarship (U13+), PE Helper, IAPS competitions (x4 hockey, x2 netball, x2 athletics), National cross-country championships two years in a row, Hereford and Worcestershire cross-county team. During my time at the Prep School, I have enjoyed the beachcraft and bushcraft trips. I have been on every School ski trip since Year 4.

PRICE, RAFE, 8YL. Art Subject Helper. I have enjoyed being able to make new friends, as when I joined the Prep School, I didn’t know anyone.

PRIDDEN, WILLIAM, 8MG. Form Monitor, West Midlands Triathlon series Winner (2016, 2017, 2019), competed at The British National Triathlon Championships (2018, 2019), ITU World Triathlon Leeds (third place, 2019), ITU World Triathlon Nottingham (first place), National Castle Triathlon series Winner (2018, 2019), competed at English School Cross-Country Cup Final (2019), English Schools’ Cross-Country Championship (2020), District Swimming Championship (2019), ESAA Athletics (2019). ESSA Swimming (2017). I have enjoyed representing the School in swimming and cross-country at the Nationals, and playing sport in general. The camaraderie with friends in team sports and going on the bushcraft and beachcraft are also favourites of mine.

PUNA, SIMAR, 8JB. Form Monitor, Head Chorister. Winner of Barnardo’s choir and performed at the Royal Albert Hall. I have loved being in the choir, going on all the trips and spending time with my friends.

RAI, SAYANA, 8JA. House Monitor, PE Subject Helper, Cross-Country. I have enjoyed staying in the Boarding House with my friends and all the fun times we had.

RAI, SHAMIP, 8JA. House Monitor, U13A Rugby, Rugby Sevens. Throughout my time at the Prep School, I have enjoyed becoming smarter.

REIJMER, JOAQUIN, 8JA. ESAA National Cross-Country, ESAA County Cross-Country, Rugby Sevens, U13A/B Rugby. I have enjoyed the sport and meeting new people.

RICHARDSON, TILLY, 8JB. Form Monitor, Barnardos choir, two drama colours, music colour. During my time at the Prep School, I most enjoyed taking part in the School play and being in the choir.

RILEY, ROBERT, 8RB. Head Boy, Sports Scholarship, swimming colours, SATIPS, IAPS Swimming Finals. At the Prep School, every moment has been brilliant and being Head Boy this year has made it one of the best years. I have enjoyed the School trips and being in the classroom. I have loved swimming, rugby and matches on the sports field.

RODRIGUEZ-HARRIS, OLIVER, 8JA. Form Monitor, Rugby B team. I have enjoyed being in percussion group and the friends I have made.

RYAN, JACK, 8YL. Form Monitor. The food is great at the Prep School and so are the teachers.

SAEZ-LOPEZ, SARA, 8JA. House Monitor, Subject Helper, Geo Champs, ESAA Athletics, IAPS Athletics, Choir. I have enjoyed learning English and the time I have spent with my friends in the Boarding House.

SCHROEDER, TOBIAS, 8YL. Subject Helper, Academic Commendation (x3), Art Commendation. I have most enjoyed the Geo Champs competition.

SCOTT, LUCY, 8JB. Head of Page House, Prefect. I have enjoyed making great friends, which I will continue to be with in the Senior School.

SHARIF, TEHZEEB, 8RB. Form Monitor. I have found everyone to be friendly and welcoming in the Prep School.

SITLU, AARYAN, 8MW. Form Monitor, Property Monitor. I have most enjoyed my time with the teachers, especially Ms Roskell and Mr Wilkinson.

SMITH, ELIZABETH, 8JB. Buddy, IAPS National Champions (netball 2019), IAPS regional winners. I have enjoyed everything about my time at the Prep School.

Year 8 Valete

SMITH, HARLEY, 8RB. Year 4 Form Monitor, second in sports day, art subject helper. I have really enjoyed my time at the Prep School because of the nice environment.

SPURGEON, ETHAN, 8MW. I have really enjoyed the sport and the camping trips.

SUM, SHIRLEY, 8YL. Art Subject Helper. I most enjoyed the Year 6 drama performance.

SUTHERLAND, ISLA, 8JA. Prefect, Barnado’s Choir, Academic Scholarship, District Javelin, Chelternham Music Festival, Cello Grade 4, Singing Grade 4, Spain and Gibraltar Hockey Tour. I most enjoyed going on the bushcraft trip.

SWADLING, AIDAN, 8MW.

TAMANG, RUKHSANG, 8MG. Page House Monitor, Form Monitor, Pupil Voice, Charities Committee. My friends at the Prep School have been great. My form tutor, Miss González, was the best and the Prep School experience in general was pretty awesome.

THAPA, AYUSHMA, 8YL. House Monitor, Form Captain, House Captain, Activity Monitor. I have most enjoyed this year, spending time with my friends and participating in athletics championships.

THOMAS, HARRY, 8YL. Lost Property Monitor. During my time at the Prep School, I have most enjoyed the Spanish lessons.

THOMPSON, ROMANA, 8YL. Library Monitor, Academic Award, Linguist of the Month. I most enjoyed the School trips and all of the activities.

TSE, BERNICE, 8MG. Form Monitor, Form Captain. During my time at the Prep School, I have made new friends and I have most enjoyed playing music.

TULADHAR-CARDOSA, JAMES, 8RB. Form Monitor. In Prep School, I enjoyed the sports the most, especially rugby.

WALKER, JENSON, 8JB.

WHITLOCK, JJ, 8JB. Form Captain. I am fun, active, kind and I am always trying to do better. I have enjoyed everything about my time at the Prep School.

WIGGINS, HENRY, 8JB. I have enjoyed lunchtime when everyone goes to the astro and plays football.

WILKINSON, JACK, 8MG. House Monitor, House Captain, Prefect, IAPS Hockey National Final, Rugby Colour, Drama Colour, School play, Rugby, House Cup, House record in Swimming, recipient of Rugby Prize (Venice Tour), Rugby Captain, IAPS National Swimming Final. I liked playing rugby as captain and beating Warwick. I have also been part of the National Finals for Hockey and Rugby. I enjoyed becoming a Prefect and a House Monitor.

WINGFIELD, MAYA, 8JA. Prefect, IAPS Swimming National Finals, ESSA Swimming National Finals, main role in the School play - A Midsummer’s Night Dream, 13+ Academic Scholarship. I have enjoyed spending time with my friends and all the opportunities that the Prep School has given me.

WONG, HOWARD, 8YL. Table Tennis. During my time at the Prep School, I have most enjoyed the games lessons.

WRIGHT, ALEXANDRA, 8JA. Form Monitor, IAPS Hockey Nationals, IAPS Netball Nationals. I have enjoyed being part of the Netball and Hockey teams throughout Prep School.

WRIGHT, FFION, 8RB. Library Monitor, Charities Committee, Chorister, Chapel Choir, Orchestra, Jazz Band, winner of Barnado’s choir of the year (2020), Barnardo’s (2019), Eisteddfod poetry (second place), poetry competition finalist (Years 3-7), poetry competition year group winner (Year 3), Year 5 Form Attainment Prize, Year 7 Form Effort Prize, House Music finalist, winners of Cheltenham choir competition (x2), CREST award (bronze), Years 7 and 8 play, Goblin Car (seventh place), linguist of the month, LAMDA Grade 5, Piano Grade 5, music colour, drama colour, World Scholar’s Cup (regional round). I have enjoyed the wide range of experiences that the Prep School has offered me, as well as meeting people and making new friends.

WU, HENNING, 8JB. Head Chorister, Prefect, House Monitor, winners of the Barnardo’s choir competition, finalist of ESSA cross-country. During my tie at the Prep School, I most enjoyed the Salzburg choir trip.

ZAFFER, AARYAAN, 8MW. I have enjoyed the great opportunities that this School provides.



Elmshurst

Last September, I boarded a train along with twenty-seven other fresh faced travellers. Eighty-three smiling passengers were already sitting comfortably. The train we boarded was Elmshurst, and I was looking forward to the ride. All of us on a journey, to different places and for different reasons, but in the same vehicle and on the same track. As the new conductor, I was hoping for the engineers, ticket collectors and travellers to all work together to make sure everyone's journey was as enjoyable and successful as possible. I wasn't to be disappointed.



Taking charge of the carriages, how could the journey not be a success with such a fine group of House Monitors? Head of House, Amin Makkawi has continually inspired Elmshurst with his passion and desire to improve House spirit, whilst being supported by Deputy Head of House, Shervin Parandian-Kurz, who implemented his caring charisma to ensure everyone in the House was happy. The House Monitor Team, including School Monitors William Edwards and Alek Florov, and Head of School, Sebastien Atkinson, along with the rest of the Elmshurst Upper Sixth, would be an intimidating bunch if it wasn't for their humility, modesty and kindness towards the rest of their housemates. To list only a selection of their achievements; Ollie Wynn as 1st XV rugby captain, Johnson Shi accepted to Oxford University and recipient of the Academic Award for Psychology, William Edwards awarded the Jeffery Lewins' Prize for Technology and even more impressively the Paul Sawtell Trophy, Matthew Goodwin named Best RAF Cadet, Sebastien Atkinson winning Sportsman of the Year and being awarded the Perry Thompson Trophy for contribution to rugby. There is also a long list of School Caps, talented actors, debaters, musicians, directors, artists and writers. Such success and achievements, a group of young people with the collective ability to surely lead the way forward and make the world a better place.

With the refreshment trolley usually the only entertainment on a train journey, Elmshurst packed so much into their School life, that there was hardly time to pause to a look out of the window. Each year group had a 'getting to know you' evening based around pizza. The Chinese Mid-Autumn Festival saw the House socialising and sharing cake under a full moon. A prize for the most chips kept the tables busy at the Casino Night, and Mr Perry-Evans' virtual dog racing event created so much enthusiasm that there were croaky voices the next day. The House Song competition is always a good test of how well a House works together, and a fantastic runners-up performance of *The Lion Sleeps Tonight*, led by Jonathan Chan and Darren Zhang in animal outfits, proved testament to the unity within Elmshurst. This was rewarded with a whole House KFC treat. The annual Christmas Dinner at the Ardencote Manor was a splendid evening, with all of the boys dressed in black tie, followed by plenty of fun on the dance floor. It was certainly a night to remember.

The Monitors enjoyed a team building trip to Aztec Adventure, combining rugby, trampolining and swimming. We all celebrated Chinese New Year, of course with a Chinese takeaway, but also with fortune cookies and red envelopes kindly donated by some of our parents. Watching *Jurassic World* in Cobham Theatre was like having our own private cinema, with pizza and sweets to see us through. All of this was in just a term and a half, and much more was planned.

With pride and passion, it is a joy to see such willingness shown by everyone to represent and support Elmshurst in the myriad of Inter-House competitions. The trophy cabinet remains over-flowing, and trophies won this year include junior basketball, senior badminton, junior table tennis and senior squash. *The 39 Steps* and *The Comedy about a Bank Robbery* also earned runners-up awards in the junior and senior drama competitions. Max Wong won the advanced category music competition and the Elmshurst band was highly commended. Outside of school, Jayden Ng became the National Go Champion.

Approaching the final station of the year, Mr Kelly and Mr Duffy made ready to depart. Mr Kelly leaves Elmshurst after five years of faithful service on board to jump on to another Bromsgrove School train, while Mr Duffy alights to travel further afield after just a few stops with us this year. Everyone in Elmshurst is grateful for their time and efforts, and we wish them well.

Whilst travelling on-board Elmshurst, there is no first class, no high speed intercity option, or even stowing away in a guard's carriage. The team work, mutual respect and care shown to each other fosters such a warm and caring House for all to enjoy and thrive in, as we all journey onwards on one big family ticket. Elmshurst is a very special place indeed, and I look forward to rolling out of the station again to begin next year's travels.

M Giles





Elmshurst Leavers

ATKINSON, S.A., Elmshurst, 2015. Head of School, School Monitor, House Monitor, 1st Rugby - Rosslyn Park 7s 2019, 2nd Cricket, Silver DofE, Bronze DofE, All-Round Scholarship, Post-GCSE Honorary Academic Scholarship.

CHAN, J.C.L., Elmshurst, 2015.

CHU, T.J.H., Elmshurst, 2018. 1st Badminton, Senior Maths Challenge (Gold).

CHUN, J.C.H., Elmshurst, 2018.

EDWARDS, W., Elmshurst, 2013. Deputy Head of School, School Monitor, House Monitor, 2nd Hockey, Art Scholarship, Greenpower Kit Car Race Team - World Champions, Starpack Gold Design Award 2017, School Productions: Hairspray (set design), Grease (DSM and set design), The Pierglass (set design), Othello (backstage), Beauty and the Beast (Prince), CCF (Flight Sergeant), Editor of Two Zero One Pupil Magazine, Cultures Connect 2019, Performing Arts Award 2020, Senior House Drama director (Winners 2019 and Runners up 2020), Backstage Society, Senior Colour.

FLOROV, A., Elmshurst, 2015. School Monitor, House Monitor, 3rd Football, Gold Biology Challenge, GCSE German Award, Senior House Drama Winners 2019, Senior House Drama Runners up 2020, Debating, MUN, CCF (Staff Sergeant), Silver DofE, Honorary Academic Scholarship.

GABARD, P., Elmshurst, 2018.

GE, H.H., Elmshurst, 2018.

GOODWIN, M. P., Elmshurst, 2013. 3rd Rugby, Acting Awards for Drama, School Production x 2, House Drama, House Music, CCF for 4 years (Cadet Warrant Officer in the RAF), Bronze DofE, Silver DofE, Gold DofE.

HALL, E.J., Elmshurst, 2018. 1st Hockey, Athletics.

HARRIS, J.H., Elmshurst, 2016. 1st Rugby, Rosslyn Park 7s Vase, U15 Football, U16A Football, Rugby Scholarship.

HOWELL, J.H., Elmshurst, 2018. House Monitor, 1st Rugby (2020), 2nd Rugby (2019), 1st Basketball (2019 and 2020), 1st Athletics (2019), Biology Olympiad (Bronze), Gold DofE, Bromsgrove Service, Charity Committee, Sports Leaders, GCSE Honorary Scholarship.

KRAUEL, J.K., Elmshurst, 2017. 2nd Hockey, 4th Rugby, 1st Climbing, Oxford Debating Competition (2020 and 2019), Debating, Climbing Club.

LANGEN, J.L., Elmshurst, 201st Hockey, 1st Tennis, 4th Rugby, Golf, School Production: Grease, Bromsgrove Service Sports Leaders, Bromsgrove Service Tennis Leaders, House Hockey, House Tennis, House Drama, House Volleyball, House Swimming.

MAKKAWI, A.M., Elmshurst, 2016. Head of House, 1st Basketball, 1st Rugby, 3rd Football, Silver DofE.

MINTC, D., Elmshurst, 2018. 1st Cross-Country, Young Enterprise - Managing Director.

MOK, L.C., Elmshurst, 2018. House Quiz, House Swimming, History Society, House Research Competition.

PARANDIAN-KURZ, S., Elmshurst, 2017. House Monitor, Deputy Head of House, 1st Hockey, 2nd Rugby, School Charity.

PRAKAISRIROJ, P., Elmshurst, 2014. House Monitor, 1st Basketball (captain), Honorary Academic Scholarship.

RODIONOV, G., Elmshurst, 2017.

SHI, S.S., Elmshurst, 2016. C Rugby, House Music, Biology Olympiad, Physics Olympiad, Maths Challenge, CCF.

SONG, J.H., Elmshurst, 2018.

TANG, E.W., Elmshurst, 2018.

TIKTINSKII, D., Elmshurst, 2015. House Monitor, 1st Football, 1st Basketball, 3rd Rugby (captain).

UPTON, W.J.G., Elmshurst, 2011. House Monitor, Bronze DofE, Regional Rugby Champions, 1st Squash (captain), 1st Rugby, 1st Tennis, Tennis Leaders, CCF.

WAGSTAFF, E.H., Elmshurst, 2013. House Monitor, 2nd XV Rugby (captain), 2nd XI Cricket, Bronze DofE, Silver DofE, Gold DofE, CCF, County Basketball Champions, Regional Rugby Champions, House Monitor, Tennis Leader.

WONG, A.W., Elmshurst, 2015. House Monitor, 3rd Rugby, 1st Badminton, CCF, DofE.

WYNN, O.D., Elmshurst, 2018.

ZHANG, D.Z., Elmshurst, 2017. House Monitor, 3rd Rugby, Orchestra, Senior Strings.



Hazeldene

With the circumstances of the Summer Term fresh in our minds, it seems far too long ago that Hazeldene last met as a whole House. Regardless, the House has enjoyed three terms of competitive success, academic plaudits, and the friendships and mutual support that embody life in the House this year.



Perhaps the highlight of Hazeldene's competitive year was winning the House Song Competition with *When I Grow Up* – it now seems an awfully long time ago that the girls marched hand in hand down to the Arena for the competition final. In addition, Hazeldene successes have come in many other competitions, with House victories in either the junior or senior competitions in hockey, netball, debating, the Inter-House quiz, badminton, cross-country, and House music.

A year full of academic hard work is reflected in the more than 900 commendations that Hazeldene girls have received this year – the highest total achieved by the House in a single year. Special mention must go to the Lower Fourth study for their outstanding total of almost four hundred commendations, and individually to Katie Hannafin (V), who achieved forty-eight commendations – the most of any Hazeldene girl.

Each year, a prize is awarded to a Hazeldenean in each study who has made an outstanding contribution to House life – not necessarily the girl with the highest grades, nor the most confident, but a girl from each year group who has made an extensive contribution to House life throughout the year. These prizes were awarded to the following girls this year: Katherine Sutherland (LIV); Izzy Rusling (UIV); Aggie Warner (V); Imogen Vaughan-Hawkins (LVI); and Maddie Cooper (UVI). Hazeldene Sportswoman of the Year – awarded for not only being an exceptional sportswoman for the School, but also someone who has competed for the House and gone above and beyond to represent Hazeldene throughout their time – was presented jointly to Kitty Luscombe (UVI) and Siena Horton (UVI). It was also a pleasure to present Jade Jenkins (UVI) with the Quaich Trophy for her hardworking and selfless commitment to Hazeldene: she has been an exemplary Head of House and staff were unanimous in awarding her the House's highest accolade.

Before our academic year transferred online, it really was packed full of House events. House breakfasts have continued to prove very popular, and the addition of Friday afternoon tea for each study in the House has seen the Fourth and Fifth Forms enjoying the common room and cakes alongside the Sixth Form and staff.

The girls have also enjoyed treasure trails, chocolate Santa hunts, movie and pizza nights, and 'take out' lunches – these weekly highlights certainly keep everyone's spirits high. We were able to continue these into lockdown a little as well, with House challenges that have tested the girls and staff to keep active and celebrate the small joys of life despite the ongoing distancing.

This year's House charity, chosen by the Upper Sixth monitors, was the Giles' Trust, a cause close to the House's heart. Following cake sales, a pick 'n' mix stand, and the Parents' Association Ball, Hazeldene raised over £900 for the Trust – thank you to the PA, Hazeldene girls and supporters of the House for donating their time and money so generously.

If ever there was a test of all the qualities that we encourage in Hazeldene girls and Bromsgrovians, it has been the circumstances of the Summer Term this academic year. However, the girls' resilience and determination to make the best of things have been exceptional. I would like to take this opportunity to thank them all for their continuing hard work and perseverance – they have each been a credit to our House and Bromsgrove School.

I would also like to thank our Housekeeper, Zoe Palling, for her unfailing dedication to the House, and to the Hazeldene tutor team for their support. Bromsgrove says farewell to three Hazeldene tutors this year: Ms Berment-Parr and Miss Tansley, both tutors in the House for some years who will be sorely missed, and our Assistant Houseparent, Miss Honey, who has been unfailingly supportive of the girls this year – we wish her all the very best in her travels.

Finally, I would like to say thank you to this year's Hazeldene Upper Sixth leavers for all that they have done for the House. Not only are they each inspirational individuals, with their own individual achievements, but they are a fantastic team together. They are all destined to do great things and they leave with our warmest wishes for their future endeavours – we hope that they return to tell us of their adventures beyond the Bromsgrove School gates.

R Whitbread

Hazeldene Leavers

BOND, S.A., Hazeldene, 2012. School Monitor, House Monitor, 2nd Hockey, 1st Athletics, Greenpower Kit Car F24 - World Champions 2018, 2nd in the World in 2017 and 2019. School Production: Grease, CCF, Bronze DofE, Silver DofE, Debating, National Finalist, Prep School Prizegiving - Most Contribution to School Life, GCSE Business Prize, Senior Athletics Colour, Head of Page House (Prep School).

BROWN, G.A., Hazeldene, 2008. Prep School Survivor, 1st Athletics, 2nd Hockey, Gold DofE, Honorary Scholar.

CARTER, C.M., Hazeldene, 2010. House Monitor, 1st Swimming, 2nd Hockey, 3rd Netball, DofE.

COOPER, M.R., Hazeldene, 2016. House Monitor, Choir, Bronze DofE, Silver DofE, Gold DofE.

COOPER, M.R., Hazeldene, 2016. House Monitor, Choir, Bronze DofE, Silver DofE, Gold DofE.

COURT, L.C.B., Hazeldene, 2004. Pre-Prep Survivor, Prep School Survivor, Deputy Head of School, School Monitor, House Monitor, Music Minor Colours, Best Contribution to Hazeldene 2018, Jewel Cup for Best Contribution to the Prep School 2015, Bronze DofE, Silver DofE, Gold DofE, School Productions: The Musicians 2016, Hairspray 2017, The Pierglass 2017, Grease 2018 and Great Expectations 2019, Sajid Javid Debating Competition, Chapel Choir 2015-2020, Chamber Choir 2015-2017, School Forum, Beekeeping Society, Marmite Society, MedVets Society, House Music, Senior House Drama Director, Pre-Prep Charity Walk Co-ordinator, French Volunteering CAS Trip 2019, Honorary Academic Scholarship.

DALBY, O., Hazeldene, 2004. Pre-Prep Survivor, Prep School Survivor, School Monitor, House Monitor, Grade 8 Singing, RADA Shakespeare Messenger Award, Choir, 201 Pupil Magazine, Gold DofE, World Challenge (Zambia), School Productions: The Pierglass, Great Expectations and Grease, House Drama, House Music, Evensong: Gloucester, Bristol, Worcester and Hereford, Honorary Academic Scholarship.

GILES, M., Hazeldene, 2004. Pre-Prep Survivor, Prep School Survivor, House Monitor, 1st Hockey (captain), 1st Athletics, Sports Scholarship, Gold DofE.

HAMBLING, E.H., Hazeldene, 2015. House Monitor, 1st Badminton, 2nd Hockey, England Badminton player, CCF, Gold DofE, winner of the U17 Badminton Nationals, played in the Badminton European Championships.

HORTON, S.C.H., Hazeldene, 2006. Pre-Prep Survivor, Prep School Survivor, School Monitor, House Monitor, 1st Hockey, 1st Athletics, PE GCSE Prize, Player of the Season Hockey Trophy, Residential Homes activity, Sports Scholarship (Year 9 and Year 12).

JENKINS, J., Hazeldene, 2015. Pre-Prep Survivor, Prep School Survivor, Head of House, 1st Hockey, 2nd Netball, A Netball, CCF, Gold DofE, House Quiz Final, Bromsgrove Service, Hazeldene Endeavour Cup, House Song winners.

LUSCOMBE, K.B., Hazeldene, 2004. Pre-Prep Survivor, Prep School Survivor, School Monitor, House Monitor, Deputy Head of House, Bronze DofE, Silver DofE, Gold DofE, Sports Scholar, 1st Netball (captain), Independent Schools' Cup Netball Champions (2019 and 2020), National School Netball Finalists (2020 -3rd, 2019 -3rd, 2018 -2nd) U15 independent Schools' Cup Netball Champions, U15 Sisters n Sport Netball Champions, 1st Athletics, Finalist in the Warwick University Global Sustainability Essay Competition.

SHARMA-JAMES, A., Hazeldene, 2004. Pre-Prep Survivor, Prep School Survivor, Music Scholarship, Music Subject Prize Winner, Best Actor in Senior House Drama 2019, Conductor of Hazeldene's winning entry in the House Song Competition 2019, School Productions: Great Expectations and The Musicians, Big Band, Orchestra, Chapel Choir, Chamber Choir, Brass Band, Residential Homes activity, Bronze DofE.

SMITH, J.S., Hazeldene, 2020.



Housman Hall

As I take the time to reflect on this year, it is hard to not feel subdued about how it has ended, and the impact that COVID-19 has had on this community. There will be certain implications which will resonate for a while to come. However, that being said, there is much to celebrate and be proud of, and it would be pertinent at this time to review the year from a House perspective.



September seems a long way off, when we were welcoming the new Lower Sixth and our Upper Sixth were gearing up for an industrious year of university applications, mocks, a plethora of extra-curricular activities, leading House events and cumulating in those ever-important final examinations. Of course, the latter was not to be. Some of you will, I'm sure, be pleased about this outcome. For others, you will feel that your opportunity to prove your academic brilliance was robbed from beneath your feet. However, one thing which we must all acknowledge about what has happened is that continuous assessment is of utmost importance and every performance matters. Ultimately, it has been this that has determined your attainment, whether that be through unit tests, mocks, assignments, IAs, or homework. Pinning your hopes on the fact that you will 'pull it out of the bag' at the final hurdle is ultimately a poor plan.

Fortunately, for the vast majority of you, this has not been the case and your meticulous efforts and discipline will be your just reward. I say this not to strike fear in you but to encourage you to always do the best you can. To work intentionally towards your goals and laydown markers which define you as a success. Design the life you want and take the necessary steps towards achieving it. Do not fear making mistakes; see them as opportunities to learn what didn't work, and change your approach until you reach your goal.

From the House perspective, we have much to celebrate and reminisce about. Housman is a unique experience, and you fully embrace the ethos and strengths that a mixed Sixth Form House brings. Believe me, it is not always easy to garner House spirit. Every year, 50% of you are new to the House. For many, you do not know anyone and have come from many different cultures and backgrounds. Those of you who move across from other Houses may already have a preconceived idea of what a Boarding House looks like (or should look like) and getting you all to 'buy in' to the Housman experience can be a challenge.

However, despite the personal obstacles and initial awkward development of relationships with peers and staff, I always feel that by the time that we come round to the House Song Competition, strong bonds have already formed, and despite the disgruntled murmurs at yet another rehearsal, the product, be it a winning performance or not, is always that of unity and satisfaction for the moment and memories that have been experienced and shared together.

I am extremely grateful to all of you who have represented the House in some way or another over the year, and although we do not always win, we are always there or there about when we don't. As usual, there have been lots of activities in which we have achieved success: The boys' rugby shield, boys' football, girls' badminton, girls' cross-country and runner-up in the House Music ensemble competition.

I am enormously proud to watch our pupils engage and do their best in whatever they have volunteered for or been coerced into. Often, we are the best represented House, and we are nearly always the best supported House. I have loved seeing so many of you on the side-lines, cheering your friends and peers on. This is a really important part of House life and something I encourage.

It is truly incredible how Housman Hallians permeate every echelon of School life, be it CCF, DofE, Young Enterprise, Flourishing Fiver, charities, the School Drama Production, the School Choir, the School orchestra, Big Band, Cultures Connect, coding, robotics, Bee Club, rugby, hockey, netball, volleyball, badminton, table tennis, swimming, golf, fencing, the award winning pupil-led magazine; and for the vast majority of these, Housman Hallians take a leading role.

Upper Sixth, you have been a wonderful year group and I am truly grateful for the commitment you have given to the House and this community. I have so many wonderful memories and you should be proud of all that you have achieved, and I know that you are now ready to face new challenges. I shall forever remember the tearful and heartfelt goodbyes you exchanged as the COVID-19 outbreak hit, uncertain of when you would see each other again. It is these friendships and connections which ultimately bind you to Housman Hall and this is invaluable.

S Noble

Housman Hall Leavers

AL DAAJANI, N.I., Housman Hall, 2016. U15A Football, U16A Football, 2nd Football, MUN.

BOGATYREVA, V., Housman Hall, 2018. House Monitor, House Drama, Director's Prize 2019, House Music, House Song, House Rounders, Cultures Connect, Debating (2nd place 2020), Recreational Swimming, Recreational Badminton, MUN, House Bake-Off.

CHENG, A.W., Housman Hall, 2018. School Production: Grease, Chapel Choir, Competition Choir, Boys' Choir, Salzburg Music Tour, Roderick Williams' Masterclass, Tea Time Concert, Cultures Connect, House Drama, House Music, House Bake-Off.

CHIANG, K., Housman Hall, 2018. House Monitor, 1st Badminton, House Drama (2nd place), Cultures Connect 2019, CAS Jubilee Sailing Trip.

CHONG, B.J.Y., Housman Hall, 2018.

DAHMEN, C.B., Housman Hall, 2018. House Monitor, Head of House, CCF.

DJINGOVA, N.A., Housman Hall, 2015. Residential Home activity, Young Archivists activity, Eco Schools' activity, CCF (RAF).

FAKROGHA, M.F., Housman Hall, 2018. School Production: Grease, 3rd Netball, 201 Pupil Magazine, First Aid.

GAEBELEIN, L.C., Housman Hall, 2018. Cross-Country, 1st Athletics, Bromsgrove Service (charity shop work), Debating.

GALLAGHER, F.A.B., Housman Hall, 2010. Prep School Survivor, House Monitor, 1st Hockey (captain), 1st Tennis, CCF.

GOCHEV, M.E., Housman Hall, 2018. House Monitor, 1st Tennis.

HARKER, G., Housman Hall, 2006. Pre-Prep Survivor, Prep School Survivor, 2nd Hockey, 3rd Netball, DofE, CCF, Bromsgrove Service - Prep School Readers.

HARMANDJIEV, M.P., Housman Hall, 2018. House Monitor, Senior Maths Challenge (Silver and Gold).

HASSAN, A.H., Housman Hall, 2018. School Production - Grease.

HROMYK, D., Housman Hall, 2018. School Monitor, House Monitor, 1st Cross-Country, Big Band I and II, Concert Band, Girls' Choir, Chapel Choir, Head of Cultures Connect 2020, School Production: Backstage helper, Pop and Jazz.

HUNG, H.T.H., Housman Hall, 2018.

KARICHEVA, M.K., Housman Hall, 2014. Prep School Survivor, Athletics, 1st Badminton, National Schools' Badminton Championships (Gold medal in the local and county rounds x 2, Silver medal during regional round), Chapel Choir, Bromsgrove Service, Prep School English support sessions, Charity Crafting.

KOROTYCH, M.K., Housman Hall, 2017. 1st Football, 1st Cross-Country, Gym, Flourishing Fiver.

KRUTOVA, M., Housman Hall, 2018.

LANGHEIM, T.L., Housman Hall, 2018. 1st Football, Cultures Connect committee.

LEE, C.J., Housman Hall, 2010. Prep School Survivor, 2nd Cricket, 2nd Hockey, Bronze DofE, Silver DofE.

LEE, K.Y.T., Housman Hall, 2018. Gold DofE, UKMT Senior Maths Challenge (Gold), Senior Kangaroo (Merit), Biology Olympiad during Lower Sixth (Silver), Bromsgrove Service, Recreational Badminton, Life Drawing.

LIU, K.K.H., Housman Hall, 2018.

LIU, M., Housman Hall, 2018

LUO, Q.Y., Housman Hall, 2018. Senior Mathematics Challenge (Silver), Stage Management for School Productions

OMO- EBOH, O.O., Housman Hall, 2018. Head of House

PELA, O.P., Housman Hall, 2018. MUN, Debating, Young Enterprise, Robotics, Athletics.

PETRESCU, E.P., Housman Hall, 2018. Young Enterprise.

SCOTT, J., Housman Hall, 2015.

SINGH, Y., Housman Hall, 2018. 2nd Badminton.

SOYANNWO, O.S., Housman Hall, 2018. House Monitor, LAMDA (Bronze Distinction), Best Director in House Drama 2019, Head Illustrator for 201 School magazine 2019/2020, Debating, House Debating.

STURZ, J., Housman Hall, 2019. 1st Cross-Country.

TATO, C.T., Housman Hall, 2018. 1st Athletics.

TKACHENKO, L., Housman Hall, 2018. Headmaster's Commendation.



VAGNER, P., Housman Hall, 2018. Martin Sykes Award for DT, School Productions - Backstage Helper for Othello, Grease and Great Expectations, Two Zero One Pupil Magazine illustrator.

VASHKEVICH, A.A., Housman Hall, 2015. 1st Basketball.

VASHKEVICH, M., Housman Hall, 2018. Cultures Connect, Young Enterprise, 2nd Football, Flourishing Fiver.

VEPREV, A., Housman Hall, 2017.

VILLAR CARRERO, R., Housman Hall, 2018. 1st Athletics, RAF.

VOICU, M., Housman Hall, 2018. 4th Rugby, House Rugby, House Squash, Bromsgrove Service.

WONG, C.I., Housman Hall, 2018. Girls' Choir, Residential Home activity, Sign Language activity, Biology Olympiad (Silver and Bronze), Chemistry Olympiad (Bronze 5% of the group).

WONG, J., Housman Hall, 2015. 1st Badminton, Honorary Scholarship.

WONG, S.Y., Housman Hall, 2018. 1st Swimming.

WOO C.A., Housman Hall, 2018. CCF, Cultures Connect, First Aid Course, House Swimming, House Cross-Country.

YANG, M., Housman Hall, 2017. School Monitor, House Monitor, Highly Commended in House Music 2018, MUN, Conductor of Inter-House Song Competition, Cultures Connect committee, Orchestra, Head of MedVets Society, Honorary Academic Scholarship.

YEUNG, J.K., Housman Hall, 2018. Senior Boarder, School Monitor, House Monitor, two-time Gold Award for National Concert Band Festival (Guitarist), Director of Housman Hall's House Song 2019, Lead Guitarist for Housman Hall's House Music Competition 2019, Lead Guitarist for the School's Musical Production 2018, Lead Guitarist and Bassist in student-led Rock Band, a strong delegate in Model United Nations.

YEUNG, T.H., Housman Hall, 2015. CCF, DofE, Eco School activity, Residential homes activity, Young Archivist activity.

YUNG, J.T.H., Housman Hall, 2017.

ZAAZOU, T., Housman Hall, 2018. House Quiz winner, House Colours, Philosophy Society for Prep School pupils, PPE, UKMT Challenge.

ZAKALSKIY, V., Housman Hall, 2017. Intermediate Maths Challenge (Silver), Economics Society, Cultures Connect committee 2019, Design Technology WWI Poppy Field 2018.

ZHANG WEI, V., Housman Hall, 2017. Senior Boarder, School Monitor, House Monitor, 1st Athletics, 1st Cross-Country, Honorary Academic Scholarship, Economics Award (Year 11), Two Zero One Pupil Magazine - Chief Editor, Shine School Media Awards 2020 winner, Prep School Hemlock Philosophy Society - Co-Founder, Cultures Connect committee, Senior Girls' Football.



Lupton

Lupton has been made up of seventy-six boys this academic year. Every single Luptonian has represented the House on more than one occasion across a wide array of disciplines, with the Upper Sixth setting the standard with their willingness to always participate, rubbing off positively on their younger peers. This is not to say that academic work has not been a priority, for the performances monitored through the AEO grades has been impressive each term for the majority of students.



The House has been led so well this year by Theo Gardner (Head of House), Freddie Harvey-Gilson (Deputy Head of House), Joshua Osborn-Patel (School Monitor) and a House Monitor team of William Bellamy, Jamie Cox, Harry Dodworth, Rorie Dodworth and Iain Messore. They have led the House with maturity, positivity and have always been willing to complete any task that is asked of them.

Highlights of the Michaelmas Term included William Bellamy, Theo Gardner and Iain Messore taking leading roles in the production of *Great Expectations*. In the junior swimming event, it was pleasing to see so many of the boys willing to dive into the waters to support the Lupton cause. A fantastic all round performance helped the House to secure a second place finish. In the House Song competition, the Lupton boys performed *Does Your Mother Know*. Their performance on the day was outstanding, with Joshua Osborn-Patel as the simply brilliant conductor and Iain Messore sublime on the keyboard. The House put on a performance that had the whole Arena gripped. As last year's winners of the coveted pumpkin trophy, Charles Costello, Edmund Buckley and Jamie Cox worked for hours to produce yet another masterpiece. They finished in second place. In the Upper Fourth badminton competition, the A team of Elliot Evans and Cameron Owen finished in a creditable third place.

In the Lent Term, Iain Messore and William Bellamy took part in the senior House debating competition. They were absolutely superb in their delivery and made their points clearly and concisely. In senior House badminton, Iain Messore and Rorie Dodworth progressed through to the final, sadly losing to Elmshurst. In the junior House drama competition, Gabriel Brown performed a seven minute self-written monologue about a court case. He should be very proud of his performance. The boys were simply outstanding in the senior House drama competition. Their portrayal of *The History Boys* by Alan Bennett was in fact so good, they won the competition. William Bellamy threw his heart and soul in to the role of director. All that blood, sweat and tears paid off. In the A Question of House competition, our team comprised of William Bellamy, Thomas Stephens, Freddie Fallows, Jasper Steele and Gabriel Brown. During the quick fire round, the boys answered twenty-five questions correctly. This was a whole eight questions ahead of their nearest rivals. With Walters and Webber House eliminated, they competed in the knock out buzzer round. At the end of this round, Hazeldene and Lupton beat Mary Windsor to progress to the finals.

The junior House hockey event this year was a very cold affair. Nevertheless, the Lupton A team strolled into the final. The boys were cruising at 2-0, but then took their foot off the gas and allowed Lyttelton back into the contest. At full time, the score was 2-2. Unfortunately, the boys then lost on penalty flicks. A sad end to a great team performance. The B team also played well. They reached the final, but again were unfortunate to finish as runners up. In the senior House hockey tournament, the Lupton boys were victorious for the second year running.

Joshua Osborn-Patel, Joshua Lawson and Gabriel Brown competed in the solo House music competition. All three were entered for the advanced competition and the Lupton boys did not disappoint. Joshua Osborn-Patel was wonderful on the French horn playing his piece, *Fantasy Pieces Op 73*. Joshua Lawson was incredible performing *Sonata* on the saxophone. Gabriel Brown singing *None but the Lonely Heart* was mesmerising. His performance was so good he was given the runners up award on the night.

My thanks must go to the Lupton Parents' Association for their fantastic work. As well as their fundraising efforts, the PA contribute so much to the 'feel' of the House through a great calendar of events. The first ever Lupton casino night was a resounding success and I recommend it to each and every one of you next year. My thanks must go to the six Upper Sixth boys, William Bellamy, Jamie Cox, Harry Dodworth, Theo Gardner, Iain Messore and Benjamin Russell for running the tables so expertly.

The Lupton PA Ball was another enjoyable event this year. The boys were in great form and most importantly, had a good time. Theo Gardner and Freddie Harvey-Gilson were outstanding in their delivery of the Heads and Tails game and auction. The whole room was impressed when the Upper Sixth stood up for the first dance and delivered their House Song performance of *Does Your Mother Know*. Unfortunately, our third event of the year had to be cancelled due to the pandemic. The Lupton quiz will, however, return in the next academic year.

The excellent Lupton tutor team has been strengthened by the addition of Mr Unterhalter and the return of Mrs Webb, although it was sad to bid farewell to Ms Densem, due to a promotion, and to Dr Werrett who is retiring. We will miss them and we thank them both from the bottom of our hearts for their dedicated and loyal services to Lupton.

As always, on a daily basis, Angela Cotterill does so much to maintain one of the best kept Houses on campus.

The final thought must go to the leavers, particularly those in the Upper Sixth whose friendship, talents and humour have served the House and School so well.

G. I. Evans

Lupton Leavers

BELLAMY, W.B., Lupton, 2015. House Monitor, Winners of House Drama 2020 (Director), Winners of House Music (ensemble), Big Band, Orchestra, NCBF Gold x 3, School Production: Great Expectations (main part), House Debating x5, Upper Fourth House Cross-Country.

CHILDS, P.C., Lupton, 2005.

COLEBROOK, J.G., Lupton, 2004. Pre-Prep Survivor, Prep School Survivor, 1st Hockey, Hockey Major Colours.

COX, J.C., Lupton, 2009. Prep School Survivor, House Monitor, 2nd Cross-Country, GCSE English Language Subject Prize (Top Grade), GCSE Religious Studies Subject Prize (Top Grade), British Chemistry Olympiad (Bronze), House Pumpkin Competition, House Bake-off, Commendation Prize (LIV), House Debating, House Swimming, House Colours, Bronze DofE, Silver DofE, CCF, Bromsgrove Service - Prep English, Bromsgrove Service - Prep Reading, Prep School Support Staff - Curiosity Club, Senior House Drama, Writer for Two Zero One Pupil Magazine, School Charities Monitor.

DODWORTH, H.B., Lupton, 2005. Pre-Prep Survivor, Prep School Survivor, House Monitor, 2nd Cross-Country, Maths Challenge (Silver and Bronze), Bronze DofE, Silver DofE, CCF, House Drama 2020, Sign Language activity.

DODWORTH, R.M., Lupton, 2005. Pre-Prep Survivor, Prep School Survivor, House Monitor, 2nd Cross-Country, Maths Challenge (Gold), Sign Language, Bronze DofE, Silver DofE, CCF, House Drama 2020.

GARDNER, T.I., Lupton, 2004. Pre-Prep Survivor, Prep School Survivor, House Monitor, Head of House, 1st Hockey (captain), Sports Scholar, School Production: Great Expectations, Winner of House Drama, Winner of House Baking Competition (captain), Silver DofE, Gold DofE, Winner of Lupton House Table Football Competition in singles (2020) and doubles (2017).

HARVEY-GILSON, F.E., Lupton, 2015. Deputy Head of House, 1st Football, 3rd Rugby, Year 9 Summer Project Winner, Gold DofE, Orchestra, Concert Band, Brass Group, Big Band, Music Scholar, Academic Scholar, Honorary Scholar.

HOLLINGWORTH, B., Lupton, 2015. 2nd Rugby, 1st Hockey, various musical events, Music Scholarship.

JAKOBSEN, N., Lupton, 2006.

MEHJOO, S.M., Lupton, 2004. Pre-Prep Survivor, Prep School Survivor, 1st Swimming, 2nd Hockey.

MESSORE, I.D., Lupton, 2003. Pre-Prep Survivor, Prep School Survivor, House Monitor, 4th Rugby, U11D Hockey, House Drama Winners 2020, 2nd Most Credits (Year 8 for three terms in a row), Biology Olympiad (Bronze), School Production 2019, House Debating, House Drama, House Rugby, House Badminton, MUN, Debating, Economics Society, Gifted and Talented.

MORGAN, F.M., Lupton, 2015.

OSBORN-PATEL, J., Lupton, 2005. Pre-Prep Survivor, Prep School Survivor, School Monitor, House Monitor, 1st Badminton, GCSE Maths, Music and Geography Prizes, House Drama 2020 (winners), House Music 2017 (solo winner), Music Minor Colours, Badminton Minor Colours, Maths Challenge (Year 5 Commended), Big Band, Gold DofE, Academic Scholarship, Music Scholarship.

RUSSELL, B.J., Lupton, 2015. DofE.





Lyttelton

In my first year as Housemaster of Lyttelton, it has been excellent to get to know the boys more as the year has progressed. I have been impressed with the enthusiasm that has been directed towards School and House life.



The Michaelmas Term started with success as the 1st XI beat St Bede's in the final of the National Cricket Cup at Loughborough University. Four elevenths of the team were Lytteltonians; Jasper Davidson, Henry Marshall, Joe Miszkowski and Olly Davidson - an amazing achievement. Jasper Davidson also had the privilege of representing his country at the U19 Cricket World Cup in South Africa, gaining valuable experience playing against Pakistan, Bangladesh, UAE, Sri Lanka and Zimbabwe. Joe Miszkowski also toured this year, captaining the U17 Worcester County tour to St. Lucia; he finished with the highest number of runs and batting average.

The spirit that all Lytteltonians have shown throughout the numerous House events, both sporting and the arts, is incredible and we have consistently finished within the top placings. Sporting success continued with the involvement of Oliver Tucker, Elliot Willetts and James Doohan-Smith in the Indoor Hockey National Finals at Whitgift, where they performed commendably to finish in the top six teams in the country. Another trophy obtained with the help of Lytteltonians was the North Midlands Cup, with Toby Hill, Sebastian Perry and Oliver Tucker. In senior cross-country, Ash Kandola led from start to finish and there were three Lytteltonians in the top four.

In Performing Arts, the production of *Great Expectations* was a huge success, and it was great to see Fred Hanson playing three characters each night. The enthusiasm for drama was then replicated in the selection, adaptation and portrayal of *Twelve Angry Men* in junior House drama, where the trio of Fred Hanson, Theo Gilbert-Birch and Alex Holroyd worked to bring the court drama to life; the confidence brought out on stage was remarkable. Fred was awarded runner up in the Best Actor category - no mean feat given the number of performances, ranging from *The Sound of Music* to a Victoria Wood classic.

In the final third of the year, we had to adapt how we interacted as a House to navigate the lockdown period. Following a busy final term, I am sure the boys are ready to enjoy a digital detox. They have interacted with many Zoom lessons, revision, assessments, feedback, skills videos and Friday afternoon concert pieces. In order to stay in touch, we have held weekly House assemblies, and tutors have been sharing their recommendations for reading, viewing and challenges. There have also been year group assemblies to address themes pertinent to each year group, helping them to start their transition to the next stage of School life. Although the summer break might not have been what everyone is accustomed to, there was certainly scope for some well-deserved time away from Zoom and screen time. Furthermore, I highlight the contributions of George Eccles for his fundraising efforts leading to an accumulation of £1200, and Mrs Buckingham for investing countless hours of NHS volunteering throughout the pandemic. Both are excellent examples of what can be achieved and of giving back to others.

I commend all the boys for the manner in which they have conducted themselves online throughout this most difficult of terms. We have all missed being at School this term. We have missed saying goodbye to the Upper Sixth students and the various other leavers in person. We have also not been able to celebrate the end of the School year in style, with the lovely occasion that is Commemoration Day.

Lyttelton Leavers

ASHTON, D.A., Lyttelton, 2011. School Monitor, House Monitor, 2nd Rugby, 1st Hockey, 2nd Cricket, Rugby Half Colour, Hockey Half Colour, Cricket Half Colour, DofE, CCF, Law Society.

DAVIDSON, J.J., Lyttelton, 2015. Cricket (captain), National School Cricket Championship 2019 (captain), Cricket Scholarship.

KANDOLA, A.S.C., Lyttelton, 2011. Deputy Head of House, 1st Football, 1st Cross-Country, 1st Athletics, DofE.

KORDAN, J.D., Lyttelton, 2004.

MARSHALL, H.J., Lyttelton, 2015. House Monitor, Head of House, U14C Rugby, U15C Rugby, U16B Rugby, U14A Cricket, U15A Cricket, 1st Cricket, 1st Cross-Country, Sports Scholarship.

MARTIN, T.R., Lyttelton, 2015.

RITCHIE, C.A., Lyttelton, 2015.

SAMPLA, S., Lyttelton, 2013.

SCOTT, J., Lyttelton, 2008. Prep School Survivor, Bronze DofE, Silver DofE, Gold DofE, Honorary Scholarship.

However, we can and must look forward with confidence and hold on to the fact that we will be back in School sometime soon and moving on with the next chapter.

School Caps have been awarded to Ash Kandola (Football), Daniel Ashton (Hockey), Henry Marshall and Jasper Davidson (both Cricket). Major Colours have been awarded to Henry Marshall (Cross-Country), Tom Martin (Football), Cameron Ritchie (Rugby) and Daniel Ashton (Cricket). Finally, Minor Colours have been awarded to Devraj Bulchandani (Football), James Doohan-Smith, Maxim Edger, Toby Hill, Oliver Tucker and Elliott Willetts (all Hockey), Toby Hill and Sebastian Perry (both Rugby), Sebastian Perry (Swimming), Vincent Li (Table Tennis and Music) and Olly Davidson (Cricket). Well done to all for the recognition of their efforts and commitment to the extra-curricular life of the School.

In terms of the outgoing Upper Sixth, I thank the leadership of Henry Marshall and Ash Kandola as Head and Deputy Head of House respectively, and Dan Ashton as School Monitor. Each of them has led by example and they have always embodied the hard work, academic rigour and competitive sporting performance that we come to expect. As a group, they are tight-knit and enjoy the camaraderie of each other; each brings their own unique personality and quirks to the group. I know they will hold onto this as they move on to their respective next steps.

In recognition of dedication and excellence, the Swatkins Trophy was awarded to Daniel Ashton and the Alfred Lyttelton Trophy was awarded to Henry Marshall; both have represented the School and House superbly in all they have done.

I would like to extend my thanks to the supportive Lyttelton Parents' Association for all their hard work and careful organisation. Our PA events have been well received, especially the bustling Casino Night and celebration of Burns' Night.

Finally, thank you to an excellent and encouraging tutor team and Jayne, our housekeeper, for ensuring that the boys in the house are guided and cared for. Best wishes to all Lytteltonians for the year ahead.

J Holdsworth



Mary Windsor

The end of an academic year could be remembered all too easily for the wrong reasons, but there is in fact a huge amount to celebrate as we review another year in Mary Windsor. This year we have been home to sixty-three boarders from over twenty different countries, who together have worked extremely hard academically, contributed hugely to the extra-curricular activities and shown extraordinary compassion and humanity within the fantastic community we share. The friendliness and kindness that characterise Mary Windsor House have continued to be our most powerful drive.



Over the course of the year, our Upper Sixth have led by example and they have contributed a huge amount to both the School and the House during their time with us. Across all year groups, the girls' many talents meant that the House has been extremely well represented in every aspect of School life. It is impossible to mention all the individual successes and achievements this year, as so many of the girls have been involved in music, drama, debating, sport, Bromsgrove Service, CCF, DofE and Young Enterprise, not to mention their numerous out of School commitments.

The greatest indicator of House spirit is of course our Inter-House competitions, and this year the Mary Windsor girls did not disappoint. Without exception, we have fielded enthusiastic and determined teams on every occasion and our Upper Sixth Monitors did a wonderful job of encouraging, motivating and leading the rest of the House. In the Michaelmas Term, under the leadership of the Upper Sixth, Mary Windsor came together for a wonderful performance of *Dancing Queen* in the House Song contest. We were absolutely delighted with our Best Creative Performance award.

In the Lent Term, both our juniors and seniors worked hard to produce superb theatrical extracts in the House Drama competitions. Likewise, in the House Music competitions, it was wonderful to watch the final ensemble performance having seen the girls working so hard to prepare in the previous weeks. We enjoyed preparing for the House quiz and it turns out that we actually have many keen quizzers - there was stiff competition for places on the team.

The Summer Term challenged us in ways we would never have imagined, but the girls made a seamless transition to online learning with their characteristic determination and positivity. On a daily basis, I received notification after notification of academic commendations, which were awarded to the girls for their hard work, effort and high levels of engagement. Although the end of term was not the one any of us would have hoped for, there was much to celebrate at our final House assembly, and I hope the girls look back on their whole year with a sense of pride and achievement. Much thought is given to the winners of our House trophies. The girls' contribution to School life in general is considered, but the main emphasis is placed upon the contribution that the individual has made to different areas of House life. I was delighted to present the Sports Award to Olivia Edwards, the Drama Award to Patricia Blessing and the Music Award to Nicole Leung. Academic awards for the Best Effort Grades (senior) went to Gerry Georgieva, Best Effort Grades (junior) went to Charlie Hodgson and the Academic Commendations award went to Lily Wigglesworth. The Improvement Shield (senior) was awarded to Nelly Limbu and the Improvement Shield (junior) was awarded to Eve Sewell. The Senior Cup for Overall Contribution to House Life was awarded to Mary Kuvaeva. The Langdale Cup for Fifth Form contribution to House life was awarded to Ioana Voicu. The Wallis Bowl for Upper Sixth effort and contribution to the House community went to Jenna Kam. The Musgrove Award for the most helpful was presented to Tina Cai and the Fazel Cup for an Upper Sixth who has achieved highly academically and contributed fully to House life was awarded to Zarea Kamil.

Mary Windsor Leavers

BLESSING, P., Mary Windsor, 2016. School Monitor, House Monitor, Drama Minor Colours, School Productions: The Pierglass and Grease.

CAI, T.C., Mary Windsor, 2016. House Monitor, Deputy Head of House, DofE.

DOMUSCHIEVA, R.D., Mary Windsor, 2017. House Monitor, 1st Athletics.

KAM, Y.H., Mary Windsor, 2018. Bernard Hall-Mancey Cup (Most Improved All-Round Musician of the Year), Maths Olympiad for Girls (2018 participation and 2019 Distinction), Senior Maths Challenge (2018 and 2019 Gold), Senior Kangaroo (2018 and 2019), Economist of the half-term, Chapel Choir, Competition Choir, Cultures Connect.

KAMIL, N.Z.N., Mary Windsor, 2018.

KUVAEVA, M., Mary Windsor, 2013. Head of House, 1st Athletics, IAPS Nationals Finals (Year 8), ESAA National Finals (Year 9 and Year 10), School record for 300m (Year 8), Athletics Competitions (Year 7 - Year 13), 1st Cross-Country:, ESAA Cross-Country, Cross-Country Competitions (Year 7 - Year 13) 1st Hockey (Year 9 - Year 11), 2nd Hockey (Year 11 - Year 13), Victrix Ludorum Prize at Sports Day (Year 10), Winner of the Annual House Debating Competition 2019 (Year 12), English National Debating Championship 2020 - qualified for the English Debating National Finals, which should have taken place in Oxford University, but the event was cancelled in light of growing concerns over COVID-19, Mary Windsor Sports Prize (2019), Debating (Year 12 - Year 13), MUN (Year 12), Cultures Connect - Dancing (2018, 2019 and 2020).

I am very grateful to the whole tutor team for their support of the girls and hard work this year in the House and in particular to our Housemother, Miss Fletcher 'Fletch', who retired at the end of the academic year after an astounding thirty-three years in the role. Generations of Mary Windsor girls and staff will remember Fletch's wonderfully kind and caring approach. We were disappointed to be unable to pay proper tribute to her at the end of term, but look forward to being able to do so as soon as circumstances allow.

LLOYD, B.L., Mary Windsor, 2015. House Monitor, Deputy Head of House, 1st Athletics, 2nd Hockey, 4th place at the England Championships (300m).

LYU, Y., Mary Windsor, 2016. 1st Badminton, Bronze DofE, Silver DofE, Gold DofE, Maths Olympiad (Silver), Biology Olympiad (Silver), House Competitions, GCSE Honorary Scholarship, CCF.

SCHULZE-HAGEN, C.S.H., Mary Windsor, 2017. House Monitor

TANG, S.X., Mary Windsor, 2018.

WANG, S., Mary Windsor, 2012.

WU, H., Mary Windsor, 2016. 1st Badminton, Maths Challenge (Gold x 2, Silver x 1), Finalist in the Geography Essay Competition, Bronze DofE, Silver DofE, Gold DofE, Harvest Festival (Chapel reading), House Music, House Sport: Badminton, Swimming, Cross-Country, Lower Sixth Guide, Model United Nations.

Leading Mary Windsor this year has been a privilege and a joy, and I look forward to reconnecting with the girls as we return to a new kind of normal next academic year.

T Helmore



Oakley

Franklin Roosevelt said that a smooth sea never made a great sailor, and this year has certainly tested our navigational skills. Beyond the usual flotsam and jetsam of coursework deadlines, examination pressure, fixtures, activities and general hubbub of School life, we have had the unexpected arrival of an iceberg that could have stopped us in our tracks.

As I write this in the final week of the Summer Term, I am pleased to report that Oakley House has not gone down; we may have divided into two Houses but the Oakley family has remained in touch throughout this time, and I am confident that we will continue to weather the storm.

To go back to the start of the year, it was definitely business as usual. Miss Hanson joined Oakley House in September and took the reins for the day girls. We never really separated our duties; Miss Hanson brought a wealth of experience from Housman Hall and Hazeldene, and got stuck in from the outset. Together, we did our best to encourage, cajole and support the Oakley girls throughout the year.

Our superlative and loyal Head of House, Pippa Nisbet, led the Monitor team with good humour and drive. Supported by Deputies, Rodena Bernthal and Eleanor Johnson, this was a Monitor team with ambition. Special mention should go to Orla Walker who contributed tirelessly to our fundraising endeavours for the House charity, Fisher House. Although this has been cut short, Orla has continued to work behind the scenes to make sure this NHS charity does not lose out as we continue into next academic year.



The Oakley House Parents' Association continued to support all of our efforts across both day and boarding. A successful quiz night in October raised an excellent amount of money and traditions such as the Santa hunt and Easter egg hunt went ahead as usual. Our annual Christmas party at Grafton Manor was a glittering affair to mark the final time the day girls and boarders would join us at such an event. I would like to thank the Oakley PA for their unwavering support and I will miss working with them next year when they move to Ottilie Hild.

Cinema trips, House Song, the infamous Hallowe'en party and hundreds of roll calls and sign-ins later, we arrived at March unprepared for what was about to happen.

Nobody saw it coming. What an extraordinary three months this has been for everyone. But I don't want that to overshadow the wonderful two terms that preceded the pandemic. The choppy waters of 2020 will have made each and every one of our Oakley community more resilient and more able to deal with challenges in the future. It will be something to tell the grandchildren. It might have taken a global pandemic to put things into perspective but, as things gradually turn back to normal, the important principles of Oakley House remain the same, unchanged and a source of strength for us all. Opportunity, Acceptance, Kindness, Loyalty, Enthusiasm and being Yourself.

I would like to thank departing staff Miss Bayliss, Miss Linehan and Ms Pedraza for everything they have done for the Oakley girls this year. I hope that those moving on to new places will navigate their course with ease and good health. We have quite the crew in Oakley, with the rudders of Mrs Pugh and Mrs Astill who underpin everything. As well as our loyal tutor team, I would like to thank my maritime co-pilot Miss Hanson for inspiring and motivating us every day. As Houseparent of Oakley in September, I cannot wait to raise the sail on the new Oakley Boarding House and take all we have learned in recent months and put it into making Oakley a flagship of Bromsgrove School.

V Adams

Oakley Leavers

BERNTAL, R.B., Oakley, 2013. House Monitor, Deputy Head of House, 1st Athletics (Team Manager), 2nd Hockey, Herefordshire and Worcestershire Athletics County Championships, Athletics Minor Colours, House Sports Monitor, Chapel Choir, Evensong: Coventry Cathedral, Orchestra, CCF (Corporal), Bronze DofE.

BOOTH, K., Oakley, 2015. School Monitor, House Monitor, Athletics, CCF, Orchestra, String Ensemble, Biofuel Project, MUN, Academic Scholarship, Honorary Scholarship.

DAVIS, F.R., Oakley, 2012. 1st Hockey, DofE.

FLETCHER, P.M., Oakley, 2014. Head of School, School Monitor, House Monitor, U14B Hockey, U15A Hockey, U16A Hockey, 2nd Hockey, U14B Netball, U15A Netball, 3rd Netball 1st Tennis (captain), Girls' Tennis Tournament Winner 2019, Junior Staff Reading Prize, Best Actor, Runner up Best Actor, Fifth Form Award for Endeavour, Oakley Best Play in House Drama, Fourth Form Sports Certificates for Effort, Fourth Form Tennis (captain), LitSoc, Tennis coaching for four years with Mr Lawton, School Productions: Charlotte Bratton in The Pierglass, Sandy in Grease, Bidy in Great Expectations, Fourth Form Drama Productions, Director of House Drama, Chapel Choir, Bronze DofE, Silver DofE, Gold DofE, CCF, Pop and Jazz, House Music, House Drama, Tennis Lessons, Public Speaking (Open Days), Art Scholarship, Academic Scholarship for GCSE results

HARPER, F.H., Oakley, 2004. Pre-Prep Survivor, Prep School Survivor, 1st Netball - National Champions, 2nd Hockey, Bronze DofE, Silver DofE.

JOHNSON, E.F., Oakley, 2013. Deputy Head of House, Gold Starpack Award for Design Technology, Senior Drama Colour, Junior Drama Colour, senior and junior music colour, BCOY commander in CCF Senior productions : set design for Hairspray, Martha in Pier Glass, Mrs Lynch in Grease, Miss Havisham in Great Expectations, Chapel Choir, Chamber Choir, singing at Coventry Cathedral, CCF (BCOY Contingent Commander).

KITCHEN, E.E.J., Oakley, 2006. Pre-Prep Survivor, Wind Band, Orchestra, Choir, Bronze DofE, Gardening activity, Young Archivists activity.

KOSE, M., Oakley, 2015. House Monitor, Model United Nations, Debating, Winner of the WWI Research Competition, Law Society, Literary Society, World Challenge 2019 (Zambia).

LAM, J.C.C., Oakley, 2017. CCF, Language Leader, MUN.

MA, M.S.Y., Oakley, 2016.

MAYNARD, L.T., Oakley, 2018. 1st Netball, U19 Independent Schools' National Cup Champions (2019 and 2020), National School Bronze Medalists (2019 and 2020), Sisters n Sport Champion (2019), 1st Athletics.

MIDDLETON, N., Oakley, 2005. Pre-Prep Survivor, House Monitor, 1st Athletics, Gold DofE, Art Scholarship.

MOK, M.K.Y., Oakley, 2015. House Monitor, 1st Badminton.

NISBET, P.G., Oakley, 2009. Prep School Survivor, Head of House, 1st Athletics, 3rd Netball, Literary Society (LitSoc).

POVER, H., Oakley, 2011. 1st Netball - ISNC National Winners 2016/17 and 2019/20, Sisters n Sport Cup National Winners 2016/17, Honorary Academic Scholarship.

RANGER, C.M., Oakley, 2011. House Monitor, 1st Netball, Independent School Netball Cup Champions (2017, 2019 and 2020), Sisters n Sport Champions (2017 and 2019), Bronze medals at National Schools (2019 and 2020), Gold DofE, Grade 7 Saxophone, 2nd Hockey, 2nd Tennis, Honorary Academic Scholarship.

SHEN, J.W., Oakley, 2018. Bromsgrove Service - Music Group.

SONG, R.S., Oakley, 2018. MUN, Gold DofE, Beekeeping Society.

WALKER, O.E., Oakley, 2011. House Monitor, 1st Cross-Country (captain), 1st Athletics, 1st Swimming, 2nd Hockey, Gold DofE, CCF (CSM - A Coy), Mason Trophy (Gold for the 1500 Steeple Chase), ESAA Track & Field Cup National Finalist, ESAA National Cross-Country Finalist, National Schools' Triathlon Finalist, School Endeavour Award, Oakley House Spirit Award, 1.2 Relays (Gold), Inter-House Cross-Country (Gold), King Henry VIII Relays (Bronze), Attingham Park Relays (Silver), Home International Cross-Country, Upper Fourth School Textiles Award, Athletics Colours, Cross-Country Colours.

WU, J.H., Oakley, 2014. Honorary Academic Scholarship, CCF, Bronze DofE, Silver DofE, Gold DofE, Senior Maths Challenge(Gold), World Challenge, Economics Society, Biofuel Project, MUN.

ZHANG, N.X., Oakley, 2018.



School House

After a turbulent twelve months, it is lovely to look back on the year that we have had in School House. Sadly, such staples such as the bubble football and pizza evening, the Sixth Form farewell at The Queens Head, and my chance to embarrass the leavers at the fish and chip supper, have been omitted this year, but plenty of memories have still been made. As I am limited to space it feels fitting to focus on our leavers, whose Bromsgrove careers range from two years of Sixth Form to thirteen years including the Pre-Prep.



From the off, the Upper Sixth have led through example, with Tom Chapman's musical flair and the Monitors' passion to succeed, School House have held their own, especially opening the House Song competition back in October. The rehearsals were focused and productive - every member of the House knew Tom's direction and got on board, even the most unlikely of movers, Ethan McLean and Alex Berrow, committed wholeheartedly to the dance moves that they, and their peers, showcased to the entire Senior School.

This year, the boys have contributed fantastically to services across the School, from Bromsgrove Service to Duke of Edinburgh and the Combined Cadet Force, the boys clearly revel in those extra aspects of School life. Upper Sixth members, Haydn Stanney and Michael Jiang, have been crucial members of the CCF, running sessions and encouraging the younger cadets to be their best. They have certainly led with discipline and passion.

On the sporting side, we have been blessed with an immense amount of talent in the Upper Sixth: Daniel Meredith was incredible on the football field, and unfortunate that after such dedicated training, was unable to showcase his talents on the cricket field. In football, Daniel was joined by the dogged Charlie Palmer, whose work rate and determination in any sport is hard to match.

Ethan Cockayne, Shams Ali Baig and Euan Vaughan-Hawkins have made up a considerable slice of the first eleven in hockey this year; balancing this commitment with aspirations of studying engineering, medicine and chemistry is no mean feat. Euan has also led the swimming team, and Michael Jiang the cross-country squad; with these two, and our Head of House, Jacob Redden, as a solid member of the first fifteen, School House has not been short of leaders this year.

Two members of the Upper Sixth who have made an impressive impact in their short time with the House are George Rawlings and Jagveer Uppal. In one short year, George has brought enthusiasm and pride in abundance, always willing to don a House shirt; he is entirely dependable. Jagveer has brought sophistication and dedication to the House - his work-ethic is second to none, and my memory of his performance at last year's Staff Reading is as clear as ever.

On the academic front, the boys continue to impress; and with our Upper Sixth leavers once again destined for prestigious universities, there are some members of the younger years that have continually impressed through grades. To mention just a few; Hugh Abraham and Zef Ruben have set quite a benchmark in their respective IB and A level courses, and George Vaughan has continued to excel in the Fifth Form. The Fourth Form has an incredible group of academics with Jake Wingfield and Alex Ranger setting a high bar in the Upper Fourth, and Joe Boardman, Nick Hunt and George Hasting hot on their heels in the year below. This is just a snapshot of the boys that have impressed in the classroom, but each and every one has received commendations and praise throughout the academic year.

One House event that stands out in my mind is our Fourth Form production of *Twelfth Night*. Directed by Hugh Abrahams and with a cast of Nick Hunt, Jake Wingfield, George Hastings and Tom Nicholson, the performance was incredible. All four boys had such presence on stage, and their perfect execution kept the audience thoroughly entertained throughout.

School House Leavers

ALI BAIG, S., School, 2011. School Monitor, House Monitor, Deputy Head of House, 1st Hockey - Quarter Finals of the National Cup, 1st Badminton (captain) - Regional Finals, Bronze DofE, Silver DofE, Gold DofE, Head of Medics Society, Honorary Academic Scholarship, Sign Language activity, Maths Challenge, Biology Olympiad, West Midlands Chemistry Competition, Silver Crest Award.

BERROW, A.B., School, 2009. Prep School Survivor, House Monitor, DofE.

CHAPMAN, T.O., School, 2010. School Monitor, House Monitor, 2nd Hockey, 3rd Football, Music Major and Minor Colours, Grade 8 Piano, Grade 8 Saxophone, House Song Conductor, House Music Leader, School Productions: Grease and Othello, Bronze DofE, Silver DofE, Music Scholarship, Academic Exhibition.

COCKAYNE, E.J., School, 2006. Pre-Prep Survivor, Prep School Survivor, 1st Hockey, 1st Badminton (Lower Sixth), 1st Rugby (Upper Fourth), Bronze DofE, Silver DofE, Gold DofE, Headmaster's Commendation, House Awards for Hockey, Rugby, Cricket, Sports Day, Bakery and Cross-Country, CCF (Army), Bromsgrove Service, Choir, Fencing.

JIANG, M., School, 2015. House Monitor, 1st Cross-Country (captain), 1st Athletics, B Hockey, C Rugby, CCF, Gold DofE, Board Games activity, Coding activity, Junior Maths Challenge, Senior Maths Challenge.

MCLEAN, E.M., School, 2009. Prep School Survivor, School Production: Technical Crew for The Pierglass, Grease and Great Expectations, Drama Half Colours, Cross-Country.

MEREDITH, D.E., School, 2014. Cricket Scholarship, National Cricket Champions 2019, 1st Cricket, 1st Football, U15 Rugby, U16A Rugby.

PALMER, C.F., School, 2013. 2nd XI Football, 1st Swimming, 1st Athletics, Swimming Minor Colours, Football Major Colours.

RAWLINGS, G.B.R., School, 2018. House Monitor, 2nd Football, 1st Golf (captain), Golf National Finals, Drum Teacher for Prep School Students with Arabic Drumming.

REDDEN, J.J., School, 2015. Head of House, 1st Rugby, Rosslyn Park National 7s Winners, U16 North Midlands Cup Winners, 1st Swimming, 1st Athletics, CCF, Bronze DofE, Rugby Scholarship.

STANNEY, H.J.S., School, 2013. Social Awareness (Year 8), Academic Scholarship (Year 8 and Year 11), CCF (Flt Sgt).

UPPAL, J., School, 2019. Staff Reading Prize, Debating.

VAUGHAN-HAWKINS, E.V.H., School, 2004. Pre-Prep Survivor, Prep School Survivor, House Monitor, Deputy Head of House, 1st Swimming (captain 2019 and 2020), 2nd place in National Swimming Finals, Finalist in the Bath and Otter National Swimming Cup, 1st Hockey, 2nd Cricket, Geography Award, Biology Olympiad Award, Chemistry Olympiad Award DofE Bronze, DofE Silver, DofE Gold.

The Lower Fourths settled into School House amazingly and have seized every opportunity going this year. Our squads for House events have been bursting at the seams, with every boy wanting to get involved. We have an abundance of competitions throughout the year, but I cannot help reflect on one in particular. The fifth/sixth place play off in junior House football ended on penalties, and the jubilation from not only the Fourth Form, but all those who came to watch, when Ben Collett saved the final penalty was incredible - such phenomenal House spirit gives me a moment I will cherish for years to come.

The end to this year has not been what anyone would have planned, however, with so much achieved, and so much potential next year, this stunted end to the year will, I am sure, leave the boys even hungrier next year. It is now time for the Lower Sixth to take the lead, the Fifth Form to don their suits, the Upper Fourth to be fully focused on GCSEs and for the Lower Fourth to welcome their younger Fourth Formers to the house.

We are excited to move forward in School House, but rest assured Upper Sixth, not only will you have your Commemoration someday, but the House will say farewell properly too.

T Clinton



Thomas Cookes

Thomas Cookes House has been dominant around School this year, involving itself in everything from supporting care home residents to being part of the winning 1st VII netball team. It is this community spirit that allows Thomas Cookes to flourish, to compete and, quite often, to win.

We have been involved in many charity events, beginning with the cake sale that raised just over £200 for Macmillan Cancer. Many of the girls contributed to the shoe box appeal and others have worked voluntarily on one of the programmes that the School runs throughout the wider community. Some of the girls in the House have also been considering those less fortunate and have collected produce for food banks.

House Song was a real demonstration of our TC spirit. Everyone sang beautifully and worked extremely hard. I would like to thank the Upper Sixth, in particular Emma Dolan for all her hard work. I would also like to thank Sophia Meadows who played beautifully during the competition. House music saw some of the younger artists hit the stage. Jessica Whitlock and Emily Miskin sang a fun duet accompanied by Ruby Raine, Sophia Meadows and Charlotte James. Jessica Whitlock and Anna Connell also acted in the play, *Great Expectations*, which was very moving and poignant.

Senior and junior House drama once again showed the spirit of the House, with many girls getting involved. The juniors were Amelia Rowe, Charlotte Brown, Eliza Eddington, Sophia Meadows, Anya Sanikop, Jessica Whitlock and Serisha Sunner. Paris Siviter organised and performed with the others an extract from *The Sound of Music*. The seniors performed *Little Women*; it was lovely to see Shona Mills, Lucia Goodwin, Cally Buxton and Emily Clark all up on stage. Finally, Lucia Goodwin, Emily Clark, Elizabeth Aston and Emma Smith competed in the School's Research Competition and secured first place.

As ever, TC girls have enjoyed their sport throughout the School. Kate Morrice has come back from injury (with a vengeance) and has represented the 1st VII throughout the year. She was instrumental as one of the shooters in the National Cup Final. I am very fortunate to have some fantastic swimmers in the House. This year was no exception as we won both the junior and the senior events in the pool. Paulina Geus, Charlotte James and Bromley Arnold were influential in these wins as they organised the teams.



Thomas Cookes Leavers

BURKE, K.P., Thomas Cookes, 2004. Pre-Prep Survivor, Prep School Survivor, School Monitor, Head of House, U14A Netball, U15A Netball, U16A Netball, 2nd Netball (captain in the Upper Sixth), U14B Hockey, U15B Hockey, U16B Hockey, winners of two U15A Netball National Championships, GCSE Classics Prize, CCF, Bronze DofE, Silver DofE, Gold DofE.

BUTTS, R.B., Thomas Cookes, 2018. House Monitor, 1st Netball, Honorary Academic Scholarship, Netball National Final.

DOLAN, E.C., Thomas Cookes, 2013.

DOOHAN-SMITH, G.R., Thomas Cookes, 2006. Pre-Prep Survivor, Prep School Survivor, House Monitor. Academic Scholarship, Gold DofE.

GEUS, P.S., Thomas Cookes, 2014. House Monitor, Netball, Hockey, Athletics, 1st swimming (captain), London Olympic Pool - Swimming Cup Competition (every year since Year 9), CCF trips (shooting and non-shooting), extra-curricular Air-Rifle Shooting, Commended for Best Leadership with the CCF, RSM of the CCF (Head of the CCF cadets).

HUGHES, A.C., Thomas Cookes, 2011. Deputy Head of House, 1st Hockey, Orchestra, CCF, Gold DofE.

LEN, J., Thomas Cookes, 2018. House Monitor, 1st Athletics, 2nd Netball, 3rd Netball.

MADZINGO, R., Thomas Cookes, 2011. House Monitor, 2nd Hockey, Bronze DofE.

MORRICE, K.H., Thomas Cookes, 2011.

PARRIS, F.C., Thomas Cookes, 2014. Athletics, Netball, Hockey, Bronze DofE, Silver DofE, Gold DofE, Art Scholarship, CCF, School Production: costume construction for *Great Expectations*.

We have also won junior House table tennis with Jenny Fallows and Ruby Raine seeing off close competition. Senior House squash was also keenly contested; yet again we had a win with Lucy McLoughlin and Isabella Walters both overcoming difficult opponents.

I think the win of the year has to go to the senior House hockey team. We had a fantastic team of Annie Crowder, Abigail Hughes, Beth Lawson, Gabby Walker, Eleanor Hughes, Olivia Watts, Ava Freer and Ruvarashe Madzingo. The other Houses possessed more experienced 1st XI players, with one House even containing a GB player, but the TC girls held their own. There was such tension whilst watching the matches. All the teams had elements of brilliance but we battled hard and there were some amazing saves by Ruvarashe. We hit the cross bar a number of times and as many Houses suffered from a lack of a goalie, we were able to score more easily. All the players are to be congratulated. The team was well led and organised by Abigail Hughes.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the tutors for their hard work and professionalism. They ensure the girls achieve high standards and always provide a listening ear. I would also like to thank Lorriane for her continued support.

In the last few months, I have missed the hustle and bustle of Thomas Cookes. Hopefully we will be back together and enjoying one another's company soon.

K Hannah



Walters

It has been a very strange end to what has been an enjoyable five years for me in Walters House. From the distant memories of the darkening days of September to lockdown in March, the boys of Walters have continued to thrive.

With *I'm a believer* in Unison House Song, "an odd couple" on the stage for House drama and numerous sporting triumphs on the field, the boys have left nothing in the tank and have continued to celebrate and console as one - a community of Waltonians. The year has been summarised by the outgoing Head of House below.

Walters has much to be proud of over the last year. Despite the disruption of COVID-19, there are many highlights to look back on, and it has been a privilege to lead Walters through all of this. The House spirit and Walters community continues to grow, and I have no doubt that, after my departure at the end of this academic year, this will not change.

One of the first highlights of this year was Walters' performance in the annual House Song competition. Walters rose to the challenge with a rendition of *I'm A Believer* by Smash Mouth, ably conducted by James Beattie, who took on the role of Fiona, from the movie *Shrek*, whilst he conducted the boys. It was great to see the whole House pull together to make the performance memorable, and who could forget Bob and Ewan's entertaining dancing during the instrumental section.

On a sporting front, our junior teams have outperformed themselves with both the A and B team claiming victory in House football and rugby, winning with pride and humility. The senior teams have fought well against tough opponents, especially in House rugby, despite losing to Elmhurst who went on to win the tournament. The spirit of Walters is not just shown in our victories, however. It is shown by the willingness of the boys to try their hardest even when they did not believe they could compete. There was no better example of this than Olly Stone (Lower Sixth) who participated in House table tennis, coming third against international expertise. With this said, Walters' success spans far greater than just the sports field, in competitions such as House debating, where both the junior and seniors teams put on an impressive display, showing their courage to speak so coherently in front of a large number of their peers. Walters also performed well in the House music competition with James Beattie (Upper Sixth) and Charlie Cooper (Upper Fourth) showing off their singing talents, accompanied by Jude Wynter (Upper Sixth) on the Piano and Hamish Cross (Fifth Form) on guitar, to create their incredible performance of *Borderline* by Chris De Burgh. The House drama competition saw yet more success for Walters, with the junior performance directed by James Beattie receiving a special recognition award for the talents displayed on stage.

Walters Parents' Association have continued to work hard to support the House and we are very grateful – we especially enjoyed the new toasters at morning break. A definite highlight was the Walters Ball at Grafton Manor, and as tradition dictates, this was attended by the Sixth Form and many parents. It proved to be a resounding success.

But we must not forget that despite the contribution from the boys, House life would not run as smoothly without the tutors working alongside to support them in anything they need. I must also thank our Housemother, Lesley, who is always there to support the boys and deal with any problems that may arise. She is always around if you need someone to turn to, and it is safe to say that the House would crumble without her support.

Lastly, we come to our Housemaster, Mr Bell. I do not know a Houseparent who is more passionate than him. He can always be found on the side-lines of House competitions to support the boys one hundred percent. His loyalty to the boys is unrivalled and this has earned him the respect of the boys of Walters House. His support of the boys, myself and the rest of the Monitor team is commendable, and I have no doubt that this has greatly contributed to the spirit of Walters and the determination that drives us across all aspects of School life.

The last five years in Walters is an experience I will never forget, and I am glad to have been a part of it and being given the opportunity to lead this incredible community. As I leave Walters one last time, I wish the remaining boys of the House the best of luck in all of their future endeavours and hope they enjoy their time in Walters as much as I have.

Billy Dunlop
Walters' Head of House 2019-2020

Walters Leavers

ASTON, E.P., Walters, 2004. Pre-Prep Survivor, Prep School Survivor, Deputy Head of House, 1st Basketball.

BAHRA, A.S., Walters, 2013. 3rd Rugby, Highest Grade (GCSE DT R.M.), Bronze DofE, Gold DofE, DT Community Project.

BEATTIE, J., Walters, 2011. Junior Music Colour, House Endeavour, Best Actor 2020, Runner up of Junior House Drama 2019, Special Award for Junior House Drama 2020, Academic Drama Award 2015, Chamber Choir, Chapel Choir, Special Choir, School Productions: Great Expectations, Grease, The Pierglass, The Musicians and Still Remembered Voices.

DUNLOP, W.V., Walters, 2011.

NEWBON, J.N., Walters, 2004. Pre-Prep Survivor, Prep School Survivor, 1st Golf, 2nd Hockey, Eco Representative, 1st Rugby (Prep School), Bronze DofE, Silver DofE, Sports Leaders.

PEPLOW, J.P., Walters, 2015. 1st Football, 3rd Rugby, 3rd Cricket, Design Technology Community Project, Gold DofE, Silver DofE, Bronze DofE.

REYNOLDS, T.J.D., Walters, 2002. Pre-Prep Survivor, Prep School Survivor, School Monitor, House Monitor, 1st XV Rugby, 1st XI Hockey, Academic Scholarship, Bronze DofE, Silver DofE, Gold DofE, Sports Leader.

STOKES, J.A., Walters, 2015. 1st Hockey, 3rd Cricket, Gold DofE.

VALLEY, K.R.S., Walters, 2015. District Athletics Champion (Shot and Discus - Upper Fourth), Basketball Team District Champions (Upper Fourth), Bromsgrove Badge, Bronze DofE, Herefordshire & Worcestershire County Schools' Athletics Championship (Discus Gold medal, Shot Silver medal - Fifth Form), Masons Trophy – Inter-Regional Athletics Championship (4th place - Fifth Form), Routh Grand Opening (Orchestra), Herefordshire & Worcestershire County Schools' Athletics Championship (Discus Silver medal, Shot Gold medal - Lower Sixth), Athletics Cap (Upper Sixth)

WYNTER, J.T., Walters, 2013. House Monitor, LTCL and ATCL Piano Diplomas, House Music (solo winner x 2), Biology Olympiad (Gold), Chemistry Challenge (Silver), Maths Challenge (Silver), Concerto Movement in Routh, Orchestra, Big Band, Brass Group, Concert Band, Music Scholarship, Academic Scholarship.

It has been a busy year and one that has seen Walters House emerge as a diverse and successful House. The rise of drama and debating has mirrored the successes on the sporting field and this pleases me greatly. The real success of any House system is the breadth of the events that it can participate in, and Walters has risen to the challenge. I echo the praise that Billy gives to the tutor team and Lesley. Without the continued help and guidance of these few individuals, I do think that Walters House would be in a worse place. It is for this reason that I am saddened to be losing Ms Aldridge and Ms McWilliams this year. They have both been exceptional in their support of the boys, in tutor sessions and on duty, and I wish them every success next year.

Lastly, the boy that has been the "man in the middle" for me – Billy Dunlop has been brilliant, from his support of the younger members to the control of the lively seniors in his peer group. A born leader, more through encouragement than participation, he has never let the side down. I have watched him grow from a small pupil that could hardly see over the pool table to a young man with an exciting political and legal career ahead of him. I thank him for all his efforts and reassure him that he has captained the ship with honour. It has been another pleasurable year in Walters and I continue to be the humbled by the community that the boys have built. Another year passes and my pride in my boys continues to grow. You are a special lot, you Waltonians, and I thank you.

H Bell





Webber

What an extraordinary year it has been!

The Summer Term will of course be forever synonymous with the global pandemic and the huge impact it has had on every aspect of our students' lives. I have nothing but admiration for their resilience and fortitude in the face of uncertainty - they should be justifiably proud. But, unique as the Summer Term was, it should in no way define their first year at Bromsgrove, or indeed detract from what has been a magnificent year for Webber House.



After all, 2019/20 was never going to be anything else but extraordinary for the Webber students as they embarked on their Bromsgrove journey for the very first time. Most of them new to boarding, all of them new to the British boarding school experience.

In September, we were a brand new House - a completely blank canvas! It didn't stay that way for long. Webber quickly flourished into a vibrant and dynamic community, where talent, energy and enthusiasm has no bounds. Friendships swiftly formed and an ethos of warmth and inclusion came to the fore. An incredible House spirit has been cultivated, setting the tone for many years to come. We are a family.

A new House goes hand in hand with many 'firsts'. We made our debut in the time-honoured traditions of Unison House Song, House Music and House Drama. For such a small House, we really have proven to be a 'force majeure', creating magical memories along the way. Few will forget our fabulous rendition of *The Circle of Life* with Ben Sugarman's show stopping opening solo, Colin Tjhioe on the keyboard and Barbora Rudgalvyte ensuring the entire House sang as one voice. The Headmaster sent us a handwritten note, warmly congratulating us on a brilliant performance, and our efforts remain a talking point to this day.

We triumphed in House music, coming away with two coveted awards. Joe Ying was runner-up in the intermediate category and Cesar Lam Dai was highly commended in the advanced category. Two magnificent performances and a huge achievement given the high standard and number of entries. Kiki Ngernanek, Evelyn Lau, Joe Ying, Ben Sugarman, Colin Tjhioe and Cesar Lam Dai's powerful version of *Just Give Me a Reason* was a real treat and gave me many reasons (not just one!) to be proud.

In House drama, we were the only House to present an original piece, written, directed and acted by the students themselves: Leena Alahmad, Ben Sugarman, Tiwa Shonekan, Pete Kamonchan, Kiki Ngernanek, Joe Ying, Olivia Cheng, Farid Mir, Maria Ocampo Villegas, Jolin Tjhioe and Evelyn Lau. *Handsome and Gracious* was a beautifully executed and thoroughly modern take on a much loved fairy tale. It was a labour of love and a joy to watch.

What we lacked in experience in House Sport, we more than made up for in sheer enthusiasm. The Webber students really stepped up to the challenge - often leaping at the chance to try something new and represent the House at the same time. They put their hand to everything: swimming, table tennis, squash, hockey, football, badminton, cross-country. The girls came third in swimming and were runners up in badminton; the boys held their own in football. Well done to everyone - *'It's not the winning, but the taking part that counts.'*

Intellectually we held our own too. *'This House Would Be Vegan'* was a challenging topic for our first Inter-House debate, but Daria and Evelyn presented a well-researched and passionate speech supporting the motion. In the prestigious 2020 Research Competition, Maria Ocampo Villegas, Jolin Tjhioe, Evelyn Lau and Joe Ying were eloquent in convincing us that we are living in the *Age of Intolerance*, whilst Barış Çavuşoğlu put up an equally persuasive argument for his belief in the *Age of Chaos*.

There are so many other highlights to the year - pumpkin carving, the Christmas party, Mrs Boonnak's fantastic Chinese New Year celebration, Evelyn Lau's masterclass with renowned pianist Isata Kanneh-Mason, Cultures Connect. The list is endless.

Every student, without exception, has played a part in the success of the House this year. Their contributions have been recognised and rewarded with a grand total of 291 Commendations. Congratulations to Evelyn Lau, Maria Ocampo Villegas and Ben Sugarman with twenty-five, twenty and eighteen commendations respectively - an exceptional achievement.

I would like to pass on my thanks and appreciation to our Heads of House, Maria Ocampo Villegas and Ben Sugarman, and our Deputy Heads of House, Olivia Cheng and Farid Mir. They have done a tremendous job as internal and external ambassadors for Webber, helping with the smooth running of the House and providing a voice for their fellow students. They will be a hard act to follow. Many congratulations to Ben and Farid who have been selected as School Monitors for the next academic year, and who thoroughly deserve the honour of such a position.

I am so lucky to work with such a fabulous and supportive team - their unfailing enthusiasm, passion and dedication is second to none. My heartfelt thanks to our Housemother, Mrs Deverill-Skelding, to our academic tutors, Mr Hinde, Mrs Hinde and Mrs Boonnak, and to our duty tutors, Miss Brown, Mr Duffy and Mr Albutt. We say a fond farewell and pass on our congratulations and best wishes to Mr Duffy and to Mr Albutt, both of whom are taking up new roles next year. They will be sorely missed.

It just remains for me to say what a privilege it is to be Houseparent of Webber. I have been truly overwhelmed by how far we've come this year. Our previously blank canvas has been enriched, embellished and enhanced by every member of the Webber family - student and staff alike.

J Courtney





Wendron-Gordon

The 2019/20 year will be remembered in Bromsgrove's history as the year of the lockdown – and it clearly has had a huge effect on activities within Wendron-Gordon House; the building itself was largely an empty space during the Summer Term.



The pandemic meant that a full term of 'normal' boarding life was virtually wiped out – although it was 'virtually' that House life which kept us ticking over; weekly online House assemblies and tutor time, as well as lunchtime catch-up sessions, allowed the boys and staff to keep in regular contact. We very much look forward to being back together again in person in the new academic year.

The first two terms were, as always, packed full. A thoroughly enjoyable Unison House Song competition was yet again one of the highlights of the year. Superbly marshalled by Jonathan Burke, and accompanied by Owen Price, the boys practised with great camaraderie towards what was a superb final rendition of Abba's Mamma Mia. Jonathan's leadership in managing practices for the boys, as well as the excellent overall performance, was recognised by the adjudicator, who awarded the Conductor's Prize to Jon. Our musicians followed this up with another win in the senior ensemble competition, where W-G's spirited version of the Bruno Mars hit Runaway Baby saw the boys claim the trophy for the second year in a row.

House drama also saw continued success. In the junior competition, the W-G cast also came up trumps for the second year running. The boys tried an ambitious piece with a scene from Franz Kafka's The Trial, and in a night of some absolutely superb performances, gained the coveted prize of Best Play. The adjudicator praised their slick ensemble work and sheer ambition of the project.

In senior drama, the W-G ensemble also put together a fantastically stylish and captivating performance from Nineteen Eighty-Four that was richly deserving of its awards, with Oleksii Moskalevskyi, a superb servant to Bromsgrove drama, fittingly winning Best Director in his own final act in Cobham. Notable sporting victories for the boys in green over the year were in the senior and junior cross-country and junior badminton competitions, with valiant efforts also seeing the senior boys get to the finals of House football and rugby.

Whilst many of our traditional House events could not happen due to COVID-19, the standout celebration of the year was definitely our Christmas party, which saw the boys in festive mood at the Holiday Inn Bromsgrove. Some classic buffet food, soft drinks, a few alternative House awards delivered by our Upper Sixth formers, Christmas jumpers and plenty of dancing, meant that a great night was had by all. Well done to Mrs W for organising such an enjoyable event.

Whilst Zoom meetings were a novel way to announce prize winners, it was hugely pleasing to see some very well deserved awards on the final day of the year. Stanley Cheng gained two prestigious subject prizes – the Wattell Prizes for Maths and Physics, with Jay Lyu winning the Alison Bramley Memorial Prize for Mathematics. Our end of term assembly bade a fond farewell to our leavers – and although they missed out on the usual summer celebrations, we look forward to welcoming them to next year's Commem, when a special event will be put on for them. This year's winner of the Batchelor Cup – the award for best contribution to the House – went to James Bradley.

Our Upper Sixth will be sorely missed. Boasting three School Monitors and a host of genuine leaders, they have represented and guided the young men of W-G brilliantly over the year. Jack Gibson has been a superb Head of House - his successor next year will have big shoes to fill. We wish the very best of luck to next year's House Monitor team of Andy Chia, Theo Gariazzo, Michael Malam, Max Opegeym, Jamie Rodway, Ed Rosbrook, and Dan Wan. Congratulations also to Ed, who has been appointed as a School Monitor for next year; we know he will represent W-G proudly in this role.

Mr Baldrey, Assistant Houseparent, departed the House at the end of the Michaelmas Term, 'moving next door' to tutor in School House; we thank him for five and a half years of service to the W-G boys. He was replaced as AHP by Mr T Holdsworth, who has made a good start in his new role.

Wendron-Gordon Leavers

AU, T.Z., Wendron-Gordon, 2015. House Monitor, U18 Volleyball, House Music (Winner of Ensemble 2019), Cultures Connect 2020, CCF, Chapel Choir.

BRADLEY, J.W., Wendron-Gordon, 2013. School Monitor, House Monitor, 1st Rugby, 2nd Football, 2nd Cricket, House Music Winners (2019 and 2020), House Drama Runners-up, House Drama Best Actor 2019 and 2020, School Productions: Grease and Great Expectations, CCF, Bronze DofE, Silver DofE, 2nd Hockey, Jazz Band, Cultures Connect 2020.

BUCUR, D., Wendron-Gordon, 2018. 1st Basketball, Level 2 First Aid Course, Residential Home activity, Weights Balcony.

BURKE, J.M.D., Wendron-Gordon, 2014. School Monitor, House Monitor, 2nd Rugby, 2nd Football, 1st Athletics, North Midlands' Cup, House Song Best Conductor.

CAMPBELL, M.C., Wendron-Gordon, 2005. Pre-Prep Survivor, Prep School Survivor, School Monitor, House Monitor, 2nd Hockey (captain), GCSE Physics Prize, Chemistry Olympiad (Silver), Inter-School Public Speaking, House Debating, House Music, House Cross-Country, House Swimming, House Volleyball, Big Band, Cultures Connect host/participant, School Productions: Grease (drummer) and Great Expectations (actor), Academic Scholarship, Honorary Academic Scholarship.

CHENG, S., Wendron-Gordon, 2018. Maths Challenge (Gold), Chemistry Lower Sixth Challenge (Gold), Chemistry Olympiad (Gold).

CHOWDHURY, R.R.C., Wendron Gordon, 2017.

GIBSON, J.W., Wendron Gordon, 2015. House Monitor, Head of House, 1st Football (captain), 2nd Rugby, 2nd Cricket, DofE Gold.

HINKLEY, A.J., Wendron-Gordon, 2015. 1st Cricket, 3rd Rugby, U15A Football, U17 Cricket National Winners, Cricket Scholarship.

KALACI, A., Wendron-Gordon, 2018.

KHODACHUK, A., Wendron-Gordon, 2018.

LEVASHOV, A., Wendron-Gordon, 2013.

LIU, K.K.H., Wendron-Gordon, 2015.

LYU, J.M., Wendron-Gordon, 2017.

MAHATHORN, T., Wendron-Gordon, 2018. House Monitor, Gold DofE.

MARKOV, G., Wendron-Gordon 2014. Prep School Survivor, 2nd Tennis, Maths Challenge (Gold x 2), Young Enterprise, RAF, Silver DofE, Bronze DofE.

MOSKALEVSKYI, O.M., Wendron-Gordon, 2014. Deputy Head of House, Best Director for Senior House Drama, Best Play for Junior House Drama 2019 as the Director, School Production: Sonny in Grease, MUN, Academic Scholar.

PEI, J.G., Wendron-Gordon, 2018.

SKURTU, M.S., Wendron-Gordon, 2016. House Monitor, Gold Crest Award, Cultures Connect 2018-2020, House Ensemble Winner 2019-2020, Cambridge Chemistry Challenge (Silver).

WONG, S., Wendron-Gordon, 2017. Table Tennis, House Music, Cultures Connect, Young Enterprise.

ZULU, D., Wendron Gordon, 2010. Prep School Survivor, 1st Rugby, 2nd Football, 2nd Cricket, DofE.

We also welcomed Dr Morris and Lieutenant Peil to the W-G team in September – both have also proved to be fantastic additions to the House. Huge thanks to all of the tutor team for their hard work and constant support for the boys, and in particular to Mrs Wilkins and Mrs Hibell, whose care and dedication are exceptional.

Best wishes to all for the year ahead.

D. G. Wilkins

Upper Sixth Leavers 2020



Virtual Valete

Headmaster's Address to the Upper Sixth

Although the traditional Prizegiving and Commemoration Day gatherings could not be observed due to the national lockdown, the School did deliver an online Valete for the departing Upper Sixth, incorporating footage of some key rituals. A wreath was laid under the portrait of the School's benefactor, Sir Thomas Cookes, a review of the year was delivered by the Deputy Head, major prizes were announced and the School flag formally lowered by the Head Boy and Girl.

The Headmaster also spoke to the Upper Sixth, expressing his deep regret at the circumstances but reminding them that just because the finish line had been cruelly whipped away, it did not mean that they had not run a great race. Whilst lamenting the fact that he was not able to look them in the eyes as he gave a heartfelt farewell, he urged them not to focus on what they had lost in the final stretch, but rather to reflect on the entirety of their School career.

Stressing that whilst they had no control over what had happened over the previous three months, he pointed out that they had absolute control over how to remember, think and feel about it. His own choices in that regard led to three affirmations about his belief in the School, saying:

1. "We profess to create resilient young men and woman and look; you have taken this crisis on the chin and are still standing. Sure, you have regrets, and lingering qualms about grades and university offers. But you haven't crawled into a hole and given up. You're not sulking or blaming others. Adversity came knocking and guess what? You coped."

2. "We also put a premium of compassion and empathy. We have woven the value of service into every element of your school days at Bromsgrove. And what have you just done during this crisis? Each of you, by enduring these restrictions, have saved lives. And if that sounds melodramatic, try talking to the family of someone who lost a loved one to this wicked disease. As we anguish over the length of our hair or the lack of a summer holiday, we shouldn't lose sight of the fact that hundreds of thousands of people are alive today because you stayed home and put up with personal inconvenience. You didn't need to be an NHS worker to serve your community. What you have done, by doing nothing, was service."

3. "Most of you have spent these past three months in the company of your parents. Those days will come to mean more than you know right now. I realise that there may have been times when tensions rose. When you each went a little stir crazy. When you wanted out. But soon you will be out. And as much as you are going to do brilliantly as you embrace your independence, I predict that these days of sanctuary with your family will become a talisman that you will hold fondly in your hearts in the future."

The Headmaster then concluded by thanking the Leavers for all that they had given to Bromsgrove and encouraging them to count their blessings, every day, out loud and often. As a year group, he said, they were certainly numbered amongst his own.



Senior Prize Winners 2020

Wattell Prizes

English
Vivianne Zhang Wei

Politics
Iain Messore

History
Georgia Doohan-Smith

Religious Studies
Nasser Al-Daajani

Geography
Jamie Cox

German
Phoebe Fletcher

French
Hannah Pover

Latin
Gabriella Brown

Economics
Thomas Reynolds

Spanish
Judy Wu

Art (Textiles)
Fleur Parris

Business
Jamie Cox

Mathematics
Stanley Cheng

Physics
Stanley Cheng

Art
Emma Dolan

Physical Education
Edward Aston

Other Academic Prizes

William Ledbrook Prize for Biology
Shams Ali Baig

Amphlett Prize for Chemistry
Georgia Doohan-Smith

Turner Memorial Prize for Music
Anya Sharma-James

Alison Bramley Memorial Prize for Mathematics
Jay Lyu

Chaytor Pepper Prize for Classics (Classical Civilisation)
Ellen Kitchen

Jeffery Lewins Prize for Technology (Design Engineering)
William Edwards

Housman Verse Prize
Miray Köse

Staff Reading Prize
Lucia Goodwin

John Hedley Memorial Prize (CCF)
Paulina Geus

Special Prizes

Senior Boarder
Vivianne Zhang Wei

Senior Boarder
Jaren Kit Yeung

Deputy Head Boy
William Edwards

Deputy Head Girl
Lauren Court

Head Boy
Sebastien Atkinson

Head Girl
Phoebe Fletcher

Tony Limbert Trophy (Sport) Kitty Luscombe

Tony Limbert was a pupil who made the most of the sporting opportunities available to him at Bromsgrove and the trophy dedicated to his memory is awarded to someone who has endeavoured to do the same in their time here.

Throughout her time in the Senior School, Kitty Luscombe has embraced every aspect of sporting life. Committed to training and competition, her hard work and natural talent has meant that she has represented the School in 180 fixtures over five years in seven different sports. Kitty is very unassuming and her commitment and attitude to School sport has been second to none. She always gives 100% regardless of the task ahead of her, shows excellent sportsmanship on and off the field and has turned up to every training session and match with a smile on her face.

Whether it be on the netball court, in the pool or on the track, Kitty produced the range of skills, physical effort, determination and endeavour required to lead teams to County, Regional and National success. Along with her tremendous teamwork, she has great leadership skills, as exemplified with her outstanding achievements as the Netball captain and through being an instrumental part of teams who claimed five National Netball titles.

Paul Sawtell Trophy William Edwards

This award is intended to acknowledge a pupil who typifies the School's values of humble confidence, moral principles, and the generous encouragement of others. William Edwards surely does all of that.

It is hard to typify a true Bromsgrovian. The breadth and diversity here means there is nothing exact about it and, with so much talent in so many fields, it is hard to judge the perfect blend. However, sometimes a very special kind of person comes along, who shines across the disciplines, grasps all there is on offer, packs so much into every waking hour, selflessly impacts so many areas of School life for the better, that they provide an example to which every Bromsgrovian should aspire.

This year it is someone with a flair for directing, always content with staying off stage while leading others into the limelight in many School plays and House dramas, and picking up numerous prizes along the way. Someone with an excellent ethic of mutual-support, teamwork and discipline, just as happy to work tirelessly alone as to calmly and efficiently manage others.

Also an unassuming talent at the heart of the School magazine's production team for three years. A true team player, whose eye for design, helped make Two Zero One worthy of the National Awards it has received.

And more. Someone who has assumed every role in the continuing success of our victorious kit car team; driver, engineer, builder, manager, and even wearer of the infamous Chicken suit.

And still more. Outstanding in all areas of the CCF, working up over the years to the rank of RAF Flight Sergeant, expertly leading, managing, developing and nurturing newer recruits with mutual respect. In the Commanding Officer's words "If anyone personified grace under pressure, it is him".

Could he have found time for anything else in his life? Reassuringly, William is heading towards excellent grades in IB and a place at a top university to study Architecture, which is the perfect discipline for him, drawing as it will upon his intelligence and broad understanding of art, science, people and the wider world.

So many have witnessed William's strong inter-personal skills, friendly ear and servant leadership. No surprise that he has spent his final year as a House and School Monitor and, of course, Deputy Head of School. His achievements are admirable, as is the humility with which he wears them.

There are many pupils, and many, many staff, who are grateful for everything he has done for them and for the School. Will Edwards - a true gentleman and a true Bromsgrovian.

**Ben Showell Memorial Rose Bowl
(Performing Arts)
Phoebe Fletcher**

Phoebe Fletcher has shown outstanding commitment to Drama and Music at Bromsgrove School during the past four years, not only in terms of the last three Senior productions in which she has played leading roles, but also successfully organising her House: directing, conducting and performing in every House Drama, House Music and the House Song competitions in recent years.

She has been a stalwart member of the Chapel Choir since she joined the School and always found time for rehearsals and services in between her many other commitments.

As an actor, she was a most poised and heart-breaking young heiress in *The Pierglass*: the production which opened the Cobham Theatre in 2017, and revealed her rich and powerful singing voice as Sandy in the Senior Musical *Grease* in 2018.

Her performance in the last Senior Play, *Great Expectations* was nothing short of professional: perfectly judged in terms of pace, tone and delivery, her sensitive creation of Biddy was extraordinarily moving and multi-faceted, thus transforming a relatively minor part into a role that often felt central to the action.

A most intelligent actor and singer, Phoebe always approaches a part with great imagination and efficiency. In the rehearsal room, she shows endless patience, often giving up many hours at weekends and after School to support and work alongside her fellow cast members with a good humour that reveals an impressive maturity and understanding. In short, she is a superb team player.

She is a very worthy winner of the Ben Showell Trophy and will be much missed in the theatre, on the concert platform and in Chapel.

**Kelly Bicknell Award (Service)
Eleanor Johnson**

The Kelly Bicknell award is awarded to a pupil who has committed themselves wholeheartedly and consistently to their community throughout their time at Bromsgrove.

Caring and compassionate, Eleanor Johnson typifies those traits, having dedicated herself to helping others in both the boarding and day communities. As a House Monitor, she has gone above-and-beyond to help make others feel at home and has been a reliable shoulder for those in need.

She has also found time to contribute her talents and leadership to the Arts, taking on several key roles in Senior School productions such as *Great Expectations* and *Grease*, whilst also promoting drama to younger pupils.

Taking an integral position in the CCF this year, she has continually been an outstanding role model for those in the contingent, with her passion for outdoor activities and education readily shared with others, including leadership of junior cadets.

With an undeniable talent for communication and leadership, it is no surprise that Eleanor has secured a place at Worcester University to study Primary Education. Her enthusiasm and irrefutable talent for supporting young people means that she is perfectly suited for this career path and she typifies the ideal of servant leadership.

**Housman Trophy
Georgia Doohan-Smith**

Georgia Doohan-Smith has consistently excelled in her academic studies whilst enthusing those around her. Having gained a full house of top grades in her GCSEs, she is predicted another complete set of top grades on the IB Diploma, having relished the breadth of her programme.

An outstanding historian, she has a keen eye for social injustice and the plight of the working population. Her wider historical knowledge is exceptional, but she pairs this with a genuine detailed understanding of our modern world, her comprehension of modern political issues is nuanced.

Georgia's Biology and Chemistry teachers talk of the privilege they have had teaching her. They recognise her natural brilliance, faultless work ethic and her sheer ability as a scientist and indeed a mentor to her peers. She has a deep understanding of complex ideas and is able to communicate this knowledge confidently with genuine humility and humour. Her Extended Essay investigating diabetes was amongst the best ever produced by any Bromsgrovian. She is fascinated by a broad range of Biological Science topics that relate to Medicine, including issues such as disease processes, physiology, biochemistry and genetics. The offer to study medicine at Oxford is thoroughly deserved and she will make an outstanding doctor.

**Cookes Prize
Vivianne Zhang Wei**

As educators, we hope that we have an impact on our pupils. Sometimes though, they have a greater impact on us and the community at large, leaving a mark that is resounding for years to come. The winner of this year's Cookes' Prize is one such person and is truly deserving of this award. From the moment she stepped through the gates of Bromsgrove School, three years ago, it was evident that Vivianne Zhang Wei was going to throw herself into every opportunity put in front of her. Her contribution, enthusiasm and drive have earned her the respect of both her peers and anyone who has had the pleasure to work with her.

Although frustrated not to have had the opportunity to sit her final IB examinations and confirm her calibre, Vivianne's academic record speaks for itself, having been predicted 7's in all subjects and therefore a genuine contender for the elusive 45 point perfect score. Her contributions as Editor-in-Chief in writing and editing the pupil magazine, *Two Zero One*, provided her with a creative outlet and earned her the respect and admiration of her team and her readers. She is one of the finest writers the School has known.

As she gave to the School, so too did she contribute in House. First in Oakley and then in Housman Hall, where she was admired and respected by all. A friendly ear to turn to, acting with maturity and humility at all times but with a warmth which enabled all to feel comfortable in her presence. She was a true role model to others, taking part in everything from House Drama to House Hockey; always prepared to step out of her comfort zone and try new things.

This quality of leading by example led to her appointment, not only as both House and School Monitor, but also as Senior Boarder in the School. All positions which she discharged with unfailing endeavour and modesty. A thoughtful listener, but also a deep and motivated thinker, whose words carried weight, whether spoken or written.

The breadth of Vivianne's co-curricular commitments were eye-watering. As well as taking *Two Zero One* to new literary heights, in her remarkable three years, she packed in leading as an NCO in the CCF, representing the School in Athletics, and contributing as a committee member of Cultures Connect. All of which would be an exemplary School career alone, not to mention an agenda for every waking moment of her life.

Yet, along with her very good friend and equally impressive Bromsgrovian, Mulan Yang. Vivianne also found the time to also set up her own charity, Project Takeoff, which helps educate underprivileged children in China and recently moved online to expand their reach across continents.

It is an immense privilege to be able to call this humble, intelligent, and creative young woman a Bromsgrovian. She is destined to make an equally indelible and positive mark on the world as she has on our School and we will follow her trajectory with enormous pride.

Mark Reading Michaelmas 2019

Academic Awards

English Literature
Nikhil Gour

Religious Studies
Molly-Jo Sword

Mathematics
Lauren McLean

French
Yilia Chen

Spanish
Hugh Abraham

Art
Yuki Chan

Textiles
Eleanor Rea

German
Oliver Owen

Economics
Brian Chu

Physics
James Bateman

Physical Education
Imogen Vaughan-Hawkins

Design & Technology
Ian Tong Pang (Joaquim Pang)

Drama
Ciara Hughes

History
Eric Li

Music
Josh Lawson

English Language, Geography, Biology, Chemistry and Latin
Lucia Goodwin

Classical Civilisation and Combined Science
Matthew Cheng

English as a Second Language and Business
Ekaterina (Kate) Stepanova

Mark Reading Summer 2020

Academic Awards

IB Language A2 German
Julia Sturz

IB Language A2 Russian A
Bogatyreva Vladislava

Psychology
Johnson Shi

Environmental Systems and Societies
Bogatyreva Vladislava

Theory of Knowledge
Vivianne Zhang Wei

Extended Essay
Artem Khodachuk

CAS Trophy
Catherina Dahmen

Extended Project Qualification
Jagveer Uppal

Extra-Curricular Awards

The Bernard-Hall Mancey Cup for Most Improved Musician
Max Wong

The Vivian Anthony Cup for Musical Contribution
Joshua Osborn-Patel

The Janet Cockin Debating Cup
Scarlett Bond

The T.E. Godwin Cup for the Most Improved Junior Speaker
Hamish Schulze

Most Improved Drama Award
James Beattie

The Page Cup for Drama
Eleanor Johnson

Staff Junior Reading Prize
Joseph Boardman

Outstanding Contribution to Bromsgrove Service
Ellen Kitchen

Overall contribution to the extra-curricular life of the School
Eleanor Johnson

CCF Awards

Best Army Cadet
W02 Cadet CSM Orla Walker

Best RAF Cadet
Cadet Warrant Officer Matthew Goodwin

Sports Trophies and Awards

The Cosier Cup (best girls' team)
U19 Netball Team

The Swatkins Trophy (commitment to sport)
Jade Jenkins and Daniel Ashton

Outstanding Contribution to Girls' Games
Kitty Luscombe

Outstanding Contribution to Boys' Games
Pearce Childs

Sportswoman of the Year
Siena Horton

Sportsman of the Year
Sebastien Atkinson

The Halstead Cup (most improved cross-country runner)
Michael Jiang

Football 1st XI Player of the Year
Jack Peplow

The John Downey Cup (a player who has contributed fully during their time at Bromsgrove)
Theo Gardner

Girls' Hockey Player of the Year
Elisabeth Rieger

The Perrey Thompson Trophy (a player who has made a significant contribution to rugby during their time at Bromsgrove)
Sebastien Atkinson

1st XV Player of the Year
Ollie Wynn

Table Tennis Player of the Year
Darren Hui and Jenna Wong

Salvete

Elmshurst

Javier	Araluce
Edward	Atkinson
Jack	Atkinson
Mikhail	Bashkirov
Radu-Andrei	Bogdan
Harry Wen	Bradley
Max	Büchel
Oliver	Bulleid
Tian Ran	Chen
Hong Yin Damon	Cheng
King Hei	Cheng
Damien Ching Nok	Cheung
Lap For	Chui
Andrey	Dokuchaev
Louis	Gabard
Gonzalo	Gallego Toscano
Moritz	Göbbels
Farming	Han
Hengqian	Han
Ventsislav	Katrandziev
Christopher	Kemper
Hyuntae	Kim
Gleb	Kruglov
Ivan	Lepskyi
Michael Maximillian	Lörincz
Leon	Man
Nikita	Pchelin
Oktay	Safarli
Kasimir	Scheiff
Justinas	Stankus
Niklas	Sturz
Luka	Svishchev
Rahand	Taher
Tsz Hei	Tsang
Christoph	Winners
Chun Lam Shawn	Wong
Junjie	Yang
Ka Kiu	Yau
Ziqi	Yin
Xinqi	Zhu
Svetoslav	Zlatarev

Hazeldene

Isabelle	Benson
Erin	Carter
Jasmine	Duffy
Isabelle	Eaton
Esther	Lamidi
Madeleine	McLeod

Housman Hall

Ho Fung	Au Yeung
Maria	Barinova
Ianna	Bodnar
Hiu Kwan Christy	Chan
Suet Ching	Chow
Cristian	Costache
Dylan	Cotgreave
Ivan	Danilov
Philip	Dörfler
Igor	Frumes
Ho Yeung	Fung
Valeria	Kim
Oleksandr	Kovalenko
Faysal	Krimmley
Andrei	Kuznetsov
Hin Lung	Lee
Xuanqi	Ma
Đặng Minh Quân	Nguyen
Naran	Nithinonthaset
Emmanuel	Nzewi
Oghenevovwero Anita	Odeghe
Tanitoluwa-manuela	Omoyeni
Zixin	Peng
Thome	Peters
Lilly	Sturz
Pei Jun	Tang
Vasil	Todorov
King Sum	Tong
Yan Long Ella	Tsang
Christie Tin Yan	Tse
Tiana	Tsui
Zhixuan	Wang
Whoba Ugochukwu	Whoba
Chengtao	Yuan
Feng	Zhou

Lupton

Matthew	Bevins
Louis	Chan
William	D’Andilly
Kevin	Mikolajewski
Aidan	Sahota
Thomas	Smith

Lyttelton

Joseph	Hembry
Henry	Parsons
Elliot	Small



Mary Windsor

Rabia Aman	Bello
Victoria	Berg
Lilli	Boersch
Ming Wai	Fan
Hoi Lam	Ho
Natnapha	Jiamwijitkul
Janice Obiajulum	Obidi
Iruoma	Onwuka-Iwuchukwu
Clara	Pietzsch
Michelle	Pomazan
Viktoria	Pomazan
Liv	Schneider
Louise	Steenbergen
Hay Yan Cherry	Tang
Anruo	Wang
Ching Yan	Wong
Kai Ning	Young
Sophie	Zimmer

Oakley

Regina	Araluce
Nehir	Bulut
Ying Yee	Chan
Wing Sum	Cheng
Inés	Destribats García
Sophie	Griffiths
Alexandra	Gueorguieva
Joanna	Gueorguieva
Nadine	Hassoun
Jinqi	Jia
Maria	Koleva
Alena	Kondratyeva
King Dun	Lau
Yu Ching	Lau
Lin	Li
Wen	Li
Wing Tung	Lo
Elena	López Hemsing
Jessica	Monthe
Zahrah	Oyeleke
Ekaterina	Shishkareva
Lara	Sievert
Nutch	Sirithunyanont
Carlotta	von Vultejus
Ho Lam	Wong
Tsz Tung	Wong
Lily	Zeng

Ottilie Hild

Ellie	Anderson
Guymira	Apuusi-Tchassem
Erin	Douglas
Latesha	Grant
Rhea-Kaye	Grant
Amelia	Hall

School

Henry	Farnell
Johannes	Ludwig
Cameron	Richardson
Jacob	Smith
Nathan	Tidmarsh

Thomas Cookes

Meegan	Cartwright
Madeleine	Hart
Ella	Loftus
Albany	Pugh
Lois	Taylor

Walters

Louie	Bould
Harry	Ingram
Jacob	Morgan-Iqbal
Travis	Moyo
Umar	Rashid
Charles	San
Archie	Serle

Wendron-Gordon

Mykhailo	Bolebrukh
Long Kiu	Chan
Yujie	Dong
Yun	Ge
Laurentius	Heukamp
Dexter Sean	Leung
Handong	Ling
Yin Hay Adryan	Man
Jacob	Moore
Isaac	Teo
Mikhail	Titov
Artem	Vashkevich
Kwan Yu Zeman	Woo
Batyrkhan	Zhengis

Destination of Leavers 2020

University	Subject
Aston University	Engineering and Applied Science
Bath University	Architecture Economics Management (2) International Management and Modern Languages Politics and International Relations Psychology Sport and Exercise Science Sport Performance Management
Birmingham University RG	Ancient History Geography Medicine Political Science and Philosophy
Bristol University RG	Applied Anatomy Dentistry Economics and Finance Foundation in STEM Politics and International Relations
Cambridge University RG	Natural Sciences
Cardiff University RG	Business Management (Marketing) International Relations and Politics Business Management (3) Human Geography Journalism, Media & Sociology Politics and Economics Urban Planning and Development
Cardiff Metropolitan	Sport Performance Analysis
City University	Banking & International Finance
Durham University RG	Behavioural Science Business Management Industrial Chemistry International Relations Natural Sciences Mathematics with Statistics Philosophy, Politics and Economics
Edge Hill	Educational Psychology
Edinburgh University RG	Architecture
Edinburgh Napier	Physical Activity and Health

University	Subject
Exeter University RG	Business Economics Business and Management (2) Geography History and Politics
Exeter University RG	Medical Sciences Psychology
Falmouth	Creative Music Technology
Glasgow University	Business and Management Electrical Engineering Veterinary Medicine
Imperial College London RG	Aeronautical Engineering Chemistry Civil Engineering Materials Science and Engineering Medicine Physics with Theoretical Physics
King's College London RG	Business Management Economics Economics and Management Philosophy, Politics and Economics Political Economy
Lancaster University	Business Management Economics and Mathematics (2) Finance and Economics
Leeds University RG	Biology Chemical and Energy Engineering Economics and Finance Electronic and Electrical Engineering Fashion Design Languages, Cultures and English Liberal Arts Mechanical Engineering Medicine
Leicester University	Geography
Liverpool University RG	Architecture Business Economics Business Management Economics Geography Philosophy and Politics Politics

Destination of Leavers 2020

University	Subject
Liverpool John Moores	Real Estate
London College of Contemporary Art	Art Foundation
Loughborough University	Business Economics and Finance English with Business Studies Marketing and Management Management Politics, Philosophy and Economics
LSE RG	International Social and Public Policy with Politics Law Management (2) Politics and Economics Politics and History
Manchester University RG	Architecture Art Foundation History Mechanical Engineering Politics and IR
Manchester Metropolitan	Art Foundation
Newcastle RG University	Pharmacy
Nottingham University RG	Archaeology and History of Art Architecture Biology Chemistry Geography History and Politics Politics and International Relations Veterinary Medicine
Nottingham Trent University	Marketing Sport Science and Management
Oxford University RG	Experimental Psychology Medicine
Oxford Brookes University	Built Environment Foundation Business and Marketing Management Sport, Coaching and Physical Education
Queen Mary University RG	Biochemistry Mathematics with Management Medicine
Royal Holloway University	Accounting and Finance

University	Subject
Sheffield University RG	Architecture Korean Studies Law Medicine
St Andrews	Classics Financial Economics
Surrey University	Theatre Production
Swansea University	Chemistry Civil Engineering Exercise and Sport Sciences Mechanical Engineering
UAL Chelsea	Textile Design
UCL RG	Arts and Sciences (4) Biochemistry (3) Economics Education Studies Information Management for Business (2) International Social and Political Studies Law Medical Innovation and Enterprise Pharmacology Psychology (2) Urban Planning, Design and Management (2)
Warwick RG University	Accounting & Finance Chemistry Economics Economics, Politics and International Studies Mathematics Politics, Philosophy, Law
Westminster University	Business
Worcester University	Primary Teaching
York University RG	Business and Management Midwifery Psychology
Work and Apprenticeships	British Coal Board Apprenticeship

Destination of Leavers 2020

International Universities	Subject
Albania	Course unknown
Bamberg, Bavaria	Course unknown
Barcelona UIC	Dentistry
Community College LA	Liberal Arts
DTU Copenhagen	Mechanical Engineering
Ecole Hoteliere de Lausanne	Hospitality
Harvard (2021)	Pre-Med
HSE, Moscow	History of Art
Hult Business School	Business
Instituto Marangoni	Design for Products
LMU Munich	Law
Northeastern, Boston	Business Civil Engineering International BWL/Management
Parsons School of Design, New York	Architecture
Poland	Medicine
Romania	Dentistry
UBC, Canada (2021)	International Relations
University of Amsterdam	Business Administration
University of Wollongong, Australia	Course unknown
WHU Otto Beisheim School of Management, Germany	International Business Administration





Head of Year

The weekly Head of Year sessions have seen a varied programme of external speakers, Inter-House competitions and smaller break-out groups to enable further discussion over the course of the academic year.

The Fourth Form sessions addressed issues such as e-safety, relationships, finance, basic first aid, mental health and self-harm. External speakers have also given presentations across the year groups. These have included PC Neil Sharpe on personal safety, and Loudmouth - a theatre in education company who ran a relationships session through an interactive drama performance. Pupils were treated to a lively 'flash bang' Science lecture with a whole host of experiments by Nick Barker from the University of Warwick. It was lovely to welcome back former Deputy Head Mr Philip Bowen who gave a very informative presentation on Bromsgrove School at War and in Wales 1939-1945. Our Upper Fourths also enjoyed an entertaining and informative academic lecture on the battle of Agincourt by Dr Whitbread.

The Upper Fourths had a pensive moment of reflection on New Year resolutions and the power of positivity. Elsewhere, students had the opportunity to consider the values of human rights in a poignant presentation by Lt Peil, which coincided with Armistice Day. This was followed by a breakout session where students debated how the Universal Declaration of Human Rights impacted a variety of scenarios spurring some mature and thoughtful conversations.

For the Fifth Form, a number of the sessions were dedicated to preparing for the future, whether it be study skills, options for Sixth Form, preparing a CV or studying at overseas universities. The group also shared a very informative and thought-provoking session with the Upper Sixth, conducted by Bromsgrove parent, Dr Lizzy Bernthal.

The Lower Sixth Head of Year sessions included relationship counselling and the importance of resilience, and a growth mind set to positive study habits. Lectures on the pros and cons of procrastination and safer driving were also well received. With the support of Bromsgrove Futures, sessions from Universities on aspects of applications to the UK and overseas took place, with excellent talks from King's College and the University of British Columbia, as well as Zoom University fairs and webinars in the Summer Term.

A final year for our Upper sixth students started well with a range of weekly lectures, academic enrichment sessions and seminars on life skills and the next steps. Old Bromsgrovian Violette Onischenko delivered her talk for the 'Hold Hands not Phones' initiative, illustrating how being glued to a screen can be detrimental to your health and wellbeing. Siblings Anna and Cameron McLean gave a lecture on gender equality and the empowerment of women, and Sue Garrett, Undergraduate Student Recruitment Manager from Bath University, demonstrated how an application can stand out from the crowd. The two Super Curricular events collectively offered almost forty lectures delivered by the academic staff of the Senior School. Lectures were broad ranging and covered all subjects. Ed Flack from WizeUp gave an enlightening lecture on student finance and Dr Lizzy Bernthal provided strategies for building resilience and leadership skills. House debating and the 1.2 races were supported well by Houses. Our Upper Sixth seamlessly made the transition to virtual education and continued their learning journey through The Bridge Programme, showing how their love of learning has really only just begun.

F Diver (Lower Fourth),
P Woolley (Upper Fourth),
S Ascough (Fifth Form),
F Bateman (Lower Sixth) and
E Densem (Upper Sixth)

Academic Review

2019-20 really was the very strangest of years in terms of examinations and the academic life of the School.

Concerning examinations, it would be hard to express how chaotic the assessment environment has been outside the School gates. The International Baccalaureate led the way, suggesting that as China and then Italy went into COVID-19 lockdown, schools should recognise that these were merely local parochial problems that needed to be addressed by the schools themselves. Only when the IB's home city of Geneva went into lockdown did things change – at this point it became a global problem to be dealt with centrally. Students' results, often influenced by marks in already completed coursework, were published. Appeals were made and explanations provided that where students had a 6 this was statistically close enough to a 7 to make the grade stick. And then out of the blue in late August, a significant number of results were adjusted again.

For the A Level and GCSE examinations, the UK examination regulator asked schools to provide just a predicted grade and to place students into a rank order. Schools were encouraged to put in grades closely in line with those achieved in the recent past and, if they did not, a statistical adjustment would be made by the examination boards to ensure historic patterns remained.

There were a number of fairly obvious concerns from the very start. With the recent reform of both A Level and GCSE qualifications, there was little historical data for anyone to work from. Would students in subjects where there were only a handful of candidates be tied to the results of last year's cohort? IGCSE results were to be stripped from all underlying government analysis of our Sixth Formers ability, despite IGCSEs making up half their qualifications. Bromsgrove's Science departments had just moved from IGCSE to GCSE specifications this summer and so risked seeing Fifth Formers being awarded national average results.



Over 100 of our students had already completed their Extended Project Qualification, it had been fully marked and moderated, and yet the School was asked for predicted grades in line with past results, not for students' actual grades. At a more practical level, how was the English department to place 200 students into a rank order, with no equal 53rd or joint 98th places when on a live exam a 0% – 100% scale would not achieve this kind of fine granular differentiation?

With nothing to be done about these causes for unease, predictions and rank orders needed to be made. Departments gathered information on mock and test results, past predictions and coursework. Teachers looked at the quality of past prep work and reflected on students' attitude to learning and then endless meetings tried to marry up teachers' views with the underlying data. Behind the scenes, statistical analysis occurred of past results and students' underlying ability.

Formal searches occurred for evidence of unconscious biases. Every Houseparent put forward comments on every A Level and GCSE student as the School tried to judge the likely trajectory a student would have been on. At this point, every Head of Department was asked to justify every single one of the almost 3000 grade predictions and rank orders before a final review confirmed the information that was sent to the examination boards.

When results were published in mid-August, the examination boards made good their promise to respect the rank order schools had placed students in but to effectively ignore predicted grades – subject by subject, students were tied to historic results. Universities operated as usual, confirming or rejecting those who held offers as usual. A storm in the media broke as students throughout the land, who had seen their results downgraded by an untested computer algorithm, protested.



Stena Horton with her official letter of Admission from Harvard.

Universities hesitated. Examination boards hesitated. The government backed down and promised a triple lock – students could take their grade from their mock exams if they wished, or could take live papers in the autumn or accept the grade they had – they could take whichever grade was the highest. Politically, the government could defend the grades that had just been awarded knowing that in reality student's mock grades are often modest. This triple lock might have gained traction if the Ministry of Education and the examination regulator had consulted each other on the plan – but they had not.

Within a couple of days, with no common understanding of what mocks actually were, the plan was scrapped and there was a complete U-turn. Students were to ultimately receive their school's predicted grades unless the (now wholly discredited) computer algorithm had generated a higher grade for them. With some students seeing a third change in their grades in a week, the government washed its hands of the chaos, and left it to schools to justify their predicted grades and to universities to cope with the inflated number of students who had ultimately been inflated grades by their schools.

The icing on the cake were the BTEC awards, a qualification not mentioned until now in large part because it is still a little unclear if there was ever a 'system' for establishing the grades. With a mixture of internal coursework and external exam units for a time over the summer, it was unclear whether schools were to predict for units or overall qualifications. To keep students in their rank order, statistically the Board found that awarding 0% to some Distinction* students still gave candidates an appropriate overall score, although the 0% in itself invalidated the whole qualification. Only as I write this now in the first week of September has the dust finally settled.

A Review of Teaching and Learning

Whilst there were teething problems, the move to online learning for the last third of the year went smoothly. There were some technical problems with digital connectivity and chatting online is not the same as face-to-face interactions. However, content was covered and understanding developed, learning occurred and progress was made. And, as is often seen in times of adversity, people often showed their very best.

In March, the Upper Sixth learnt that they had had their last day in School. Whatever their brief feelings of elation may have been, the prospect of having no work and no study until university in October was not a pleasant one for many. Students requested new sessions to be available and a number of teachers felt strongly that educationally arbitrarily drawing a line under everything in March was not right. Without the constraints of needing to follow an A Level or IB specification, the opt-in university bridging programme was run and the freedom was embraced to offer beyond Sixth Form courses. The legal, political and social relationships between the French and English nobility during the Hundred Years War was the subject of sixteen lectures and seminars. Why was this History course put on? It is a long way from the study the 1960s Civil Rights Movement or the 1917 Russian Revolution. However, for those with a serious interest in History, it is a far from left-field area of study, and the course itself was based on a first year course taught to undergraduates at Leeds University.

Other courses of a similar scale were offered on political philosophy (based on a course at the University of Leuven), mathematics for engineering, medicine, geography, English, business, accountancy and economics. A refresher statistics course was offered to those looking to read the social sciences at university, whilst a large number of history of art and arts sessions were also offered.

We greatly appreciated the giving of time by Old Bromsgrovians who ran panel discussions on what to expect from undergraduate courses, as well as the experience of living in London, the South West, Scotland and all points of the compass in-between. Together with one-off lectures, and non-academic courses on cooking away from home on a budget and self-defence, around 600 lectures and seminars were streamed live. In short, the Bridging programme helped our Upper Sixth leavers and teachers stay connected with both each other and the world of ideas that exists beyond A Level and IB specifications.

With the Upper Sixth having prematurely finished their normal schooling, it was largely business as usual for those in the Lower Sixth and the two Fourth Form year groups. The Fifth Form risked falling between two stalls, without GCSE exams to revise for and the prospect of a lull before the start of the Michaelmas Term. Timetables were re-written, every student was interviewed individually to check their interests, aspirations and the levels of risk they were willing to tolerate and their new Sixth Form courses were started in June. By having a head start on A Level and IB courses, options could be confirmed with greater confidence before the summer break and a smoother start made to the new academic year in September.

Otherwise it was a pretty normal year – after all we only ever hope that students and teachers alike will work hard and be kind, everything else is by the by.

P Ruben

Activities

Bromsgrovians at home

When the Government closed all UK Schools in March 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, our Bromsgrovians at home stepped up to the challenge and embraced Seesaw and Zoom online lessons. They have shown their creative side with topic work and School projects, kept active with sports challenges and learnt new skills in the kitchen and outside in the garden.

Senior pupil, Lisa Vasilyeva recorded some of her thoughts in a poem entitled Leaving Bromsgrove about pupils departing their Boarding Houses and returning home just before lockdown was announced. Extracts of the poem have been published here due to the length.

M Griffiths



Leaving Bromsgrove

the Spaniards announce their departure;
Monday.

the air tastes sour

the prospect of change is painfully real.

13.3.20
people begin to trickle away,
the gradual absence
of those I don't know
and of loved ones

yet the world around continues
though my life has been jolted

the sun, pleased by the blue skies,
warms the birds,
whistling,
oblivious to the folly of man.

20.3.20
the day is warm and inviting
as all days have been,
enticing

the birds warble,
the sun beckons

but I am the last one standing.

a true patriot to my home

27.3.20
the last man abandons ship

and is whisked along motorways
empty
gaping, hollow expanses of tarmac
carving through fields
dotted by assortments of bushes
white, yellow, green
in anticipation of warmer days

the last man's mind casts about
for scraps of memories
of their second home

the plants they've left behind
their names carefully penned
in black and gold

the corridors that now lie vacant
of pictures, names on the doors
and luggage scattered about
packed in hasty escape
of the storm we've yet to weather

the people
who should be sitting
on sofas softened
by the sun's rays
through enormous bay windows
but won't

they'll be seen again,
pleasantries and laughs
will be exchanged,
but not in the same way
and it never will be

thoughts of a video call
their image moving about
washing dishes
and conversation faltering
as the mobile connection stumbled along

but they paused to watch me,
the nonchalant aura
broken to observe

22.4.20
in these lonely times
it is easy to feel unloved
forgotten by those thought close

despite phone calls
and messages of 'i miss you'

stupidly
i fixate on my absence
from others' social media

as though
they are embarrassed
to fix my name to theirs

trying times





Prep School Activities

The Activities programme is a wonderful opportunity for our pupils to experience diverse skills in a relaxed environment. At School, it is a chance to be with friends and to mix with pupils from different year groups. The range of Activities is enormous and the School is always buzzing at lunchtimes, after School and on Saturday mornings with out of this world astronomy, golf and a multitude of active and cultural options. Global challenges are also part of our repertoire, including Young Vets' Club and The World Scholar's Cup.

Not to be deterred by lockdown, activities carried on apace during the Summer Term. The A-Z Activities Challenge was set up for our pupils whereby they chose an activity from every letter of the alphabet, selecting from a range of active, 'skill-up', creative and investigative possibilities. With Zoom lessons involving so much screen time, everyone was encouraged to get out and move. Developing a passion for new skills was encouraged and the flow of creativity enabled. As always, we were thrilled and astonished by the inventiveness of our magnificent pupils.

C Leather





Astronomy Club

Pupils have been spending more time in the Observatory with Mr Turner and Mrs Lally as part of their Astronomy Activity. Photographs taken include Jupiter and Saturn, as well as of Andromeda Galaxy – and those were not a patch on the stunning views that were experienced through the telescope.

We are very fortunate to have an observatory on our site, donated by Old Bromsgrovian and Chairman of our Foundation, Matthew Taylor, and a dedicated enthusiast on our staff. No doubt Mr Turner's enthusiasm will rub off on the pupils who are looking forward to their next astronomical experience.

J Holden



Basement Project

Food donations were loaded into the Bromsgrove van before the Christmas break, with eager pupil helpers from the Prep School collecting and packaging the produce. Hundreds of tins, biscuits, mince pies and even toiletries were donated to help local families and the homeless. The Basement Project, based in Bromsgrove town centre, were amazed by the amount of goodies received from our School. Thank you to all our parents, pupils and staff for their kind donations.

M Griffiths



Preparatory School Chapel

'Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened, and I will give you rest. Shoulder my yoke and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. Yes, my yoke is easy and my burden light.'
(Matthew 11:28)

Over the years I have noticed that many children in the Prep School, especially the very young ones, have a bag problem. At times I have seen pupils in Year 3 struggling into School with no less than three bags, perhaps, collectively weighing more than they do. There's the School bag, complete with books, folders, pencil case and anything else that they might need for the day ahead. Then there's the kit bag, which in itself can be bigger than the child carrying it and finally there's the swimming bag. I remember once asking such an individual if they needed any help and they politely declined by saying, "Oh, no thank you, I've got it."

However, as I wondered around our School community, observing both children and staff, I found myself thinking, 'Do you? Do We? Really have it?' The fact is that each of us carries around every day all kinds of burdens – fear, pride, envy, worry, stress, anxiety and grief to name but a few. Very often just to look at other people gives us no idea at all as to what burdens they may well be carrying. Chapel, at least, provides us with the opportunity to unload some of these burdens. Jesus says to each and every single one of us, 'Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened, and I will give you rest.' In other words, Jesus is inviting us to share our burdens with him, to allow him to lighten our loads, to ease our minds and to rest our weary heads and hearts in his gentleness and humility. Jesus also instructs us to 'learn from me.' In this way, he is modelling for us what we are to do for others – to bear each other's burdens.

At the same time, we are also left with a challenge - what burdens do you need to bring to Jesus? What keeps you from doing so? Who, in your life, is 'weary and carrying heavy burdens?' How can you help that person bear those burdens?

Looking back now, it is amazing to think what I learnt from watching a small Year 3 pupil struggling, one day, to carry all of their bags into School.

Just remember that the Chaplaincy team at Bromsgrove School are there to help you. All you need to do is ask.

A Prayer For Help

O Christ Jesus,
When all is darkness
And we feel our weakness and helplessness,
Give us the sense of Your Presence
Your love, and Your strength.
Help us to have perfect trust
In Your protecting love
And strengthening power,
So that nothing may frighten or worry us,
For, living close to You,
We shall see Your Hand,
Your Purpose, Your Will through all things.

Saint Ignatius of Loyola

Rev. Dr S Loone



Charities

Sadly, Charities Week could not go ahead as planned this year. Our Charities Committee worked so hard to present their ideas in assemblies and collate the varied stalls that were to be on the concourse during the week. Our chosen charities, The Finn the Fabulous Foundation C.I.C., Toilet Twinning and the Worldwide Veterinary Service, are very close to all of our hearts and so we hope that this event will be able to go ahead next year. Many thanks to the committee for all of their hard work.

S Cadwallader

Eco Committee

To ensure Bromsgrove School is at the forefront of environmental developments, the Prep School Eco Committee have, this year, worked with the Whole School Sustainability Committee. The committee have encouraged other members of the School community to be involved in participating in many litter picks throughout the academic year, and we have all noticed an improvement in the local environment.

The committee have kept me on my toes with leading new initiatives. We have made eco bricks to send to Africa and created hedgehog houses for Forest School. Our School grounds always feature highly on our agenda; we continue to encourage pupils to use the recycling and compost bins around School. We have also taken part in planting sessions, including a new native hedge for the wildlife to enjoy.

In the Summer Term, we continued to hold our meetings, this time via Zoom, and somehow managed to maintain the enthusiasm that is always shown in School. The committee enjoyed finding out how the lockdown has had a positive impact on the environment and wildlife alike.

I would like to thank this year's dedicated Eco Committee for all their hard work in leading the initiative, which has enabled us to achieve much of our action plan.

S Dakin



Eisteddfod

Our first and only Eisteddfod of the year, for Years 3 and 4, took place in early February in Cobham Theatre. On display in Maple Hall were a range of wonderful pieces of art work; from delightful dragon heads and eyes to impressive pieces representing Great Britain.

The ceremony was introduced by Isabelle Ballard and Tabitha Downs who were dressed in traditional Welsh costumes. The standard of the musical performances and poetry recitals was incredibly high. This year, we also introduced the element of dance to the final and we were all amazed at the poise and enthusiasm of our young dancers. Our judges, Mrs Western, Mrs Dunlop and Mr Barry had an extremely difficult decision. Well done to Arita Oozageer who won the overall competition. It was a wonderful afternoon celebrating the many talents of our pupils in Years 3 and 4 and also a very good excuse to eat Welsh cakes.

Unfortunately, due to the pandemic, the Years 5 and 6 Eisteddfod could not take place in person. Instead, all of the finalists were able to perform their poems in a Virtual Eisteddfod during their online English lessons. As always, we were incredibly impressed with the high standard of performances.

S Cadwallader





Flourishing Fiver at the Prep School

A journalist from BBC Radio Hereford & Worcester interviewed Mrs Leather and Year 7 pupils to discuss their amazing fundraising successes this term, as part of the Primrose Hospice 'Flourishing Fiver' scheme.

Year 7 pupils were each given £5.00 in the hope of turning it into a profit for the hospice charity. There were some great initiatives from the pupils who worked tirelessly for the cause - ideas such as selling enamel pin badges (in the shape of the Primrose logo), which raised over £900 alone, to homemade hair scrunchies raising over £500.

The total amount raised was over £11,000 and Sarah Harris, a representative from Primrose Hospice, came in to School to receive the donation in person.

Well done to all pupils who put their heart and soul into this initiative and raised so much money for this worthy cause.

S Atkinson



Food Waste and Sustainability

Prep School pupils received an extremely informative presentation about Food Waste by Amy from Holroyd Howe, as part of an ongoing project around School to look at how we can become more sustainable.

The pupils were encouraged to use the 1, 2, 3 system to ask for the right amount of food that they will eat, in an effort to reduce the amount of food waste. Pupils were surprised to hear that food wasted in the UK amounts to 10 million tonnes a year.

Forest School

The woodland classroom in Prep School's Forest School has been a real hive of outdoor learning this year. Pupils from Years 3 and 4 have had the opportunity to learn about the natural world on a regular basis, despite the weather being challenging at times.

Resilience is one of the core values of a Bromsgrovian and it is never more tested than when problem solving in Forest School. Pupils and adults alike work alongside each other, assessing and taking calculated risks. The Forest School team have shown commitment to allow pupils to take risks in a safe secure environment. The fire circle remains the hub of the area; fire can provide a multitude of things from warmth, skills, socialising and meditation. Pupils always enjoy cooking over the fire and making hot chocolate. Often both pupils and adults enjoy nothing more than a good chat around the fire circle, sometimes spotting a bird flying into the bird house, buds forming on a tree or simply discussing what they are going to do next.

The Prep School's commitment to Forest School continues to build year on year, with sessions being supported by outdoor learning throughout the School. In Years 3 and 4 particularly, Forest School enables pupils to build their self-confidence by leading their own learning.

S Dakin



Gardening Club

Gardening Club at Prep School has thrived this year; it was particularly pleasing to see the huge array of crops when we returned to School after the summer break last year. The harvest included runner beans, strawberries, cabbages, onions, broccoli and the most amazing pumpkins, which we carved in Forest School for Hallowe'en.

As the weather turned colder, we set our sights on maintaining and improving the soil. We sowed green manure, a way to replace the nutrients that our plants so desperately need to grow, and bulbs which were donated by Jos (JUB). Mr Whitlock (Parent Volunteer) built a new compost bay out of recycled pallets. The strawberry plants that Mr Sutherland had given us a few years ago, have now thrived into many more. This was achieved by pinning down the runners to create a new plant. We also planted out our cuttings that we had taken last year and this gave us a real sense of achievement, encouraging us to take even more cuttings.

With spring approaching, the greenhouse became a hive of activity with seeds being sown in every available pot and taking up every last shelf. As the seedlings grew, they were transplanted outside into the raised beds; spinach, asparagus and sprouts amongst this year's choice by the young gardeners. The bulbs grew and came out in full bloom to give us an amazing display, however, we were unable to continue to care for them due to the lockdown restrictions. The key worker children very kindly took over this responsibility at the beginning of the Summer Term and dead headed and watered our garden area to keep things going.

This year, the pupils were thrilled to be rewarded with the RHS Level 2 School Gardening Award. We are currently awaiting the results of the Level 3. The Gardening Club activity remains in high demand with children wanting to attend and so we have now extended the opportunity to two nights so that more children can join in.

The pupils continue to be supported by two Senior School pupils, Jack and Josh, forming part of their Bromsgrove Badge. We must thank Mr Whitlock who has shown real commitment by volunteering his support each week, as well as giving up his own time to complete tasks. Thank you also to Scott (Senior Gardener at the Senior School), who has spent this year proficiently answering the pupils' questions and continually supporting their growing knowledge of plant life.

S Dakin



Global Voices

Global Voices, the initiative to celebrate and learn about global languages and the rich cultural diversity of the world and that of Bromsgrove School, has enjoyed a successful second year. We started with Arabic and learnt about Arabic-speaking countries. We then looked at another new language, Nepali. We also reviewed and developed our understanding of Russian, Chinese and Thai. At School, the children learnt about other cultures through assemblies, tutor time, themed notice boards and library resources. We had amazing Arabic, Russian, Nepalese and Chinese lunch days. Whilst in lockdown, Thai recipes were shared with the Prep school children and some of them held their own Global Voices Thai day at home.

T Faulkner-Petrova



Messages of Positivity

Whilst at home, Year 3 enjoyed collecting and decorating stones with positive messages for their Forest School activity. During their daily exercise, the pupils then put these stones in public places to bring a smile to people's faces during the pandemic.



National Science Week

For National Science Week, pupils in Years 3 and 4 came into School dressed as mad scientists and they certainly had lots of fun undertaking a variety of investigations.

Year 3 made edible soil layers, created a journey stick and had a catapult competition.

Year 4 made their own toothpaste, checked the amount of sugar in foods using the iPads, took part in a practical representation of the digestive system and looked inside their bodies. Both year groups then came together and enjoyed a fantastic workshop from Fizzpop Science.



Pupil Voice

We are proud to have an active and enthusiastic Pupil Voice team who have put themselves forward to be representative voices for the children at the Prep School. The team comprises pupils from all year groups, day pupils and boarders. Emily B has been an incredibly dedicated leader and a heartfelt thanks goes to her for her commitment and initiative in driving many issues forward.



Despite lockdown, the team has achieved a great deal this year and the leaders of the School are thanked for taking on board any comments raised. The extra water fountains have been welcomed on the Prep School site, as has the rearrangement of the locker area. The snack tray system was improved and the House System is going to be revamped.

A chapel service was led by the team as an introduction to the Toilet Twinning initiative. During lockdown, meetings have been held on Zoom and the engagement of some of the members has been exceptional.

The team look forward to taking current issues further next year and others will be sure to arise.

C Leather

Stressbox

During the Michaelmas Term, PSHE lessons in Year 8 have challenged the stigma related to mental health, promoting emotional wellbeing and healthy coping strategies. The unit of work is also about re-framing negative thinking and providing awareness of unhealthy strategies such as self-harm and eating disorders.

StressBox is holistic, combining expressive boxing fitness, powerful life coaching and mindfulness all set to incredible music. Liam Blackwood, who is extremely popular with our Year 8 pupils, works with them to relieve stress, which has a positive impact on the body, mind and soul.

Positive energy is stimulated using dynamic breathing exercises to energise the body with a fun warm up. Stress intelligence is enhanced, releasing negative emotions such as anger, self-doubt and frustration. This is influenced by relevant music, powerful coaching and social partnership boxing. Musical mindfulness and yogic exercises relax the body and mind with deep breathing as a positive finale to the sessions.

C Leather



Tournament of Champions – Prep Team

In November 2019, the Preparatory School team of Charissa Brobbey-Sarpong, Ruvimbo Madzingo and Edward Hu represented Bromsgrove and the United Kingdom in the Junior Division at the Tournament of Champions (ToC) for the World Scholar's Cup. The event was held at Yale University.

The team's efforts and hard work saw them come home with seven medals in total. They engaged fully across all the academic, cultural and social activities, which formed part of the main themes for the World Scholar's Cup. In particular, the team had an unprecedented opportunity to meet over fifty different cultures.

What else could they have asked for but a tour around the prestigious Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and Harvard University. This saw them acquire first-hand knowledge of University life, and the requirements and expectations of resident students.

The Scholar's Scavenge, an outdoor social activity, saw teams of seventeen come together to work collaboratively to solve problems in an unknown and unfamiliar environment.

After a full week of hard work, the team joined the Scholar's Ball and enjoyed the opportunity to showcase their talents at the Scholar's Show. Parents also worked in full support of all the pupils. The Prep teams' parents volunteered as Scholar's Scavenge guides and Junior Debate adjudicators. Well done to Charissa, Ruvimbo and Edward on a fantastic result.



World Book Day

World Book Day celebrations were in full swing at the beginning of March. Prep pupils came to School dressed as their favourite book characters, with Year 3 taking part in storytime sessions, a costume parade and a fun "Book Tasting" session at the "Starbooks" café.



World Mental Health Day

Prep School pupils took part in mindfulness activities for World Mental Health Day with our School Matron. They completed activities such as colouring, reading and crafting, and discussed relaxation techniques with music and using aromatherapy and cuddly toys.



Prep School Parents' Association

It has been another busy year for the Prep School Parents' Association. We have hosted many events including our new annual parents' coffee morning, the first joint Prep and Pre-Prep PA Ladies' Breakfast, the Macmillan coffee and cake sale, a Christmas shopping event for pupils and a movie night for Years 3 and 4. We have also supported School photos, the Harvest Festival, organised an Easter raffle, helped to sort and distribute lost property and sourced leavers' hoodies for Year 8 pupils.

Keeping with our PA aim of 'enrichment for pupils', these events have enabled us to fund the varied requests we have received. Examples of these are the Flourishing Fivers initial funding for Year 7 PSHEE, the Stressbox programme, outdoor play equipment, boot bags for the rugby tour, trophies for the sports department, outdoor benches for the concourse, the Bubbly Maths workshop, green screen filming equipment, laptops for the DT department, World Book Day £500 donation for library books and a shield for each Year 8 leaver. The Uniform Exchange continues to thrive. The Exchange provides an invaluable service selling good quality second hand uniform and sports equipment. Money raised from these sales are split between the seller (parent) and the Pre-Prep, Prep and Senior Parent Associations across the School. These funds are a much appreciated contribution and we thank all the volunteer team for their hard work. Future events for the PA are the joint Prep and Pre-Prep Spring Ball, and hopefully from Michaelmas Term, we will be able to work together again to welcome new parents, raise funds and provide the small extras that help enrich our children's School life.

If you wish to attend our AGM, the PA meetings or help out at any of our PA events, please contact Kate Gallimore, the PA Chair, via Mrs Bowett in the Prep School Office.

[K Gallimore](#)
(Chair of the Prep PA)



Senior School Activities

Archive Club

This year has proved a very exciting and challenging one for Bromsgrove Service Archive Club, with a tremendous amount achieved in a very short time.

We have had ten students working on archive preservation, repackaging, exhibition curation, cataloguing, student consultation and systems for archive storage. All of these tasks have been an integral part of the move of archive collections from the Old Chapel to the re-establishment in the archive's new home in the Heritage Centre, next to Big School.

In January 2020, the group prepared for an interview with Old Bromsgrovian Charles Tsai, who was visiting Bromsgrove School with his wife, Dr Catherine Chu, Executive Director of Mission Hills Group, as well as of Mission Hills Education. The students selected archive material that related to Charles' time at Bromsgrove and helped the archivist prepare questions to ask him about his experiences of Bromsgrove. They were particularly interested in how the School had changed since the early 1990s and what his experience had been of being one of only a few Chinese students at the School. Charles Tsai's interview gave us an interesting account of the 1990s at Bromsgrove School and a fresh perspective on boarding life from an international student's perspective, when there were far fewer students from overseas at the School. Oral histories are a valuable addition to our physical archive collections.

Though the Archive Club had limited time to meet, due to the closure of the School during the coronavirus pandemic, the students managed to continue to raise the profile of the archive through exhibitions across campus in the early part of the academic year.

In November, the work of the students helped to curate an exhibition to support the launch of Philip Bowen's new book, *Bromsgrove School At War and in Wales 1939-1945*. This was invaluable and an outstanding start to their work as young archivists. Two of this year's students, Annabel and Matteo, also researched and curated an exhibition in the Headmaster's Dining Room entitled *The Roaring 20s*. Both students highlighted this as their favourite archiving task in their evaluation of Archive Club and their interest and hard work in curation showed in their high-quality exhibition.

We were delighted that student Ellen Kitchen, who has attended Archive Club for three years, won the Prize for Bromsgrove Service. Ellen's commitment to the Club, her diligence in cataloguing many boxes of archive material, her support of exhibitions in Routh Hall for WWI and WWII events and her assistance of new students to the Club, make this prize well deserved. Ellen's comment on archive club tasks of preservation and cataloguing that "neither were dull as there were always interesting items" reveals her positive attitude to the student contribution to the Archive Club.

Bromsgrove's Archive Club offers students a unique experience to delve into the School's history and to realise their valuable role in preserving and capturing it. With the new Heritage Centre, there are now even more opportunities for students to learn the skills of archivists and curators and to impact on the telling of the story of Bromsgrove School in a way that is engaging to their peers and which reflects their interests. They continue to be an important asset to the work of the School Archive.

N Thorpe



Blue Cross Animal Sanctuary

A group of senior pupils participated in the animal sanctuary activity at The Blue Cross each Saturday morning during term time. The months working at the centre were very memorable and an enjoyable experience for everyone involved. The sessions gave them a better knowledge of the welfare of animals, both behaviourally and physically.

Ella, Julia and Saki tell us more about their personal experiences whilst working at the animal sanctuary:

We took one or two dogs on a walk each week, so that they could exercise in the grass runs. We got the chance to have some relaxed interaction time inside too. It was important to treat each animal individually and respect their needs, as their characters and past experience varied hugely. It was very rewarding when a shy animal overcame their fears and began to trust us.

The Blue Cross team are warm and welcoming; we faced and overcame the little challenges together and shared our stories of love and joy together. We would like to thank the centre staff and Mrs Shinn for offering this great activity.

Ella Li, Julia Winners and Saki Tsubouchi

Biology Department

If ever you wondered about the importance of studying Biology, the current global emergency surely suggests why. Whether your interests are in medicine, healthcare, disease processes, epidemiology, pharmacy, vaccine and drug development, physiology or biochemistry – we are all Biologists now. Lockdown has been a whole new world for the departmental team and our students have responded so positively embracing their online Zoom lessons, Google classrooms, Microsoft Teams, Educake and Kerboodle digital platforms and a swath of electronic text, resource and question books. We have even tried some home experiments including extracting DNA for strawberries, investigating the properties of water and responses of the nervous system using paperclips and different temperature water (not at the same time).

We have kept busy running bee hives (thank you, Mr Tasker), growing sunflowers from seed in an intense competition with the Geography department, and completed wider Science reading, which has kept our Twitter account very busy indeed - please follow us @BromsBiology.

Prior to our enforced isolation, Lower Sixth students visited Warwick University's Biology in Action day, our Single Award Biology student's went to GCSE Live at Birmingham Symphony Hall and the University of Nottingham's Biological Science department visited us. Like all Bromsgrovians we hate cancelling things and missing out. We are therefore very much looking forward to repeating these trips next year and our postponed field trip to the Margam Field Studies Centre in South Wales when normality begins to resume. And of course getting back together in our physical classrooms with all the digital experiences we have learned to further enhance our teaching and learning.

We say goodbye to one of our colleagues Lydia Honey (please see the Staff Leavers section) who has been an outstanding teacher in the Biology department. A year with huge challenge and change, which our students have risen to and met without exception.

T Johns



Members of the Biology Department getting ready to move to online learning.



Pupils taking part in GCSE Live.



British Sign Language

The School's cohort of students learning British Sign Language grew again this year. Our relationship continues to flourish with the charity, Sense, which supports people with complex communication needs such as multisensory impairments like deafblindness. We joined them at TouchBase Pears in Selly Oak where we enjoyed throwing clay pots in their pottery room, as well as supporting the young people to make an acoustic music track with drums. Our students worked as buddies to support the young people in developing independent skills, such as making pizzas for lunch. We finished the day with charades and a dance-off. In the Lent Term, we enjoyed a visit from some of the teenagers and their families: after a tour of campus and a delicious lunch, everyone went swimming and played games.

Our students have improved their communication skills and developed empathy for people with different needs, as well as their understanding of complex medical conditions. It is a pleasure to see our students supporting members of the community and making new friendships.

D Rimmer

Bromsgrove Badge

2019/20 started with the Lower Fourth pupils embarking on their Field trip to Malvern and walking 16km over the hills. The day was beautiful and everyone showed what they were capable of. Following this, the students took part in body image workshops and showed great interest in an outside speaker who came to talk to them about eating disorders and the effect of social media. After Christmas, the usual preparations for Lower Fourth Camp were underway, but due to COVID-19 this was not meant to be.

Since lockdown, the students have been asked to upload evidence of them continuing to complete extra-curricular activities during their week under the strands; Active, Creative and Service. The vast range of activities that the students have completed during this time has been wonderful to see - from baking, writing music, learning new instruments and raising money for causes close to their hearts. The Lower Fourth have continued to demonstrate all of the skills we hope to build upon during the Bromsgrove Badge programme.

A Linehan



Bromsgrove Service

"Deo, Regi, Vicino" – A phrase that has really been tested this year, perhaps like no other. However, through trying times, Bromsgrove students continue to push themselves to contribute to their local community and engage in service throughout their time at the School.

Bromsgrove Service continues to grow in popularity – with over 300 pupils taking part this year in a variety of activities from hosting science club for Prep School pupils, to visiting local residential homes. A wonderful highlight of the Michaelmas Term was the Tea and Carols event coordinated by CAS pupils, where many of our friends from Rashwood and Burcot Grange residential homes visited Routh Hall for a festive afternoon of quizzes and cakes.

Elsewhere, we are very pleased with the progress of our partnership with staff from the Basement Project, a charity helping homeless young people in and around Bromsgrove. Students have coordinated donation drives for the foodbanks and helped to raise awareness of the charity through the School community. We look forward to strengthening our ties to the Basement Project through several events next year.

Many activities have gone from strength to strength this year - Dr Rimmer has had great success with our Deaf Culture and Communication group, hosting café mornings for local young people with hearing impairments. Mr Patel has reinvigorated the blogging team who have showcased some of the excellent work we have been doing in School.

A notable achievement this year - which we are incredibly proud of - was making it to the Regional Finals of the prestigious Goldsmith's Award for Community Engagement. Writing the initial proposal was effortless due to the fantastic range of service activities we run and the dedication our students have shown to serving their community. Unfortunately the competition was cancelled due to the COVID-19 outbreak but we are looking forward to the opportunity to apply again next year.

Despite activities being cut short this year, I have been in awe of the many students and staff who have jumped into action to serve their communities from afar. Students sewing scrub bags for NHS staff, our wonderful boarders helping to make face shields over the Easter holiday and the range of fundraising events that have been held demonstrates just how ingrained service is in the life of Bromsgrove School. Deo, Regi, Vicino.

P Woolley



CCF

Timeline: Catterick, July 2019. CCF Summer Camp. It seems a lifetime ago when we left Bromsgrove to head to North Yorkshire to spend a week away with a Cadet Training team. The cadets learnt such skills as training in built up areas, rifle ranges at distances up to 300 metres, a day of patrol ranges with paintball guns and a day of adventure training, which included high ropes and a session on the Krypton factor assault course. The cadets also spent a night in the field eating army rations, conducting night ambushes and section attacks. We were paired up with some cadets from a school in the North East, and after about two hours, they had seamlessly integrated together, and apart from the accents, you would have thought they had always known each other. This is what the CCF brings to the Cadets - summer camp is the pinnacle of the year and the cadets who take part invariably end up becoming our CCF leaders and School leaders of the future. CCF continued during lockdown and a number of cadets excelled at the activities they were set at home.

J Farnes



Chapel Matters

The academic year began, as it has done for so many years, with the School meeting together for the beginning of the academic year service at the end of the first week in September. The Chapel Choir sang brilliantly, having had just two practices, with many new members in its midst. The Michaelmas Term then saw them sing at Harvest, Remembrance, Advent and Christmas, all wonderful occasions and singing to God's Praise and Glory. During the Lent Term, they led the worship for a Whole School Eucharist and for Sung Evensong. Then, just as they were ready to get on the coach to sing in St Georges' Chapel, Windsor, things changed and the trip was cancelled.

There was COVID-19 and the subsequent lockdown. Extraordinary, unprecedented times. No Chapel and no choir leading worship. No Chapel, except for Zoom Chapel. It was not compulsory for anyone to attend – it couldn't be so; zoom lessons were demanding upon the pupils, without them being required to do anything extra, although much was made available. Zoom Chapel became a regular Tuesday and Thursday morning activity and a number of members of staff attended regularly from the end of March through to the end of June. It was really lovely to share in a more intimate way, but we missed the Whole School gathering together 'in Chapel'.

As I write, I do not know what lies ahead for future chapels. But, 'Chapel Matters' and it will be an important part of our School in the future for sure, as it is where we meet in succession to so many pupils who have met for generations before us. It is a place for quiet reflection, for prayer, for worship, for singing, for reading and for thinking about the words spoken to us by many in the School community, both staff and pupils. It is a place where we meet together as a School with one another and with God. We sometimes sing the song, Be Still, which includes these words:

Be still, for the presence of the Lord,
The holy One, is here;
Come bow before him now
With reverence and fear
In him no sin is found
We stand on holy ground.
Be still, for the presence of the Lord,
The holy One, is here.

'Chapel Matters' – it's where we are able to be still but also to stand on 'holy ground', whatever that might mean – a place that has been full of praise and prayer for generations, a place dedicated to God for nearly 100 years - a place where God is, although He is not confined there, and whilst we have been unable to meet there He has, thankfully, still been with us.

Psalm 4 verse 10 says, "Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth."

Reverend Paul Hedworth
(School Chaplain)

Debating Society

Although the second half of the annual debating calendar was disrupted by coronavirus, the first half of the year saw strong performances from Bromsgrove debaters in a number of national and international competitions, including the English-Speaking Union Mace and the Oxford Union competition. For the second time in three years, a Bromsgrove team – Scarlett Bond and Mary Kuvaeva – reached the National Final of the Oxford University Union schools' competition.

Friday lunchtime debates allow any student to engage and participate in debating across the School. This year, particularly popular lunchtime debate motions included whether the UN should take over management of the Brazilian rainforest, whether the UK should reintroduce capital punishment, and a general election debate that saw students take on the personas of main UK political parties to debate key national issues.

To mark their dedication to debating, the following were presented with major debating colours: Scarlett Bond; Alek Florov; Mary Kuvaeva; Justus Krauel; Lauren Court. In recognition for her achievements in debating and public speaking over the last five years in the Senior School, Scarlett Bond received the Janet Cockin Debating cup, while the T.E. Godwin Trophy for consistent effort and improvement in a junior speaker was presented to Hamish Schulze for his performances in the Junior House debating competition, which was won by Hamish and his speaking partner Amos on behalf of Elmshurst House.

R Whitbread



DofE

This academic year saw another 259 pupils enrol for their Duke of Edinburgh Awards, 105 Bronze participants, 102 Silver participants and fifty-two Gold participants, including a handful of Direct entrants.

All pupils made excellent progress towards their Volunteering, Physical and Skill sections throughout the first half of the School year, with many taking advantage of the breadth of opportunities offered within the programme. In the second half of the year, lockdown offered many the chance to learn a new skill at home and get outside to enjoy some physical exercise - a well-earned break from online learning.

Bromsgrove Service and CCF enables our pupils to give back to the community and raise awareness of a variety of issues through volunteering initiatives spanning training younger cadets in the CCF, working within the Young Archivists' group, engaging with residents in local care homes and much more. These endeavours, combined with individual efforts at home, contributed to a fantastic total of 4732 hours of voluntary service by Bromsgrove pupils within the DofE schemes from April 2019 to March 2020. In fact, even with lockdown, many pupils saw the opportunity to continue their voluntary work by helping neighbours who were shielding and self-isolating or producing items of PPE to help the National effort to protect against COVID-19.

Despite many hours of training and planning, only the Silver Practice expedition in October 2019 was able to go ahead this academic year. Pupils enjoyed some fair weather on their two-day expedition over the Long Mynd. We look forward to their postponed Qualifying expedition to Exmoor in October 2020 and the postponed Gold expeditions next year.

In the absence of expeditions this year, pupils who are unable to take part in a postponed expedition are still able to achieve the 2020 DofE Certificate of Achievement, created by the DofE to recognise pupils commitment to their other sections. Furthermore, our Bronze pupils are able to use their Silver Practice expedition in September to complete their Bronze award entirely.

In what has been a most unusual year, we are very proud of our pupils' continued commitment to their DofE Awards and look forward to signing off completed awards next academic year.

A Baker, J Farnes and R Short

Thank you

to the
Duke of Edinburgh's Award participants

from
Bromsgrove School

who donated
4732 hours
of voluntary service to the local community*
The social value of these hours is
£20,584

* Number of hours of volunteer service is based on participants who have achieved their Volunteering section between 1 April 2019 and 31 March 2020

June 2020

JACKIE BULL, DIRECTOR - CENTRAL ENGLAND

Expedition Club

In October 2019, the Expedition Club made a weekend trip to Snowdonia to train Direct entry Gold Duke of Edinburgh students in the basics of mountain navigation and survival. They had to quickly learn to use a compass, read the finer details of a map and camp outdoors. For many pupils, this was a new experience, and, under the expert guidance of their instructors, all learned a great deal during these two days. For the first time, we extended this trip to other students to give them a choice of outdoor rock climbing or expedition training, just for the fun of it. After a day of relatively calm weather on the Saturday, the participants endured a day of wet weather on Sunday. While some participants honed their outdoor skills in trying conditions, others chose to explore the slate mines in the dry. A very exciting and rewarding experience for all.

D Tamplin



Flourishing Fiver

In Michaelmas Term, the Senior School Flourishing Fiver team visited Primrose Hospice and saw first-hand how the hospice supports those in need, and how donations are so important to its success. The pupils learnt what makes good fundraising, and brainstormed ideas with the fundraising team. The team then spent the term making Christmas decorations such as dog biscuit baubles and other tree ornaments, which they then sold at the Advent Service. Spurred on by good sales, some Flourishing Fiver pupils spent all three performance evenings selling their festive wares to the audience of Great Expectations, the Senior School play.

In February, the Valentine's Day roses arrived, and the team trimmed, wrapped and delivered them to lucky pupils across Senior School, completed with beautiful handwritten messages. We teamed up with the Young Enterprise team too, to send Valentine's Day cards. Preparations for a Prep School boarders' quiz night began, but lockdown happened before it could take place. The Flourishing Fiver team raised around £750 for Primrose Hospice, and certainly learnt a lot about smooth selling in the process.

J Boonnak

Futures

Well, we are the Futures Department after all, and we certainly have felt futuristic with the use of Zoom over these past few months. What seemed so alien at the start of lockdown has now become second nature, and has absolutely broadened the landscape of careers advice and guidance that we can provide. I have no doubt that this new way of communicating will also have a huge impact on the world of work, and it will be interesting to see how higher education adapts its teaching. Many colleagues in the university sector feel that the quality of teaching will actually improve, and that the tutorial system can also be enhanced. Of course, Zoom cannot replace the social and life-developing skills that university can provide, but we are hopeful that a more normal campus life will resume soon in the new academic year.

They say that every cloud has a silver lining and, for Futures, it was the ability to link up with OBs all over the world and bring them into our homes virtually. Futures has been using LinkedIn for a couple of years now (we only link with OBs and current students), so we have built up quite an impressive number of connections with relatively new and older OBs; even the outgoing Upper Sixth are now connected to Futures and the OB Alumni site.



With a call to arms at the start of lockdown to assist with The Bridge programme (bridging the gap for the Upper Sixth from School to university), we were overwhelmed by the generosity of the Old Bromsgrovians in freely offering their time to assist with presentations, and giving advice and guidance. A huge number of OBs (sadly too many to name individually) helped in a number of ways, some coming back two or three times, and covering a breadth of subjects. From Architecture to Zoology, Bristol to Warwick and Accountancy to Volunteering, the OBs have talked about their experience of degree study, university applications and the world of work. We were also able to provide advice on living in London, student finance, wellbeing at university, applying for jobs and creating CVs. The wonderful bonus of Zoom has been that where ever in the world our students are, we have been able to connect to them. This means that for the future, we can broaden our association with the OBs even more to allow access across the miles, giving our current students contact with a goldmine of information. The number of OBs putting themselves forward was humbling; from making time in between studying for final exams, to those that had been furloughed, or those using their precious lunch break to engage with the students – nothing was too much.

From that initial post on LinkedIn, we now have an impressive directory of OBs keen to provide mentorship and assistance to our current students on their future pathway, whether in the world of education or work. One OB said 'Bromsgrove taught me many things, but my decision to follow a career in real estate came from talking to, and the subsequent work experience with, an OB – that opportunity changed my life, and I want to be able to offer the same chance to current students.' How lucky we are to have such an invested OB community.

Z Leech



Geography Photo Competition

The Geography department once again received some fantastic entries in the annual Geographical Association photograph competition. With such a wide range of entries from all around the world in many different environments, judging was very tricky.

First place was awarded to Georgia Hancox for her superb photograph of a coastal environment of the famous Devils Bridge arch on the Atlantic coast in Antigua.

Second place was awarded to Grace Dieppe for a stunning photograph of the Serra del Torcal mountain range in Spain. Some truly fascinating geology in this area. Third place was awarded to Theresa Vinals for a fascinating view of a glacier in the Bernese Alps of Switzerland.

Highly commended went to Sophia Sellers, Stefan Tarasov, Natasha Bahra, Chris Smith and Mark Florov.

E Gill



Helping the NHS and Frontline Workers

We have been proud to support the NHS, key workers and everyone working on the frontline through the COVID-19 pandemic. 290 pairs of goggles from various departments across the School made their way to County Hall for distribution wherever they were needed most. In addition, Miss Limbrick made thirty-five drawstring bags for NHS staff to pop their uniform into after a shift. Many more of our Bromsgrovians at home dug out their sewing machines and made scrubs for healthcare workers.

The Headmaster, along with a small number of our remaining boarders and residential staff helped to make more than 1000 face shields for the NHS and frontline workers. Thank you to Mr Matthews, our Head of DT, for designing and making all the parts ready for the boarders to assemble. During this time, our small number of boarders lived in one household with residential staff within the School campus, with some students not able to return home for almost six months.

Over the Easter break, a group of Bromsgrovians proudly donated their pocket money to buy additional PPE, such as masks and gloves, to help local frontline workers. These were donated to the School and the items subsequently given to NHS workers and those most in need.

M Griffiths





House of Lords

When Old Bromsgrovian and Foundation Trustee, Digby, Lord Jones of Birmingham heard that some of our boarders were unable to go home over the February half term, he invited six of them to spend the day with him at the House of Lords.

The pupils were allowed to sit on the famous red benches of the Lords and stood at the same despatch box where Winston Churchill made his famous war-time speeches. Lord Jones then led the pupils in to the House of Commons chamber and explained to the pupils how our democracy works. The pupils and Mr Beet came home full of excitement and special memories. Thank you to Lord Jones for enabling this visit.

M Griffiths

Housman Verse Prize

A Choice

*Sunlight strikes your skin
Like a distant force of reckoning,
You unfurl the ache all over your body,
Relentlessly pulling the covers over your face*

*Letting your passion die out like
A dead winter tree,
Leaving the leaves to rot
And the roots to dry.*

*Seconds bleed into minutes and
Minutes into hours,
The days blend into each other.
You allow time to lose relevance.*

...

*Sunlight strokes your skin,
Like a comforting source of familiarity,
You force energy into your body from within,
Pushing the covers off in complete clarity.*

*You force your passion to reignite,
A great spring tree,
Blossoming even at twilight,
Its branches growing into infinity.*

*Seconds lasting longer,
A great wealth of minutes and hours,
So many days and so much to discover,
Time is a gift that overpowers.*



2020 Housman Verse Prize Winner, Miray Köse.

*A look outside: stars and plains and hills,
Water still running,
The May morning thrills,
The heart of nature forthcoming.*

*So now you rise from sleep,
The curtains undrawn,
Within you dreams still deep,
And get drunk off the fresh taste of dawn.*

*Because even in uncertainty,
And in a lack of rejoice,
There remains the option of positivity,
And that's the beauty of choice.*

Miray Köse

International Centre

This year, the International Department was delighted to be finalists in the PLEoneer Awards 2019 for the Secondary Learning International impact Award for our Whole School programme supporting and integrating international pupils into the mainstream curriculum and beyond.

In January, our Upper Fourth EAL learners visited Pre-Prep to deliver a lesson on Chinese New Year to Year 1 and 2: great for the development of their presentation skills with a genuine purpose for communicating in English. In March, the Cultures Connect concert took place a week before lockdown, and it was touching to see the international community performing acts from their home culture and being so supportive of each other. If there is one occasion that made us proud of our international pupils this year then this was it: the resilience of our international pupils was, and still is, abundantly clear.

Our doors are always open to visitors at the International Centre, and this year we expanded our ongoing work training teachers in supporting pupils learning English as an Additional Language (EAL). We took on the leadership of the EAL Enhancement Activity for PGCE students at Worcester University, running four workshops over the course of the year. During the Michaelmas Term, over fifty PGCE students visited Bromsgrove, observing lessons and shadowing EAL pupils, to watch expert practice in supporting EAL learners in the classroom. This gave our international pupils the opportunity to practice speaking conversations in formal language, and they enjoyed showing off their School and studies. We also combined visits to Economics, Business Studies, and English, with EAL training for PGCE students, and during lockdown, we ran a two-hour Zoom training session in place of our School's direct teacher training session.

J Boonnak

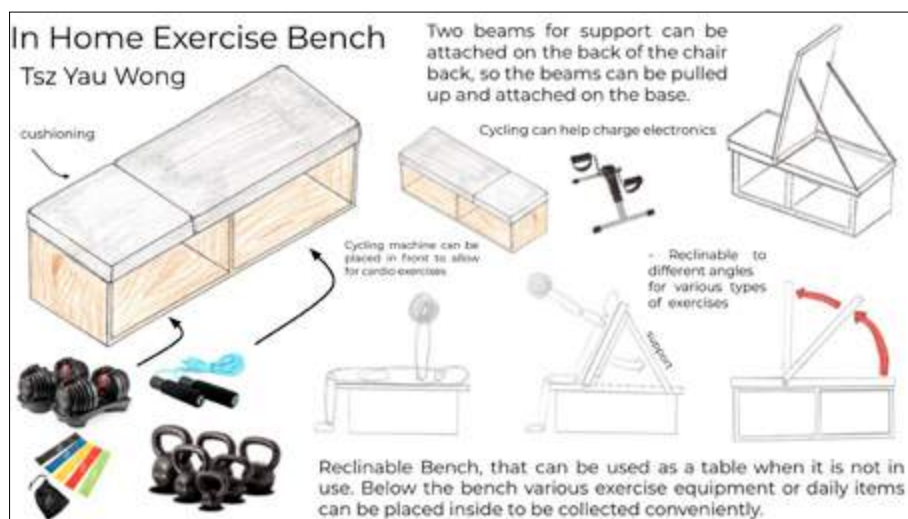
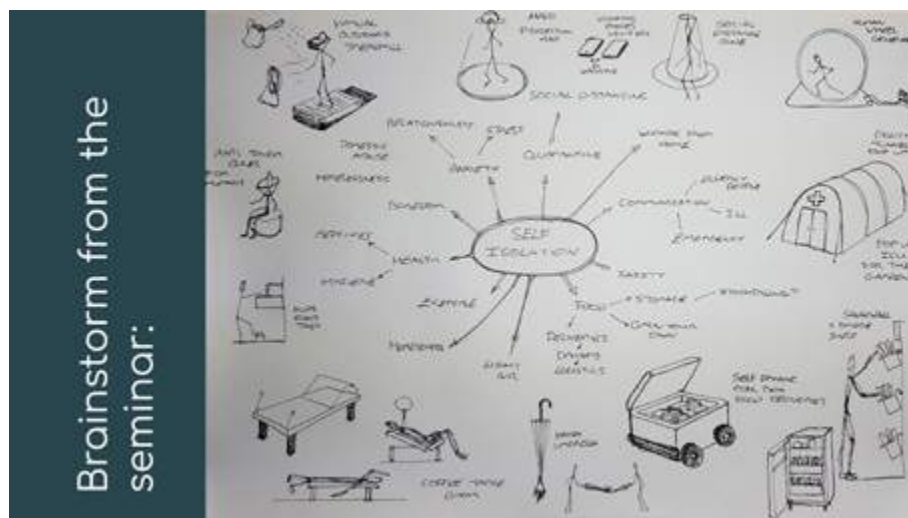


Isolation Innovation

The DT department took part in our online Bridge seminars designed for Upper Sixth students (and some Lower Sixth Design Engineers too). The theme was Isolation Innovation, with pupils tasked with designing something that would tackle a problem that they had encountered during the School closure.

The ideas were incredibly imaginative and varied, ranging from an app to instantly connect those in need of assistance with people willing to help, to ways of adapting home furniture into exercise equipment. One idea suggested a device for rationing snack food and alcohol, another for a website that facilitated skill swapping, to enhance people's learning. The design group met up two days after the challenge was set and pupils presented their ideas for discussion and feedback.

S Atkinson



Marmite Society

The plan was for the Marmite (Gifted and Talented) Society to enjoy *Spiderman: Far From Home* at our final Marmite Movie and Pizza Evening this year. But we didn't. Instead, it seems, we all 'blipped'. And we're not quite back yet. At least, that's how it feels. And while we won't come back five years older, we will come back... stranger. Which is probably something we can handle. Every Marmite course this year, from Year 6 assembly to Upper Sixth University mock interviews, began with a poem by Mary Oliver:

*Instructions for living a life:
Pay attention.
Be astonished.
Tell about it.*

We took 'astonishment' as the definition, the epitome, of what it means to be truly academically engaged and exceptional. Only that intellectual exhilaration, that joy at learning, that sheer passion and excitement when you change your mind as a result of your studies really captures what we, in Marmite, are all about.

In the Prep School, Years 7 and 8 used the theme of My Best and Worst Movies to share opinions using traditional essay writing techniques, as well as digital and verbal strategies. In the Lent Term, students focused on positive self-reflection, debating whether feelings or knowledge are more important. It was generally agreed that the lesson on Marxist Dialectics and Juggling was the high point.

Upper Sixth, on a one-to-one basis, spent many lunchtimes honing their UCAS statements and preparing for Oxbridge and other University interviews. Lower Sixth students participated in an especially well attended Nature and Culture course, taking in Shakespeare's *Tempest*, *Frankenstein*, *Jane Eyre*, the ballet *Giselle*, the paintings of Degas, Barbie, Vogue, *Planet of the Apes*, *Blade Runner* and *Donnie Darko*.

Fourth and Fifth Form participation was more problematic – in a growing, busy School, it proved difficult to capitalise on enthusiasm with regular attendance. However, we were able to contemplate palaeontology, forensics, Bruegel's paintings and the movies of Fritz Lang under the theme 'What Remains?'

We managed three Movie Nights – *Men in Black*, *The Imitation Game* and *A Knight's Tale*, but none of the other annual events. Again, it was fitting to contemplate a world turned upside down, alienation, codes, belonging and exclusion.

In addition, crossover with Dr Rimmer's University Preparation Programme and Mr Wingfield's World Scholar's Cup added new dynamics and directions to Marmite. Hence the year, truncated as it was, was characterised, appropriately, by collaboration, conversation, clashes and change. Indeed, as one Marmite alumnus is fond of pointing out, 'Why, sometimes I've believed as many as six impossible things before breakfast'.

Next year, whatever it may bring, we will need more than ever, to be 'Marmite' – clever, kind, hard-working, able and astonished. Our academic studies allow us not only to accept, but to create with the unexpected. Our keynote quotation for 2020-21 will be from Virginia Woolf:

"Arrange whatever pieces come your way."

M Ruben

Will Edwards
+ covaid



An app that instantly links people in need of help with people willing to help out. Geographically linked to create local communities of online help for the vulnerable.



Model United Nations

Model United Nations gives students the chance to debate global issues from different perspectives, as they role-play countries and respond to pertinent international crises. In an international school such as Bromsgrove, this adds an exciting new dimension to debating, as students enjoy researching and arguing from specific perspectives and viewpoints.

Bromsgrove MUN (BroMUN) has continued to run both junior and senior activities twice a week. It has been especially positive to see a number of new Lower Fourth participants this year, following a full-day MUN conference run for all Lower Fourth students at the end of last summer term. Delegates at each practice were invited to select a global 'crisis' and then challenged to solve these through teamwork and co-operation, from the perspectives of their respective countries. MUN allows students to discuss issues and suggest possible resolutions in a relaxed and supportive atmosphere, and it has been wonderful to see how well they have developed their speaking and listening skills throughout the year.

Topics discussed this year have included bushfires in Australia, the creation of an independent Kurdish state, and just before lockdown commenced, a part-live, part-Zoom MUN session on the global response to coronavirus provided a particularly challenging topic given the rapidly unfolding nature of the pandemic and international reaction.

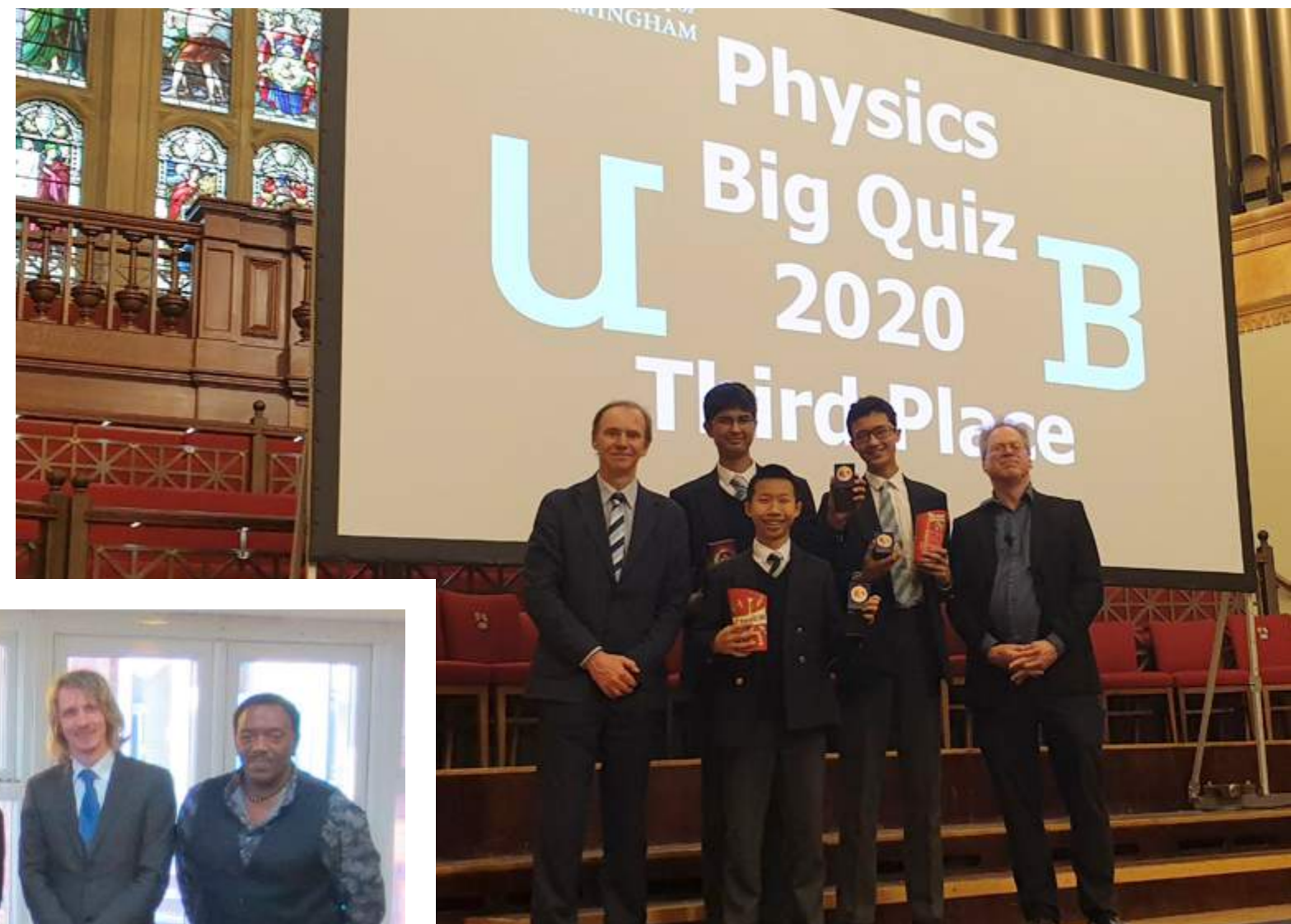
R Whitbread

Music for the Residents

Music for the Residents is an activity run as part of Bromsgrove Service. Dr Thompson, the School's Director of the International Baccalaureate, formed and runs the activity, which has been up and running for over five years. Every week students visit residential homes to provide musical entertainment. This varies from folk, to classical pieces, to popular ballads from the 1950s – and residents are always encouraged to join in.

Music is a big part of everybody's life. It lifts our spirits and helps recall precious memories. For some Alzheimer's patients, the words of a song from the past remains clear when much else is forgotten.

M Thompson



Physics Big Quiz

Nine Lower Fourth students took part in the University of Birmingham's Big Physics Quiz. As teams of three, they tested their physics knowledge against over 250 students in sixty-seven teams from across the Midlands. The Bromsgrove teams finished in highly respectable positions, with one team finishing in joint second place, only missing out on a silver medal through a very close tiebreaker question.

Certificates were awarded to Joseph Boardman, Gabriel Brown, Thomas Griffiths, Laura Huang, Serisha Sunner and Phoebe Qu.

Scholars' Programme

Master of Scholars, Dr Rimmer, established a new Scholars' Programme this year to support our brightest and best students as they develop their academic interests. After a busy Michaelmas Term focussing on Oxbridge applications, which resulted in four students heading off to study Medicine, Natural Sciences and Psychology, the new programme began with a Scholars' Reception in the Old Chapel. Students were encouraged to find study buddies and build teams for the Research Competition that took place a week later. This year, students were tasked with assessing how our current era will be remembered by the next generation of historians – perhaps the age of the drone, the app epoch... an almost uniform theme was established that suggested this was a time of reckoning whereby our choices would define our future. It was especially pleasing that, for the first time in the five years of this competition, a Prep School team entered – they were particularly commended by the Headmaster and rewarded with a special lunch in the staff dining room. Later in the Lent Term, the University Preparation Programme began to support ambitious students wanting to apply to very competitive universities and courses, which attracted nearly 100 participants.

D Rimmer



Sustainability Competition

Congratulations to Isabella Walters and Lucia Goodwin who both made the Final of Warwick University's Sustainability Competition 2020. During the online ceremony, Isabella was announced as the winner of the podcast entry, and Lucia was runner up in the essay category.

Each year, the Global Sustainable Development department at the University runs a competition for Year 12 (Lower Sixth) pupils. The competition was established to engage with talented school pupils and provide an insight into the type of thought-provoking issues involved in studying GSD at Warwick.

The pupils chose from the competition themes set by the GSD department. Isabella wrote a four-minute podcast on the topic of 'Many influential figures deny that climate change is real. How would you respond to climate change deniers?'. Lucia wrote a 2000-word essay on 'To what extent is sustainable development about creation?'

S Atkinson



The Chicken Kit Car

F24th Place

On Thursday, 17th of October 2019, Team Chicken attended the World Finals at Silverstone, where they prepared themselves to defend their kit car championship status against 110 other race cars. The day started sunny and bright but was forecast to have rain by the time the races started. For us, this boded well as the car was a rain specialist. We arrived at the very impressive British circuit filled with high hopes and dreams of another star being added to our team logo.

The practice session was excellent and we tested the new components with great success. The students made comments about the smoothness of both the track and the drive system. The three drivers went out to get used to the track and the car was then cooled and prepped in readiness for the first race.

The format this year was a little different. We had to qualify with all the F24 and kit cars for a grid position. This would then be followed by a parade and final race. We placed 20th on the grid and 1st placed kit car for the qualifier race. The race was solid and we flew around as expected, finishing in 19th place and top kit car. Our pit stops were great and the car held out until the last lap. The car was then brought back into the pit lane and cooled using our new N S Optimum server fan combo. We set about answering questions about the car and race strategy from what seemed like every other team in the competition. We gave help and advice for well over an hour, and at one point, we had a queue of students, teachers and parents waiting to talk to us, which was a little surreal.



Race two approached after lunch, again placed 19th on the grid, with our main rival in 23rd place. This was going to be close. The start of the race was strange - the front of the grid did not see the start flag and didn't move, whilst the middle of the pack did and so almost caused a front of the grid pile up. Once underway, Team Chicken settled into a top fifteen place for the first five laps. A little rain came and went, and the wind picked up a little, and the car carried on relentlessly, with all pit changes completed perfectly. It all got a little tense on the last lap where we had slowed down (battery issue) and we held the lead until the last straight where our main rivals passed by us and finished 6.2 seconds ahead. This meant we had finished as the 2nd kit car and 24th overall. This was out of fifty-five Kitcars and 100 overall finalist cars from around the world. A great achievement that we were all pleased with. We topped this off with an award for best graphics celebrating the 20th anniversary of Greenpower too, which helped ease the pain of losing... a little.



The event was superb and the students were unbelievably good on the day - we were only let down by battery discharge issues on the last lap. The students involved on the day were drivers Aggie Warner, Noah Rogers and Harrison Philpott; pit crew members Howard Goldstraw, Ollie Weekes, Morgan Black, Mikayla De Gouveia, Callum Wilkinson, Polly Dakin and George Eccles; Technical advice and past team manger Scarlett Bond and behind the scenes (back at School) general maintenance was undertaken by Artem Khodachuk and Gabriel Wong.

I would also like to thank our fantastic sponsors who have made us into a formidable force: Steve at 4QD, Classic Team Lotus, Cycle Studio Redditch, Washford Finishings, Eagle Plastics and N S Optimum. We will get that title back, I promise!

S Broadbent

Tournament of Champions – Senior Team

A group of Senior pupils competed at Yale University as part of the World Scholar's Cup in November 2019. After progressing through the regional and global rounds, they were positioned high enough in the rankings to be considered good enough for the Tournament of Champions.

The Tournament of Champions brought together the best scholars from all six global rounds of the World Scholar's Cup (Den Haag, Beijing, Nur Sultan, Sydney, Manila and Durban). The Senior School team consisted of George Hastings, Shaan Singh Sanghera and Nicholas Hunt, all Lower Fourth pupils.

Each round featured four competitive skill-building events: Team Debate, Collaborative Writing, Scholar's Challenge, Scholar's Bowl. There were six different themes: Literature, Social Studies, Special Area, Science & Technology, Art &, Music, History.

625 Scholars from sixty countries representing the best of the best scholars from around the world arrived at Yale University eager to get started. Our Senior School team did well and positioned themselves overall at 120 out of 500 teams. They also won twenty-five medals, including five gold and twenty silver, for both individual and team efforts. The team enjoyed their experience, learnt a lot and met some new overseas friends. This was the first time Broomsgrove School had entered any teams and only five UK schools were represented at the Tournament of Champions, so it really is a remarkable achievement for George, Shaan and Nicholas.



Two Zero One Pupil Magazine

Two Zero One magazine has continued to function as normal, which all redounds to Vivianne Zhang Wei's facility as Editor, being under the direct control of the pupils, albeit with the current circumstances leading to more independence than they possibly would have liked. Despite the new pressures and unfamiliarity, the team managed to produce a special COVID-19 issue, aptly titled 'Alone, Together', which was a fitting end to Vivi's editorship and a capstone to the excellent work they have all produced this year.

It comes as no surprise that Two Zero One was once again nominated in the Shine School Media Awards 2020, but this year we were all honoured and delighted to see the team sweep the board at the online ceremony at the end of June.

Overall Winner of Best Magazine

Overall Winner for Editor of the Year:
Vivianne Zhang Wei

Overall Winner for Best Overall Content:
Editorial Team

Overall Winner for Best Front Cover:
Liza Vasilyeva

Highly Commended for
Best illustration and artwork:
Liza Vasilyeva

Highly Commended for
Best Print and Design:
Maximillian Opengeym

Highly Commended for Best Cartoon:
Julia Sturz



This is what the judges said about Two Zero One in the category of 'Best Magazine':

"This was a truly inspiring entry given the circumstances of its production under lockdown. Interesting, wide-ranging and engaging content voicing the concerns and topics of the moment, together with lifestyle and arts content, pulled together with attractive design and glorious illustrations. A fantastic read, well done."

I am not one for prognostications, but I can only see the magazine going from strength to strength as it enters its fourth year and that is all a result of the talent and toil that the pupils volunteer and put in.

J Huckle



The following article is an exceptional piece of writing by Upper Sixth leaver, Vivianne Zhang-Wei, which featured in the award winning final issue of Two Zero One for the 2019/20 academic year.

Finding Authenticity in the Classroom

Ever experienced the inexplicable discomfort of running into a teacher in the supermarket? Some do such a good job at maintaining their professional facades that it becomes impossible to imagine them having a life OUTSIDE SCHOOL (!). That's why, I think, when teachers were told about our transition to online-teaching, those who were not sweating over "the-tech-side-of things", were worrying about how to preserve this facade while teaching from their living rooms.

The contrast isn't even too palpable in a boarding school like Bromsgrove – imagine what it's like for the university professor who has only ever addressed his students from an elevated podium, dressed in a suit and tie. It seems unavoidable that people will struggle more to keep private and professional matters apart the longer they work from home. The question is: what will this mean for student teacher relationships?

The short answer is that I don't know either. But what I do know is this: when my first Zoom lesson was interrupted by the barking of my teacher's dog, I didn't feel annoyed, uncomfortable, or even disheartened with the virtual classroom experience. I felt hopeful.

In the recent two summers, Mulan and I have been teaching English to younger, but not a lot younger, students in China. The "not a lot younger" aspect of it posed us a dilemma. We had thought that keeping them quiet would be our biggest challenge: who knew that getting them talking would be a greater one? Here's the thing: teachers are granted some authority by default. Standing at "that end" of the classroom and having the teacher title was enough to keep these students sat still in their chairs, quietly listening to us. It was enough to make them turn up punctually and enough to make them complete their homework with reasonable effort. But was that enough? Ten minutes into our first lesson, we realised that it wasn't; we wanted our students to open up, feel confident, challenge themselves – trust us – but then, how could we expect them to do so while hiding behind facades ourselves? Our dilemma became this: teachers, or friends?

Let's cut the suspense; our dilemma was resolved the next morning. The second lesson in our course is called "A day in my life", which we would start by showing a short clip from, well, a day in our lives, at Bromsgrove. Quite busy feeling smug about what a clever way we had come up with to teach temporal adverbs, we didn't think too much about what we were doing. But unknowingly, we had revealed a part of our harmless, high-school student selves. The hastily edited iPhone-recording featuring me brushing my teeth, making my bed, doing homework at midnight – against the backdrop of a messy-ish dorm and overused iMovie stock music – showed them who we really were: that we were no different from them – that we, too, were just students. Occasionally disorganised, confused, imperfect: human.

I think the little, accidental glimpses that our teachers are giving us into their lives, into them, over Zoom are having a similar effect. I'll occasionally catch myself looking at the books on Mr Ruben's bookshelf, wondering what he might be reading at the moment, or Dr Whitbread's teacup, wondering which brew fills it this morning. I'll look at the mess that I've shoved out of my webcam's reach and am able to, for once, imagine my teachers having imperfections too. Of course, we need them to set good examples and be professionals, and I respect the preference to keep private and professional lives apart, but sometimes, just sometimes, we really crave the refreshing reminder that our teachers are just everyday people, and these humanising clues to who they really are. Especially now.

Don't get me wrong: I would do anything to be back in a physical classroom again. But in the meantime, perhaps we shouldn't be too quick to label Zoom some yeah-okay-good-enough "Plan B", "last resort" or sad replication of the "real thing", but see it as a new and exciting experience that, despite its flaws, may help us re-evaluate our traditional classroom practices. When I look at my classroom in gallery view, there are no elevated podiums, teachers' desks, front rows, back rows: we all show up right next to each other, in randomly ordered two-by-three centimetres participant boxes, equally likely to, at any point, be interrupted by slow Wi-Fi, construction work, a family member, or doorbell. The feeling it communicates, that, in lack of a proper word, "we – even teachers – are in this together" is so comforting that whatever the long-term impact of online teaching may be, it seems irrelevant for now. Perhaps what we end up finding in our "fake"-classrooms is something that we least expected: authenticity.

Vivianne Zhang-Wei



Our Wildlife Heroes - The Bromsgrove Grounds and Gardening Team.

Worcestershire Wildlife Heroes

The Grounds team were nominated as a Wildlife Hero by the Worcestershire Wildlife Trust, which Richard Hare (Head Groundsman) was delighted to accept on behalf of the team.

In the last five years, the School has planted an orchard of fifty different fruit trees (all midlands-based varieties), introduced several wildlife meadows across all the School sites, planted large numbers of trees and hedges, left manicured lawns for wildlife and introduced a bee-keeping club with a beehive on site. We are also in the process of building a wildlife-friendly area, which includes a wildlife-friendly pond.

R Hare



World Earth Day

World Earth Day - to be frank that doesn't sound very interesting, nevertheless, it is actually very important and unfairly uncommon; the day was celebrated for the 50th time this year on 22nd April 2020 to raise awareness for the disastrous manmade climate change.

Due to the current situation, in which mass protests all over the world can't take place, I think in this odd and special year, World Earth Day was rather symbolic; reminding us that there is another problem which hits mankind into the solar plexus, not only right now but also in future decades.

World Earth Day 2020 - including an online protest, banners hung up in multiple cities, and one hour in which millions of households all over the world turned off their lights - was rather symbolic to remind us that we have to use every day and also the coronavirus crisis to see how we can contain climate change.

Obviously, the temporary time-out for the nature to clean up some of the mess we have made is a chance to slow down climate change (for example the decrease of Rome's nitrogen dioxide pollution by 49% over March compared to 2019) but that is not exactly the crucial chance that this pandemic brings with it. It is the more sustainable chances I am talking about, the ones we can use to have a positive long-term effect on the climate.

First of all, scientists now get a chance to investigate how much mankind is responsible for climate change. In other words, they can display numbers to show the gargantuan impact the adjustment of our behaviour would have on the climate - not only to prove manmade climate change deniers (like some Republican politicians in the USA) that they are on the wrong route. This is crucial for plans and deals signed in future to be efficient and relevant, targeting the right things.

Secondly, and I think this is the greatest chance the current situation brings with it, we can now control in which direction the economy is going to drive for the next decades. After a huge crisis like this one, the politicians have a lot of power, which they can use to not only achieve one-dimensional but at least three-dimensional goals.

In other words, this new economic situation (which is compared to 1945/46 by some economic scientists) gives us a great chance - probably the last one we get - to overcome a country's gross domestic product as the limiting factor of nearly all problem-solving so far to bring a profitable economy and a climate friendly future smoothly together.

There are many more chances that our current situation brings with it, like the opportunity it gives us in our private life to change some rather environmentally unfriendly behaviours, and we should not let the horrible effects of the coronavirus - death, even greater poverty, hunger, homelessness, social injustice and many more dilemmas - to demotivate us. Quite the contrary, I think exactly this should drive us to make the best of the status quo. Let us try to improve and take action as much as we can for a fairer, better and greener future. There are many things this includes and in terms of climate action, an event like the World Earth Day can help us to be reminded of that.

Elisabeth Rieger



World War Two – Second School History Book Published

Former Deputy Headmaster and historian, Philip Bowen has written a second book on the theme of Bromsgrove School at War, this time focussing on World War Two and Bromsgrove's move to Wales. We were delighted to host the launch of this in November 2019, which included an interactive presentation and archive display.

The history of Bromsgrove School in the 20th Century was deeply affected by both world wars. In the first conflict 96 Old Bromsgrovians died; in the second 103. In the book, Mr Bowen tells us of OBs who died retreating to Dunkirk; in the Battle of Britain; North African deserts; going down with their ships; on D-Day; at Arnhem; in the advance on Germany and in harrowing circumstances in the Far East. Many joined the R.A.F. and died in fighters and bombers.

The most striking contrast for the School was the Exile. Many Public Schools were forced to leave their premises, often because of the danger of air-raids, but Bromsgrove's spacious and secluded campus was needed for war work. There is some mystery about what went on at School. It was certainly a retreat for the India Office and some say the Churchill tank was designed here. The Headmaster, David Walters, was summoned to London at the end of 1938 and told that in the event of war the School would be occupied. He could only divulge the plan to his Chairman of Governors, Lord Cobham.

A Welshman, Mr Walters visited several small towns in mid-Wales and at the end of a long, frustrating January day reached the smallest town in Great Britain – Llanwrtyd Wells. He had found a temporary home which was destined to take on the appearance of a university town. Once war had broken out, in days he masterminded the transfer of a Boarding School and its equipment. Huge pantechinons made sixty journeys in all. It was a remarkable logistical achievement. The School returned in 1943.

The vast Memorial Chapel at Bromsgrove School is a lasting monument to the Fallen in both world wars. At its completion in 1960 the Mr Routh - Headmaster - said to the School *"This place enshrines the memory of those who gave their lives so that you are sitting here in safety today. Never I charge you forget that you are treading on hallowed ground."* That is still remembered and respected by today's students. Mr Bowen's book is available to purchase from the School Shop.



Members of Bromsgrove Mission Hills and Bromsgrove UK EXEC paying their respects to the late Dr David Chu. L-R: Mr Ian Shi (COO, Mission Hills), Dr Charles Wall (Head of Senior School and Prep Senior at Bromsgrove Mission Hills), Mr Bill Wang (Executive Director, Mission Hills), Mr Michael Luckman (School Governor), Dr Catherine Chu (Executive Director of Mission Hills), Mr Peter Clague (Headmaster), Mrs Lesley Brookes (Bursar), Miss Rachel Scannell (Assistant Head), Mrs Anna Packman (Head of Pre and Prep Junior at Bromsgrove Mission Hills), Mr Charles Tsai (Bromsgrove Alumni).

Visit to Bromsgrove Mission Hills

Members of the Bromsgrove School UK EXEC team were delighted to meet up with Board Members and the Leadership team at Bromsgrove School Mission Hills in Shenzhen, China in September 2019.

The team paid their respects to Dr David Chu, on the anniversary of his birthday, whose vision inspired the creation of Bromsgrove School Mission Hills.

The Board of Bromsgrove School Mission Hills and Senior Staff enjoyed meeting with Dr Ken Chu, Chairman and CEO of Mission Hills Group.

In January 2020, Dr Catherine Chu, Executive Director of Mission Hills and OB Mr Charles Tsai (Wendron-Gordon 1989-1994) were welcomed to Bromsgrove School UK. After a tour of the Preparatory and Senior Schools, Charles and Catherine were invited to look through the archives, with particular reference to photographs from Charles' time at Bromsgrove. A visit to Wendron-Gordon brought back many memories, including roll call in the common room and his dorm.

M Griffiths





Young Enterprise

This year, the Young Enterprise activity, like many activities has seen significant disruption. However, EcoVerse showed their tenacious spirit early on and still went on to achieve success. The team attended a trade fair in Worcester just before the School closure, not only making a pleasing number of sales and receiving some fantastic customer feedback, they were also awarded Best Customer Service. Once their thorough company report and presentation were submitted digitally, the judges for the Area Final presented the team with the Innovation & Creativity Award, Best Finance Award and they were one of two overall winners. The judges were particularly impressed with their “breakdown of costs and sales which demonstrated sound financial control” and their “creative and attractive range of products which could do well on the high street”. At the Herefordshire and

Worcestershire County Final the team secured the Best Use of IT Award for their “excellent website and use of social media to promote their products which displayed good customer focus”.

Judges reflected that they were impressed by the students’ “honesty in the reflection of their business journey. It showed that they recognised that there are many and diverse influences on whether a business thrives or not”. Whilst this year may not have turned out as we may have hoped, in terms of a business experience, it may have been one of the most valuable years to date and it will hopefully serve the students well for the future.

Particular thanks must go to Lorita Cornish from local business Decanter Spirit for her unwavering support of the team in her role as Business Advisor.

J Holdsworth



VE Day 75th Anniversary Commemorations

The 8th May 2020 marked 75 years since the end of WWII in Europe. Although we were not able to meet as a School and local community to mark the occasion and pay tribute to the Old Broomsgrovians who had died during the War, we reached out to our School community to discover their families’ memories of that time and to current pupils to share their experiences of marking this occasion, many of whom decided to commemorate the day at home. Back at Broomsgrove, a street party was put on for the children of our key workers in the grounds of the Prep School. Captain Farnes asked his Upper Fourth Cadets to design a piece of work to display on VE Day, and he received some very impressive entries, including these two pieces of written work by current pupil, Harrison Brown.

A Toddlers View: It was so bright

Having been born in December 1943, my Grandma didn't realise she remembered VE Day until she was much older and she asked her mum about an overwhelming memory she had of lots of lights, some brighter than others, some that looked like two eyes and some that were fire. It would appear that she had been taken up to the top of the road they lived on in Harborne on the evening of VE Day and it was all the lights that she saw. Having spent the first eighteen months of her life with blackouts and war time, life suddenly seemed so bright with the lights on in houses and the street lights lit up - and the two eyes coming towards her were buses and cars. As they looked right from the top of their road there was a huge bonfire at the top of Barnes Hill.

A Soldier's Day

Harrison also spoke to Arthur Kennedy, his grandparents’ neighbour who is now 95, about his experience of VE Day – this is his story:

Arthur, who was 21 at the time, was based in the Midlands with his regiment, the Royal Electrical & Mechanical Engineers.

About a week before VE Day, his battalion were informed they were being relocated to Nottingham, and they were to prepare to be shipped out to the Far East. A day before he was due to leave for the Philippines, Arthur and another NCO were sent to a Tech School close to where they were based in Nottingham and told they were being kept behind in England. As the only two remaining NCOs in that regiment, they were needed as instructors, for many other NCOs had to pass a test to uphold their current army rank. This meant Arthur was luckily enough to be at home and with his family on VE day. He said he couldn't really remember much about the day itself, as it was all blurred together as a mixture of celebration, uncertainty and nerves as there was still a war going on – one that he nearly had to fight in and had already lost many friends and family to.

Harrison Brown

The Broomsgrovian 1945 mentions a Thanksgiving service in the Memorial Chapel and a two-day holiday for the boys, in line with the National Holiday. We heard from Old Broomsgrovians who were at Broomsgrove School, at other schools and at home at the time, as to what VE Day meant for them. Our OBs shared memories of attending School Chapel on the day that the war ended, of sending messages home to family members and listening to the radio with their parents when the news broke.

Emrys Evans completed our week long tweeting of memories, and his final statement sums up the feelings of many that were shared with us:

“Street parties were a big thing along with bonfires. It is a long time ago but the relief at war's end was genuine.”

N Thorpe

Prep School Trips

French Trip

During February half term, fifty-one Year 6 pupils and five staff members set out to Étapes in northern France. It was a trip filled with authentic French sights, sounds and smells. There were many planned excursions each day, but among the pupils' favourites were the bee farm, a trip to a primary school, Nausicaá (the sea-life centre in Boulogne), bowling and the obligatory visit to the beach in Le Touquet. From a culinary perspective, many of our travellers sampled the customary baguette, croissants and chocolat chaud. The group returned home tired but richer for the experience and hungry to learn more.

My sincere thanks go to the four accompanying staff: Mr Sutherland, Mrs Finnegan, Miss Mimberg and Miss Gonzalez, and to all the pupils who made taking the trip such a pleasure.

C Kippax





Rugby and Hockey Sports Tour

Thirty-four Year 8 boys and four teachers, Mr Jones, Mr Lane, Mr Kippax and Mr Sutherland, met at Birmingham Airport to fly to Venice on a five-day rugby and hockey tour. After a short transfer to the beach hotel, an hour south of Venice, the group enjoyed a picnic on the beach and were graced with glorious sunny weather, peaking at 25 degrees during the week. On the second day, there was a training session for both hockey and rugby in the morning before exploring the city of Padua in the afternoon, taking in some local ice cream and singing Swing Low Sweet Chariot on the steps of the old Basilica. The evening brought about the first rugby matches of the tour versus Badia Rugby Club, and the Barbarian mixed U13B, C and D team came up against the club's U13A team. Then our U13A/B team played the club's U14As, who had some very large players, but our boys stood up and gave an excellent account of themselves, only going down four tries to one.

The evening of the third day saw hockey matches against Padova and Patavium hockey clubs, and just like the rugby, our U13A team were faced with playing some much bigger boys. Despite going down 5-0, they gave a good account of themselves, whilst the U13B and U13C teams lost 2-1 and 3-0 respectively. The tour of the iconic city of Venice included a boat trip onto the island itself, ice cream in the world renowned St Mark's square and a two-hour guided tour, which took in the maze that is the narrow streets and canals of Venice.

The group departed Venice and headed for their final fixture versus Grifoni Oderzo Rugby Club, and this turned out to be a great evening both on and off the pitch. This time the U13A/B team were up first and had a superb game of rugby versus Grifoni U13A team. Bromsgrove won a close game. The Barbarian U13 B, C, D and E team found the going tough versus Grifoni U12As but gave a good account of themselves. Following the matches, the teams were hosted superbly in the club house and exchanged customary plaques.

The boys were superb all week and the trip could not have gone any better. I would like to thank the boys and my three colleagues who gave up five days of their half term to enable the trip to run so smoothly. Until next time...

G Jones

Rugby and Hockey Tour Awards

Rugby Captain: Jack Wilkinson (A) and JJ Whitlock (B)

Best Tackle: Alexander Lobban (A) and Marvellous Daniel-Umoh (B)

Best Forward: Joseph Kippax (A) and Edward Hu (B)

Best Back: James Hobbs (A) and Marvellous Daniel-Umoh (B)

Most Improved: Frazer Jones (A) and Marvellous Daniel-Umoh (B)

Outstanding Tourists (A Team): Hugo Blackwell, Benjamin Hornigold, Thomas Ashton and Tom Fullard

Outstanding Tourists (B Team): Oliver Rodriguez-Harris, Liam Bennett and Alfie Powell

Hockey Captain: Joseph Kippax (A), Benjamin Hornigold (B) and Jack Ryan (C)

Best Defender: Neel Agrawal (A), Max Goodwin (B) and Alex Cheung (C)

Best Midfielder: Joseph Kippax (A), Finn Austin (B) and Tobias Schroeder (C)

Best Forward: Alexander Lobban (A), Joshua Haughton (B) and Henry Wiggins (C)

Most Improved: Ethan Spurgeon (A), Reuben McLean (B) and Reesen Moodley (C)

Outstanding Tourist (A Team): James Hobbs, George Hollingworth, Joshua Collett and Jack Gilbert

Outstanding Tourist (B Team): Sebastian Bullock and Montague Mehjoo

Outstanding Tourist (C Team): Ben Black, James Battelley and Idatoyn Hart

Boarders' Trips and Activities

Although some of the trips during the Summer Term were unable to run due to COVID-19, those that our boarders did take part in from September to March were as popular as ever. The annual trips to Birmingham, London, Bath and the German Christmas Market were enjoyed by pupils in all year groups. The newest trip to an Escape Room was a big hit and a definite for next year. A huge thank you goes to the boarding staff for their assistance in running the trips.

L Mullan



Senior School Trips

A Level Geography trip to Birmingham

In March, Upper Sixth A Level Geography pupils went on their Changing Places field day to Birmingham. During the morning, they were treated to a lively and informative walking tour by Professor Carl Chinn, who is the oracle on all things to do with Birmingham and has written numerous books on the real Peaky Blinders; some of the group even got their books signed.

Then, in the afternoon, pupils stepped further back in time for a guided tour of The National Trust Back to Backs to see what life was like in Birmingham in the 19th century. All were extremely enthusiastic participants and were excellent ambassadors for the School.

F Diver

CERN

What could be better than two nights spent in Geneva? Easy: four nights! During the Physics trip in February to this financial metropolis, rich with cultural and historical significance both to Europe and the entire world, we experienced both sides of this question when Storm Ciara unexpectedly extended the original itinerary. Having made it to the airport in good time, checked twenty-three people through security, and breathed a sigh of relief, suddenly we were met with a departure board covered in red and found ourselves stranded for an extra two nights. This was not all bad, though. In addition to the guided tour of the European Organisation for Nuclear Research (CERN) that we had already enjoyed, and the musically blessed and authentically Swiss dinner at Hotel Edelweiss, we were able to visit the United Nations and Geneva's Old Town. Key sights of Geneva, of course, but ones which were originally excluded given the brevity of our flyby visit. Such were the silver linings to Storm Ciara's clouds: when we finally returned to Bromsgrove, we did so with a richer story to tell, and a deeper insight into this fantastic and monumental European city.

D Atkinson



IB1 field day to the Carding Mill Valley

At the start of the Michaelmas Term, IB1 Geography pupils travelled to the Carding Mill Valley in Shropshire to complete data collection for their internal assessment. They demonstrated excellent team work and were extremely efficient at collecting river data at twelve sites; including velocity, river depth and bed load. The antecedent conditions meant that the river was much higher than when the Fifth Form visited the previous week. Fortunately, the weather was kind to us; apart from one short, sharp shower.

F Diver

Fifth Form Field Trips

The Fifth Form were finally able to visit the Carding Mill Valley this year, having twice been postponed in the Upper Fourth due to the tail winds of hurricanes on both dates. The students gained invaluable physical fieldwork skills, collecting river studies data including velocity, bedload shape and size and were extremely keen and enthusiastic on this very sunny day.

In November, our pupils also enjoyed a field trip to Longbridge, investigating human geography and collecting data on changes in pedestrian counts, land use and environmental quality both in the new retail development and surrounding residential sites. These data collection techniques, data presentation and analysis back in the classroom is an important aspect of the Geography GCSE and are invaluable for those students choosing to carry on the subject at A Level.

E Gill



Geography Trip to Iceland

Twenty-nine excited students embarked on a trip to Iceland during October half term. During their stay, they had a true introduction to Icelandic geology and culture.

Day 1: Students spent time chasing the Northern lights, but, unfortunately, didn't manage to see anything. They still had a good night and acclimatised to the weather.

Day 2: Students visited Thingvellir National Park and Oxarfoss fall, with a lovely lunch at one of the many horticulture centres powered by geothermal heating. At the centre, the group had the opportunity to try tomato ice cream. This was followed by a visit to the two tier waterfall Gullfoss and famous Strokkur geysir.

Day 3: The Geographers travelled to the second largest geothermal power station located on top of the active volcano, Hengill. This station provides electricity as well as hot water to Reykjavik and is one of the greenest energy sources on the planet.

As the day progressed, students braved the weather and sulphur smell to visit the hot springs on the Reykjanes Peninsula. Students ended the day by standing on the Mid-Atlantic Ridge - the only section visible on land between the Eurasian and North American plates.

Day 4: Geography students visited South Iceland, an area which has a rich band of black sandy beaches, ice caps, fertile river plains and an explosive volcanic landscape. They started the day at the LAVA centre, where they were able to witness 'the birth' of Iceland through state of the art technology. After lunch, pictures were taken at Seljalandsfoss, a waterfall fed by the melting water from Eyjafjallajökull's icecap. The group also enjoyed the cascades of Skógafoss and the black volcanic sands of Reynisfjara and its basalt columns.

R Doak



History Trip

Thirty-eight A Level and IB historians, along with Mr Matthews and Mr Huckle, visited Birmingham to attend four talks by noted lecturers on the Rise and Rule of the Nazis in 1920s and 1930s Germany. Aimed at Year 13 students, the Study Day focussed on continuity and change, cause and consequence, all vital talking points to invite further investigation into the topic.

S Matthews

Performing Arts Overview

Although our Performing Arts Calendar was sadly somewhat truncated, it has still been an impressive year for music and play-making across the Bromsgrove School campuses. Before the end of March, over forty performances took place including twenty-two House plays and as many musical ensembles, quite apart from the numerous Chapel Services both here and further afield, which have shown off the outstanding discipline and musicality of the Senior and Prep choirs. I am delighted that well over 400 students have performed on the concert platform or on the Cobham Stage to capacity audiences this year, and I have greatly admired the spirit in which so many have risen to the challenge of lockdown to continue to keep up their acting, singing and playing.

Whilst so many events were postponed indefinitely, the Music department continued to present a programme of solo performances, chamber ensembles and small choirs (all a miracle of ingenuity, technology and hours of patient editing by Mr McKelvey and Mr Martin) in the form of virtual Zoom concerts, on an almost weekly basis, since the beginning of May.

Drama Scholars have engaged in Zoom play-reading sessions and individual workshops, while the combined Music and Drama departments have pushed ahead with online auditions for the next Senior School musical, proving we have a great deal of talent that is remains committed and very anxious to perform in these difficult times.

T Norton



Prep Drama

With this being my first year at Bromsgrove School, I was delighted to find the enthusiasm, dedication, drive and quality of the pupils matched my own.

My drama ethos is to build confidence, develop interpersonal skills and give new experiences to the pupils I teach. Every drama lesson works to the Three C's: Concentration, Communication and Co-operation, and I have taken time to deliver this message to all year groups. These skills are not only essential for drama but for all aspects of life and these traits are found in all successful people, regardless of the field they work in.

While these skills do not always come naturally, with the right encouragement they can be developed over time. I have refreshed and updated the curriculum to match these ideals and introduced new topics such as the *Practical Exploration of scripts* in Years 5, 7 and 8, *Fairy Tales* and *Storytelling* in Year 5, *Silent Movies* and *Melodrama* in Year 6, *Using Voice* and *Exploring Victorian Society* in Year 7 and *Stage Combat* and *Creatively Adapted Physical Theatre* for Year 8. This year has clearly been dominated by events outside of School life and it was unfortunate that we were unable to see the House Drama competition or the Year 6 performances. Thankfully, we were able to perform *A Midsummer Night's Dream* in February in Cobham Theatre.

The large cast consisting of pupils from Year 7 and 8 worked extremely hard to bring the words to life. Jack Gilbert as Oberon and Charissa Brobbey-Sarpong as Titania communicated the complicated relationship between their characters exceptionally well. While Olivia McKelvey portrayed a mischievous Puck, full of attitude and gumption.

The Workmen added the comedy, with Neel Agrawal as Bottom and Lily Milojevic as Quince. Ewan Head certainly shone as Flute, playing the female role of Thisbe in the play. Throughout the story, Jack Wilkinson, Hugo Blackwell, Maya Wingfield and Amelie Jackson played The Lovers, bickering and squabbling through the forest. Phoebe Dinnen as Snout played "The Wall" in the play for the nobles. We also saw Max Goodwin as Theseus, Tilly Richardson as Hippolyta and George Hollingsworth as Egeus.

J Amphet

Senior Drama

The Michaelmas Term was dominated by the Senior School production, *Great Expectations*. Over fifty students performed or worked backstage in this performance, which was visually stunning, at turns frightening, hilarious and often very moving. Stand out performances from Andrei Agapyye, James Bradley and Eleanor Johnson were superbly supported by an exceptional ensemble who played over 150 roles in the course of the evening. From the first moment in the desolate graveyard, through the foreboding, candlelit scenes in Satis House; Pip's arrival into a bustling, raucous London; a large house fire; a society ball and a fully staged drowning in the Thames, the audience was utterly gripped by the electricity of the storytelling and charmed by the inventiveness of the staging. A production that will long remain in the memory.



Fourth Form House Drama

During the Lent Term, the Fourth Form House Drama Competition involved eighty students from the Lower and Upper Fourth Forms. In January, each House presented an extract from an existing play that was adjudicated by our new Head of Drama in the Prep School, Mr Amphlett. Without doubt, the competition reached new heights in terms of the consistency, inventiveness and quality of the work on display. There was also a great range in the genre of the pieces produced; from some highly advanced work on *Twelfth Night* to the physical clowning of *The 39 Steps*.

The whole evening was a great triumph, and the prizes this year were awarded as follows:

Best Actor

Lola Hill

Best Actor (runner up)

Fred Hanson

Adjudicator's Special Award (this year for most convincing accent work)

Walters

Best Play

Wendron Gordon for *The Trial*
(directed by Oleksii Moskalevskyi)

Best Play (runner up)

Elmshurst for *The 39 Steps*
(directed by Joseph Hong)



Senior House Drama

A capacity crowd in Cobham Theatre was treated to an extraordinary evening of international play making and storytelling for the Senior House Drama Competition. This was no more perfectly exemplified in the entry from the new Webber House who devised their own highly unusual version of *Hansel and Gretel* set on the bustling streets of New York.

The whole evening was a most professionally executed event and everyone involved deserved high praise for their teamwork, discipline, talent and sheer hard work this year.

Mr Richard Goulding, actor and director, adjudicated and shared some excellent words of wisdom that was greatly appreciated. He was dazzled by the efficiency and high standard of the performances and was given a very hard task in deciding how to award the prizes which were as follows:

2020 Performing Arts Award

Will Edwards

Best Actor

James Beattie

Best Actor (runner up)

James Bradley and Phoebe Fletcher

Best Director

Oleksii Moskaleskyi

Adjudicator's Special Award (this year for best supporting actor)

Polly Dakin

Best Play

Lupton House for *The History Boys*

Best Play (runner up)

Elmhurst House for
The Comedy About A Bank Robbery

T Norton



A Midsummer Night's Dream

Present Day Narrators:

Meg Collyer, Sadie Morgan,
Ibukun Okeowo, Ffion Wright

The Nobles

<i>Theseus</i>	Max Goodwin
<i>Hippolyta</i>	Tilly Richardson
<i>Egeus</i>	George Hollingsworth
<i>Lysander</i>	Jack Wilkinson
<i>Demetrius</i>	Hugo Blackwell
<i>Helena</i>	Maya Wingfield
<i>Hermia</i>	Amelie Jackson

The Workmen

<i>Quince</i>	Lily Milojevic
<i>Bottom</i>	Neel Agrawal
<i>Flute</i>	Ewan Head
<i>Starveling</i>	Heston Matthews
<i>Snout</i>	Phoebe Dinnen
<i>Snug</i>	Abi Palmer

The Fairies

<i>Oberon</i>	Jack Gilbert
<i>Titania</i>	Charissa Brobbey-Sarpong
<i>Puck</i>	Olivia McKelvey
<i>Peaseblossom</i>	Nimreth Mahal
<i>Cobweb</i>	Liz Philpott
<i>Moth</i>	Hannah Sutherland
<i>Mustardseed</i>	Ruby Foster
<i>Fairy</i>	Tilly Wilkins, Sienna Belcuore, Aaryanna Flynn, Joe Gillespie, Henry Grey, Evie Hastings, Georgia Hay, Sophie Hinton, Georgiana Howdle, Riana Hunt, Aaryan Jilka, Abigail Lamb, Grace Morrall, TJ Oakley, Hannah Osborne, Lauren Reid, Jai Sanghera.

Technical Crew

Stage Manager
Elizabeth Smith
Assistant Stage Managers
Emily Collett and Luciana Meadows
Lighting Operators
Lucy Cattell and Katherine Harris
Sound Operator
Ava Broadhurst
Hair and Make-up Assistants
Lauren Baker, Rhianna Hodgson
and Rukhsang Tamang

Staff Team

Director
Mr Amphlett
Choreographer
Dr Ruben
Costume Designer
Mrs Whitfield
Set Design and Technical Support
Mr Elliot and Mr Jude
Hair and Make-up
Dr Barron and Mrs Singh
Special thanks to Ms Bradford,
Mr Norton and Mr Sutherland



Great Expectations

<i>Young Pip</i>	Charlie Cooper	<i>Lord Peter Verisopht</i>	Hugh Abraham
<i>Magwitch</i>	James Bradley	<i>Mr Startup</i>	Jake Wingfield
<i>Joe Gargery</i>	Theo Gardner	<i>Viscount Lowthunder</i>	Ian Chan
<i>Mrs Joe Gargery</i>	Ciara Hughes	<i>Noddy Spanker</i>	Daniel Goodwin
<i>Compeyson</i>	Fred Hanson	<i>Bentley Drummle</i>	Lewis Osborne
<i>Mr Wopsle</i>	James Beattie	<i>Bateson Quisling</i>	Fred Hanson
<i>Uncle Pumblechook</i>	Iain Messore	<i>Dobby Slone</i>	Konstantin Chistyakov
<i>Mr Hubble</i>	Hugh Abraham	<i>Clarence Plum</i>	Jan Morozov
<i>Mrs Hubble</i>	Annabel Schulze	<i>Molly</i>	Isabella Rusling
<i>Sergeant At Arms</i>	Konstantin Chistyakov	<i>Estella</i>	Elizaveta Vasilyeva
<i>Lieutenant</i>	Aakash Thapa-Magar	<i>Bailiffs</i>	Aakash Thapa-Magar and Jan Morozov
<i>Redcoats</i>	Donald Li and Daniil Ulasavets	<i>Bow Street Runners</i>	Konstantin Chistyakov and Daniil Ulasavets
<i>Dodge Orlick</i>	Kin Cheung	<i>Guests at a Ball</i>	Lauren Court, Olivia Dalby and Anya Sharma James
<i>Young Estella</i>	Brooke-Lily York		
<i>Miss Havisham</i>	Eleanor Johnson		
<i>Biddy</i>	Phoebe Fletcher		
<i>Camilla Pocket</i>	Jessica Whitlock		
<i>Sarah Pocket</i>	Sophia Eaton		
<i>Cousin Raymond</i>	Jack Maydew and Dan Goodwin	Stage Manager	Charlotte James
<i>Georgiana</i>	Laetitia De Belgique	Deputy Stage Manager	Polina Vagner
<i>Young Herbert Pocket</i>	Jake Wingfield	Assistant Stage Managers	Annabel Hoy, Anna Mitrofanova and Jared Spurgeon
<i>Mr Jaggers</i>	Will Bellamy	Lighting Operation	Ethan McClean
<i>Pip</i>	Andrei Agapie	Sound Operation	James Scholar
<i>Mr Trabb</i>	Aakash Thapa-Magar	Head of Wardrobe	Mrs Whitfield
<i>Mr Barkis</i>	Fred Hanson	Theatre Technicians	Mr Elliot and Mr Jude
<i>Mrs Muttonhed</i>	Annabel Schulze	Production Design, Adaptation and Direction	Mr Norton
<i>Mrs Smudge</i>	Charlotte Holden		
<i>Amelia Smudge</i>	Laetitia De Belgique		
<i>Mrs Dolt</i>	Jessica Whitlock		
<i>Wemmick</i>	Max Campbell		
<i>Mike Spooney</i>	James Beattie		
<i>Mr Tench (A Baker)</i>	Jack Maydew		
<i>Herbert Pocket</i>	Oliver Owen		
<i>Miss Turnbull</i>	Polly Dakin		
<i>Miss Trumper</i>	Charlotte Holden		
<i>Miss Ashley</i>	Anna Connell		
<i>Mrs Bourne</i>	Iona Voicu		

With grateful thanks to Ms Densem for assistance with hair design, Mrs Ison for kindly knitting shawls, Mr Amphlett for assistance with Stage Combat, Miss Davis and Miss Purcell for assistance with Set Painting.

Fourth Form House Drama

Thomas Cookes – The Sound of Music

Directed by Paris Siviter	
Charlotte Brown	Louisa Von Trapp
Eliza Eddington	Brigitta Von Trapp
Sophia Meadows	Gretel Von Trapp
Amelia Rowe	Liesl Von Trapp
Anya Sanikop	Captain Von Trapp
Paris Siviter	Friedrich Von Trapp
Serisha Sunner	Reverend Mother
Serisha Sunner	Martha Von Trapp
Jessica Whitlock	Maria Von Trapp
Meghan Wilson	Kurt

Walters – A Grave Situation

Directed by James Beattie with Lewis Osborne	
Harrison Brown	Burt
Charlie Cooper	Chippy
Nathan Jukes	Ernest
Freddie O'Rourke	The Corpse

Mary Windsor – Teechers

Directed by Patricia Blessing	
Samiksha Budhathoki	Hobby
Isabella Cooper	Gail
Paola Djarova	Salty
Charlie Hodgson	Jeff Nixon
Maureen Mao	Mrs Parry
Arianna Okemuo	Ms Whitham
Kasemi Wokoma	Mr Basford

Lyttelton – Twelve Angry Men

Directed by Theo Gilbert-Birch and Fred Hanson	
Theo Gilbert-Birch	Juror
Frederick Hanson	Juror
Alex Holroyd	Juror

Hazeldene – Matilda

Directed by Scarlett Bond, Lauren Court, Olivia Dalby	
Taratip Boonnak	Student 1
Poppy-Grace Schütt	Matilda
Olivia Garrett	Miss Trunchbull
Annaliese Rice	Student 3
Isabella Rusling	Miss Honey
Madeline Shorrock	Amanda
Josie Ward	Lavender

School – Twelfth Night

Directed by Hugh Abraham	
George Hastings	Malvolio
Nicholas Hunt	Sir Toby Belch
Tom Nicholson	Maria
Jake Wingfield	Feste

Lupton – The Persuasion

Directed by Will Bellamy	
Gabriel Brown	Tobias Mollett

Oakley – Mens Sana In Thingummy Doodah

Directed by Phoebe Fletcher	
Lidia Belcuore	Victoria
Fiona Singh	Enid
Lola Hill	Dana
Phoebe Hodgkisson	Connie
Sophia Sellers	Lill
Olivia Whitfield	Nicola

Elmshurst - The 39 Steps

Directed by Joseph Hong	
Aaron Chan	Heavy
Hamish Schulze	Richard Hannay
Alex Li	Heavy
Steven Tang	Heavy
Mark Florov	Pamela
Oleksii Yeremeyev	Radio Announcer
Andrian Filipov	Heavy

Wendron-Gordon – The Trial

Directed by Oleksii Moskalevskyi	
Marcus Au Yeung	Joseph K
David Corcoran	Chorus
Richard Huang	Chorus
Chi Lam	Guard 1
Oleksii Li	Chorus
Oliver Palmer	Chorus
Noah Rogers	Guard 2
Mark Soltyk	Chorus
Hamza Suleman	Chorus
Callum Wilkinson	Inspector

Senior House Drama

Hazeldene – Abigail's Party

Directed by Ciara Hughes	
Polly Dakin	Angela
Ciara Hughes	Beverly
Imogen Vaughan-Hawkins	Sue

Walters - The Odd Couple

Directed by James Beattie	
James Beattie	Felix Unger
Lewis Osborne	Oscar Madison

Lupton - The History Boys

Directed By Will Bellamy	
Beau Baines	Lockwood
Will Bellamy	Posner
Harry Dodworth	Scripps
Rorie Dodworth	Rudge
Theo Gardner	Timms
Freddie Harvey-Gilson	Irwin
Iain Messorre	Hector
Joshua Osborn-Patel	Dakin
Ben Russell	Headmaster

Oakley - A Midsummer Night's Dream

Directed by Phoebe Fletcher and Eleanor Johnson	
Phoebe Fletcher	Hermia
Eleanor Johnson	Helena

Elmshurst – The Comedy About A Bank Robbery

Directed by Will Edwards and Alek Florov	
Craig Ditchfield	Neil Cooper
Dan Goodwin	Mitch
Matt Goodwin	Warden
Josh Howell	Tony
Justus Krauel	Russell
Julius Langen	O'Brien
Amin Makkawi	D-Block Guard
Shervin Parandian	Wife
Ben Schickel	D-Block Guard

School – The Bald Prima Donna

By Eugene Ionesco	
Hugh Abraham	Mrs Smith
George Vaughan	Mr Smith

Housman Hall – Oedipus Rex

Directed by Polina Vagner	
Anastasiia Bakulina	
Kin Cheung	
Laetitia De Belgique	
Yana Dulko	
Grigory Kozhukhov	
Sophie Latsavong-Albone	
Tatiana Morikova	
Radu-Alexandru Polschi	
James Scholar	
Anna Skorokhod	
Hafsa Suleman	
Liza Vasilyeva	
Felicitas Zahlbruckner	

Mary Windsor - The Remnant

Directed by Patricia Blessing	
Angela Hong	Shop Assistant
Leonie Sackers	Mrs Pusher
Ioana Voicu	Mrs Trott

Webber - Handsome and Gracious

Created and Directed by Ben Sugarman, Evelyn Lau, Pete Kamonchan and Jolin Tjhoie	
Leena Alahmad	Witch
Farid Mir	Narrator
Kiki Ngernanek	Mother
Maria Ocampo Villegas	Narrator
Tiwalayo Shonekan	Gracious
Ben Sugarman	Handsome

Thomas Cookes - Little Women

Directed by Emily Clark	
Cally Buxton	Amy
Emily Clark	Jo
Lucia Goodwin	Meg
Shona Mills	Beth

Wendron-Gordon - 1984

Directed by Oleksii Moskalevskyi	
Ali Al-Mousawi	Ensemble
James Bradley	O'Brien
Max Campbell	Winston
Ian Chan	Ensemble
Konstantin Chistyakov	Ensemble
Ivan Gordeev	Ensemble
Jan Morozov	Ensemble
Arsenii Steshenko	Ensemble
Stepan Tarasov	Ensemble

Prep Music

Years 3, 4 and 5 have excelled in their commitment to Music in the Prep school. The two flagship activities of Junior Choir and Junior Orchestra have memberships of 100 and 70 pupils respectively. Joyous performances have been given throughout the year including the Christmas Concert, which featured Percussion Group, Flute Ensemble, Guitar Ensemble, Recorder Group, The Flukuleles, Ukulele Group, Junior Choir and Junior Orchestra.

The two instrumental schemes in Years 3 and 5 have continued with huge success. Many of our pupils are now dedicated members of the various music ensembles and have chosen to continue playing their instruments. The Year 3 string scheme has been especially exciting this year, as a new project was embarked upon to allow all pupils to take their ABRSM Music Medal exam (sadly curtailed by the School closure). The Year 5 Brass and Woodwind scheme allowed pupils to demonstrate their newly acquired skills in the January concert, performing as an entire Wind Orchestra as well as instrument groups. The stage in Routh was truly a wonderful sight with the massed ranks of over eighty players and their instruments.

Years 3 & 4 showed their exceptional individual performing skills in the Eisteddfod. The standard of talent was truly inspiring. Pupils sang and played instruments with flair and no sign of stage fright, and our other year groups got to experience a virtual Eisteddfod in the Summer Term.

Although some of the main performances of the year had to be cancelled, Years 3, 4 and 5 pupils submitted fantastic recordings of their home performances for use in the Friday Zoom Concerts. Many of them participated in online Zoom Orchestra, Ensemble and Choir rehearsals, as well as taking part in the inspiring mass recordings.

M Corrie



Prep School Christmas Concert

Our Prep School musicians treated parents, teachers and friends to variety of performances in their annual Christmas concert. The occasion gave several ensembles valuable opportunity to play to an audience and share their musical talents. Congratulations to all those who took part and a big 'thank you' to the music staff who always work so hard to teach and inspire their pupils.

M Corrie



Chapel Choir

The Memorial Chapel is at the heart of the School's musical life and our Chapel Choir are kept busy preparing music for the regular services and festivals held each term. This year, they have tackled some varied and challenging works, often singing in three-part harmony and preparing an anthem for each Wednesday morning service. The pupils have developed both their vocal and musical skills, have become more confident in their own ability and many are happy and eager to sing solo parts. The most special time of year for any choir is Christmas and the Prep School's Carol Service is a wonderful occasion. Although we now sadly say goodbye to our Year 8 pupils, I hope they will continue to sing in the Senior School Chapel Choir. We also look forward to welcoming our new contingency of Year 6 singers who will be joining us in September.

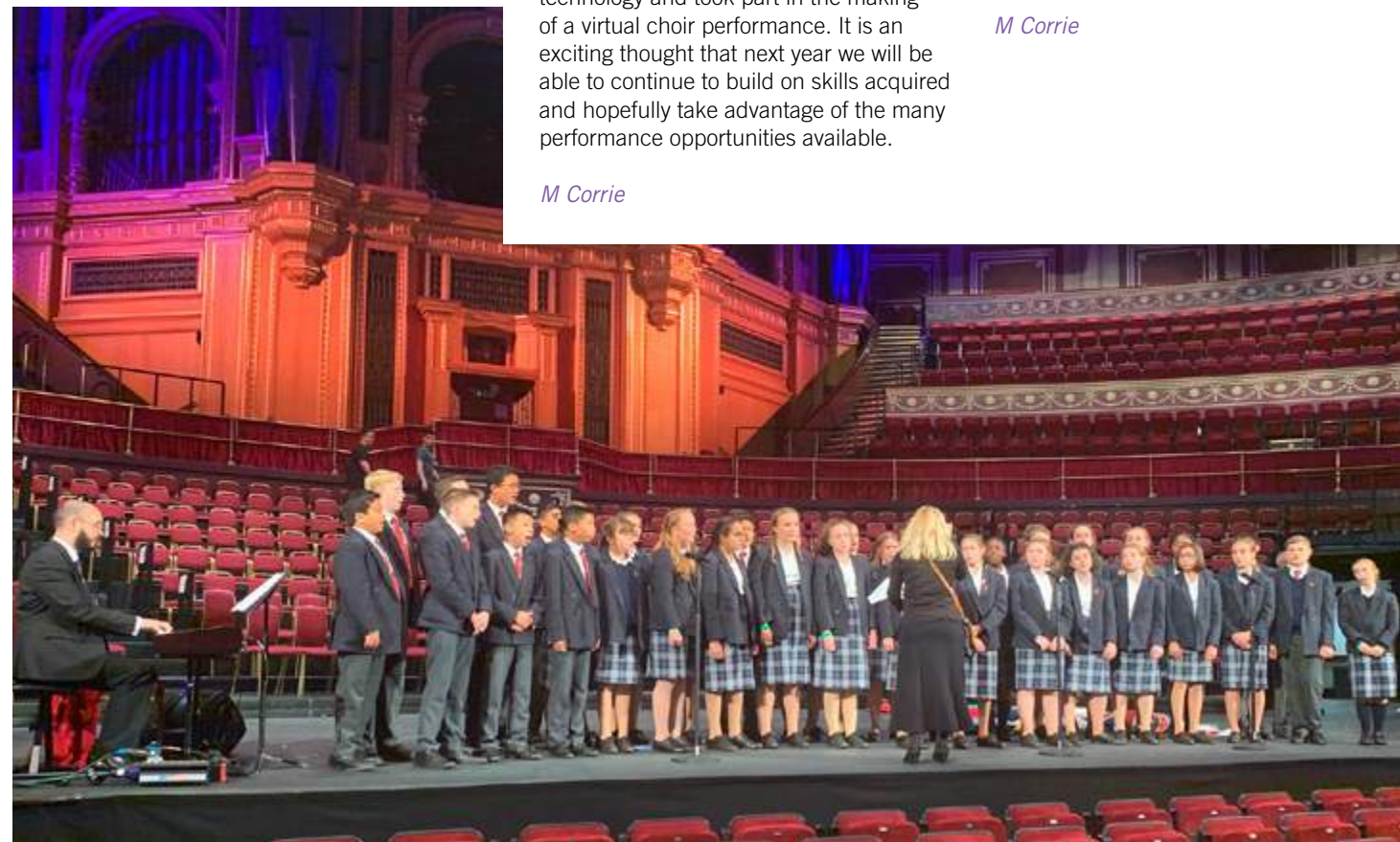
M Corrie



Chamber Choir

After their success in the Barnardo's National Choir Competition, the Chamber Choir has had an extremely busy and exciting year. In November, just a few days after returning from a tour to Salzburg with the Senior School, the choir performed at the Royal Albert Hall at a fundraising event for the Barnardo's charity. Although a daunting task, singing in such a large and prestigious venue, the pupils rose to the occasion and confidently delivered their performance of Weeping. In December, the choir returned to London, this time to take part in a carol service at Westminster Cathedral. This is an awe inspiring building and the wonderful acoustics complimented Bromsgrove's rendition of Adolfe Adams' famous Christmas classic, O Holy Night. This performance in such a setting was the culmination of nearly a term's hard work and commitment and I was extremely proud of them all. Although it has been disappointing not to take part in live performances in the Summer Term, some Prep School singers embraced the technology and took part in the making of a virtual choir performance. It is an exciting thought that next year we will be able to continue to build on skills acquired and hopefully take advantage of the many performance opportunities available.

M Corrie



House Song Competition

The House Song Competition was a fantastic Whole School event, which was enjoyed by all.

The four Houses all sang superbly and the adjudicator, Miss Vango, praised the children for the quality of their performance.

Congratulations to Darby who emerged as victors with a lively rendition of The Bear Necessities, performed with added harmonies, greatly enhancing the performance. There were some memorable moments from all the Houses, including Mr Lane's grand entrance dressed as Moana, for Boulton's rendition of You're Welcome. Watts' performance of You've Got A Friend in Me from Toy Story and Telford's I can Show You the World from Aladdin, were all confidently sung by staff and pupils and thoroughly enjoyed by an appreciative audience.

M Corrie

Great Witley Concert and Salzburg Tour

A forty-strong choir of Year 8 to Upper Sixth singers toured Salzburg over October half term, enjoying five days in the beautiful Austrian city, singing in Salzburg Cathedral and nearby Thalgau, as well as at the famous Schloss Leopoldskron, where some of the outside scenes from *The Sound of Music* were filmed. Some of our parents also came out to support the group, which was fabulous, they enjoyed excursions including the slides within the Salt Mines, getting soaked by the trick fountains at the Hellbrunn Palace Gardens and revelling in an evening of Austrian folk music and dancing, complete with lederhosen. The choir gave a pre-tour concert in the beautiful Baroque Church at Great Witley for parents and friends so that they could hear the music in similar surroundings to those of the Austria tour.

J McKelvey



Senior Music



National Concert Band Festival

There was great success in Gloucester at the regional heats of the National Concert Band Festival, with Bromsgrove's Big Band achieving a Gold award and a place in the National Finals. The adjudicators praised the performance worthy of a band 'beyond their years'. Further appreciation was given to the improvised solos from Imogen Vaughan-Hawkins, Jake Wingfield, Seb Harrison and Tom Chapman.

J McKelvey

Senior House Song Competition

This year's theme was 'musicals'. Twelve houses took to the stage, which saw the debut performance of Webber House; newly opened this academic year. There was a variety of songs, many of which were rousing and creatively-choreographed for all to enjoy, and the event even saw the Staff Choir take to the stage. The competition was adjudicated by Mr Peter Tamblyn, Director of Music at Exeter School. He awarded Hazeldene House as the triumphant winners with their fabulous rendition of *When I Grow Up/Naughty* (Matilda); Elmhurst were runners up with *In The Jungle* (The Lion King); Mary Windsor picked up Best Creative Prize and Jonathan Burke (Wendron-Gordon) received the prize for Best Conductor.

J McKelvey



St Cecilia Concert

On Friday 22nd November, 100 senior musicians took to the stage in a special concert commemorating St Cecilia's Day and two years since the opening concert in Routh Hall. A phenomenal display of music making from the orchestra, two big bands, string orchestra, concert band, and choirs was enjoyed by an appreciative audience.

J McKelvey



Isata Kanneh-Mason and the ESO

World-renowned pianist Isata Kanneh-Mason visited the music department in February along with the English Symphony Orchestra to give a performance of Beethoven's *Symphony no.7* and *Piano Concerto no.3*. Prep School, GCSE and A Level students were able to sit in on their rehearsal to hear this wonderful music live, and some returned to the evening concert to hear it all over again. During the day, three of Bromsgrove's finest pianists – Evelyn Lau, Sophia Meadows and Vincent Li – were honoured to take part in a masterclass with Isata, where she gave them tips and advice to help develop their skills.

J McKelvey

Senior House Music Competition

This year's House Music Competition featured an outstanding array of talent and wonderful support from family, friends and colleagues. Ninety musicians took to the stage and each of the twelve Houses were represented in the Ensemble competition. Each House gave their all and impressed the adjudicator in their variety of musical styles and communicative qualities. Wendron-Gordon were the winning ensemble, with an electrifying performance of *Runaway Baby* by Bruno Mars. In the evening, the soloists battled it out in two categories: Intermediate and Advanced. Each finalist had progressed from the first round two weeks before, at which fifty-one musicians auditioned. Congratulations go to Jake Wingfield (School) who won the Intermediate category, the winner's trophy of the Advanced category went to outstanding cellist Max Wong (Elmshurst). This year's adjudicator was Mr George Bevan, Director of Music from Monkton Combe School, who gave exceptional feedback to all performers.

J McKelvey



Individual Success

Having made it through the regional auditions, Vincent Li auditioned for the category auditions of the prestigious BBC Young Musician of the Year competition. Josh Osborn-Patel enjoyed working with the National Youth Orchestra Inspire Day in London, working with world famous Venezuelan conductor, Gustavo Dudamel. Gabriel Brown and Eleanor Dunn were invited to take part in a training programme to discover and nurture talented young opera singers courtesy of a partnership between the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire and the Royal Opera House, entitled 'Opera Nation'. 117 music exams were taken this year, and students achieved passes in all of them – there were twenty-eight Distinctions and forty-four Merits. Congratulations to all who took exams this year.

J McKelvey

Zoom Concerts

Sadly, the inevitable School closure due to COVID-19 prevented us from holding end of term concerts including a Rock Night, a black-tie Jazz-themed 'At The Movies' event, a Choral Society performance of Fauré's *Requiem*, a Leavers' Concert, a Fourth Form Scholars' Recital and the wonderful Commemoration music we all look forward to. Whilst nothing could replace like for like, we were thrilled to be able to offer concerts streamed to homes all over the world via our weekly Friday Zoom Concerts during lockdown. Nine concerts in total, featuring 103 pupils from all ages of the Bromsgrove Schools – from Reception year to Upper Sixth leavers (and even a few Old Bromsgrovians) – some performers even presented an incredible nine contributions. These concerts were, for many, the highlight of the week – despite adding another 30 minutes' screen time – and we were overwhelmed by the audience turnout each time.

If you missed it, you didn't miss out! Performances can be seen again on our YouTube channel.

J McKelvey



Cultures Connect

Interconnectedness. Globalisation. Free movement.

The buzzwords we revered for decades seem to have backfired completely; in COVID-19 context, these have become swear words. Images of people holding hands, embracing and crowds cheering now make us cringe rather than applaud. We are faced with a decision to make: are we going to give in to the forces pulling us apart, or do we, instead, choose to emerge from this crisis with renewed appreciation for all that we had?

The School's annual Cultures Connect Concert took place on March 14th: only six days before the UK government ordered school closures, and two days before a stop was put to mass gatherings. A few performers had already emailed us the same morning, apologising for having to cancel with such short notice, but explained that they had to board a flight home while they still could. To them, the crisis was already very much real. Others – most – still saw none of this coming.

I think this liminality is what made the evening so powerful. One second you would find yourself spellbound in the moment by an intense crescendo, and in another you'd remember your worries and anxieties again. It left us with a special type of beautiful: not the type of beautiful that you get *because*, but the beautiful you get *despite*. The fact that we were celebrating our countries and heritages – despite the cloud of xenophobia looming over the media. The fact that we were sat there, in Routh Hall on a Saturday evening in mid-March, just like we had done every year – despite the global pandemic lurking from distance.

Being a part of the organising committee and getting to immortalise the evening through the camera lens with my friend Anastasiia, in a year where the concert feels more symbolic than ever, is something that I will cherish for the rest of my life.

Vivianne Zhang Wei



Prep Art

In the Michaelmas Term, we were all looking forward to getting ready to show our art work in the SATIPS exhibition. The Prep team created a beautiful piece called Scarred Earth. Every pupil in Years 5-8 drew an animal that fitted neatly into a bottle top, which was placed directly into the shape of a wave and placed upon a scarred background image of a world map. The drawings were executed superbly and all our pupils' animal studies sat side by side as a discussion of our care for the world. We also had the privilege of getting ready to show some pieces of work at the Voices and Visions exhibit in Worcestershire. And to top off the amazing start to the year, we were proud to show some of our pupils' work at a local school exhibition in Malvern. We were overjoyed that two of our pupils, Grace in Year 5 and Jack in Year 7, won special art prizes.

The art department enjoys finding artists and creators from industry to show off their amazing skills and talents that are a part of the workplace. This year, we were lucky enough to receive a visit from Old Bromsgrovian Sophie Spurgin, a Textile Breakdown Artist for Film, TV and Theatre and Ms Morgans, Head of Art at the Senior School and a working artist. These important talks highlighted the variety of avenues our pupils can choose to discover and dream of in their future.



We have an incredibly diverse art curriculum; over the first two terms, we have studied a host of drawing styles and methods, textiles construction and material development, illustration, 3D sculpture, canvas painting and artist research. This array of skill development was complimented by a rich and highly creative set of activities that pupils loved. Whether extensions of knowledge were developed within constructed textiles, printing, painting or glass work, groups of pupils from different year groups found new ways to explore the world around them.

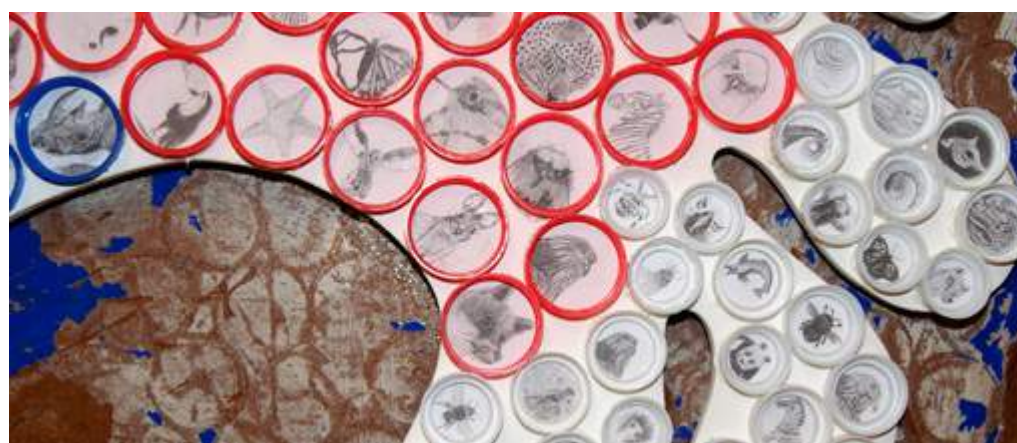
Our Community Art Club, made up of students from local primary schools, created sensitive and highly realistic animal drawings on a large scale, something we all enjoyed once a week after School.

At the end of Lent and through the Summer Term, we learnt to teach and learn online via Zoom. Our pupils worked very hard from home, with artist research being a focus across all year groups and sketch book studies came to the fore. We have had the most unusual end to term, with classroom exhibits online and pupil feedback groups in breakout rooms, but one thing for sure is our pupils' creativity continues to shine through.

V Barron



Prep Art



Senior Art

Of course, along with many other things, Art and Textiles was rather curtailed this year. That said, the department, once again, saw a wide variety of processes and techniques explored outside of lessons. It was really heartening to see a higher than average number of pupils extending their classroom activities or attending to prep in our specialist studio spaces. There has been an enthusiasm that has spread subtly to all attendees and that can only be for the better. Those not studying Art or Textiles have been involved in many personal projects, ably supported by staff but, pleasingly, encouraged by their Art and Textiles peers. The photography activity has been delivered by a professional, lens based artist, Mr Wynne, again this year and he reports back with as much zeal and exuberance as his students.

We really miss the non-curriculum time in the department that activities affords, and this is echoed by the handful of pupils from 'outside' the department wishing to compile a portfolio for entry onto Architecture courses. Life Drawing forms a large and impressive portion of these portfolios, so we are eager to get back into the studio to offer this invaluable study into form and observation.

Art and Textiles activities is so much more than its title suggests. Not just decorative appendages to a curriculum, they are fundamental in developing children's and young people's intellectual and emotional understanding of their worlds and we are proud to offer it to all.

S Morgans



Sport

Sports Overview

Over the last six years, the School has been ranked in the top six of all schools nationally for the strength of its Senior School Sport over twenty-six sports, as measured by School Sport Magazine. This year was another strong year for sport, including our U17 cricket team being crowned National Champions and our 1st netball team also finishing as National Champions in the Independent Schools Netball Cup. At the Prep School, the U11A girls' hockey team were crowned county champions. In all age groups in a wide range of sports from cricket, hockey and swimming to table tennis, basketball and squash, titles were celebrated. There are more than 280 sports teams at Prep and Senior, and despite the enforced School closure due to the COVID-19 pandemic, 826 fixtures were played across the academic year.

Senior Badminton

Once again, the badminton academy has achieved much success this season. From friendly matches against local schools to National tournaments; all of our teams have shown that the teamwork and techniques learnt from training can secure many victories over strong opponents.

With the academy training being split into two groups, Mr Ingram and Mrs Hadley have been able to train and coach at a level appropriate to each individual, allowing more focussed sessions and greater progression in skill level. From the elusive warm-up that Mr Ingram leads each session, to the demonstrations for each shot, a high emphasis is put on technique and match playing scenarios, which has ultimately been proven to reap many rewards, both individually and as a team.

The boys' team played eleven matches, winning six and placing second in two triangular matches; a great record having played against some tough opposition.

The girls' team played seven matches, winning five and placing second in both triangular matches. This is an amazing feat for such a young team.

The junior boys' and girls' teams played well in the National tournament. Both U16 teams progressed to the regional finals, and the girls' U14 team placed 2nd in the county. Unfortunately, the teams could not participate in the regional finals, which is a shame as both the boys and girls were confident of being the first school team to make a National Final.

As with the end of every successful season, the team loses some of its senior players from the Upper Sixth, namely Adrian Wong, Elizabeth Hambling, Jacky Wong, Joshua Osborn-Patel, Shams Ali Baig and Thomas Chu. Nevertheless, the arrival of new faces and talent will improve their positions in the years to come and build upon the strong teamwork and performance.

Shams Ali Baig
(Capt.)



Senior Basketball

An incredibly busy season for the Bromsgrove basketball teams saw a large number of pupils participate and thrive for the School teams, in which two sides reached the knockout stages in the National Cup.

The 1st team started well with some friendly games against local opposition, where the pupils had the chance to press for a spot in the starting line-up. A new fixture against Worcester Wolves' U18 side proved to be a fantastic opportunity for the team to test themselves against high quality opposition. A busy period of National Cup games either side of Christmas proved to be a difficult task though. There were very good wins against Shrewsbury and Rugby School, but unfortunately defeat against Alcester Grammar meant that the team did not progress to the knockout stage of the competition. However, the season was not over and the team managed to remain unbeaten with wins against Sir Thomas Rich's, Stowe, Cheltenham College, Haybridge High and Sandwell Academy.

There are a number of Upper Sixth pupils who have played their last competitive game for the School and each player has put in lots of hard work and effort over the last five years. Edward Aston, Amin Makkawi, Marky Prakaisiroj, Daniel Tiktinskii, Andrei Vashkevich have been superb in their five years, as well as Ethan Tang and Josh Howell being able supporters in the last two years.

This year's junior teams have had the most successful year so far. The U16 team progressed through their regional group to the last sixteen of the National competition. They performed brilliantly against Shoburyness High School but couldn't manage to win the game. The U15 team played in a number of round robin fixtures against local schools to reach the County Final. A nail biting finish ended with Bromsgrove beating Woodrush High School 12-11. The U14 team proved to be the most promising of teams coming through, only losing one game. They were crowned County Champions on their way to the last sixteen of the country, where they unfortunately lost to St Peter's High School. The future of basketball at Bromsgrove seems to be in a very good place, with a large number of the team improving each week. We look forward to seeing the development over the coming years.

A big thank you must go to Mr Miller, our basketball coach, who puts in an enormous amount of effort, time and energy into training. The boys have made huge strides this season.

My last thank you should go to Mr Challoner for his support, effort and enthusiasm over the last however many years. He has helped to referee, coach and develop Bromsgrove's basketball programme, which has provided opportunities for so many pupils throughout the years. His support will be missed, although we hope that he will still come and support the team when he can.

L Mullan

Senior Boys' Cricket

Back at the start of the Michaelmas Term in September 2019, none of us would have expected the summer 2020 cricket season to be the season that never was.

The year got off to the best possible start with last year's U17 team becoming National Champions for the first time in the School's history.

Poor weather in the previous Summer Term meant that we had the National semi-final to prepare for in the first week of Michaelmas. A fantastic all round team performance booked our place in the final by beating Stamford. Jasper Davidson held the innings together with a fine 60 allowing a number of cameos by the rest of the frontline batters posting 208. Impressive bowling and fielding meant the visitors never had chance to put a partnership together, eventually 90 all out.

Two days later, the National Final against Bede's was played at the impressive Loughborough University. After early morning rain, we won the toss and batted on a used, dry pitch. A brilliant 80 from Awais Mohammed meant we posted a par score of 158 from the 35 overs. There was again more fantastic bowling and fielding, which meant we were able to restrict Bede's to 153 in a nail biting finish.

It was such a shame that the U17 team were not able to play any cricket during the Summer Term, and this also meant that our twenty-six tourists were not able to tour India on their pre-season trip.

D Fallows



Prep Boys' Cross-Country

ESAA National Cup

In October 2019, our leading runners from Years 7 and 8 were in action in the County round of the English Schools' Cross-Country Cup. This is a unique competition in cross-country as it is a team event. All of our boys ran superbly, with four top six finishes, which ensured the team was crowned County champions. The boys then went on to compete in the Midland Final, where they qualified as runners up and through to the prestigious National Final in Derbyshire at the end of the Michaelmas Term.

In the National Final, the Prep boys' cross-country team created history by finishing 11th in England from the twenty-seven schools who had qualified from an initial entry of 500. Many congratulations to the team of William Pridden (43rd), Alexander Lobban (48th), Oliver Dieppe (63rd), Joaquin Reijmer (79th), Lockley Wigglesworth (148th) and Henning Wu (150th).

District High Schools Championships

At the beginning of December, Bromsgrove hosted the annual District Cross-Country Championships. Our Prep School had a total of forty boys running from Years 5-8 with individual highlights as follows:
 Year 5: Freddie Giles 1st and District Champion, Mikhail Adamov 8th, Wilf Gilbert 10th, Buster Reid 11th, Ben Conroy 14th, Alex Dawson 16th, William Siviter 20th, Charlie Adcock 24th, Sam Reynolds-Dennis 40th, Sam O'Nions 42nd.
 Year 6: Alfie Higgins 8th, Henry Foster 10th, Jasper McKelvey 20th, Oliver Cattell 30th, Louis Mulroney 34th, Aleksandr Ostriagin 38th, Aidan McGarry 47th, George Christodoulou 48th, Joseph Billig 57th.
 Year 7: Oliver Dieppe 2nd, Freddie Pritchard 6th, William Davidson 7th, Lockey Wigglesworth 11th, Elliott Baillie 12th, Freddie Lawton 14, William Broadhurst 15th, Euan Choi 26th, Charlie Fielding 32nd, Beau Vaughan-Hawkins 35th.



Year 8: William Pridden 2nd (District runner-up), Alexander Lobban 3rd, Joaquin Reijmer 9th, Hugo Blackwell 20th, Henning Wu 21st, Joshua Collett 23rd, Alex Cheung 26th, Robert Riley 27th, Hriyaj Gurung 30th.

Herefordshire and Worcestershire County Championships

Our Year 8 boys competed for Bromsgrove and Droitwich District at Top Barn, Worcester. There were some outstanding performances, especially given that they were up against Year 9 pupils. Well done to Joaquin Reijmer who came 14th, Alex Lobban 9th and William Pridden 7th. William was selected to run for Herefordshire and Worcestershire in the English Schools' Cross-Country Championships in March 2020, with Alex Lobban as a reserve.

School Games - Worcestershire County Championships

In February, four cross-country runners from Years 5, 6 and 7 represented the District Team at the Worcestershire County Championships and finished as follows:

Freddie Giles (Year 5) in 2nd place, Henry Greaves (Year 6) in 14th place, Oliver Dieppe (Year 7) in 3rd place and Freddie Pritchard (Year 7) in 19th place.

Freddie Giles and Oliver Dieppe were selected to represent Worcestershire at the English School Games National Final in Leicestershire on 21st March but the event was cancelled due to coronavirus.

G Jones

Prep Boys' Cross-Country Awards

Most Outstanding Runner:
 William Pridden (Senior) and Freddie Giles (Junior)

Most Improved Runner:
 Henning Wu (Senior) and Jasper McKelvey (Junior)

Prep Girls' Cross-Country

Primary Schools' District Competition

At the beginning of December, Bromsgrove hosted the District Cross-Country Competition, which our Years 5-8 girls competed in. The Year 8 girls were competing against Year 9 pupils for a place in the County team.

Congratulations to all those who finished in the top ten – Scarlet Preston Year 8 (4th), Meghan Higgs Year 7 (1st), Livia Cooke Year 7 (5th), Phoebe Dinnen Year 7 (6th), Evie Hastings Year 7 (7th), Imogen Kershaw-Crombie Year 7 (8th), Alice Wilson-Marsh Year 6 (1st), Isla Gould Year 6 (2nd), Ruby Broadhurst Year 6 (4th), Sammy Riley Year 6 (8th), Chloe Chan Year 6 (9th), Caitlin Pridden Year 5 (5th). In addition, Scarlet, Teah, Meghan, Livia, Phoebe, Alice, Isla, Ruby and Caitlin qualified through to the county round.

Primary Schools' County Competition

In the Years 8 and 9 race at Top Barn, Scarlet Preston came 8th and gained a place at National Finals, which was a great performance out of forty-eight of the best runners in the County. Several of our pupils qualified to run for the District in the Worcestershire School Games Cross-Country Championships at Wolverley School. In windy conditions, our pupils performed well and showed great determination. Caitlin Pridden finished 2nd in her Year 5 race and has qualified to represent the County at the National Finals. In the Year 6 girls' race, Alice Wilson-Marsh was crowned champion, with Isla Gould following in 2nd place; both girls have also qualified for the National Finals. Ruby Broadhurst finished in 10th place. All our Year 7 girls ran well, with Meghan Higgs finishing in 5th place and gaining a place at the National Finals, Phoebe Dinnen came 10th and Livia Cooke 16th.



Unfortunately, the Primary Schools' National Final was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In the Senior Schools' event, Scarlet Preston competed in a huge field of 470 runners and came an impressive 302nd, given that she was running in this competition a year young.

ESAA

Congratulations to the following girls who made up the team to be crowned County Cross-Country Champions and qualified through to the Regional Competition: Scarlet Preston 2nd, Honey Bo Luscombe 6th, Teah Petrova 8th, Meghan Higgs 11th, Georgia Hay 13th and Jessica Fox 16th.

Well done also to our B team runners: Evie Hastings, Phoebe Dinnen, Olivia Cooke, Imogen Kershaw-Crombie, Isabelle Kavanagh, Ashna Ghale, Lily Milojevic and Darcy McCormack.



In the Midlands' round, our girls performed extremely well under very wet and muddy conditions. Positions were as follows: Scarlet Preston 17th, Meghan Higgs 18th, Honey Bo Luscombe 20th, Georgia Hay 22nd, Teah Petrova 31st and Evie Hastings 44th. This gave our girls a total score (from the top four runners) of seventy-seven and this placed them as a very credible 5th in the Region.

Prep Girls' Cross-Country Awards

Most Outstanding Cross Country runner:

Scarlet Preston (Senior) and
Alice Wilson-Marsh (Junior)

Most Improved Cross Country runner:

Evie Hastings (Senior) and
Chloe Chan (Junior)

Senior Cross-Country

Running is simple, but it is not easy. The Cross-Country squad persevered with training through the dark, wet and cold winter evenings of the Michaelmas Term to prepare for the Lent fixtures. From gazelle like speedsters to more novice and steady joggers, Cross-Country is inclusive to all, although it requires maximum effort and commitment regardless of ability. As other sports get cancelled due to cold or rain, Cross-Country fixtures run as normal, and, as always, the team impresses as they battle through the elements racing for the podium or to improve on their previous week's position.

The East Midlands Independent Schools' Cross-Country League continues to attract new schools and they kept the fixture list full this year with eight meetings. Bromsgrove attended all of the races with teams in the U16 Boys', U18 Boys' and U18 Girls' categories, and hosted the seventh race of the league on a challenging course around the Senior and Prep School fields. Congratulations go to the U16 Boys for finishing 3rd team overall and to Callum Wilkinson and Sebastien Purvis who came joint 2nd in the individual competition.

In the highly competitive King Henry VIII Relays this year, the U18 Boys' team improved their position, finishing mid-way in the results, with Callum Wilkinson achieving our fastest lap, and the U18 Girls remaining towards the top, placing 15th, with Natalie Hatfield running the fastest leg. There are some young runners in both teams with much promise over the next couple of years.

Michael Jiang and Dasha Hromyk have been members of the Cross-Country squad for the duration of their time in the Senior School. They have showed superb service to the teams this year as captains. Michael was the only runner this year to complete all of the EMISCCL races.

Other long-standing Cross-Country runners leaving us are Henry Marshall, Mitchell Hare and Jayden Chun. Special mention must go to Orla Walker who has been successful throughout her Prep and Senior School years at National level, winning numerous races, medals, trophies and titles and she has done much to inspire her team mates and get other girls running.

M Giles

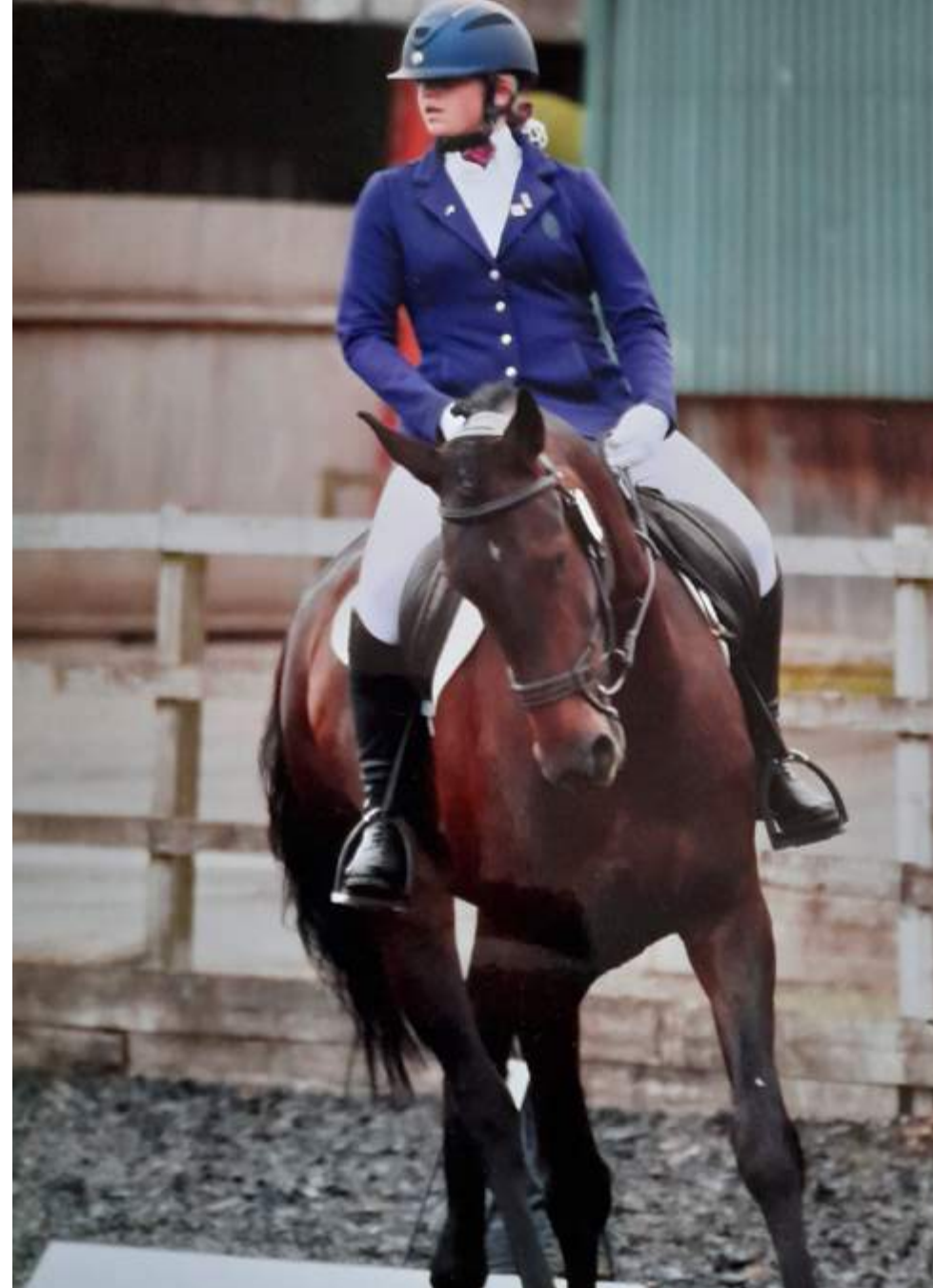


Photo: emmpix.co.uk

Senior Equestrian

Unfortunately, due to COVID-19, the equestrian season was cut short. However, prior to the lockdown period, Amy Pinfield enjoyed a fabulous result at the British Show Pony Society Championships in Grantham, coming 2nd in the Young Judges' Team competition. She was part of the BSPS Area 6A Team representing Staffordshire, Worcestershire and Warwickshire. Amy also qualified and competed on her Dartmoor pony, Hisley Silversmith, at the Horse of the Year Show in the Ponies UK Junior Mountain and Moorland Small Breeds Class.

Another high achiever in the equestrian team this year has been Maddie May, who competed in the Horse of the Year Show alongside Amy. In addition, she entered several NSEA competitions where she qualified for the Regional Championships in dressage.

Maddie was also selected to ride as a demonstration rider for the British Horse Societies UK Tour. This involved her riding and demonstrating for the World Class Performance Manager to the British Eventing Team, Yogi Breisner.

Well done to all other pupils who have represented the School team throughout the Michaelmas and Lent Terms. Hopefully next year, we will have the opportunity to finish off the various competitions missed during summer 2020.

E Buckingham

Prep Fencing

We have seen good numbers of Preparatory School pupils participating in Fencing and many of those have made the step beyond the club to attend competitions.

Our first competition took place in Warwick for the Age Group Épée competition, where George Ascough and Oliver Gowen finished 3rd and 4th respectively in the U12 category.

In December, we had six fencers competing in the Gala event at RGS Worcester. This friendly team event saw thirty-four teams from eighteen schools taking part. In the U10 Foil, Zak Sami and Mikhail Adamov finished 4th, whilst Amina Muldasheva joined a girl from Newbridge School to form a team that finished 6th. Meanwhile, in the U12 Foil, George Ascough, Sarah Mariah and Jasper Page finished in 3rd place.

At the start of the Lent Term, Oliver Gowen and George Ascough entered the West Midlands Age Group Épée at Packwood Hough School in Shropshire. In the U14 Épée, Oliver Gowen fenced well to achieve 14th place, whilst George Ascough faced tough opposition in the U12 category and finished 16th overall.

Our fencers then travelled to King Edward's Fencing Competition where in the U14 Foil, Jasper Page finished 7th, winning a medal for best in pool and Michail Adamov finished in 12th position. George Ascough finished in 19th, winning a medal for best in pool, and Amina Moldasheva came in 26th place. Oliver Gowen joined George in the afternoon to fence in the U14 Épée, finishing 8th and 9th place respectively.

Many of our usual calendar of events fell within lockdown and, as a result, were cancelled, but we are looking forward to a fuller season next year.

N Chapman



Senior Fencing

Fencing at Bromsgrove has had another successful year with many pupils attending at least one competition or event and a core group competing regularly.

Our competitive season started in November 2019, with Edwin Hon finishing 5th and Tatiana Morikva finishing 12th in the U19 Épée at Warwick School.

Our fencers were back in action at the Cocks Moors Woods Épée event, where Edwin Hon came 16th in the Senior Men's Épée, and Elsa Tsia 13th and Tatiana Morikova 17th in the Women's Épée.

In their final match of the Michaelmas Term, our Épée team attended the gala event at RGS Worcester. Artem Veprev, Edwin Hon and Laura Floričić (who only started fencing in September) competed in the largest category, the U19s. Despite dropping one of their five matches 45-41, Bromsgrove finished top of the field and were crowned winners of the U19 event.

The start of the Lent Term saw the team compete at the West Midlands Age Group Épée, where Tatiana Morikova and Artem Veprev both won bronze medals in their respective U18 events. Edwin Hon finished 8th in the U18 category and Laura Floricic finished 9th in the U16 category. February took us to Cocks Moors Woods Leisure Centre for the West Midlands Age Group Foil, where Ernest Lam finished 6th U16 Foil.

In what was their last match of the season, the team travelled to KES Birmingham for their Foil and Épée event, where Ernest Lam fenced in the Age 14+ Foil and finished just outside the medals in 4th place. Tatiana Morikova fenced in the Age 14+ mixed Épée and finished 11th.

Our fencers should have travelled to London for the Public Schools' Fencing Championships but unfortunately this was cancelled due to the coronavirus pandemic. Tatiana, Artem, Edwin and Ernest's results at their respective events also qualified them for a place at the 2020 British Youth Championship National Finals, which should have been held in Birmingham over the May Day Bank Holiday weekend; this was also cancelled because of the ongoing lockdown.

Given the artificially short season, Bromsgrove's fencing team still managed to achieve much success and we are all looking forward to next season.

N Chapman

Senior Football

At the time of writing this review, the football world is at a standstill, with no definitive agreement on a re-commencement date for school or elite sport. Nevertheless, the weather and COVID-19 only marginally reduced the 2020 season. The ethos of BSFC, across all teams, is now ingrained in Bromsgrove footballers: Humility, Hard Work, Team before Self; Irrespective of training on the astro in November or a muddy March afternoon on Lower Charford, these are the values espoused from 1st XI to U16B.

As ever, the senior players were the driving force during practices and matches: Jack Gibson (captain) playing in his third season at the elite level, Jack Peplow (vice-captain), alongside experienced campaigners Ash Kandola and Dan Meredith have been stalwarts of Bromsgrove Football since their U15 season. They set the standards that became an inspiration to the U16A lads who trained with the seniors, no doubt having a big impact on the development of Sam Amos, Cameron Billings and Dev Bulchandani during 'fitness Wednesdays'. Settling in the new 1st XI goalkeeper Luke Bond (5th Form) was the responsibility of the experienced back three: the calmness of Ash Kandola; the guile of Ed Clews and the tenacity and competitive edge of Dan Tiktinski. The narrative of the 1st XI season was one of highly competitive drawn matches, except for a resounding 4-1 victory over Cheltenham. Playing attractive, attacking football due to a productive midfield including Tom Martin, Tom Langheim and Freddie Harvey-Gilson, ably supported by the emerging L6 talent of Michael Malam and Abu Monguno, a lack of goals became a recurring theme over the term. However, the exposure to Senior football of the Lower Sixth forward options of Kody Chik, Roman Gurung, Oli Owen and Simi Jolaoso should prove productive in 2021.



Beyond the 1st XI, Mr Vernon and Mr Holdsworth continued to develop 2nd team players capable of playing at a higher level, whilst benefiting from training with the firsts. Four wins with a +12-goal difference highlighted the depth of talent at the Senior end. Led by Jonny Burke, with his characteristic no-nonsense approach, aided by the tireless Charlie Palmer in midfield this team saw the emergence of Dan Wan, Barney Shin, Jamie Rodway, Jakob Heptinstall, Alfie Harvey-Gilson and Dan Washington as future prospects. In his swan song season, Mr Delahunty was truly delighted that his 3rd XI gained two victories over Cheltenham and Clifton. The dynamic U16A coaching of Mr Wilkins and Mr Unterhalter once again produced a highly competitive squad. James Bayliss genuinely impressed with his leadership and drive, whilst Seb Adams provided a touch of class from midfield. However, pride of place for 2020 goes to Mr Helmore and Mr Beet's undefeated U16B heroes - bravo lads.

Wednesday games sessions were adapted this year to provide a competitive element for the 3rd teamers, 16Bs and social footballers, with the introduction of an Inter-House Shield. Superbly organised by Mr Higgins and his team of officials, there was a real sense of fun and House spirit, as well as occasional outbreaks of genuine footballing skill. Players enjoyed proudly wearing their House kits, including the new Webber lads, ensuring that the competition was a major success due to the positive attitude of all partaking.

All Bromsgrove footballers owe a debt of gratitude to the tireless enthusiasm, encouragement and commitment of their coaches, as an outlet for their talents. Mr Brighton continued to ensure that Bromsgrove football was played in the right spirit but with a competitive edge. My thanks to all.

S P Matthews

Senior Golf

As schools across the country closed down for the Summer Term due to the global pandemic, only one golf fixture survived from the hundreds that had been scheduled. We were fortunate that, after the relaxation of lockdown, the School v Staff fixture was given the go ahead at Blackwell Golf Club. The result was a resounding 3-0 to the pupils.

Although we suffered an early exit in the HMC Foursomes to Warwick School 1-2, James Humphries and Lili-Rose Hunt beat the opposition top seeds in impressive fashion. This theme continued throughout the year, with James going unbeaten and Lili-Rose winning all but one of her fixtures. We had real strength in depth, with a total of twelve pupils representing the School and more in our training squad.

The ISGA Matchplay competition remains to be played in October. We qualified for the National Finals with wins against RGS Worcester, Solihull School and Clifton College. The final match entailed horizontal hail stoked by driving winds but our fortitude shone through.

Over the 2019/20 academic year, the golf team played nine fixtures, winning seven, drawing one and losing one. Inevitably, missing the Summer Term has led to much disruption. The annual Old Bromsgrovians' match, the School Championship and the ISGA National Finals will all be carried over to next year.

With thanks to Bromsgrove professional, Robert Laing, who has continued as our coach - his advice has been invaluable. We now look forward to next year - we have a talented young side and golf at Bromsgrove School continues to thrive.

N Riley



Prep Boys' Hockey

Another busy term of boys' hockey at Bromsgrove Preparatory School comes to an end after playing just under 200 fixtures over ten weeks. Once more, we have tested our teams to the full by playing schools such as Dean Close, Foremarke Hall, Bilton Grange, Cheltenham College, KES Birmingham and Solihull.

For the first time in our history, three Prep boys' teams toured overseas, visiting Padua Hockey Club in northern Italy. The strength in depth of our teams was very evident, particularly at U13 level, where the B team were once again undefeated (two years running), winning all ten matches and this is despite playing against two A teams.

The U12A and B teams were both entered into the first ever U12 boys' IAPS National Final but unfortunately, it was cancelled due to coronavirus. The U12C team played as many matches as the U12A team and one more than the U12B team, highlighting what great opportunities we provide for all our students.

At the junior end, the U11A team won the prestigious Foremarke Hall tournament for the first time in our history. They also won a bronze medal at the Bilton Grange tournament and finished 4th at the South West IAPS qualifier at Clifton College, missing out on a place at the National Final by just one place.

G Jones



Boys' U13A

The U13A season started well with the team playing some great hockey to come 4th at the Dean Close 11-a-side Invitational Padfield Tournament. Only days later, the boys came runners up at the Foremarke Hall tournament. The team entered into three Cup competitions; the IAPS, ISHC and England In2Hockey. They were involved in a very tough group at the IAPS National Final with St Faith's, who won the group, and Cargilfield, who went on to come first and third respectively. For the boys to go on and win the Plate Final, giving them a ranking of 9th from the twenty-four teams competing, was a superb achievement. Along the way, the U13As beat Cheltenham College, Millfield Prep (on penalty strokes) and Westbourne House, whom we had lost to in the group stage. The boys finished as the highest placed team in our region at the National Final, after initially qualifying in third place behind The Dragon School and Cheltenham College. In the ISHC, Bromsgrove U13As lost to Sandbach School 2-3, with the winning goal coming with just eight seconds left on the clock. Sandbach went on to qualify for the National Final.

In the In2Hockey Cup, the boys were group runners-up in the Midlands round, beating Bishop Vesey's on penalty strokes and progressed through to a three team final, where only two teams would qualify for the National Final. Bromsgrove lost one and drew the other in the final versus a very strong Winchester House team and Oakham respectively. Unfortunately, we missed out on the National Final by one goal. Our team won every penalty shoot out competition and must have practiced over 500 of them in training during the season.

Regular matches produced wins versus Cheltenham College (twice), Clifton College, Bedford School, KES Birmingham, The Downs Malvern, along with high scoring draws versus a very good Foremarke Hall side. Joseph Kippax captained the side and was our leading goal scorer with twenty-four goals. James Hobbs and Hriyaj Gurung, at the back, formed a great partnership, and along with Joseph, were our three stand out performers. Joshua Collett has made huge strides from Year 7 and is to be congratulated on his hard work and progression. Louis Francis, new to the game only last season, also made great progress.

Many thanks to our Director of Hockey, Mr Gooderham, for coaching the boys. They were superb to work with all season and I wish them all the best with their hockey going forward.

Squad:

Neel Agrawal (GK), Joseph Kippax (C), Thomas Ashton, Jack Gilbert, James Hobbs, Hriyaj Gurung, Louis Francis, Joshua Collett, Jack Wilkinson, Tom Fullard, Beau Vaughan-Hawkins

G Jones



Boys' U11A

The U11A team completed a very successful season. Their regular Wednesday block fixtures included some very impressive victories versus Winchester House 4-0, Foremarke Hall 5-1, Bilton Grange 2-0 and Dean Close 5-3, which makes for some very impressive reading indeed. To top all of this off, the boys overturned a 2-6 loss at the beginning of the season to beat Cheltenham College 3-1 six weeks later, showing the progress made over the course of the season. The boys were equally as strong in tournaments beating the likes of Bedford and Solihull en-route to winning a bronze medal at the Bilton Grange tournament. They also became the first ever Bromsgrove Prep team to win the Foremarke Hall tournament. At the South West IAPS qualifier held at Clifton College, the boys hardly put a foot wrong all day and just missed out on qualifying for the National Final, coming fourth and only conceding one goal all day. Nevertheless, the boys should feel very proud about their hockey this year and can look forward to next season with much optimism. Individually, Alfie Higgins has continued to lead the team well and is a class act, well supported by the ever improving Tristan Shaylor in goal and other outfield players who have contributed so much all season; Seth Benjamin, Henry Greaves, Henry Foster, Monty Cooke, Beau Langford and Oliver Cattell.

Squad: Tristan Shaylor, Seth Benjamin, Monty Cooke, Alfie Higgins, Monty Cooke, Henry Greaves, Mackenzie Jones, Joseph Billig, Oliver Cattell, Beau Langford.

J.Harris

Boys' Prep Hockey Awards

Most Valuable Player:

Joseph Kippax (Senior) and Alfie Higgins (Junior)

Most Improved Player:

Joshua Collett (Senior) and Tristan Shaylor (Junior)



Girls' Hockey Season

All fifty-nine girls in Year 8 have represented the Preparatory School this season, which has been extremely pleasing to see. In particular, it was fantastic for the School to have an U13F team compete against the Dragon School.

U13

The U13A girls have had a very successful season on the hockey pitch, playing an impressive fifty-two fixtures in total (this includes inter-school and tournament matches). In the coveted IAPS Regional round, the girls played some good hockey to beat Sedbergh Prep School, Stonyhurst St Mary's Hall, St Olave's School and Fettes College to qualify for the IAPS National finals. In this competition, Bromsgrove finished 4th in their group after winning one match, drawing two and losing two. In the quarter-final of the Plate competition, the girls played Hazlegrove. This was a close match with goal scoring opportunities for both teams, despite ending 0-0.

Bromsgrove then had a tense penalty stroke competition, which was tied 1-1 after the first round. The teams were again tied 2-2 after the second round. In agonising 'sudden death', Bromsgrove just missed progressing to the semi-final by one goal. In the England Hockey Minis County round, our girls qualified through to the Regional Finals where they performed magnificently and were undefeated until the final. They finished as Midlands runners-up and gained a place in the National Finals, which were unfortunately cancelled this year.

The U13As were additionally successful in the Independent Schools' Competition, reaching the semi-final of the Plate competition, but just missed out on a place in the grand final (losing 2-3 to Alleen's School).

The U13B team displayed an impressive togetherness and work rate. This was highlighted by the girls' impressive unbeaten season, winning seven matches and drawing two. The U13C, D, E & F teams have all had a good season. Their ability and confidence have grown as the season has progressed. All the girls' skills and confidence have come on leaps and bounds since September. Their improved results have been a reflection of their hard work and dedication.

U12

Congratulations must go to the U12As on a very successful season of hockey. The girls have worked hard in training, with each game improving their styles of hockey and building on their individual talent. Overall, the girls have won seven matches, drawn three and lost only two inter-school matches. The U12As often faced other Prep Schools' second teams (a mixture of Years 7 & 8), so this has been a welcome challenge for this talented side. Furthermore, they put in a strong performance at the IAPS National Finals. In the group stages, our girls beat St Hugh's School 1-0, drew with The Elms 0-0, beat Castle Court 4-0 and lost to King's Hall 2-0. This put the team second in their group and through to the Cup competition. This automatically placed Bromsgrove in the top eight IAPS schools in the country. In the quarter final, Bromsgrove faced Cranleigh School. This was an evenly matched game; with both teams having chances in the first half but the scores remained 0-0 at the half time whistle. Bromsgrove played extremely well in the second half but unfortunately conceded from open play, and despite their best efforts, could not equalise, leaving the final score 1-0 to Cranleigh. In the Mini Hockey Competition, the U12As qualified for the Regional Finals but this event was later cancelled.



The U12B hockey squad have all grown as individual players. They played seven matches of which they won five, drew one and lost only once. Their work rate has been second to none and their positive attitude towards hockey has shone through all term. The U12C and D teams both played five matches, won three and lost twice. The U12Es were very enthusiastic about match play and developed their skills with every match. They too played five matches, winning one, drawing two and losing two.

S Webley



Junior Teams

The progression of the U11As has been remarkable, further highlighted by their fantastic performance at the IAPS Regional tournament, where the girls came runners-up in the Plate competition. They also qualified through to the Regional Mini Hockey Competition as County Champions, beating King's Hawford 3-1, Malvern St James 3-0 and RGS The Grange 2-0. Unfortunately, the Midlands Finals were cancelled this year. The girls improved each week throughout the season, becoming a fluent and hardworking hockey team.

An impressive performance from U11Bs this season saw them play eleven games, winning six, drawing two and losing three matches. The U11C, D & E teams have worked well together, each week trying to master a skill during squad and putting it into the game situation on both Tuesdays and Wednesdays. They have had plenty of match time, giving the squad an opportunity to come together and bond. The girls can be very proud of their wins and not too downhearted at their draws or losses as most results were closely contested.

The U10A team has enjoyed a successful hockey season: playing eighteen matches (including tournament play), winning a fantastic thirteen matches, drawing three and only losing two.



The U10B girls have made excellent progress with their skills and tactical awareness throughout the term and enjoyed many competitive matches. They started the season well, with an excellent win against King's St Alban's and continued to make good progress, winning seven out of their thirteen matches played. The girls have worked hard throughout the season and should be commended for their outstanding commitment to practices. Similarly, the U10C & D teams have worked hard to develop their individual skills and have very much enjoyed playing matches against other schools. Bromsgrove fielded an U10E team, playing five matches at home. They made significant progress throughout the season. Well done girls.

S Webley

Prep Girls' Hockey Awards

Most Valuable Player:
Teah Petrova (U13) and
Farah Croce (U11)

Most Improved Player:
Ashna Ghale (U13) and
Lydia Wilson-Marsh (U11)

Senior Boys' Hockey

The boys' hockey season started off well, with the U16 team finishing 2nd in the Midlands' Indoor Finals and thus qualifying for the National Indoor Finals at Whitgift School. The boys were exceptional all weekend long and missed out on a semi-final by one point.

The 1st team had their most competitive season for quite some time. A tough loss on penalties to Abottsholme in the Independent School Hockey Cup made the boys work harder and more competitively throughout the year. Through hard work and determination, they made the last sixteen of the England Hockey Cup, eventually losing to Kingswood Bath. The standout game in the previous round against Prior Park, was when the boys battled to a 2-1 win at home against a team with countless internationals.

The U16 team again showed their potential, not only reaching the National Indoor Finals but also the quarter final of the England Hockey Cup v King's College Taunton. However, this game was postponed due to the coronavirus pandemic. This was a disappointing end to an extremely successful season. During weekend matches, the team went unbeaten for the second season running, only losing once in their three years together at the Senior School.



The U15 boys made it to the quarter final of the Independent Schools' Hockey Cup, sadly losing to Bristol Grammar. During weekend matches, we fielded U15 A-C teams and the occasional D team game. The highlight was the U15D withstanding attack after attack from Rugby School's C team before hitting them on the break to score the only goal of the game. This was an excellent show of commitment and dedication.

The U14 team finished the season as Midlands semi-finalists, losing to winners Repton in the semi-final. During weekend fixtures, we fielded U14 A-D teams on a weekly basis, with some excellent performances in all teams, including the B team only losing once all season.

Overall, the season has been a very good one, competing at all age groups and levels against some very strong hockey schools. Well done to all involved and good luck to the Upper Sixth leavers in their future hockey endeavours.

A Gooderham



Senior Girls' Hockey

1st XI

The girls' 1st XI enjoyed a good season overall. During weekend matches, they competed well against strong schools, winning several matches with a notable performance away at Uppingham. They won the match 4-2 after going 1-0 down earlier in the game. The girls excelled in the competitions, reaching the quarter finals of the England Hockey Cup. They were unlucky not to get a result away at Dauntsey's (lost 3-1) but gained outstanding victories against King's Worcester on penalties and a comprehensive victory over RGS Worcester. They also made the quarter finals of the Independent Schools' Hockey Cup but sadly lost to a good RGS Newcastle side 3-1. The team showed great togetherness and team spirit, which helped them throughout the season. This was especially evident during the moment of the season against King's School Chester in the first round of the ISHC. The girls came from 2-0 down with five minutes to go and ended up winning on shuffles.

Girls' Teams

The U14 girls ended the season as County Champions and qualified through the Midlands zone to the Midlands finals. Although they did not make it out of the group, this was an excellent result for the team. This year saw the U14Ds take to the pitch for weekly fixtures. They had a great season, only losing once to Stowe's C team.

The U15s competed well during Saturday matches and enjoyed a number of close results, notably a 1-1 draw with Marlborough who had beaten them the year before. However, they sadly lost in the second round of the Independent Schools' Hockey Cup to a strong Queen's School Chester team.

The U16s finished 3rd in the Independent Schools' Hockey League and enjoyed some close matches. Unfortunately, they lost in the last sixteen of the Cup to a strong Marlborough side.

A Gooderham

Prep Netball Senior Teams

Every girl in Year 7 and 8 has represented Bromsgrove Preparatory School this academic year. A record number of 110 girls played a match against Cheltenham Ladies College, where we fielded A-F teams. Throughout the term, all Senior teams regularly trained or played in School fixtures and achieved a high level of improvement by the end of the season. Congratulations must go to the U13E team who were undefeated; scoring forty-eight goals and only conceding seventeen.

The U13A team enjoyed a successful season, winning all of their regular Wednesday matches. A highlight for both the U13A and U12A teams was the Regional IAPS netball tournament, where both teams were undefeated in every game to be crowned Regional Champions and therefore qualified for the National Finals. Unfortunately, this event was cancelled and the U13A team were unable to defend their title.

The U12A team made excellent improvements throughout the season and only lost one of their inter-school matches. As well as becoming Regional IAPS Champions, the team finished in second place at the CLC Invitational Tournament, narrowly losing by one goal to Millfield. The U12B team also enjoyed a fantastic season; winning ten matches, drawing one and losing just one match to Trent College's U12A team. The U12C, D and E teams enjoyed their inter-school matches on Wednesday afternoons and developed their skills and game play each week.

S Webley



Junior Teams

Years 5 and 6 regularly played for the School in large block fixtures. The U11 C, D and E teams made significant improvements throughout the season and enjoyed playing in their inter-school fixtures.

The U11A team have enjoyed an undefeated season in their regular School fixtures, as well as winning the Foremarke Hall Invitational tournament. The team performed exceptionally well at the Regional IAPS netball tournament but narrowly missed out on a National Finals place, finishing in fourth position. The U11B team finished with an excellent record; winning seven out of eight matches, scoring seventy-eight goals and conceding just twenty-one.

The U10A team improved with every game of the season and only lost one match. Similarly the U10B team enjoyed an undefeated term; scoring sixty-two goals and conceding just fifteen. The U10C, D and E teams enjoyed their first experience of competitive netball and improved their skills each week.

S Webley

Prep Netball Awards

Most Valuable Player:
Honey Bo Luscombe (Senior) and
Ruby Broadhurst (Junior)

Most Improved Player:
Lora Kaban (Senior) and
Shaila Sunuwar (Junior)



Senior Netball

It has proved to be another hugely successful season for the Bromsgrove netball teams. On most match days, we put out five senior teams (1st, 2nd, 3rd, 16A and 16B), with the 16C also playing a couple of matches.

1st Team

The 1st team have had a phenomenal year, having been crowned National Champions for the second year running.

In the prestigious Independent Schools' Cup, Bromsgrove had a bye in the first and second rounds due to being reigning champions. In the third round, they beat Uppingham 75-43, in the fourth round, Stockport Grammar 63-33 and St. Bedes 34-32 in the nail biting fifth round. Bromsgrove travelled to Streatham and Clapham High School for the quarter final, where, in another thrilling match, they won 63-62. In the semi-final, Bromsgrove hosted local rivals King's Worcester, in which Bromsgrove came out with a 62-56 victory. For the National Final, the team travelled to the University of Hertfordshire, along with many supporters and spectators. Bromsgrove faced Allyn's School, leading from the front to secure a comfortable 64-47 win to be crowned National Champions.



In the Sisters n Sport National Cup competition, where both state and independent schools are eligible to enter, Bromsgrove beat Malvern College 52-14 in the first round, South Bromsgrove 40-28 in the second round, Wrekin College 26-25 in the third round and Rugby School 67-31 in the fourth round. In the Midlands finals, Bromsgrove were victorious over Loughborough High School and crowned Midlands Champions. In the semi-final, they travelled up to Yorkshire to play Sedbergh School and secured a comfortable 55-32 victory. Bromsgrove were then set to play Worthing College at home in the National Final, but sadly the competition was cut short due to the coronavirus pandemic so was never played.

This was another great season from our 1st netball team, being crowned National Champions once again and attaining 3rd place in the English Schools' National Competition. Credit is also given to the U14 netball team who were placed joint 12th in the country in the English Schools' finals.



Senior and Junior Teams

With the experience of Jade Jenkins and Katie Burke leading the way, the 2nd team have had a super season, winning nine out of their eleven fixtures. Notable wins came against local rivals King's Worcester (15-14), as well as a strong Oundle team (64-22). They lost a close match against Oakham School (16-17). The 3rd team won four out of their nine matches, including a nail-biting 13-12 victory against RGS Worcester.

The U16A team, captained by Ava Freer, also experienced plenty of success. They won eight out of their twelve regular Saturday fixtures but also competed in the National Sisters n Sport Cup, where they reached the quarter finals, eventually getting knocked out by a very strong Solihull School. I am sure that many of these girls will challenge for a 1st team place next season.

The U16B won four out of their eight matches beating Repton, Oakham and Uppingham in the process.

Not to be outdone, the junior teams (U15A-D and U14A-D) also registered many successes. The U15A team, who lost their influential captain Allan Pullen to the 1st team, rallied together to win nine out of their twelve matches. Consistent shooting by Jemima Vaughan-Hawkins, Eleanor Dunn and Danielle Moore, as well as redeploying Sophie Spittle in the centre court, helped them to reach the third round of the National Independent Schools' Cup, eventually losing out to Berkhamsted School. They also played out a thrilling 23-23 draw against Marlborough School.

The U14A team had a superb season which started slowly but gathered pace and finished with the side being joint 12th best team in the country. Following initial losses to local rivals, RGS and King's Worcester, the team trained hard, worked on their weaknesses and were determined to compete with the best. Revenge came against RGS Worcester in the County tournament and a superb semi-final win against Bablake School saw the team through to the National Finals, which was held at Stanborough School in March. This tournament comprises of the top eighteen schools in the country. Led on the day by Libby Rolph, their sense of team spirit and togetherness saw the team win four matches. They should feel incredibly proud of their determination and willingness to improve. The 15/14 B-D teams also competed extremely well, demonstrating the strength in depth we currently have in our junior teams.

S Franks

Prep Rugby

Over the course of the season, we have fielded twenty-three teams from U8A to U13D level. Every boy at the Preparatory School has made at least one appearance for the School, and in many cases, made more than ten appearances. In total, the boys played in 362 matches throughout the duration of the Michaelmas Term. At U12 and U13 level, we played in triangulars and quadrangulars with schools such as Bedford, Caldicott, Dean Close, Kirkham Grammar, Stonyhurst, St Olave's York and Winchester House, all of which were hosted at Bromsgrove. Other new initiatives included playing Whitgift School at Oxford Harlequins RFC on a 3G pitch. We toured Italy for the first time in our history and made friends at Padua and Griffoni Oderso Rugby Clubs. It has been a memorable season and one that all coaches, children and parents can look back on with great pride and satisfaction.



U13A

P 21 W 9 D 4 L 8 F 227 A 247

This season has been the strongest Preparatory School fixture list ever. As a School, we are aiming to stretch and challenge our boys every week and compete at the highest possible level. The 2019 U13A rugby team had a successful and enjoyable season where they played lots of good rugby. Compared to other schools, we did lack physical size but we worked hard on our decision making with the ball in hand, physicality, and technique at the contact area. As a team, I was seriously impressed with their progress over the course of the season. I am sure the children would agree that there were a few games where they did not perhaps play to their full potential. However, what was incredibly pleasing to see as their coach was their willingness to learn and their inner drive to overcome their mistakes. The grand finale against Warwick School was the team's last ever game for the Prep School and undoubtedly was their best game of the season – Bromsgrove were unstoppable and thoroughly deserved the victory.

Notable performances were against the following schools: Clifton (Won, 20-5), Dragon School (won, 30-15), Solihull (won, 35-25), Warwick (won, 25-0) and an impressive 5-5 draw against Winchester House, who won all of their other matches on their fixture list. Unfortunately due to the coronavirus pandemic, we only attended one Rugby Sevens festival in the Lent Term, which was held at Warwick School. A squad of fourteen boys participated in the festival and fully enjoyed the opportunity to play against four competitive schools.

The children also enjoyed a tour to Venice in Italy, but again found the rugby extremely physical against two very good sides, especially as some of the boys on the opposition were a year older. This was a great learning experience for the children and they all thoroughly enjoyed the physical challenge.

I would like to congratulate Thomas Ashton, Louis Francis, Jack Gilbert, James Hobbs, Benjamin Hornigold, Joseph Kippax, Frazer Jones and Jack Wilkinson for achieving their full School Colours for their contribution to rugby over the past two seasons. I would also like to thank Jack Wilkinson for captaining the side to perfection throughout the course of the season.

I harbour high hopes for these group of boys. I wish them every success for the future and look forward to seeing how they progress with their rugby at the Senior School.

A Lane

U13A squad members:

Jack Wilkinson (Captain), Jack Gilbert (Vice-Captain), James Hobbs (Vice-Captain), Thomas Ashton, Finn Austin, Hugo Blackwell, Louis Francis, Tom Fullard, Hriyaj Gurung, Joshua Haughton, Benjamin Hornigold, Joseph Kippax, Frazer Jones, Shamip Rai, JJ Reijmer, Ethan Spurgeon and James Tuladhar-Cardosa

U11A

P 17 W 9 D 4 L 4 F 315 A 215

The U11 season has been extremely pleasing, with the boys showing athleticism and commitment during training. Early season highlights included a convincing win over Warwick and a successful trip to Port Regis, where the boys exceeded my initial expectations, finishing at the top of the teams in the festival. Our season then took us further afield to the Buckinghamshire area in search of opposition that would test us. We played well in our two toughest games of the season, but narrowly lost to The Beacon School and later to Caldicott School, both of whom have significantly higher pupil numbers. Mid-season, the boys travelled to Wakefield and returned with the prestigious Harrison Cup - a fitting reflection of how well the boys had worked.

It has been my pleasure to coach the boys. They are a gifted group of athletes who will definitely go on to great things. Special mentions must go to Seth Benjamin for the positive manner he has used to captain the side, leading by example at all times whilst putting in some 'monstrous' hits; Alfie Higgins, Henry Greaves and Henry Foster for the huge improvements they have made individually and for becoming better team players, and finally for James Hackett's elusive feet.

C Kippax



U11A squad members:

Seth Benjamin (Captain), Joseph Billig, Oliver Cattell, Monty Cooke, Henry Foster, Henry Greaves, James Hackett, Alfie Higgins, Mackenzie Jones, Raphael Perry and Tristian Shaylor

Senior Rugby Awards

Most Outstanding Rugby Player (Turner Cup):

James Hobbs

Most Outstanding Sevens Player (Jones Cup):

Hriyaj Gurung

Most Improved Player:

Alexander Lobban

Junior Rugby Awards

Most Outstanding Player:

Seth Benjamin

Most Improved Player:

James Hackett





Senior Rugby

In what has proven to be a very difficult end to the academic year and the Rugby Sevens season, it is pleasing to report that rugby during the Michaelmas Term continued to thrive at Bromsgrove School. Sixteen teams regularly fielded on a Saturday afternoon, resulting in almost 250 boys playing rugby.

Through a combination of poor weather and the coronavirus outbreak, we only managed to participate in two Sevens tournaments with our 1st VII and U16 teams during the Lent Term. The 1st VII retained the King Edward's Stratford Sevens trophy and were runners up in the Uppingham Sevens.

The U16A team won five of their matches. The team also reached the North Midlands regional final for the fourth consecutive year, producing the performance of the season in the final. The boys ran out comfortable winners 54-5 against local school Prince Henry's to retain the trophy. Our U16 Sevens team won the Uppingham Plate Final and were runners up in the Stowe School Sevens. Our U16B and C teams enjoyed mixed success but it has been nice to watch the boys develop as the season progressed.

Our U15A reached the regional final of the NatWest Cup, eventually losing with the last play of the game. It has generally been a pleasing season for the team, improving week on week. It was also good to see both the U15B and C teams winning a high percentage of their matches.

Our U14A team have had a good season, having won seven matches, losing three and drawing twice. The U14B, C and D teams had positive seasons, with many boys enjoying playing rugby, some for the first time.

T Windo

Thank you to Mr Hill for providing photographs of the 1st XV matches.



Senior Squash

This year has seen even more pupils taking part in recreational and competitive squash at Bromsgrove School. The U18 team, led by William Upton and supported well by Daniel Grove, competed strongly in all games, beating Rugby, Tettenhall and Bloxham. After finding a balance and the correct playing order, the U18s went on to perform extremely well. They were unlucky in the National Cup, coming up against strong opposition in Wycliffe College, Bristol Grammar and Marlborough College. The team then competed in the Plate competition, but after beating Rugby, Bromsgrove, they narrowly lost to Kenilworth and missed out on a National Final place.

The U16 team was led by Leo Mellor and supported by William Hobbs. In the first round, the team found the competition difficult and unfortunately, lost all of their games. Following on from the Cup, they went into the Plate, but again just missed out on automatic qualification by seven shots.



The development team have been going from strength to strength and I look forward to what the future holds. The new Lower Fourth students have been keen and their development has been clear to see, especially with Sebastian Hall representing the U16 team. The current Fifth Form players have been consistent at every lunchtime session and are a joy to be involved with - this bodes well for future competitions and I am especially looking forward to the Nationals next year. Special mention must go to Chris Tasker-Grindley for his continued coaching and expertise on Tuesdays and to William Hobbs who has been selected for the regional U16 development team. I would like to thank William Upton who leaves us this year - he has been a great asset on and off the court.

K Perry-Evans





Prep Swimming

Up to and including the middle of March 2020, the Preparatory School enjoyed their annual galas versus schools from across the region. Our swimming remains very strong and we must offer a big thank you to our parents for taking the children to training sessions in and out of School. More swimmers than ever are members of local clubs and our leading swimmers all swam very well at the County championships.



IAPS Swimming Championships

Following over forty preliminary galas held during January, February and March, the 2020 IAPS National Swimming results were published at the end of the academic year. The results below give a summary of how our pupils featured. Full results can be found on the IAPS sports website.

The National Finals were scheduled to take place at the beginning of June at the London Aquatics Centre, but these were cancelled due to COVID-19. Congratulations to all our swimmers who took part in the IAPS qualifying round and a big well done to those who finished in the top twenty positions and therefore would have competed at the National Finals.

Individual National Finals qualifier results for the girls and boys are: Sophia Bhardwaj (U10), Alice Wilson Marsh (U11), Meghan Higgs (U12), Isabelle Kavanagh (U13), Emily Bower (U13), Maya Wingfield (U13), Oliver Cattell (U11), Henry Foster (U11), Beau Vaughan-Hawkins (U12), Oliver Dieppe (U12), William Pridden (U13) and Robert Riley (U13). The girls had six relay teams qualify and the boys five at U11, U12 and U13 level.

The swimmers who qualified through to the National Finals as part of the relay team not already named are Jack Wilkinson, Darcy Dines, Frazer Jones, Lucy Cattell, Euan Choi, Roberto Sanghera, Jessica Fox, Lauren Reid, Evie Hastings, Aidan McGarry, Monty Cooke, James Hackett, Isla Gool, Eve Hetherington and Emily Whitehouse.

ESAA Secondary School Relays

In November, for the first time in Bromsgrove's history, the U13 girls qualified in both the 4 x 50m freestyle and medley relays to compete in the 62nd English Schools' National Finals at the London Aquatics Centre. In the freestyle relay, our girls went into the competition ranked 25th from the thirty schools who had qualified. They swam magnificently to knock a whole second off their qualifying time, in a time of 2.05.21 minutes. Well done to the following girls, especially those who achieved a personal best time: Isabelle Kavanagh 31.97 seconds, Emily Bower 30.94 seconds (PB), Meghan Higgs 31.27 seconds and Maya Wingfield 31.03 seconds (PB). This placed our girls 18th overall in the country pulling up an impressive seven places on the day.

In the medley relay, the girls did even better. After being ranked 18th going into this competition, they swam their heat in a time of 2.19.69 minutes, knocking a huge two seconds off their qualifying time and pulling up eight places from their national ranking. This meant they went through to the medley relay final, where they achieved the following times; Isabelle Kavanagh 35.20 seconds, Emily Bower 38.72 seconds (PB), Meghan Higgs 34.64 secs (PB) and Maya Wingfield 31.12 seconds.

In the medley final, our girls gave a mammoth effort and yet again improved on their placing from 10th to their finished position of 8th in the country. A massive achievement for them to improve on their qualifying national ranking from 18th to 8th on the day.

The girls also broke both School records in both these events by eleven seconds. The previous medley record was set in 2007 and the freestyle relay had stood since 1994.

ESSA Primary School Relays

We were in a very strong position to qualify yet again for the National Finals in Sheffield, due to take place on Saturday 16th June, and with only one regional gala still to be held, but this was unable to take place due to the lockdown.

S Camden

Prep Swimming Awards

Senior (Years 7 and 8)

Most Outstanding: Emily Bower, Meghan Higgs, William Pridden, Robert Riley

Most Improved:

Darcy Dines and Georgiana Howdle

Junior (Years 5 and 6)

Most Outstanding: Oliver Cattell, Henry Foster, Alice Wilson-Marsh

Most Improved:

James Reid and Emily Whitehouse

Senior Boys' Swimming

This year has been a successful, yet challenging, season for the boys' 1st team. The swimming season provided many opportunities to exhibit the talent of the team, whether in competitions or galas. The boys always represented the School with dignity, striving for the best at every opportunity.

The highlights of the year included a competition at Stowe, demonstrating our determination and strength as a young 1st team, narrowly missing out on a medal. Furthermore, the team illustrated their commitment, as well as ability, when competing in the Warwick 100's against many top swimming schools.

To conclude the rewarding year of swimming, the boys competed in the highly competitive Bath and Otter relays held at the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park in London. The boys battled strongly against teams from across the nation, narrowly missing out with a place in the final in both the 100m medley and 100m freestyle relay. They finished a very respectable 18th place overall. This competition concluded the season for the boys' 1st team, having scored well deserved victories throughout the year and providing the boys with the confidence and assurance to strive for greater achievements next year.

Euan Vaughan-Hawkins
Boys' Captain



Senior Girls' Swimming

During the two years that I have been swimming captain, the girls' team swam with enthusiasm and dedication to the sport. This season started off with a good win against Stowe; the girls were excited to show how their dedication and hard work during training has paid off. The girls were challenged to shine as a team in many offsite galas against other schools. Spirits were also kept high with internal competitions, such as the House swimming events. This was a fun way of getting to swim in a friendly but competitive way and demonstrating some excellent team skills.

Team work was evident when it came to our own Bromsgrove Invitational Relays. Even though we did not make it to the top three, the girls competed in all the finals, demonstrating skill, strength and depth as a team.

Following the gala, morale remained high and we were delighted to find out that we had qualified for the annual Bath and Otter relays in the London 2012 Olympic pool. We had to work hard against other incredibly competitive schools, but through team strength and skill in the water, we managed to place 13th out of seventy schools. This was an impressive result for Bromsgrove.

Throughout my time at Bromsgrove, I have taken part in these relays every year during my Senior School career and for my final year, I was glad to be with this dedicated group of girls who make training and swimming so enjoyable.

Paulina Geus
Girls' Captain

Senior Table Tennis

2019/20 was a year of transition for our Senior pupils. Several top players left the School and the academy looked to the Lower Fourth to come through and develop their skills. Howard Wong and Edward Ho were impressive newcomers.

The U19 boys' team of Darren Hui, Howard Wong, Gergorri Rodionov, Radu Polschi and Vincent Li were Worcestershire Schools' County Champions and reached the Regional Finals of the English Schools' Championships.

The U19 girls' team of Jenna Wong, Sanniva Chang and Saki Tsubouchi were also Worcestershire Schools' County Champions and also reached the Regional Final stage of the English Schools' Championships.

Darren Hui had another amazing season. He won the Worcestershire Schools' U19 boys' Individual Championship. Having come 1st in the County trials, Darren was the star player for Worcestershire Juniors, where he achieved twelve out of fourteen wins against Derbyshire, Durham, Yorkshire, Warwickshire, Gloucestershire, South Yorkshire and Lancashire. His best wins included victories over the No 18 and No 36 ranked junior players in England. In addition, Jenna Wong won for Worcestershire in the U19 girls' English Schools' Individual Championship, with Sanniva Chang coming 2nd and Rosika Gurung 3rd.

Several players received two opportunities to train with Charlotte Bardsley from the Senior England Squad, when she visited the School for the second year running.

Table Tennis Awards

Girls' Player of the Year Shield:
Jenna Wong

Boys' Player of the Year Shield:
Darren Hui

Most Improved Player Trophy:
Natalie Po

Lower Fourth Friday Activity Trophy:
Tom Griffiths
(with Prin Waerunwanatorn as runner-up)

Senior Boys' Tennis

Tennis at Bromsgrove School continues to go from strength to strength under the leadership of Mr Lawton, accompanied by the introduction of a performance training programme run by Mr Nolan. This consisted of multiple sessions throughout the week, and on weekends, to help improve the targeted fitness, ability and skills of our performance players.

This strength was illustrated by the U15 team who had qualified for the knockout stages of the Regional Tier 1 LTA Schools' Competition from the previous academic year. The squad of Stuart Shannon, Cameron Owen, Alex Collin, Victor Mikov and Arsenii Steshenko triumphed in their quarter-final against Hagley Catholic School 10-2. In the semi-final, Isaac Bridge and Fabian Rhode stepped up to play with Stuart and Cameron. Unfortunately, the boys were defeated by the eventual winners, Ellesmere College 8-4. This was the first time that Bromsgrove had entered the higher tier 1 category and the boys showed great potential whilst progressing through the competition.

Throughout the Michaelmas Term, the highly popular tennis leaders' programme was run by Mr Lawton. Participants learnt how to run mini tennis sessions and gained knowledge about health and safety for themselves and others whilst on the tennis court. This was put into practice when participants helped out with the Mini Red tennis sessions at the weekend, to show their leadership qualities.



The School sought to develop the depth of their U18 squad by entering a team into the Tier 2 Regional Cup, with the first round against Rugby School. Despite their efforts and vigour, Bromsgrove sadly lost this match. There was also a friendly match scheduled against Clifton College, finishing as a draw with both teams accumulating four points. Later in the year, the 1st team was due to play in the National Schools' Championships for the Glanville Cup, but this was cancelled.

The tennis tour to Portugal for the U14 and U15 age groups would have been the highlight of the year (the first overseas tennis tour organised by the School), but regrettably it had to be cancelled due to COVID-19. We really hope that another trip can be organised in the coming years, to inspire the players and to help them push on with their tennis.

The global pandemic had an effect on the main summer tennis season, which was curtailed and our Saturday matches were all cancelled, including the annual fixtures against the OBs, the Bromsgrove School Championships and the County Schools' Singles and Doubles Competitions at Malvern. With the improvement and expansion of boys' tennis at the School, we are very much looking forward to these fixtures in 2021 and beyond.

Stuart Shannon
Boys' Captain



Senior Girls' Tennis

With the potential for greatness in girls' tennis this year, it was extremely frustrating to have the season curtailed so dramatically. Earlier in the year, our teams across the age groups were competing in National Cup competitions. Congratulations to the U16 team who played in the Regional Finals back in November against Leicester Grammar School and Headington School. In two incredibly tense matches, the scores were level after six sets, so a championship tie-break had to be played in both. Josie Ward and Kelly Lin fought hard to beat Headington School, but narrowly lost 10-8 to the eventual winners in the crucial shootout and therefore, missed out on qualification for the National Finals by the smallest of margins. Josie and Izzy O'Connor played extremely well, winning both their singles matches as well as their doubles matches together. Izzy O'Connor, Josie Ward, Kelly Lin and Grace Richardson finished in the top 16 in the country – a great achievement.

The senior competition started a little later in the year, with the girls' team of Claudia Bullock (capt), Bobby Mekushina, Sasha Makarenko, Kiyyah Grant and Anna Mitrofanova reaching the Regional Finals stage of the tournament when the tennis season was eventually shut down. With none of the girls being in their final year at School, they will hopefully be back competing again soon.



One of our new Lower Fourth pupils, Josie Ward arrived at Bromsgrove having been awarded a Tennis Scholarship. Her eventual aim is to try and compete professionally, and this year she has managed to balance her vast tennis programme alongside her GCSE studies.

Josie's achievements throughout the year are numerous and include:

- Competing in the U14 European Youth Cup in Barcelona, where she won a qualifying match to compete in the main draw;
- Qualifying for the U14 European Youth Cup Category 3 in The Netherlands;
- 3rd place in the U18 Regional tournament in Nottingham;
- Runner up in the U16 Regional tournament at Tipton;
- Qualifying for the U16 National Tournament, which hosts the top 16 players in the country.

Josie also represents Worcestershire County and has been a huge asset to our School team in the National competitions we enter throughout the year.

S Franks



Senior Volleyball

The Bromsgrovia 2020 will be catalogued as a time of unprecedented change as a direct result of the pandemic, lessons moving online and an incredible time of unity and togetherness amongst staff. There is a small dedicated cohort of students, led by Marcus Au Yeung, who will remember it as the year the foundations of Bromsgrove's first competitive volleyball team was formed. Volleyball is a global sport and as a global School, it only seems fitting that we have the opportunity to demonstrate our competitive edge in what is an excellent game.

The success of any sports team hinges on the dedication and commitment of its players. I have been fortunate enough to witness the drive our players have to see this sport represented in our School's history. We have a dedicated team of twenty pupils who train each week and their enthusiasm and passion for their sport is palpable. There is undoubted skill on show but also a determination to make this a success.

At our first fixture, it soon became evident that the opposition was unable to compete with our team. However, what unfolded is a great reminder to us all about what sport should also be about. I watched our team give 100% to help develop the opposition's skills and enjoyment of a game they truly love.

Witnessing the Bromsgrove team train reminds me of football in the park with jumpers for goalposts. Yes, we are privileged to have wonderful facilities and dedicated staff to support, but Bromsgrove's successful start to volleyball is because these players love their sport. Watch out Worcester University, we have you in our sights.

K Morris



Honours Awards 2019/20

Athletics

Prep School

Full Colours (Years 7 & 8): Thomas Ashton, Hugo Blackwell, Alex Cheung, Oliver Dieppe, Louis Francis, Jack Gilbert, Joshua Haughton, James Hobbs, Joseph Kippax, Alexander Lobban, William Pridden, Joaquin Reijmer, James Tuladhar Cardosa, Jack Wilkinson

Half Colours (Years 7 & 8): Shivam Chawlia, Max Goodwin, Roberto Sanghera, Henning Wu

Senior School

Cap: Kieran Valley

Major Colours: Rodena Bernthal, Scarlett Bond, Gabby Brown, Jonathan Burke, Tilly Giles, Freya Harper, Siena Horton, Mary Kuaeva, Julia Len, Beth Lloyd, Kitty Luscombe, Louisa Maynard, Niamh Middleton, Pippa Nisbet, Jacob Redden, Carolina Tato, Orla Walker, Vivi Zhang Wei, Adrian Wong

Minor colours: Ellen Ashton, Izzy Bolton, Oliver Brown, Matt Burke, Alex Collin, Hamish Cross, Ava Freer, Natalie Hatfield, Bella Howdle, Holly Kenward, Emily Langford, Josh Leonisio, Tash Malam, Darcey Pearson, Eloisa Robbins, Katie Rolph, Ben Schickel, Nell Stone, Iris Tang. Andrew Wong, Gordon Wong

Badminton

Senior School

Caps: Shams Ali Baig, Lucy Lyn, Joshua Osborn-Patel, Adrian Wong, Jacky Wong, Helen Wu

Major Colours: Johnathan Chan

Minor Colours: Joelle Booth, Leo Hemberg, Nicole Leung, Irene Lo, Stuart Shannon, Andrew Wong, Jason Yiu

Junior Commendations: Marius Chung, Sean Mo

Basketball

Senior School

Caps: Edward Aston, Amin Makkawi, Marky Prakaisriroj, Ethan Tang, Daniil Tiktinskii, Andrei Vashkevich

Major Colours: Josh Howell

Minor Colours: Tristan Chan, Aleksandr Kandelaki, Sam Kwan, Jack Ma, Riccardo Xu

Junior Commendations: Marcus Au-Yeung, Ayrán Jagadish, Henry Jinks, Morgan McKinley, Aleksandr Mirtchev, Tom Wang (U15 Team) and Charlie Abrahams, Isaac Bridge , George Eccles, Mark Florov, Nick Hunt, Oscar Jinks, Daniel Vassell (U14 Team)

Crickets

Prep School

Full Colours (Years 7 & 8): Thomas Ashton

Full Colours (Years 5 & 6): Seth Benjamin, Alfie Higgins, Henry Greaves

Half Colours (Years 7 & 8): Kaashif Ali Baig, James Batteley, Hriyaj Gurung, Joseph Whitlock, Louis Francis, Joseph Kippax, Aaryaan Zaffer, Hasan Al-Ani, James Hobbs, Jack Wilkinson, Jack Gilbert

Half Colours (Years 5 & 6): Aidan McGarry, Tristan Shaylor, Henry Conyers, Henry Foster, Mackenzie Jones, Joseph Billig, Daniel Underwood, Monty Cooke

Senior School

Caps: Jasper Davidson, Alex Hinkley, Henry Marshall, Daniel Meredith

Major Colours: Daniel Ashton, Seb Atkinson, Jack Gibson, Callum Lee, Euan Vaughan Hawkins

Minor Colours: Tom Cosh, Olly Davidson, Freddie Fallows

Cross-Country

Prep School

Full Colours (Years 7 & 8): William Pridden, Alexander Lobban, Joaquin Reijmer, Oliver Dieppe, Scarlet Preston and Meghan Higgs
Full Colours (Years 5 & 6): Freddie Giles, Alice Wilson-Marsh, Isla Goold and Ruby Broadhurst

Half Colours (Years 7 & 8): Henning Wu, Lockey Wigglesworth, Freddie Pritchard, Teah Petrova and Honey Bo Luscombe

Half Colours (Years 5 & 6): Henry Greaves, Alfie Higgins, Henry Foster, Samantha Riley, Eve Hetherington, Rumer Evans, Chloe Chan and Caitlin Pridden

Senior School

Caps: Orla Walker

Major Colours: Michael Jiang, Henry Marshall, Vivi Zhang Wei

Minor Colours: Daniel Goodwin, Natalie Hatfield, Iris Tang

Junior Commendations: Emily Dyer, Lucy Hatfield, William Hobbs, Sophia Meadows, Seb Purvis, Callum Wilkinson

Debating

Senior School

Major Colours: Scarlett Bond, Lauren Court, Alek Florov, Mary Kuvaeva, Justus Krauel

Drama

Prep School

Full Colours (Years 7 & 8): Neel Agrawal, Hugo Blackwell, Charissa Brobbey-Sarpong, Meg Collyer, Jack Gilbert, Amelie Jackson, Nimreth Mahal, Heston Mathews, Olivia McKelvey, Lily Milojevic, Sadie Morgan, Abi Palmer, Elizabeth Philpot, Tilly Richardson, Jack Wilkinson, Ffion Wright

Half Colours (Year 6): Spike Bloxom, Gina Bowen, Alfie Higgins, Lucy Porter

Senior School

Caps: Will Bellamy, James Bradley, Phoebe Fletcher, Eleanor Johnson

Major Colours: James Beattie, Max Campbell, Will Edwards, Theo Gardner, Matthew Goodwin, Ethan McLean, Iain Messore, Olexii Moskalevskyi, Paulina Vagner

Minor Colours: Ian Chan, Konstantin Chistyakov, Polly Dakin, Sophia Eaton, Dan Goodwin, Charlotte Holden, Donald Li, Jack Maydew, Lewis Osborne, Ioana Voicu, Brooke-Lily York

Junior Commendations: Marcus Au, Charlotte Brown, Charlie Cooper, Issy Cooper, David Corcoran, Olivia Garrett, Theo Gilbert-Birch, Fred Hanson, Lola Hill, Charlotte James, Alex Li, Sophie Pover, Issy Rusling, Anya Sanikop, Fiona Singh, Paris Siviter, Jared Spurgeon, Hamza Suleman, Olivia Whitfield, Jessica Whitlock, Jake Wingfield

Football

Caps: Jack Gibson, Ash Kandola, Dan Meredith, Jack Peplow

Major Colours: Jonathan Burke, Freddie Harvey-Gilson, Tom Martin, Charlie Palmer, Dan Tiktinski

Minor Colours: Seb Adams, Sam Amos, James Bayliss, Luke Bond, Devraj Bulchandani, Matt Burke

Golf

Senior School

Major Colours: George Rawlings

Hockey

Prep School

Full Colours (Years 7 & 8): Joseph Kippax, Joshua Collett, James Hobbs, Hriyaj Gurung, Teah Petrova, Honey Bo Luscombe, Scarlet Preston, Katie Harris, Lauren Baker, Emily Collett, Lily Falahee, Lexi Wright and Ava Colley

Full Colours (Years 5 & 6): Alfie Higgins, Tristan Shaylor, Henry Foster, Henry Greaves, Seth Benjamin, Monty Cooke, Chloe Chan, Thierry Cooke-Fleming, Farah Croce, Madison Falconer, Isla Goold and Alice Wilson-Marsh

Half Colours (Years 7 & 8): Neel Agrawal, Tom Fullard, Thomas Ashton, Jack Gilbert, Jack Wilkinson, Louis Francis, Lucy Cattell, Ashna Ghale, Matilda Wilkins and Madison Faber

Half Colours (Years 5 & 6): Oliver Cattell, Rumer Evans, Ruby Broadhurst, Samantha Riley, Emily Whitehouse and Eve Hetherington

Senior School

Caps: Dan Ashton, Frankie Davis, Fleur Gallagher, Theo Gardner, Tilly Giles, Siena Horton, Jade Jenkins, Shervin Parandian-Kurz, Tom Reynolds, Jack Stokes, Euan Vaughan-Hawkins

Major Colours: Shams Ali-Baig, Max Campbell, Pearce Childs, Joe Colebrook , Ben Hollingworth, Julius Langen

Minor Colours: Ellen Ashton, Charlie Bridgewater, Teddy Broadhurst, Oliver Brown, Tom Cosh, James Doohan-Smith, Maxim Edger, Freddie Fallows, Toby Hill, Izzy Jones, Beth Lawson, Kian Lau, Tash Malam, Leo Mellor, Lucy McLoughlin, Harry Richards, Elisabeth Rieger (also player of the year), Katie Rolph, Ben Schickel, Stuart Shannon, Oliver Tucker, George Vaughan, Gabby Walker, Elliott Willetts

Junior Commendations: Archie Greaves-Hall, Cameron Owen, Jack Warner, Henry Jinks , Fin Shaylor, Matty Walker (U15A Boys), Ollie Bullock, Hamish Shultze, Jasper Steele (U15B Boys), D-Gun P, Jason Choi, Harry Jenkins (U15C Boys), Jason Choi, Rahul Kanda, Harrison Philpott (U15D Boys), Robbie Bayliss, Isaac Bridge, Oscar Bridgewater, Henry Goldstraw, Toby Lewis (U14A Boys), Ben Collett, Manobal Limbu, Airan Thapa Magar (U14B Boys), Charles Abraham, Shaan Sanghera (U14C Boys), Rowan Adams, Jack Friend, Nick Hunt, Oli Palmer, Charles Wasley (U14D Boys)

Music

Prep School

Full Colours: Christina Bai, Lauren Baker, Gabriella Billig, Emily Bower, Shivam Chalia, Alex Cheung, Ava Colley, Megan Collyer, Rose Davenport, Bijen Gurung, Alanah Hamilton, Riannah Hodgson, Ben Hornigold, Hayley Li, Isabelle Kavanagh, Sara Lopez, Heston Matthews, Olivia McKelvey, Luci Meadows, Lily Milojevic, Abigail Palmer, Teah Petrova, Simar Puna, Tilly Richardson, Charissa Sarpong, Isla Sutherland, Aidan Swadling, Bernice Tse, Ffion Wright, Henning Wu

Junior Colours: Isla Bird, Flora Blower, Spike Bloxham, Gina Bowen, Oliver Cattell, Lily Costello, Farah Croce, Harriet Cutter, Mya Doak, Amelia Eddington, Rumer Evans, Henry Foster, Isla Goold, Eve Hetherington, Isabel Kingston, Jolie Lam, Xanthe Matthews, Jasper McKelvey, Sophia Moberley, Dominic Neale, Jonnie Parker, Shraya Parsotam, Uliana Pavlova, Riya Ratra, Sammy Riley, Grace Thompson Brown, Emily Wiggins, Jarry Xing

Senior School

Caps: Tom Chapman, Jenna Kam, Joshua Osborn-Patel, Anya Sharma-James, Jude Wynter

Major Colours: James Beattie, William Bellamy, Kalea Booth, Max Campbell, Alan Cheng, Lauren Court, Olivia Dalby, Phoebe Fletcher, Freddie Harvey-Gilson, Dariia Hromyk, Ellie Johnson, Johnson Shi, Mulan Yang, Jaren Yeung

Minor Colours: Lorelei Allden, Ian Chan, Tristan Chan, Seb Harrison, Charlotte Holden, Zoe Law, Hannah Lawson, Vincent Li, Elisabeth Rieger, Owen Price, Keira Sehdeva, Lucy Trigg

Honours Awards 2019/20

Netball

Prep School

Full Colours (Years 7 & 8):
Honey Bo Luscombe, Scarlet Preston,
Alexandra Wright, Teah Petrova,
Ava Colley, Ava Broadhurst, Emily Collett,
Elizabeth Smith, Luci Meadows,
Emily Bower and Lucy Scott

Full Colours (Years 5 & 6):
Holly Dunnaker, Isla Goold,
Farah Croce, Rumer Evans,
Ruby Broadhurst, Samantha Riley,
Xanthe Matthews

Half Colours (Years 5 & 6): Alice Wilson-
Marsh, Amelia Lees, Emily Whitehouse,
Eve Hetherington, Gina Obrey

Senior School

Caps: Kitty Luscombe, Louisa Maynard,
Kate Morrice, Catie Ranger

Major Colours: Rosie Butts, Katie Burke,
Catrin Carter, Phoebe Fletcher,
Grace Harker, Freya Harper,
Jade Jenkins, Pippa Nisbet,
Hannah Pover

Minor Colours: Ellen Ashton,
Anabel Crowder, Ava Freer,
Emily Langford, Izzy Lloyd,
Brady McGlynn, Darcy Pearson,
Katie Rolph

Junior Commendations:
Nissa Niroumand, Louise Osborne,
Angelina Sanghera, Sophie Spittle (U15A
Girls), Emily Miskin, Anya Sanikop,
Eve Sewell (U15C Girls),
Charlie Atkinson, Nancy Broadhurst,
Jaqueline Cheong, Emma Dunnaker,
Charlotte Jones, Ella Kenward,
Millie Moberley, Libby Rolph, Jaime Stirk
(U14A Girls), Lucy Hatfield,
Arianna Okemuo, Olivia Slater
(U14C Girls)

Rugby

Senior School

Caps: Seb Atkinson, Jacob Harris,
Nick Jakobsen, Fin Morgan, Ollie Wynn
Major Colours: James Bradley,
Pearce Childs, Jacob Redden,
Tom Reynolds, Cameron Ritchie ,
Dean Zulu

Minor Colours: Alex Collin,
Hamish Cross, Freddie Draycott,
Alfie Flood, Sam Freeman, Byron Hignell-
Halford, Toby Hill, Jack Hodgson,
Josh Leonisio, Seb Perry,
Mikhail Strelkov, Guy Wagstaff

Prep School

Full Colours (Years 7 & 8):
Thomas Ashton, Louis Francis,
Jack Gilbert, James Hobbs,
Ben Hornigold, Frazer Jones,
Joseph Kippax, Jack Wilkinson

Full Colours (Years 5 & 6):
Seth Benjamin, Alfie Higgins, Henry
Greaves, Henry Foster

Half Colours (Years 7 & 8): Finn Austin,
Hriyaj Gurung, Josh Haughton, Alexander
Lobban, James Tuladhar-Cardosa,
Shamip Rai, Ethan Spurgeon

Half Colours (Years 5 & 6): James
Hackett, Joseph Billig, Monty Cooke

Squash

Senior School

Caps: Will Upton
Minor Colours: Leo Mellor
Junior Commendations: Marius Chung,
William Hobbs, George Lamb

Swimming

Prep School

Full Colours (Years 7 & 8): Emily Bower,
Isabelle Kavanagh, Maya Wingfield,
Lucy Cattell, Meghan Higgs,
Evie Hastings, Beau Vaughan-Hawkins,
Oliver Dieppe, Robert Riley,
Jack Wilkinson, William Pridden,
Darcy Dines, Frazer Jones

Full Colours (Years 5 & 6): Oliver Cattell,
Henry Foster, James Hackett,
Monty Cooke, Henry Greaves,
Mackenzie Jones, Aidan McGarry,
Alice Wilson-Marsh, Emily Whitehouse,
Isla Goold, Holly Dunnaker,
Eve Hetherington, Sophia Bhardwaj,
Caitlin Pridden, Siena Ward, James Reid

Half Colours (Years 7 &8):
Honey Bo Luscombe, Jessica Fox,
Riana Hunt, Lauren Reid,
Georgiana Howdle, Hannah Sutherland,

William Holroyd, Euan Choi,
Roberto Sanghera, George Ascough

Half Colours (Years 5 & 6):
Madison Falconer, Gina Obrey,
Samantha Riley, Amelia Fox,
Isobel Boardman, Megan Price,
Benjamin Conroy, James Hoare

Senior School

Caps: Paulina Geus, Euan Vaughan-
Hawkins

Major Colours: Catrin Carter

Minor Colours: George Wiggins,
Sebastian Perry

Junior Commendations: Bromley Arnold,
Serena Cai, Cyrus Passman (U15),
Martha Cross, Lucy Hatfield,
George Hastings, Bob Tse, Hannah Willis
(U14)

Table Tennis

Senior School

Caps: Grigorii Rodionov

Minor Colours: Darren Hui, Vincent Li

Junior Commendations: Jacqueline
Cheong, Jason Choi, Petya Nikolova,
Prin Waeruwatarn

Tennis

Prep School

Full Colours (Years 5 & 6): Henry Foster

Half Colours (Years 7 & 8): Liam Bennett,
Darcy Dines, Ethan Spurgeon,
Henry Wiggins

Half Colours (Years 5 & 6):
Seth Benjamin, Monty Cook,
Henry Greaves, Tristan Shaylor

Senior School

Major Colours: Phoebe Fletcher,
Paul Gabard, Fleur Gallagher,
Martin Gochev, Julius Langen, Kelvin Liu,
Catie Ranger, William Upton

Minor Colours: Joelle Booth, Alex Collin,
Beth Lawson, Hannah Lawson,
Lucy McLoughlin, Stuart Shannon,
Arsenii Steshenko





Senior Staff Leavers

Steve Challoner (1990-2020)

Steve joined Bromsgrove School in January 1990, coming from a Sixth Form College background, and that experience and expertise soon told in the classroom, where he enjoyed a formidable reputation. His 30 years' service to the School will become the stuff of legend and he will take his place alongside the most revered figures in the history of Bromsgrove.

A superb communicator, he was above all a wonderful teacher of Business Studies and many Old Bromsgrovians were inspired by him in this increasingly popular subject. His mastery of his subject guided countless students to A Level success. As Head of Department, and during his tenure as Head of Sixth Form, he likewise wisely and warmly encouraged and mentored younger colleagues. His role as a national Chief Examiner in the subject reminds us of how fortunate we were to have Steve at the helm of Business Studies. An inspirational tutor, Steve spent many hours supporting and nurturing our boarders in Elmshurst and latterly in Housman Hall. He has been an ever present, unchanging, reassuring figure-head in the Common Room. When you need judgment as to what to do, what to say, what to wear, Steve can be relied upon to guide you in the right direction. He has been there for colleagues and pupils in their times of need.

Pupil numbers and results in Business Studies flourished under Steve, he was very much in charge of driving forward the department. Even when he stood down from the role, it was very evident who was still in charge. The difference that a caring and wise Head of Department can make to a teacher's career is immense and many colleagues can count themselves extremely fortunate to have worked alongside, and for, Steve Challoner. Many of his pupils also echo these positive sentiments.

Outside the classroom, he inspired a massive growth and success in basketball. Its role at Bromsgrove was transformed under Steve and this unique and popular sport catered for many who might have been less keen on the other major sports. Fixture lists grew, cup competitions were entered and basketball became one of the great success stories for Bromsgrove sport in recent years. There was, of course, a natural appeal to pupils from South East Asia, and Old Bromsgrovians who would return from across the globe for the annual reunion fixture. Steve was also a mainstay of supporting other School sports and has proven to be a massive help during the cricket season, either umpiring or managing the various matches. Chess was one of the many activities that Steve offered and, apparently, is very proud of the fact that he never lost a match.

Steve made a significant contribution to the management of our School, on the Senior Management Team and in his leading role with staff. His calmness, wisdom, patience and attention to detail were admirable qualities for these roles. He loved to organise big events such as the annual Headmaster's Christmas Dinner and, of course, the Whole School photographs. It was very appropriate for Steve to take all of these skills and experiences to our sister School in Thailand. In September 2011, Steve, together with his wife Benita, moved to Bangkok where he became the Headmaster of Bromsgrove International School Thailand (BIST). After three successful years leading the School, it was time to return to Bromsgrove UK. Steve and Benita have very fond memories of their time in Asia and keep in regular contact with several of their former colleagues.

Steve has always dedicated himself fully to each and every one of his commitments, whether they be teaching, coaching, mentoring, planning, organising or advising. The incredible work ethic and dedication that he has demonstrated to Bromsgrove School, its staff and, most of all, its pupils, has been second to none. It is very hard to sum up the huge contribution that Steve has made over his time at Bromsgrove but we are deeply indebted to him.

P Mullan

Margaret Werrett (1992–2020)

Once Margaret Werrett had joined us in September 1992, she was one of those colleagues who simply devoted her life to Bromsgrove School and its pupils. She was a Trojan in all things - immensely hard-working, determined, indefatigable and relentless in her pursuit of making things right. Those qualities were ideal for her first major role at the School - Houseparent of Hazeldene. Her efforts on behalf of her girls - her painstaking care, encouragement and support - were second to none and a role model to all aspiring pastoral leaders. The House thrived under her compassionate, generous, inspirational leadership and the girls (and parents) deeply appreciated her. Wearing her heart on her sleeve, this simply added to the strong bond between Houseparent and the girls – Hazeldene was an exceptionally happy House and full of laughter. There was a heart-warming level playing field between them. She was a great listener, ensuring no individual was neglected; she looked out for all, whatever their talents. Many Hazeldenians look back on her with fond affection. Then followed years of similar dedicated service to her tutees in Lupton.

Margaret was ideally suited to the role of Senior Mistress, which can be defined as 'If it moves, it's yours.' Staff rota lists, dining hall queues, the Maroon Book, organising chairs for the Commemoration Day Service at St. John's and much more fell within her efficient orbit. More than one Deputy Head who needed a problem

solving was thankful but unsurprised when she volunteered without hesitation. They knew it would be solved, and thoroughly so. The saying 'If you want something done, ask a busy person to do it' was so true when you had Dr Werrett on the staff. She was an outstanding Chemistry teacher - one of the finest we have seen - and here again, she often gave up many of her own private hours to help her students, especially those who struggled. Countless Old Bromsgrovians will be indebted to her for inspiring their love of the subject at GCSE, A Level and more recently, IB. Her colleagues in the department have commented, 'Working in Chemistry with such a good friend as Margaret for over twenty years was such a privilege. She was always the 'unofficial mentor' and her outstanding support meant everything to the department. She would offer her amazing resources and ideas selflessly to anybody, however experienced- we always used to say, "Margaret, what are you doing for Year 9'? And low and behold out would come a plethora of amazing resources and everything planned seamlessly – we were never so organised". She was one of the founding members of the IB Chemistry team and worked with the other members to set up the programme. She was so amazingly supportive and encouraging with all who taught Chemistry.

Sports Days will never be the same again without Dr Werrett as Starter. From the Ryland Centre to the London Olympics and many other world athletic events, it

was all in a day's work for her. She has started some of the most well-known faces of the athletics world, such as Usain Bolt, Jess Ennis-Hill and Asafa Powell, as well as Mo Farah's gold medal winning race at the 2012 Olympics on Super Saturday. She probably gets most satisfaction from working with the Paralympics, where stars such as Dame Tanni Grey Thompson, David Weir, Jonny Peacock and Sophie Hahn have all recorded world records in races that Margaret has started. Margaret plans to continue starting athletics events, as well as educating the new officials. We look forward to welcoming her back to our athletics matches in years to come; we know we will be in safe hands.

Margaret has a deep love of, and understanding for, Bromsgrove School and its pupils. With admirable humility and modesty, she has served our School with unwavering loyalty and devotion - hers has been a distinguished career of a great Bromsgrovian.

We all admire her as a consummate professional, an outstanding teacher of Chemistry and for her dedication to students who respect her greatly, let alone her contribution to School sport and, and, and! Yes, Margaret literally coins the phrase 'a list as long as your arm.' How many will be needed to replace her.

P Mullan





Kate Tansley (2000–2019)

Kate has contributed hugely to the English Department and the School for almost the whole of this century. Over the past nineteen years, she taught with a very sincere passion for both her subject and her students, and the results she achieved with them are not just down to her impressive knowledge and teaching expertise, but to the way in which her classes responded to her own doggedness and drive. Students recognised that with Miss Tansley as their teacher, there would be plenty of hard work, as well as a genuine and idiosyncratic sense of fun. As Second in English, she knew every corner of the somewhat byzantine rubric of the IB English course and was an invaluable source of support to all those teaching that specification for the first time; Kate recognised the importance of colleagues' social bonds when the going got tough and new arrivals to the department were warmly welcomed and made to feel at home.

As a long-serving tutor (and former Assistant Houseparent) of Hazeldene, she made such a difference to generations of Hazeldene girls: her warm and relaxed manner - and plentiful supply of hot chocolate and snacks - made her tutor group times a welcome refuge for Sixth Formers when the pressure was on. They knew they could chat safely to her about the good, the bad and the gossip. Her commitment to the caring, pastoral side of her role was also seen in her contribution over many years to our students' participation in local care homes, where, yet again, she showed everyone how much more there was to School than an academic education.

Kate is the kind of teaching professional whose personal investment in all those she taught and tutored made her the sort of teacher that students will remember for many years. We are grateful on their behalf for the two decades of service she gave them and wish her every happiness in the future.

P Dinnen



Maria Parkinson (2009–2020)

Maria Parkinson joined Bromsgrove School in September 2009 having taught at King's Norton Boys' School in Birmingham for twenty-seven years. After eleven years at Bromsgrove, she is retiring having totalled thirty-eight years of teaching. This gives an indication of the wealth of experience that Maria brought to the department and enriched many pupils' experience of learning Spanish.

Despite her years of experience, Maria was always keen to teach new courses and specifications, and particularly enjoyed teaching the IB where she was able to bring her in-depth knowledge of both the language and culture of Spain to life with passion and enthusiasm. She always ensured that every one of her pupils completely understood her lessons; most lunchtimes she was seen rushing back to her classroom early to support pupils in her own time. Every pupil was special to Maria and she had a gift of bringing out the very best in everyone that was in her care. She enjoyed the annual departmental trips to Spain and has travelled with me all over Spain in sunshine, snow and rain with an unflappable good nature, enthusiasm and passion for the Spanish culture. Many local tour guides have been corrected and outwitted by the vast knowledge that she holds on most things in most parts of Spain.

Maria has always been supportive of offering pupils activities outside the classroom and was often seen bringing Spanish delicacies in for pupils to taste. Cinema evenings with pizza and theatre trips are just a couple of examples of her dedication to bringing fun and passion to her subject. There is a lack of adjectives to describe Maria but when I think of her, I think of style, flair, passion, fun, drive, ambition, loyalty, consistency, intellect, excellence and insight. I will miss our many trips pushing our way through Semana Santa celebrations, the many hats that accompany every region of Spain rotated daily as she comes alive and vivacious in anticipation of every cultural activity planned. This passion will continue into retirement as she makes plans to study the history of art, learn German and travel extensively with her fabulous collection of hats.

M Smith



Andrew Laskowski (2014–2020)

Andrew has been a stalwart of the Physics department for six years, having also taught GCSE Mathematics in his first year. His enthusiasm for exploring new and interesting applications of Physics has kept the Oxbridge students, as well as the staff of the department, on their toes and provided many wide ranging discussions in the break room.

His commitment to the boarding life of the School has been evident in his capacity as a resident in Housman Hall, first in the annexe and then in Housman itself. As a Sixth Form tutor, he has been able to support his tutees as they embark on the final years of the Bromsgrove life and help them to prepare for their next adventure. Those students, who have set their sights on places at universities in the USA, will remember the lunchtimes that Andrew gave up, freely, to help them prepare for SATs. Andrew gladly gave his students the benefit of his first-hand experience of the system and there is no doubt this greatly aided their applications.

Keen to be involved in the extra-curricular life of the School, Andrew has run games and coding clubs, as well as lending his judging skills as a regular feature of House debating and MUN. Always willing to be involved, Andrew has aided behind the scenes in running the staff bar, where his passion for board games has been a key infection vector for many members of staff and has even led to him designing and publishing his own game.

We will genuinely miss Andrew's warmth, friendliness and sense of humour (who can forget those staff bar emails). Bromsgrove School, and the Physics department, in particular, is losing a valued colleague. We wish him good luck and every success as he leaves us to take a brief break before embarking on a new journey in Rome.

S Kettle



Clare Berment-Parr (2015–2020)

Organised, enthusiastic and dedicated, Claire not only encapsulates the qualities we want to see in our students but encourages them to develop these attributes themselves. In Hazeldene, she gained the respect of the whole House with her firm but fair manner and unflappable character. Her wonderful authentic accent has a strangely calming effect. Her tutees remember both the constructive conversations about academic grades and development, and also the encouragement of them in their activities in and out of School. She shows great compassion and Claire genuinely cares for all those in her charge. She leaves us to join KEHS Birmingham as Head of French.

M Beet



Lydia Honey (2016–2020)

We were expecting the gentle Miss Honey from *Matilda*... but instead, we got the courageous, kind, adventurous, free-spirited, compassionate, and loyal Princess Merida from *Brave*. In tune with wellbeing and strong female role models, Lydia introduced Oakley House to Elizabeth Day and Bryony Gordon amongst many others. To the girls in Oakley and Hazeldene, she was an inspirational Assistant Houseparent: motivating them to step outside their comfort zone and always on the front line cheering them on. In the Biology department, she has been an energetic, progressive, accomplished and highly valued member of our team. We have laughed together, cried together, ranted at the computer screen together, then chilled out with office yoga together. Mrs Maund never approved of this! Her many innovations (of which there are just far too many to mention here) famously include disrupting the use of the Science corridor with her classes to model the use of monoclonal antibodies in a pregnancy testing kit, much to the consternation of our lovely Chemistry colleagues.

Lydia has always been ready to share and modernise, and she has made a hugely positive impact on us all, but even more importantly, her students. She has supported five field trips to Margam in South Wales and the department's Operation Wallacea Expedition to Madagascar.

There have been local trips to The Big Bang Science fair, lecture days at Warwick University and the Big Biology Quiz at Birmingham University. Her leadership, administration and organisation has been second to none and both Gemma Wright and, more recently I, have been appreciative of her inventive, dedicated and hardworking approach as Second in department.

For all the right reasons, it seems like Lydia has been here so much longer than her four years. She has immersed herself in Bromsgrove with exceptional teaching, genuine and heart-felt pastoral care and involvement and enthusiasm in extra-curricular activities. She has coached hockey, netball, cross-country and officiated at all home athletics fixtures. She has been a strong asset to the girls' games department: reliable and always arriving with a smile on her face. As well as this, she has supported the Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme in School, on many expeditions and also our recent World Challenge trip to Zambia. Until we meet again along the road (although we suspect you were probably supposed to be going in the other direction)... we wish you well in all your future adventures.

T Johns



Georgina Aldridge (2018–2020)

Since joining the School in 2018, George has inspired our students with her infectious sense of fun and enthusiasm for literature. She has frequently gone above and beyond to engage those with a less innate enjoyment of the subject, and has also had great success with those more naturally inclined, opening their eyes not just to a wider range of literature, but the social and historical issues explored through the texts. Though she would be too self-deprecating to admit it, her genuine belief in the broader moral and social purpose of the subject, and her role as a teacher, has resonated not just with her English students, but in House, and particularly in her contributions to the Model United Nations group and the Debating Society; she was even helping to co-ordinate student debates of topical social issues via Zoom in the final days of last term.

Georgina was equally at ease discussing weightlifting with her Walters House tutees - much to their surprise - and brought just as much energy to topical quizzes and tutor time activities. As a tutor, she kept the atmosphere upbeat and good-humoured but was trusted and approachable when the boys needed someone to talk to.

We will miss her dedication to the subject and sense of its importance, as well as her affability and easy laughter. We wish her well as she begins the next stage of her career at King's High, Warwick.

P Dinnen



Thomas Couliou (2018–2020)

Thomas joined the French department two years ago and now departs for promotion as Head of Modern Languages at Oxford High. In Housman Hall, he will be sorely missed having been a wonderful addition to the community; throwing himself into boarding and showing compassion and care for others. He has masterfully managed the Friday evenings with calmness and skill, working well with Fran Bateman in ensuring all the pupils on weekend leave have completed the correct paperwork - never an easy task with Sixth Form boarders. He has worked hard in building relationships with his tutees, which is always rooted in mutual respect. Thomas has supported many House events and the pupils in Housman Hall have greatly benefited from having a superb linguist in the House during prep time.

S Noble



Sam Kordan (2019–2020)

Sam joined us April 2019 from a school for pupils with MLD, where he was a Maths and English Lead. He has an enthusiastic interest in motivation, resilience and growth mindset, which have all been so evidently clear in his approach to the role of Curriculum Support Teacher at Bromsgrove.

Sam is passionate about students with Specific Learning Difficulties and their ability to access the curriculum. He has loved being a part of School House and working with such a great team. In the Curriculum Support Department, he has been invaluable in supporting the work we do and working together as a close-knit team. Sam has enjoyed getting to know the pupils and they quickly warmed to his calm and nurturing approach.

Sam leaves Bromsgrove to take up an exciting opportunity as the Numeracy Specialist for the Cayman Islands Government, where he will be devising national strategies and supporting schools with Maths improvement, as well as raising awareness of numeracy in the community. Sam is looking forward to the freedom of being able to explore his new abode.

I wish Sam all the very best for his bright future. He will be missed at Bromsgrove.

C Parks



Bex Arch (2018–2020)

Bex joined us as a graduate sports coach with the view to staying for two years to complete her PGCE in her second year. Prior to arriving at Bromsgrove, Bex studied at Birmingham University. She has been a great asset to the PE department - she has thrown herself into the tasks whole-heartedly.

During her time at Bromsgrove, Bex has coached the 1st and U16A hockey teams, junior netball teams, the girls' cricket team and the tennis teams. In her first year at the School, she was a tutor in Oakley House and for the past year, she has been a resident tutor in Mary Windsor. I am not sure Bex will ever experience another year quite like the one that has just gone but she adapted well to online teaching, taking everything in her stride and proving herself a huge support to the girls in Mary Windsor as the pandemic was unfolding. Bex is incredibly popular with the girls and will be sorely missed by everyone.

With her PGCE now complete, Bex has a bright teaching career ahead of her and we wish her well in her first teaching post at Woldingham School as she returns back home to London.

E Buckingham



Carine Parks (2018–2020)

Carine joined Bromsgrove in September 2019 having lived in Abu Dhabi, UAE, for 5 years, where she taught in International British Schools in Senior Leadership positions. Having been involved in Special Educational Needs in various school settings, from SEND to mainstream, both in the independent and maintained sectors, Carine brought a wealth of knowledge and experience to the School. In her specialism, she looks at the 'whole child' and considers all possible barriers to learning and fulfilment of potential. Carine has navigated the deep level of support required for all her charges, exam board procedures and legislative constraints adroitly. She worked very well with Sam (Kordan) and together they supported students, teachers and parents with their systems in the Curriculum Support Department, always encouraging teachers to be part of the process. In Lyttelton House, she always wanted to find out more about her tutees so she could ascertain their motivations and harness this to push them. Carine and her family move to the United States for their next chapter, we wish them well. She will miss everything about the School; we will miss her sense of fun and forthright nature.

J Holdsworth



Ana Pedraza (2019–2020)

Ana Pedraza joined Bromsgrove in September 2019 from King's School, Canterbury where she taught Spanish for six years and was Deputy Housemistress for three years. Prior to this, Miss Pedraza began as a Spanish assistant at Saint Paul's School in London for a year, where her journey to success began.

Bromsgrove pupils have enjoyed lessons full of enthusiasm and humour for the last twelve months with Miss Pedraza; some of her pupils will especially remember her Easter egg hunt with directions given in Spanish.

Ana leaves us for pastures new as the Head of Spanish at Shrewsbury School, where she will also be a boarding tutor and a very supportive teacher and colleague. We wish her well in her promotion and will miss her energy and permanent smile.

M Smith

Prep Staff Leaver



Maria Gonzalez (2017–2020)

It is with sadness that the Modern Languages department bids farewell to Maria Gonzalez, Form Tutor for Year 8 and dedicated teacher of Spanish throughout the School. Maria moves on to become Head of Spanish at Stratford Girls' School, relocating with her partner Pablo.

Maria has been a tremendous asset to the Preparatory School department, is ruthless in her organisation of lessons and takes great care and pride in adding the attention to detail to them that belies her years in teaching. She is by nature a giving person and her dedication shone through during her time with us: none more so than selflessly attending the French Trip (for Year 6 pupils who she doesn't teach) year upon year.

Above her professionalism in the classroom, Maria will be remembered for her sense of fun and infectious smile. We wish her all the very best and hope to hear many good things about her progress in her new school.

C Kippax

Pre-Prep Staff Leaver



Clare Dunlop (2011–2020)

Clare Dunlop joined the Pre-Preparatory School in 2011 as Head of Reception, and during this time, all the children have flourished in her care. Clare established our Forest School, at a time when few other schools had even heard of this important movement, and her passion for outdoor learning has inspired pupils to develop their understanding of the natural world. Clare qualified as a Forest School Leader, and through her teaching, pupils have developed confidence and self-esteem through hands-on learning experiences in the natural environment.

The children have thoroughly enjoyed Mrs Dunlop's after-school cookery club, baking delicious treats to take home and enjoy. Clare has been a wonderful Head of Reception in every way and always focuses on what is best for the children in her care. We will all miss her smile, energy and commitment to the Early Years and we hope she will find time to visit us in the future. As she retires, Clare will now be able to enjoy spending more time with her family and pursuing her love of walking, cycling and tennis.

J Townsend

Senior School: Pre-Prep Survivors



Senior School: Prep Survivors



Senior School: Monitors



Senior School: Winterfold Survivors



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