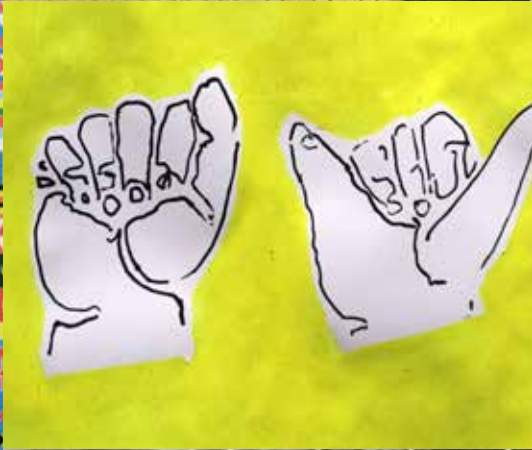


LOUGHBURIAN

2019 - 2020



THE MAGAZINE OF THE LOUGHBOROUGH GRAMMAR SCHOOL





EDITOR'S NOTE

It's hard to summarise the 2019-20 academic year succinctly; maybe the best way is to consider it a year of two halves. The first half, where school life at LGS continued apace, full of vibrant activity; and the second half of 'Lockdown', where everything seemed to stop (at first). The impact on our exam year groups was dramatic, with cancelled exams and the use of an algorithm and then teachers' grades but everyone was affected. Some flourished and some found it difficult; it has been a unique experience for us all. I pondered what could be considered the closest equivalent from our Loughburian archives and, after an abortive search for mention of the 1919 influenza outbreak, I concluded that it could only be wartime. However, even then the school was able to stay open, despite the threat from the Luftwaffe in the Second World War, hence the archive materials within this magazine.

Thankfully, the boys and staff adapted to lessons via Teams and Firefly, as well as carrying on their co-curricular clubs via 'virtual Thomas Burton Award'. This allowed for a surprisingly broad range of offerings, from baking to DIY and wildlife photography. This Loughburian magazine gives us a snapshot of those experiences, before and after national lockdown. It should serve as a point of pride for the boys when they reflect upon their last year, but also as a record of a momentous worldwide event.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Sophie Durden'.

Miss Sophie Durden
Editor

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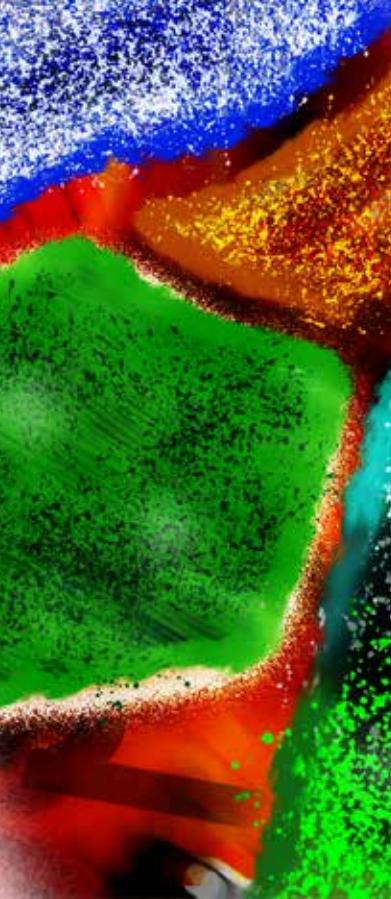
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FIVE HUNDRED

EXCERPTS FROM THE LOUGHBURIAN ARCHIVES FROM EASTER 1940

WHAT THE SCHOOL THINKS.

We print below the results of a mass-observation test tried out on the Upper School during those difficult days when frost, snow and the flooding of roads—to say nothing of the “flu germ”—made attendance impossible for almost half the School. We are assured that our sadly-depleted forms welcomed the innovation and were at great pains to provide a truthful and reasoned answer to the questions put to them. We have chosen from amongst the forty-five replies submitted those we think will be of most interest to our readers.

- (1) Do you support the principle of evacuation?
Yes, 85%. No, 11%. No opinion, 4%.
- (2) Are you in favour of conscription?
(a) In peace. Yes, 43%. No, 57%.
(b) In war. Yes, 92%. No, 8%.



- (5) How often do you go to church?
Regularly, 58%. Occasionally, 33%. Never, 9%.

- (1) In case of war between Germany and Russia, which side would you rather see win?
Germany, 34%. Russia, 50%. No opinion, 16%.
- (2) If you had to choose between Communism and Fascism, which would you choose?
Communism, 6%. Fascism, 84%. No opinion, 11%.
(We never realised our Monitorial system was so strong!)

- (2) Do you agree with corporal punishment in schools?
Yes, 62%. No, 32%. No opinion, 6%.
(So now we know!)

THE LOUGHBURIAN

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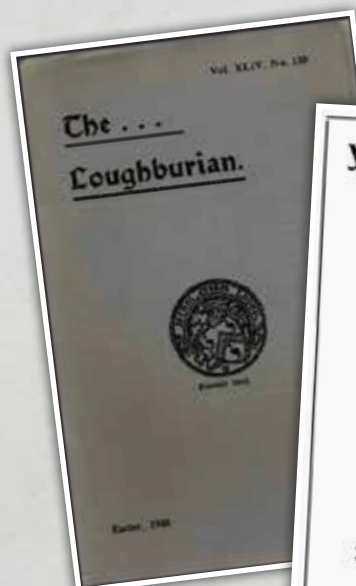
HOWLERS!

When J.D.L. decided on a general knowledge test to be set to the Lower School he was asking for trouble—and got it. We print a selection of the best gems of thought, without fear or favour, for out of the mouths of babes and innocents

Who, for example, except a cynical Third Former, could have thought of:—

“Warsore is the capital of Poland.”
“Remember, remember—Armistice Day.”
But read on.

A Harpoon is a weapon for catching wails.
The Moon rises in the North.
The nearest planet to the earth is the sun.
Polo is played at Lords.
Croquet is played at Lords.
Warsore is the capital of Poland.
Helsinki is the capital of Poland.
Rome stands on the Tigress.
The Pacific is 6,000 miles deep.
Ancient Britons painted their bodies with die.
Remember, remember—Armistice Day.
Whatt Tyler is the leading character in “Pilgrim’s Progress.”
Striped poles are erected outside lamp-posts.
The Olympic Games were last held in Switzerland.
Dick Turpin was a boy who had a famous cat, and thought he heard the bells say “Turn again.”
The dove from the Ark brought back a lime twig.
There are 22 men in each boat in the Oxford and Cambridge boat race.
John Westley is the leading character in “Pilgrim’s Progress.”
The dove brought back an olive leave.
If sending a letter to South Africa I should use a Californian stamp.
Harpoon is a case of silk made by a caterpillar.
Arabia owns most of the Sahara Desert.
A barnacle is a small creater.
A barnacle is a sailor.

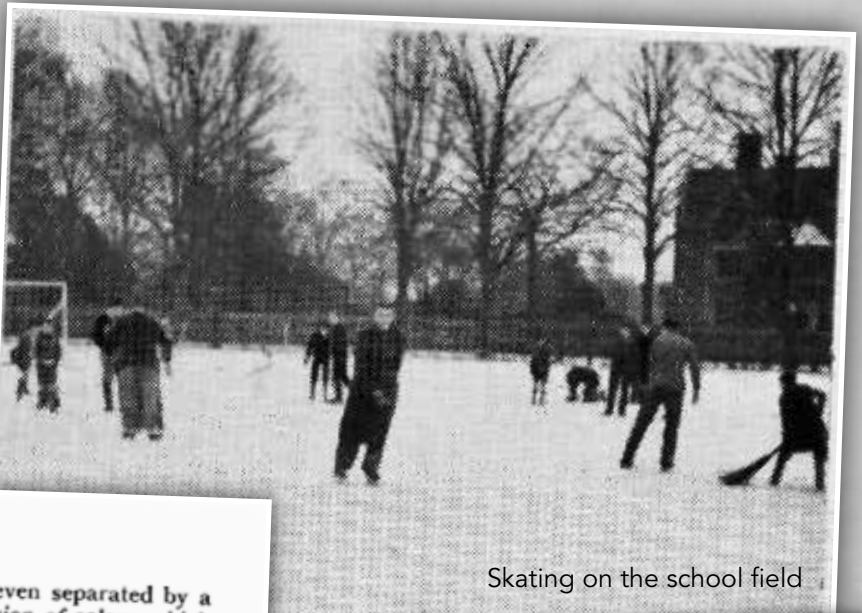


YEARS ENDURING

Editor's note: No reference to the 1919 flu epidemic could be found in the Loughburian archives, so I chose another year of crisis: 1940.



Though it is no longer considered necessary for boys to carry gas masks from lesson to lesson, they must still bring them to School, and they are subjected to periodic inspection to ensure that they have neither been transformed into muzzles for ferocious pets nor taken to pieces out of sheer curiosity.



Skating on the school field

RHAPSODY IN BLUE.

It is strange how periods in history, even separated by a few years, can be distinguished by the impression of colour which they leave. This can be noticed especially in war-time, when people are apt to be more observant and more sentimental than usual.

In the Middle Ages, for an example, the impression was of silver. Wars were fought in shining armour, with gleaming swords, silvery lances and flashing cutlasses. But impatient time carried those "dark ages" away, and civilized ages came upon us. Waterloo, the Crimea, rode fiery red, scarlet uniforms, battle flags and bloody swords. Then magenta, giving its name to the very colour of blood.

But those battles passed, and the Great War came. There is little need to say what colour that left upon men's minds. It left the drab ghost of a colour, grey. Hearts were grey, mud was grey, uniforms were grey; tanks, guns, machines were grey. None of the glittering majesty of the Middle Ages, or the setting glory of the last century: the dawn of civilisation had truly broken and now all was grey.

As we know now, however, that war was not the turning point of history, for another war has seen fit to destroy humanity. Planes swoop from the azure sky. Guns boom over the wide ocean, blue and clear. In port, uniforms are navy, in town, uniforms are blue. Camouflage covering those tanks, guns, machines is gun-metal, a combination of "that" grey with "this" blue. Fire-engines, which we had regarded as inevitably red, are blue. And as we sit in our bus, watching the landscape roll past in a never-ending blue stream, we muse on the madness of the world, and wonder what colour we shall see next on this gay earth.

P.M.B., U.Vh.

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AN LGS* LOCKDOWN DAY... [SUMMER TERM 2020]

The day would begin with boys groggily reaching for their devices beside the bed, and logging into their form time where no-one would proceed to speak for its entirety (mainly because they had all gone back to sleep) and your form tutor would have to come up with lots of irrelevant things to tell you to fill your allotted form-time slot.

After this it was time to grab some breakfast and log into your first lesson of the day. You sat there praying that your teacher wouldn't single you out and you wouldn't have to speak. Of course, some boys just didn't respond at all in any lessons whenever their name was called, or they were called upon to answer a question. Presumably they were busying themselves on the Xbox or PlayStation.

With the first lesson over, the next commenced, and so on, until Lunch rolled on, at last. The day was made slightly more interesting, however, on the day I had debating which provided something enjoyable and intriguing. By now, a substantial amount of work had built up that was a direct result of teenage procrastination mastery. This would be shelved until the hour before the deadline it was due, for most boys. You can't say they were late handing it in, so who can blame them, really? When you have a set of questions on electrolysis you would want to avoid them at all costs and spread the pain out over as wide a period of time as possible, to be fair.

And so, the afternoon began and an almost identical set of events occurred, as in the morning. Apart from now, boys were attempting to do the work from earlier on they had put off, instead of simply sitting there not doing much. And before you knew it, the school day was over and the evening had begun.

An uneventful and predictable day had ended, and one just had to wait for the next one to commence.

***DISCLAIMER: EXPERIENCES VARIED!**

Some final, more serious thoughts:

The lockdown period highlighted a few things to me. The first being how immensely privileged and lucky we are. We had the opportunity to receive teaching online, whereas so many other young people across the country had nothing. Second, the caprice and unfairness of life. Thousands of our fellow citizens were dying due to the coronavirus, through no fault of their own other than they had managed to catch it somehow. They had so much more to give, so much more to say, and so much more to do - but it was abruptly cut short. Sons couldn't say goodbye to mothers, and grandparents couldn't see the smiles of their grandchildren one last time. It made me realise that you have to live life to the full and embrace the opportunities as they come, because you don't get them again.

Jaysol Doy

EARLY DAYS OF COVID-19

An expert virologist spoke to LSF

This week at LSF we had the amazing opportunity to hear from Professor Jonathan Ball, an expert virologist, in regards to the notorious Coronavirus. The talk was thought-provoking whilst also very informative.

The COVID-19, more commonly known as corona virus has taken the world by storm and left the world panic-stricken. As of 14/03/20, 11:34, this pandemic has amounted to 148,026 cases and 5,543 deaths –[references given - statistics accurate at time of writing]. These are remarkable figures, considering its emergence in December 2019.

Professor Ball briefly explained the genealogy of COVID-19 and its real effects on the body; differing from the narrative that the news inadvertently offers, leading to mass unrest. Whilst reassuring LSF boys that we are highly unlikely to die, Professor Ball gave us an in-depth analysis of where viruses such as these come from and how to defend against infection.

According to expert virologist Professor Ball, many assumptions of where such viruses stemmed from was initially thought to be through our closest ancestors: the chimpanzees. This has now been proved true with viruses such as HIV and Herpes, however, they are not the only reservoir hosts. Bats have transmitted many viral infections to the human population including Ebola. The reason being

that bats are mammals, which means they are related closely enough for some of their viruses to thrive in our bodies.

Professor Ball was also adamant that the greater interaction between humans and wildlife we naturally should not or would not encounter due to building roads in rainforests, for example, leads to the exposure to new viruses and allows for more mixing of viruses leading to newer viruses. Professor Ball emphasised that exercising good hygiene techniques is our best weapon against COVID-19. As responsible individuals listening to the talk and heeding the advice of our government, we as a body must make more of an effort to show good hygiene practices- like we were before, hopefully.

It was an amazing, informative evening and we as LSF students, staff and parents were very appreciative that expert Professor Jonathan Ball was able to come and talk to us. If you weren't there, you truly missed out on an insightful, invaluable look at the COVID-19 pandemic taking the world by storm.

Report by Philip Moyo, Year 12





Winner of Leicester University History Essay Competition 2020 Year 12 section

Essay by Matthew Hull

[reprinted here with his permission]

How do you think the current Covid-19 crisis will be taught in History at A-Level in the future?

When assessing how COVID-19 should be taught in the future, it is important to consider how the subject of history as a whole is taught. Two key concepts of historical learning are understanding causation and consequence, and future learning about the pandemic will certainly be centred around these ideas as students study the reasons behind the spread of the virus and the impacts it had both locally and globally. Causation and consequence can be assessed economically, politically and socially or culturally, with all three of these areas affecting one another. For example, the driving factors behind the Industrial Revolution and its long-term effects, mainly the industrialisation of European economies that stimulated economic and social development, are the source of most historical analysis today, rather than a face value assessment of the events of the time. COVID-19 is likely to have a similarly ground-breaking impact economically, politically and culturally on both a worldwide and national scale, and so it is important to consider the topic holistically rather than narrowly.

Examining events such as COVID-19 as economic crises that have long term social and political consequences is a key element of historical study. For example, the GDP of the UK dropped by 20.4% in April 2020, illustrating a clear economic decline in a short time, with 2.7 million people claiming unemployment benefits between March and July and because of this a number of governmental responses were taken, including the 'furlough scheme' to protect jobs. These short-term events taking place during the pandemic will be important to historians of the future in explaining its context. However, it will undoubtedly be the long-term impact of these decisions which will be of most interest to future historians. For example, although slightly different in its nature, the 1923 German hyperinflation crisis is studied in schools in the context of being a catalyst for the rise of extremist views in German politics that culminated in the chancellorship of Adolf Hitler. The economic impact of the coronavirus pandemic will be studied in a similar way, as students will study how the economic downturn in mid-2020 spawned long term political and social change, even if not quite as extreme as in inter-war

IV.—GENERAL TOPICS

EXAMPLES, AND CASTS.—Extreme caution should be shown in regard to printed examples. Fortunately, the examples are from actuality, and not artificial representation.

Germany. Therefore, since understanding events in the context of their consequences is a fundamental pillar of historical study, the coronavirus pandemic will be taught in the context of its economic impacts in the future.

Another element of the COVID-19 pandemic which is likely to be studied in the future is the political impact it has had on the governments of different countries around the world. The pandemic has had to be managed on a governmental scale and different approaches from countries will certainly be a strong area for analysis in the future. For example, in the United States, the polling of Donald Trump and his competitor Joe Biden has changed significantly during the pandemic, with a 48%-46% vote share in February 2020 shifting to a much larger 50%-42% balance in July. It is clear there is a shift in the minds of the American electorate, especially in a country that usually sees very tight margins in the race for presidency, and Trump's poor handling of the crisis as a cause of his predicted loss of power in 2020 is certainly a strong area of interest to future historians.

It is not just in America where the pandemic is having serious political repercussions. The government of Kosovo was overthrown in March, with their poor handling of COVID to blame, however on the other hand, New Zealand's Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern has been branded one of the world's best leaders because of her effective handling of the crisis. The pandemic and its management will have political repercussions that will still exist fifty years or more into the future, and therefore analysing its political impacts and the future policies and social changes that are moulded around these impacts will certainly be important in the teaching of COVID-19 at History A-Level in the future, not only so students can understand how an array of political fallouts across the globe took place, but also why they were significant and how they have caused the inevitable changes across the political spectrum.

Furthermore, understanding the causes behind historical events such as global pandemics is fundamental in the study of history, and in the coronavirus pandemic, causation can be explored in the context of cultural standards and norms in the UK. Having personally worked with the charity Facing History, it immediately became clear that areas of high density populations, poverty and multigenerational living such as those found in BAME communities are significantly more affected. This is relevant because in history, analysing causation is key to understanding the course and wider outcome of any crisis. The current situation in Leicester will be used as a textbook example in the future to explore how the disease spread with it being the first city in the UK to return to lockdown. A key trigger for this return to lockdown is the high density of living in Leicester with 12,000 people per square mile, combined with the poverty levels in Leicester being amongst the top 20% most deprived areas in the UK with over 27% of children in Leicester living in poverty. This link between poverty and the spread of the disease will definitely feature in the education of Covid-19 in the future as it will enable students to have a greater understanding of the causes of the spread and ultimately by doing so COVID-19 as a whole.

To conclude, the three areas of study that will be most closely studied in the future, economic, political, and cultural, are all areas in which the concepts of causation and consequence can be assessed in the future. Whilst the temporary measures which took place during COVID-19 such as the wearing of a face mask will be taught to students as events to provide context, this will simply be done to help them understand the extent of the virus. The driving force behind the topic of COVID-19 will be the disastrous economic consequences, the ways in which different governments have dealt with the disease both competently or poorly, and how different cultural and social atmospheres around the UK have caused spikes in certain areas, and how these three areas both contributed to the spread of the virus and led to its consequences, most of which we are yet to experience ourselves.

[Bibliography provided]

Supporting our Key Workers



Glenfield Hospital

In response to the Corona pandemic, the Design and Technology department was very keen to offer its support to the NHS and other essential key workers. Safety goggles used for our practical lessons were donated to Leicester Royal Infirmary in response to the national PPE shortage and the department 3D printed parts for a PPE snorkel mask that was being explored by Nottingham University at the Queens Medical Centre.

Using a design provided by the company Kitronik, a large number of face shields were also created within the department using its laser cutter, and were distributed to a wide range of organisations. These included local GP surgeries, care homes, dental practices, and the respiratory unit at Leicester Glenfield hospital. Further ones were also donated to the Loughborough Against Corona community group for distribution to those who needed them most, both within the town and neighbouring local villages. These were received with immense gratitude and we were so pleased to be able to help in some small

way during this difficult pandemic.

Since our return to school following the end of the lockdown, the department has continued with the manufacture of face visors and the need is still very much present. All teaching staff across the foundation have been provided with one to facilitate the effective delivery of lessons, and our Sixth Form pupils have one each for Open Morning to allow for prospective parents to be greeted with a warm welcome that would be obscured with a face mask.

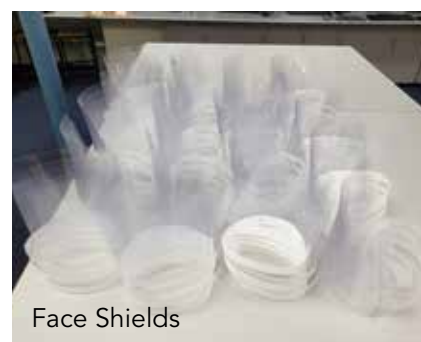
Mr T.A.Moseley



Dr Panchal, Glenfield Hospital



3D Printed Snorkel Mask Part



Face Shields



Face Shields



Nothing stops CCF cadets

We have been really impressed with all those cadets attending remote training this term, and especially our Non-Commissioned Officers. They have shown great determination and innovation in continuing to deliver activities since our last update in early May, including:

- army NCOs have run physical training session, map and compass activities, and lessons on Section Battle Drills
- Henry delivered a tutorial on sea terms and naval knowledge
- 70% of RAF basic cadets passed their Leading exams and have been awarded Leading cadet classification
- Roshan created a video of many of our cadets paying their respects to accompany the Headmaster's VE Day address
- Ryan led a fantastic session of shelter building, and many RAF cadets on a rainy Thursday afternoon set their shelters up by improvising with pieces of equipment in their gardens

Outstanding among our leaders has been the unstinting effort of Flt Sgt Alexander Kerchey, for his work with the STEM Flight. He is one of our annual prize winners this year, which include:

- Priestley Sword for Senior Cadet - Tom Williams
- Most Promising Junior Leader - Alexander Kerchey
- Best Shot - Thomas Wright
- Most Promising New Cadets: RN - Tino Uka and Christiaan Williams; Army – Ella Rose (LHS) and William Bolton; RAF – Harvey Woodward and Kritveer Jaggi.
- Best Turnout - Miles Henshaw

In the absence of the physical trophies usually awarded at Annual Review, prizes will be sent in the form of Amazon vouchers.

Following on from the STEM Flight's online engineering talk with Dr Diaz of Imperial College London, several cadets conducted video interviews with current and former members of the Armed Forces. Our interviewees, all Loughburians themselves or with a connection to the school, had fascinating stories to tell. Highlights included:

- Pippa and Sam interviewed the first (and only) female Red Arrow, combat veteran, and Blades display pilot, Kirsty Murphy
- Jared and Archie discussed life in the navy, flying helicopters, and being a ship's captain with Cdr Pete Higgins AFC RN (OL 1997)
- Tom and Lily interviewed Lt Col Adam Foden DSO MBE (OL1996), the current commanding officer of the Royal Lancers, about life in the armoured cavalry
- and we look forward to more interviews with more serving Loughburians before the end of term.

Finally, we are delighted to announce the following promotions to our most senior leadership posts:

- Senior Prefect, CCF - Cadet Regimental Sergeant Major Thomas Ashford
- Prefect, Royal Navy - Cadet Warrant Officer Jared Borrill
- Prefect, Army - Cadet Company Sergeant Major Jonathan Fergus
- Prefect, Royal Air Force - Cadet Warrant Officer Sam Oram

They and the rest of the Contingent look forward to welcoming our new cadets and staff from LAS, LGS, & LHS next term!

Major D Murphy
Continent Commander

Helpful Hands

As part of his virtual Thomas Burton Award, George May, 8PLH, is leading the way with two great projects that he has completed in the Helpful Hands club, in May to June 2020. This club seeks to encourage boys to put their practical skills to good use in order to help others.

In his first project, George volunteered to help an elderly next-door neighbour, whose existing frames for her raspberry plants had gone rotten. George cut the wood and made new frames complete with diagonal braces, which should last many growing seasons to come!

For his next project, George has helped to support local wildlife by constructing a bird-box, and finishing it to a really professional standard. Maintaining songbird populations is key to stable ecosystems, and bird boxes provide havens for nesting birds and chicks, keeping them safe from predators and the elements.

Students wishing to emulate George's design can follow his instructions on the Helpful Hands Firefly page, where they can also learn other skills, such as how to make a wildlife feeding table, how to re-wire a plug, and how to give old garden furniture a new lease of life.

Mr D Murphy





Lockdown Wildlife Garden Photography

Since Lock-down began and we found ourselves confined, more or less, to our homes and gardens, members of the Garden Wildlife Photography club have made use of this, snapping everything that does and doesn't move in their gardens.

Each week has seen the boys tackle a different challenge from 'Slugs and Snails' to the more appealing 'Flowers'.

Many wonderful photos have been uploaded by the boys over the weeks and photos by Will Andrew (Year 9) and Alex Wigmore (Year 7) with their pictures of a poppy seed head and a spider in silhouette were voted the 'Favourite Photos of the term'. Well done!

Dr N Ebdon



Lockdown Art

Some of the Lockdown Art that LGS boys enjoyed:

Tie Dye

The Loo Roll Challenge

Ice Cube Sculpture Challenge

The BIG Art Challenge

Sharpie Patterns

Blob Characters

Colour Theory Fun

Music and Emotion

Hockney iPad Drawings

Aboriginal Artistic

Altered Books

One-Point Perspective Practice

Make a Rainbow

Sketch for Survival

Squirt Gun Painting

Rock Painting

Shadow Art









VIRTUAL TOURS CLUB

A WHOLE NEW WORLD!

In the Virtual Tours Club we have visited a wide range of different locations including Machu Picchu, which is one of the Seven Wonders of the World and is the most visited tourist destination in Peru. The views are stunning.

Next was the Taj Mahal, which is a beautiful white marble mausoleum on the banks of the river Yamuna in India. We then looked at Mount Fuji, the highest Mountain in Japan, standing at 3776 metres high. It last erupted in 1707. Another volcanic location we 'visited' was Easter Island (Rapa Nui), which is a remote Island in Chile (Polynesia). It is famous for its archaeological sites. Another ancient site is the Acropolis in Athens which has outstanding architecture. We also saw the spectacular Grand Canyon; it is a steep 277 mile long canyon carved by

the Colorado River in the United States and is famous for its bungee jumping and helicopter rides.

We were amazed at the Empire State Building which is a 102 story Art Deco skyscraper and a major landmark in New York City. My favourite of all was the 'Christ the Redeemer' statue which towers over Rio de Janeiro and is relevant to the current pandemic, as it was illuminated as a doctor to pay tribute to their health workers.

Wouldn't it be nice to visit any of these locations after the 3 months of lockdown and even a summer holiday which is looking unlikely and I fear that the Virtual Tours Experience is the closest I'm going to get for some time. [Article written in June 2020]

Freddie Woodfield 9BJA



Mrs Gosling's Virtual Tours Club – behind the scenes:

There are approximately 40 members Virtual Tours Club and we meet on Monday lunchtimes and visit a new famous landmark each week. Pupils have to guess the name of the landmark from a photo, locate the landmark on a world map and do a virtual tour of the site, often involving 360 degree views (using Google Streetview. You can actually climb the whole of Mount Fuji!) Once they have visited the site virtually, they then have to read up about it and answer 10 quiz questions about the landmark. Answers are released the following week along with cultural links to YouTube videos, songs, dishes, sports and other aspects of the country visited. For example, we learnt martial arts moves from Japan and the Grapevine step from Greece.

The idea of the group was to make the pupils feel like they had travelled across the globe during Lockdown and to awaken in them a curiosity for other cultures and a desire to discover these places in their future lives, post-Covid.

Mrs L Gosling

Welfare and Wellbeing in lockdown

Wellbeing and welfare has taken many steps in the right direction this year at LGS. Firstly, the committee saw a marked increase in regular members throughout the year.

Further developments were made with the introduction of Spectrum, a specific committee focused on listening to and working on issues from the LGBTQ+ community within the school. Through Spectrum the LGBTQ+ history month was observed with an assembly on notable figures such as Alan Turing. The main committee has met regularly, discussed issues and organised events throughout the year.

Anti-bullying week was coupled with a survey that was then used to improve the school's anti-bullying policy and write a new information page for the school planner.

Blue Monday was then followed by Sleep Week which gave the committee another opportunity to give a whole school assembly. Throughout the year members of the committee from across the year groups stood up in front of the school to address issues ranging from male teenage suicide to the impact of name calling. These opportunities are vital as they allow the committee to try and educate and get people thinking about various issues.

The Year 12 and 13 mentoring scheme grew this year with forty students from the Sixth Form now visiting forms from Years 6 to 9. These mentors gave the younger students someone to look up to and seek help from not only in the given sessions but around the school in general. The mentors ran some form times by themselves as well as helping with the respective year group projects in the spring and summer terms.

Unfortunately closure due to Covid-19 meant that the planned training and workshop on anti-bullying and use of banter was postponed. As the year came to an early close the committee was forced to move online and has already begun discussing ideas for the next year. The weekly production of Isolation Tips since the start of lockdown has also hopefully helped some individuals through this tricky time, whether it be how to cope with Ramadan in lockdown or how to stay fit and healthy with the stairway challenge, or stay connected. This year also saw the school's counselling team grow expand, which has proven to be necessary as they have regularly been busy. This is a great sign for the school's wellbeing as it goes to show that as a community we are becoming ever more willing to talk about our problems.

George Bolton, Senior Prefect Welfare and Wellbeing

DEEP THOUGHT:

Finding the Answers to Life, the Universe, and (almost) Everything!

This term has seen the inauguration of both Junior and Senior Philosophy Clubs. Both clubs are attended faithfully by a handful of boys eager to hone their discussion and reasoning skills on a variety of topics such as gender, AI, and whether the law is always correct. But don't take my word for it, here are the boys' own words:

Oscar (Junior Philosophy) writes:

At Junior Philosophy Club this year we have debated some very interesting ethical and philosophical questions, such as 'Why do people obey the law?' and 'Is it ethical to read other people's minds?' These questions were met with fast-paced Microsoft Teams message debates, where everyone wrote so fast, it was nearly impossible to answer all the questions and keep up with what people are arguing. We have really enjoyed this club because it has made us question our opinions and views on everything from what seems like the most trivial of topics, to deep thoughts that question our views on the world around us."

Cameron (Senior Philosophy) reports:

"Senior Philosophy Club is an incredibly enriching experience of which I am proud to have been part. With varying current topics such as the reasons different clothing is worn and the image this sends out, e.g. suits showing respect, responsibility and maturity, there is always a rich discussion for both students and staff. In addition, with only a handful of participants, it allows us to fully explore ideas and construct well-thought-out arguments to the topic question and modify as the conversation progresses."

We hope very much to continue this club in person when school reopens, but in the meantime the chat windows keep flowing with the debate!

Dr Livingstone

LOCKDOWN HAIFLU BY YEAR 7

A beautiful day
Always drives the pain away.
But lockdown, not so.

By Tiernan Maguire

I'm loathing lockdown
I'm stuck lockdown just why me
Will it ever end

By Harry Higgins



Year 7 make a great start at LGS!



DENTON HOUSE 2019-20

A TRUNCATED YEAR IN PICTURES

Sadly the events of 2020 brought our boarding year to an early close. Quite understandably, the majority of our boarders returned home to their families as the global pandemic took hold, so by the end of March Denton House had fallen uncharacteristically silent, and it remained so for the rest of the school year.

While it is easy to focus on this sad turn of events, I will devote our little corner of the Loughburian to remembering the happier times we enjoyed in the first half of the academic year. As always, we were blessed with a wonderful group of boarders whose presence makes Denton a warm, energetic and happy place to be. So let's settle into our favourite wing-back chair and open the Denton photo album as we remember the laughter and enjoyment of the months before the pandemic struck.



Our year begins with the traditional visit to Beacon Hill to take in the views and enjoy an ice cream together. Here we see Luca and Otto discussing the relative merits of Flake vs raspberry sauce.



The first weekend of the year saw El Classico played out at Quorn as School House and Denton challenged each other to a football match. Despite School House looking very professional in their shiny new kit, the quality of the Denton boys saw them ease to victory, led by captain fantastic Jevin Chan.



Time to remember the events of 5th November 1605. Jerry, Tom and Bobby have Mr Fawkes safely under arrest as he prepares to take his final journey to the top of our bonfire.



Some shameless pre-ignition photo bombing from Jerry Li who is celebrating his birthday. Mr Fawkes struggles to get excited as he looks on from his lofty vantage point.



Later in the term we enjoyed an Indian banquet at a buffet restaurant in Leicester. A wonderful cultural experience for the boys.



"Sir there's white stuff coming out of the sky!!!!" Perry, Justin, Luca and Otto brave the blizzard to build a snowman in the Denton garden, the carrot was kindly provided by Mrs Parton.



Christmas Meal! Everyone is in festive mood as they dissect their turkey. Denton's Christmas video went viral on the school website, so now it's time to relax, enjoy the brussel sprouts, and celebrate together.



Pancake Day! Denton Prefects Steve and Frank face their biggest responsibility of the year as they are placed in sole charge of batter. To everyone's amazement, quiet man Steve turned out to be an expert flipper!

Traditional condiments chocolate sauce, lemon juice and syrup are all in attendance.

Oscar says sugar, Moez says lemon juice. The debate raged long into the night...



Shortly after these pictures were taken the Denton year came to its premature end, and the sound of laughter disappeared from our House. Thank you to the House staff for all their tireless, enthusiastic endeavours. See you on the other side everyone!



We had glorious sunshine on Monday, to launch our year of commemorating 525 glorious years, when all pupils and staff filled the Quad to form the characters LGS 525 as we sang the School Hymn.

525 ANNIVERSARY

Loughborough Grammar School pupils and staff have launched the start of a year of celebrations marking the school's 525th anniversary. *[Editor's note: sadly, these celebrations were cut short by the Covid-19 pandemic; we hope to restart them in the future.]*

A series of events are planned over the course of 2020, including a Heritage Open Weekend, History Display in Loughborough Town Library, and a prestigious Lecture Series featuring eminent alumni and Loughborough University's most famous student, legendary Olympian Lord Sebastian Coe.

Founded in 1495 by Thomas Burton, a local wool merchant who left endowments for the teaching of boys in his will, the Grammar School lists Rev. George Davys, a tutor to Queen Victoria, Johnnie Johnson, RAF flying ace, and Sir Thomas Abney, the first Governor of the Bank of England amongst its alumni.

Professor Rachel Thomson, Professor of Materials Engineering and Pro Vice Chancellor for Teaching at Loughborough University will kick off the Foundation Lecture Series on 4 February at Loughborough Schools Foundation.

Her lecture will look at the 'future of the motor car', how technology will impact future cars and discuss the potential and drawbacks of electric and autonomous vehicles.

Eminent alumni of the Grammar School will also be contributing to the lecture series. QC, James Flynn will be highlighting the legal consequences of Brexit on 27 February, while prize-winning historical novelist, Giles Kristian, will be talking about his literary career in March.

Speaking at the launch of the 525th anniversary celebrations, Duncan Byrne, the 35th headmaster of the Grammar School, explained that he was honoured to lead the school on an historic day. He said:

"It is a great pleasure to celebrate the start of our 525th anniversary celebrations which are an opportunity to give thanks to all those who have translated the foresight of the school's benefactor Thomas Burton into a lasting legacy, not only for the Foundation but also for the town of Loughborough as a whole.

"The programme of events is designed to celebrate the rich and varied education the Grammar

School has long stood for and it will be a pleasure to share these events with all, including current and past pupils, parents and the local community.

"This landmark anniversary also provides a welcome opportunity to look ahead to the future as we build on the traditions and heritage established since 1495 to create the next chapter for our school community."





SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE RACE

The annual Pancake Race took place in blazing sunshine on Shrove Tuesday. After the pancake bell was rung, all years jostled to enter and run. Boys had to run to the Quad gates, flipping their pancakes three times on the way.

The winner of the main school was Yassine, Year 7; the winner of the two joint Sixth Form races was Kiran and Joe. Sadly, neither the Head Boy nor Head Girls were successful this year.



LGS welcomes welfare dog, **AUSTEN**

The latest addition to the Grammar School staff is excellent with children and has a vocabulary of about thirty words, including 'cats' and 'squirrels' – both of which he rather likes to chase. Austen took up post as a 'Welfare Dog', dividing his time between sitting with the School Counsellors and waiting and playing with other boys under the supervision of English Department's Mr Morris. "I regard myself as Austen's butler," Mr Morris comments. "I let him in and out as he desires, take him his meals and clean up after him." Austen's mission is simple: to put a smile on as many faces as possible.

A huge thankyou from the VSU



Well over 40 hampers have been packed and delivered this year in time for Christmas thanks to your generous donations.



DODGEBALL

Year 9 went up against our sister Foundation school, Loughborough High School, in an energetic game of dodgeball; hopefully this might become an annual fixture!

QUESTION

What do giant Tetris and knots have in common?

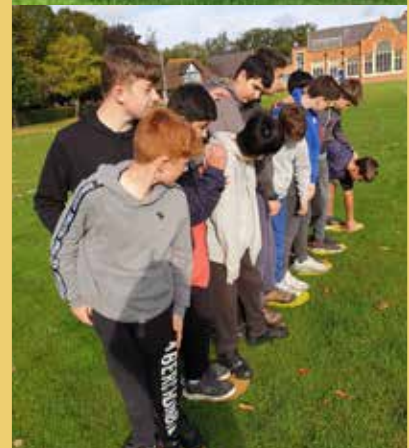
ANSWER

Year 9 have conquered both!

Year 9 enjoyed their Autumn Field Day in a day of two halves; they worked on their resilience, problem-solving and team-building skills as well as spending some time exploring what being a GREAT man means in small workshops. In the latter they were able to explore concepts of masculinity, consent and other important topics for half of the day.

The other half of the day was spent on the school field with all sorts of physical and mental challenges, during which the forms competed against each other to win the most points. The weather also split the day, with some boys enjoying sunshine and others experiencing a downpour; the great British weather in action! Both sessions were run by outside agencies and boys agreed that the day was interesting.

Miss Durden







Christmas Shoebox Appeal

Our annual Year 7 Christmas Shoebox appeal has been a huge success this year. Year 7 boys worked very hard and filled a total of 183 boxes. The shoeboxes will be distributed to very poor children across the world. The inter-form competition was won, as usual, by 7NBK, who collected a total of 48 shoeboxes.



Kerr Prize

Boys who had taken part in the Kerr Prize were invited to a reception with the Old Loughburian (OL) who made the award possible. Tom Owen (OL) donated money to encourage independent thinking and inspire intellectual curiosity in our Sixth Form boys; this led to the creation of the Kerr Prize. It was named after the man who inspired these traits in Tom, his German teacher, Bob Kerr (still a languages teacher at LGS).

Boys submitted a 2,500 word essay on a subject of

their choosing, researching and writing it up in the manner of an undergraduate essay. This year, Alex, Jamie, Mingwei and Arun took the top prize of £100 each. James, Archie, Ben, Ethan, Oli, Josh, James and Ben had highly commended entries and won £25 in Amazon vouchers. These submissions will be collated in to a published book to display this outstanding work from our students.

Miss Sarra Jenkins - Assistant Head (Sixth Form)



LSF GOES TO THE POLLS

Has anyone else noticed that since the introduction of the Fixed Term Parliament Act, 2011, we've never had so many elections?!

When term started last autumn, there were only rumours that the new Prime Minister, Boris Johnson, would seek an election, but the LSF Politics Society, and its enthusiastic members from all three senior schools, were up for the challenge when in October parliament finally did agree to the prime minister's call for a snap general election in December 2019.

As has been the format in earlier general elections, the 'LSF Alternative General Election 2019' slipped seamlessly into gear to offer the Foundation the chance to take part and raise awareness of politics. Our A-level Politics students organised themselves into political parties, selected leaders, and campaigned (on real policies), to garner the votes of all pupils and staff from across the Foundation. Each school became a 'constituency', where hustings assemblies took place and polling stations were centred. On the day other enthusiastic politics volunteers acted as election officials, ensuring the brisk voting was orderly and above board.

A fantastic time was had by all with some interesting results. Special thanks go to those who gave of their time and ALL those who took part in this historic event!

Mr M Dawkins

LSF Alternative Election 2019							
	Brexit Party	Con	Green	Labour	Lib Dem	Spoilt	
Amherst	0	37	54	18	10	0	119
%	0	31	45	15	8	0	Total voters
Winner: GREEN							
LGS							% Turnout
6	0	0	0	0	5	0	42
%	0	0	0	0	42	0	
7	5	19	13	2	24	2	50
%	4	15	10	2	19	2	
8	2	14	13	9	24	0	55
%	2	12	12	8	21	0	
9	2	22	20	10	27	0	72
%	1	15	14	7	18	0	
10	4	22	5	7	16	1	49
%	3	15	3	5	11	1	
11	1	14	3	9	18	0	40
%	1	11	2	7	14	0	
12	5	34	1	2	18	3	56
%	4	29	1	2	16	3	
13	8	26	4	9	17	5	61
%	6	19	3	7	13	4	
Staff	0	2	2	6	5	0	13
%	0	1	1	3	3	0	
Total No.	27	153	61	54	154	11	
TOTAL %	6	33	13	12	33	2	Turnout: 42%
Winner: LIBERAL DEMOCRATS							
LHS	11	192	64	55	190	8	520
%	2	37	12	11	37	2	Total voters
Winner: CONSERVATIVE							
LSF							
TOTAL VOTE	38	382	179	127	354	19	1099
TOTAL %	3	35	16	12	32	2	
"Winner": CONSERVATIVE							



Greenpower race

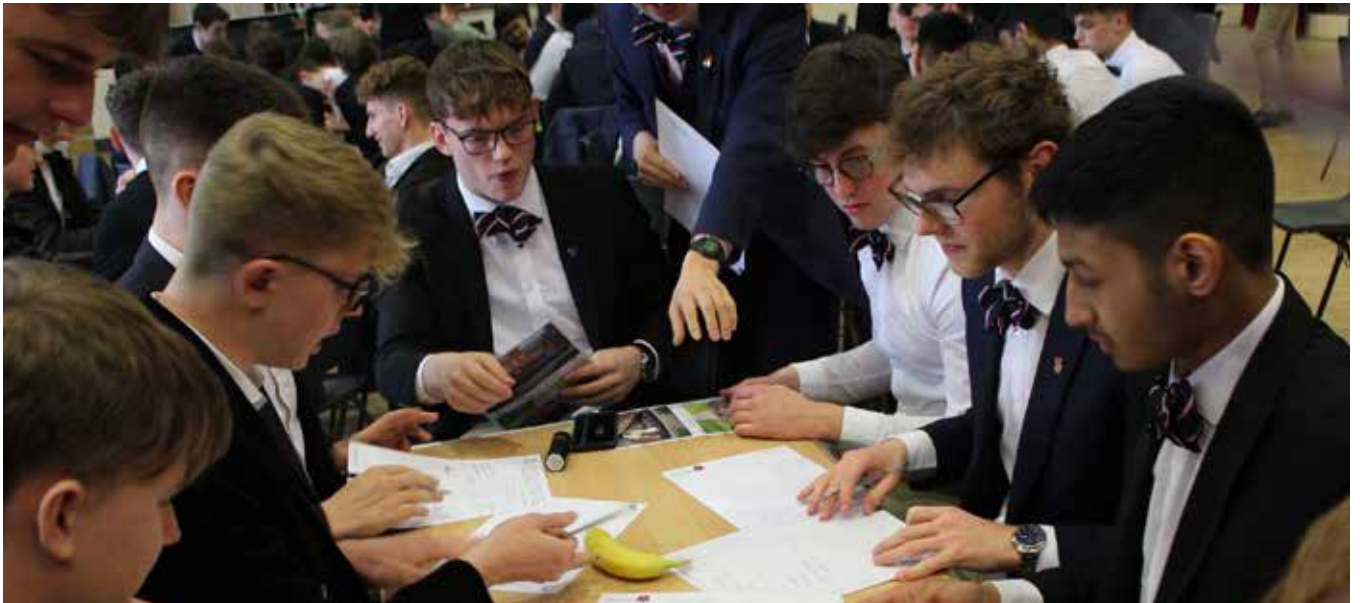
LGS boys were in Bedford this time for the Greenpower race. It was another outing with zero issues, retirements, accidents or embarrassing tows back to the pit lane! We are very proud to say that's all on the boys; a lot of other teams are teacher-led and the cars still have issues. Well done to all the boys involved. Now we need to go faster! A big thank you to Mr Watson for coming along and also standing in for a track marshal.



‘LAST DAY’ FOR YEAR 13

On their last day of term, and (correctly) fearing that it might be their last day at LGS, Year 13 students had an afternoon of fun and laughter, whilst showing off an eclectic and unofficial dress code of bow ties & beach shorts. It started with a hot chocolate and home-made cookies, followed by an enthusiastic impromptu kickabout on the Quad, as they gathered to mark the end of term. A quiz and games in the Hodson Hall, followed by a Prosecco and cake finished the day.







The Senior Maths Club goes from A to Z (Archimedes to Zsigmondy)

Senior Maths Club met right through the eventful 2019-20 academic year, being there for students from Years 10 to 13 to help them to explore and discuss many parts of mathematics beyond the syllabus – with a particular focus this year on number theory, including prime numbers and some famous number sequences.

Above all, the students were working hard on actually solving some difficult mathematical problems (such as Olympiad questions), including learning how to prove some historical theorems for themselves. There was a great deal of enthusiasm and desire to challenge themselves from all of those present. Our Year 10s were particularly well represented this year, especially by Sparsh Mali, Brendan Miralles, Alex Nelson, Tony Ye and Matthew Younger. It was fantastic to see that all the boys (and girls) showed real intellectual interest and desire; Adrian Dimitrov's level of enthusiasm was matched by another outstanding performance in the Lincoln Mathematics Challenge.

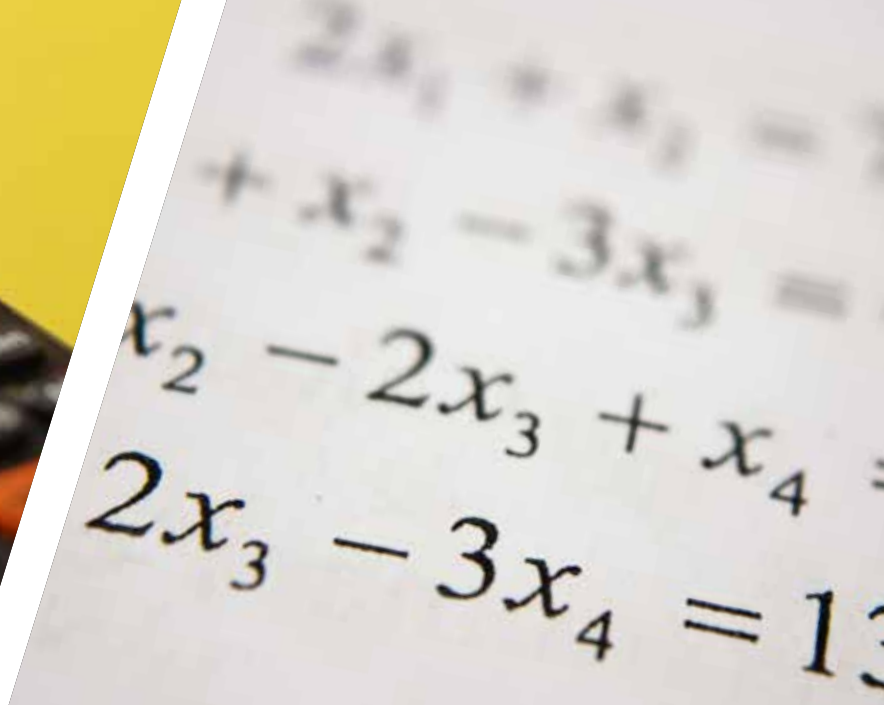
We started in September with a little known but surprising theorem of Zsigmondy and we then studied the related topic of Mersenne prime numbers. We managed to find a prime factor of 536870911 by hand with just a couple of calculations – we challenge the reader to try to do this for him/herself, without a calculator (here is the rather obscure hint we used: 536870911 is one less than a power of two).

We also studied the 'Vieta jumping' technique and consequently managed to find all the (positive) whole numbers x and y such that x is a factor of $y^2 + 1$ and at the same time y is a factor of $x^2 + 1$; the answers actually come from a very famous number sequence. Can you find any such numbers? We also looked at some mathematical history; specifically first discovering work of the greatest of the ancient Greek mathematicians, Archimedes, and then learning how to solve cubic equations, using a method from Italy dating from five hundred years ago (when our school was just beginning).

When Lockdown began we kept going, still meeting 'live' every Wednesday lunchtime (but remotely), and we showed why it's absolutely no coincidence that in the repeating pattern in the decimals for the fraction one seventh, we see two strings of digits (142 and 857) which sum to 999.

Overall, it's been a very productive and enjoyable year for Maths Club, whether meeting in person or online in these historic circumstances. Hopefully it won't be too long before meetings can happen in the P Block again as usual (but for the moment clubs such as this, which exist across several year groups, will have to wait).

Mr R Bhattacharyya



LGS Maths Teams 2019-20

Juniors win their Leicestershire heat for 6th consecutive year

In March 2020, in what turned out to be the penultimate week of schools being (physically) open before the national Lockdown, our Junior Maths Team spent a day at a regional heat of the national 'Team Maths Challenge' competition. The four boys in our team were William Worth and Harry Zhang (both in Year 9) and Mike Han and James Wright (both in Year 7).

Things started well on the day; by lunchtime our score was an excellent 114/116. The team was impressively unflappable under the dual pressure of demanding time restrictions and the very close nature of this particular contest; a couple of other teams were also scoring very well indeed – to such an extent that the top three teams actually went into the last round just one point apart.

An almost completely flawless final relay round by the LGS team meant that we managed to finish in first place overall (ahead of Leicester Grammar School and Beauchamp College). It was a superb effort by the four boys who had made hardly any mistakes during the entire day, working coolly, quickly and very effectively – both individually and as a team.

This was the sixth consecutive year in which LGS had won this Leicestershire heat; altogether a very fine achievement! The team once again qualified to represent the area in this year's national final in London... but because of the Lockdown this final was regrettably cancelled.

Senior mathematicians put in strong performance

Back in November 2019 our Senior Maths Team – who were Matthew Drury (Year 13), John Zhao (Year 12), Adithya Kunigiri (Year 11) and Alex Nelson (Year 10) – competed in the equivalent competition for older students, the 'Senior Team Maths Challenge'. After scores of 60/60 and 65/66 in the first two rounds, our team was very narrowly beaten into second place overall, and so just missed out on a place in the national final, after a very strong performance throughout. Three of the team would have been available for the following year's competition but, unfortunately, and for obvious pandemic reasons, neither the junior nor senior competitions could run in 2020-21; hopefully both Adithya and Alex will have another chance in 2021-22.

Overall, it was another successful year for both of our maths teams, and as we wait for the competitions to start again we can look back on several excellent recent years of LGS Maths Team success.

Mr R Bhattacharyya



MOTORSPORT AND MODEL CLUBS IN DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY



ESU
(senior debating)



DEBATING SOCIETY

This house proposes that Santa does exist – Intermediate Debating Society

I am pleased to say Intermediate Debating Club is up and running again. After the hiatus of last year, we are back to the thriving Society of 2017-2018. Each Friday in Q4 we have up to 25 students from Years 10 and 11 from both LHS and LGS, and we debate a range of topics. Indeed, we may have to find a bigger room if the society continues to grow at this rate.

Our debates this year have ranged from traditional, or should one say hackneyed, topics? These ranged from Brexit, which seems thoroughly passé now, to highly controversial ones such as prostitution being a necessary evil or space exploration being a total waste of money; and of course, our seasonal debate last term on the existence of Santa Claus. This was won by 18 votes to 3!

It has been good to see everyone get involved, with Year 10 and 11 boys and girls all keen to either speak or pose challenging questions to the speakers, and there is no doubt that public speaking increases confidence and critical thinking skills.

As well as our Friday debates, Ed Morris, Saad Rassol, Ben Dalrymple, Jonty Reading, Leon Ellis and myself have also enjoyed taking part in the ESU Churchill Public Speaking Competition. This has given us all a useful insight into how debating is not about aggression or trying to imitate Piers Morgan or Andrew Marr, but rather about how quiet and reasonable questioning elicits more measured and thoughtful responses from people. A lesson for both politicians and journalists alike! It should also be noted that Leon Ellis was awarded 'best chairman' of the night, even though he had a fever and should have been at home in bed.

Sadly we were not successful in progressing this year; however, the lead Judge did comment that it was the most competitive Heat he had ever judged in twenty years of the competition. Nevertheless I am sure it was a rewarding experience for all of them.

Mr R Hunter



The gallant trio of Natalie Short, Matt Drury and Joe Barnes listening carefully to the opposition in the Regional Final.

Senior Debating Society continues to thrive

The new academic year brought a wave of enthusiasm at Senior Debating Society with a huge variety of speakers and packed audiences, peaking at 38 for a debate on human cloning. This included participation from Amherst School for the first time. We are delighted to welcome them to the society and a spirited debate on the morals of parents smacking their children was the first ever debate hosted there.

As Christmas turned into New Year, topics including Jeremy Corbyn's handling of anti-Semitism, the allowing of extra time in exams and whether Santa is another unnecessary manifestation of the patriarchy. Pulteney won House Debating but the year's major event was the ESU Schools' Mace, a prestigious national tournament, in which our team of Natalie Short, Matthew Drury, William O'Neill and Joe Barnes competed.

We safely progressed through Round One, proposing making voting compulsory by arguing it created social cohesion. We made it through a difficult second round, proposing making vaccines compulsory by focussing on the benefits to all in society. The competition then stepped up a gear with the tough third round just one stage from the National Final. For LGS's first appearance here for years, the team prepared thoroughly for the renowned Oundle School, becoming experts on Universal Basic Income (which we were opposing). Ultimately, it was a gutting exit with our academically grounded arguments not cutting through – perhaps a punchier pragmatism would have worked better. Our journey had ended, but the debates were an enjoyable and rewarding experience and I'd like to thank Mr Morris for all his advice and feedback as we prepared.

Matt Drury, President 2019-2020



What's the buzz about?

This year has been very productive in Bee Club! We have had numerous activities to get involved in, such as visibly marking the queen, feeding the bees throughout the winter, building a new hive and introducing a swarm to it. We even delved into the Biology microscope cupboard to investigate the Varroa Mites (parasites endangering the bees) in further detail.

Harvesting honey is one of the highlights of Beekeeping club! We slice away the wax caps, melt it all down with a heat gun and extract the honey using a centrifuge. This year's batch was absolutely delicious! The main goal in Bee Club is to look after and care for the bees to help to preserve the species, but the overall best part about Bee club is that it is a great way to socialise with other people and have fun whilst you're at it!

George Coward (8MRE)





BEAST CLUB



Should Salazar be called Houdini?

This was a rather eventful year for Beast Club with the arrival of many new eager members, the rush to find homes for the animals over Lockdown and our ball python Salazar finding new and inventive ways to escape. The first of his outings occurred after I had taken him home for the summer holidays but he maintained this habit into the school year, notably before Open Morning and culminating in an absence of several weeks before he was eventually found in the tiles above the Biology staff room.

We would therefore like to thank all parents who were able to accommodate any animals during lockdown, especially at such short notice, and my mother is pleased to report that Salazar has not yet found a way to escape from his new enclosure.

By Matthew Merkin (12MCH)

Animal Husbandry – highs and lows

Our focus in Animal Husbandry this year has been centred on two key projects. The first of these was highly successful as we were able to build an impressive marsh, including a rockery and various marginal plants. This will hopefully attract a diverse range of wildlife to our school. However, we faced many set-backs for our leopard gecko breeding programme, with the tragic loss of our first male and after months of waiting for Dwayne, our second, to reach maturity, our female Leslie had to have surgery to remove her ovaries, preventing any further progress [see article on her surgery].

By Matthew Merkin (12MCH)

Leslie the leopard gecko's surgery

After Lockdown started due to Covid-19, Lesley came home with me. We noticed she was eating less but we thought this was normal because she was carrying eggs. However, in April, we took Lesley to the vets to be checked over. They diagnosed her with follicular stasis. This is where a leopard gecko's ovaries expand and get stuck in an enlarged form. The treatment for this is to remove the ovaries by surgery. We were a bit worried about the risks, including blood loss during the surgery or stitches coming undone after surgery.

Thankfully, she didn't suffer from any of those risks and is now well on her way to recovery. We are waiting for the last few stitches to fall out. Lesley is eating well again, devouring up to 5 locusts and 2 wax worms a week!

By Arun Patel (8PLH)

LGS Eco Committee 2019-20

The Eco Committee has focussed on fewer but more impactful projects this year. This began frantically as we presented a whole-school assembly in the fourth week of term. It was an interactive and compelling presentation from eight boys focussing on the benefits of reducing your carbon footprint, scaling down meat consumption, and Eco Committee recruitment.

The school's hierarchy was next on our hit-list. Each boy spent three weeks preparing an issue they were passionate about to bring to a meeting with Mr Byrne in November, including reusable water bottles, carbon offsetting and solar panels. Another meeting followed in January and following co-operation with the LHS and LAS Eco Prefects, an action plan for LSF by the Eco Prefects was formed. This culminated in a Teams meeting between the LSF Eco Prefects and the LSF Executive Committee where the action plan was presented and it was agreed that a group would be formed from September comprising of Mr Murphy (LAS Headmaster), Rob Grant (Director of Operations), and the LGS, LHS, LAS, and Fairfield Eco Prefects to execute effective LSF eco policy. This was our best achievement this year and I hope the group works quickly and productively from September to make LSF the most sustainable it can possibly be.

Having moved from LGS boys to LSF heads, we ended the year targetting Loughborough's MP, Jane Hunt. Jaysol Doy and Matthew Drury joined the LHS & LAS Eco Prefects in lobbying

Mrs Hunt as part of a nationwide virtual mass lobby 'The Time Is Now', on a sustainable economic recovery from COVID-19. Thank you to the 40+ boys who submitted questions for us to ask. Inspired by these, we lobbied about the Loughborough Town Deal, HS2, and how Mrs Hunt can influence government ministers on a green Coronavirus recovery. We were pleased to see Mrs Hunt's enthusiasm for tackling climate change and look forward to seeing her acting on our points.

After meeting Mr Byrne, our younger members engaged in several practical projects. They made and sold recyclable wrapping paper at Christmas, undertook litter picks, collected crisp packets from our recycling bins and, of course, made eco bricks. Other projects from our older members included creating recycling boxes for writing implements, recycling crisp and snack packets (unfortunately not rolled out before lockdown); exploring vending-machine waste reduction, including trialling alternative drink packaging and successfully asking for a climate change PSHE module.

Thank you very much to the boys who have participated in the Eco Committee this year. These are particularly: Drew Palmer, Layan Jethwa, Niklas Saukko-Paavola, Will Amery, Jaysol Doy, Hamzah Mahomed, and Matthew Drury.

Matthew Drury, Eco Prefect





‘SOLVING’ CRIME

On 29th January twelve of our Year 10 scientists went to 3M to take part in the 3M Science Detectives Challenge. They busily investigated an unexplained death!



A Bridge too far?



We hosted the National Schools Bridge Championships on Saturday 7th March 2020. Our A team were looking to retain the trophy they won last year. They played superbly all day winning the qualification section for the semi-finals before confidently winning the semi-final going on to meet Haberdashers in the final. Although we took an early lead in the final, the team were unable to hold on eventually finishing runners up. Well played to Robert D, Neil, Robin and Alex in coming so close to being national champions for the second year in a row.

Our B team lost to our A team in the first round but went on to be unbeaten for the rest of the day and were the only team to beat the guest team of England Internationals en-route to winning the Plate competition, the best team not to make the semi-finals. Congratulations to George, Joss, Adrian and Thibault on a fine performance.

It's all Greek to Year 9 and 10 Classics students



During mid-October 2019, alongside other Year 9 and 10 Greek students, I took part in an LGS Greek trip. The purpose of the trip was to watch Sophocles' renowned tragedy, 'Oedipus at Colonus' in ancient Greek, yet also entailed visiting the University as well as the Fitzwilliam Museum.

Following an early departure from Loughborough we arrived at Cambridge University at approximately 9:00am. We began by meeting with Professor Clackson, an esteemed Classics scholar in Trinity, who explained his experiences. His talks were fascinating, detailing various topics, which ranged from the notion of etymology to advancements within his career.

Subsequently, we next spent a few hours exploring the Fitzwilliam Museum, which hosts a unique exhibition of Greek and Roman artefacts; it is substantially different from most museum displays of such antiquities. It showcased pieces across a wide range of ancient history, extending from simplistic wine jars to the complex Farnese Hercules statue.

We ate lunch inside Trinity College, accompanied by some ex-students from LGS studying Classics at

Cambridge. Following this, we progressed towards the play's venue. While waiting, Dr. Rodriguez helpfully detailed the play's context and what we should expect, such as a subtitles screen enabling us to follow the show as it digressed. And so, upon watching the play, the Ancient Greek speech and pronunciation were fascinating, making the play very enjoyable.

Altogether, it was a great experience, as I was able to pick up on certain common Greek words, previously studied, that were mentioned in the play. Furthermore, the story itself was very interesting, portraying the dramatisation of a mythic hero in his struggles, yet his eventual significance for Athens. Finally, we returned to the minibus before heading back to LGS and arriving at school at around 7:30pm.

The trip was excellent, and all parts of the day were very enjoyable, particularly watching 'Oedipus at Colonus' and conversing with Professor Clackson. Hence, many thanks to Mrs. Henderson and Dr. Rodriguez for running the trip and explaining aspects of the play!

Ashish Singh

CHALLENGING LINGUISTICS OLYMPIAD

On 3rd February 2020 the UK Linguistics Olympiad took place at LGS and 12 boys were entered for the Advance Level of this highly engaging and challenging language code breaking exercise.

We are pleased to announce the results:

Matthew Merkin and Adrian Dimitrov - **BRONZE AWARD**

Ben Moffett and Mingwei Lu - **SILVER AWARD**

William O'Neill and James Bedwell - **GOLD AWARD**
which is the first time that the school has reached such recognition.

Each of these marks represent the top 20, 10 and 5% of the candidates that have participated in the competition.

Junior results:

On the same day, 32 LGS students were involved in UK Linguistics Olympiad at non-Advanced level. Our boys had tremendous success, with more than two thirds getting a reward. In order to understand the extent of this we would like to point out that the thresholds for awards are: top 5% are awarded Gold, the next 10% Silver and the next 20% Bronze, out of all the students in the UK.

Well done to all the students involved; however, particular mention need to go to Layan Jethwa, from Year 7, who had volunteered to challenge himself in Intermediate Level and got awarded a Silver award.

BREAKTHROUGH

Level	Year	Awarded
Ahmed Dassu	Y7	Bronze
Henry Smail	Y7	Bronze
Dillon Shukla	Y8	Silver
Jake Batten	Y8	Silver
James Mizen	Y8	Silver
Mishaan Parmal	Y8	Silver

FOUNDATION

Level	Year	Awarded
Ashish Singh	Y9	Gold
Hudhayafah Kadara	Y9	Gold
Samsul Hoque	Y9	Gold

INTERMEDIATE

Level	Year	Awarded
Darius Rahimifard	Y10	Bronze
Harry Mitchell	Y10	Bronze
Dylan Kotecha	Y11	Bronze
Brendan Miralles	Y10	Silver
Joshua Smith	Y10	Silver
Ruaidhri Maguire	Y10	Silver
Alexander Nelson	Y10	Silver
Izaak Jankowski	Y10	Silver
Layan Jethwa	Y7	Silver
Aidan Bonsall	Y9	Gold
Edward Bond	Y10	Gold
Ian Collett-Narvaez	Y10	Gold
Shailen Patel	Y10	Gold

We thank all the boys who participated in the Linguistics Olympiad competition this year for their enthusiasm.

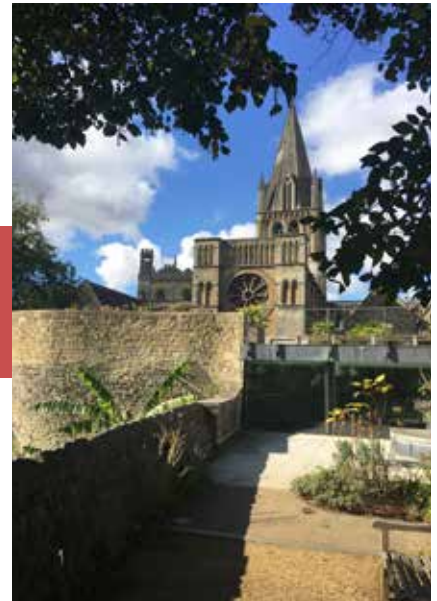
Mrs A Henderson

Classics trip to Corpus Christi College, Oxford

In September 2019, the Latin X set made a trip to Oxford university with Dr Lipatov & Mr Harper. We visited Corpus Christi College, Mr Harper's place of undergraduate study, and the Ashmolean Museum. We also spoke to some current students about the student experience and had an impromptu meeting in the street with one of Mr Harper's old professors. En-route between our two venues, we made an essential trip to G&D's Ice Cream Parlour, one of Mr Harper's favourite haunts as a student.

Jaysol Doy said that the visit to the library was the most inspiring part of the day: "It was so inspiring to see such a range of academic books on the historic shelves. I loved the whole aura of the place and the beauty of the area and the books." Founded in 1517, Corpus Christi College boasts a historic library with original chain shelves. The Renaissance scholar Erasmus used the library's books in Latin, Greek and Hebrew. Other rooms in the college were the location of the translation of the 1611 Authorised Version of the Bible.

Mr P Harper



LGS AND LHS STUDENTS EXPLORE AQUAE SULIS

In 2019, the Classics Department organised a Bath trip for Year 10 LGS and LHS students. After a coach journey to Bath the students were divided into groups and they explored the Roman bath complex and got to handle and discuss some of the materials found on the site.

The reason why the Romans settled in Aquae Sulis (modern-day Bath) was because the city lies on natural hot springs. Because of this unique feature the Romans constructed their magnificent bathing complex centred around the springs. They are one of the best-preserved Roman spas in the world, built in 70A.D.

We particularly enjoyed visiting the open-roof baths, which would have been covered with a roof as high as 20 metres. It is incomprehensible to imagine, even with a scale model of what the baths would have looked like 2000 years ago. The intricate Roman heating systems were also interesting to walk through as many hypocaust structures, studied the week before in a context lesson, could be seen.

Our stories within Latin CLC have often taken characters such as King Cogidubnus and Memor to

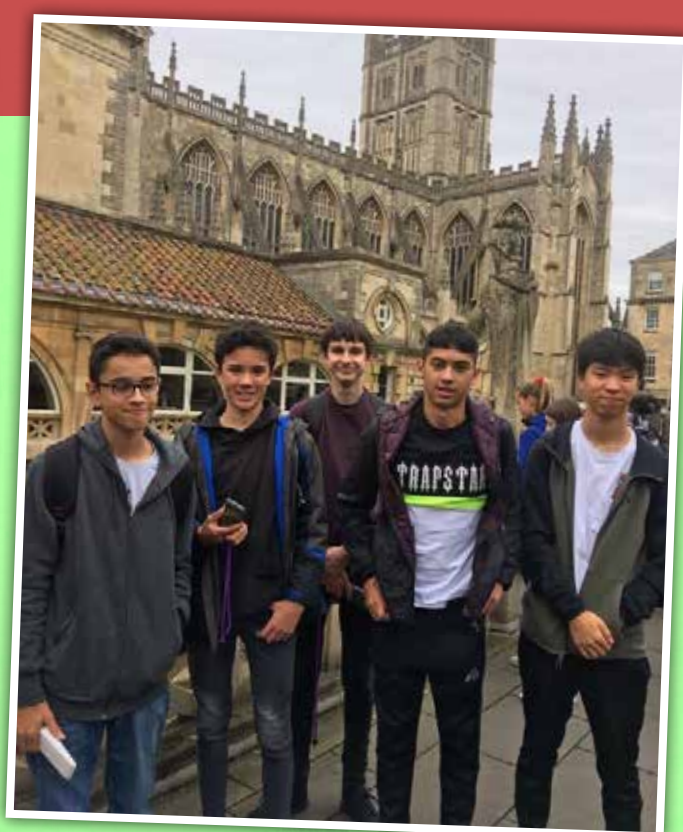
Aquae Sulis and the sacred fountain where Romans and Celts equally believed in the worship of the goddess of healing.

Whilst one group viewed the various rooms of the baths, the other group listened to an informative talk from one of the museum experts who spoke about the history of the baths and several entertaining stories that happened there. Then artefacts, such as old spa equipment, jewels and coins, were shared with the students. Our knowledge was then challenged, and the tour guides tested us on what we had learned.

After the tour of the Roman Baths, teachers and students spent the afternoon walking around Bath, seeing some of the famous Georgian architecture. We were then given a period of free time where groups of three or more got the chance to visit the Abbey, the Rec, or even do some shopping.

Overall, the trip to Bath was enjoyable and informative, as the experience of the Roman Baths both enhanced and furthered our knowledge on the topic of Aquae Sulis.

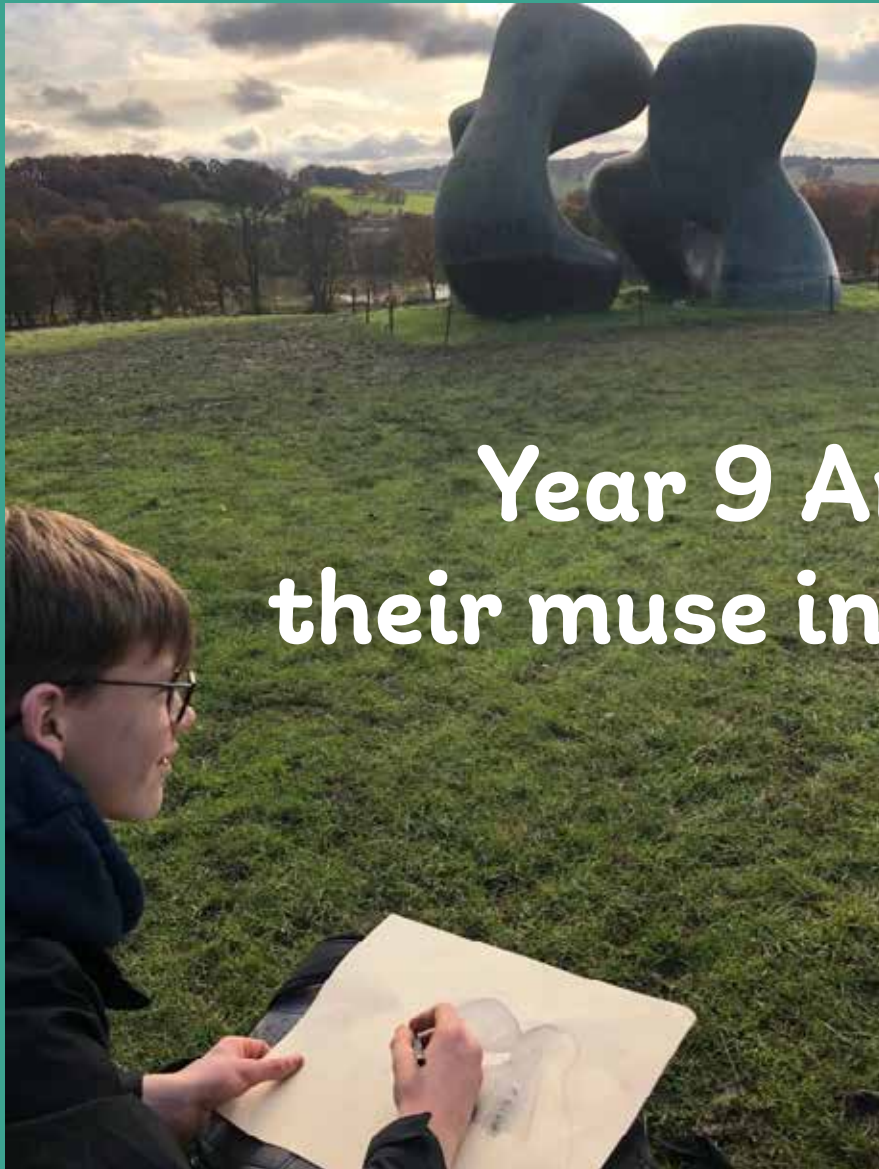
Ian Collett and Joshua Pau



Year 10 go in to the wild

Just before nationwide lockdown in March 2020, Year 10 Silver Award students journeyed in to the wilderness of the Roaches Hills near Leek, Staffordshire, for a practice weekend for their Duke of Edinburgh Award.





Year 9 Artists find their muse in Yorkshire



Year 9 artists had an inspirational time at Yorkshire Sculpture Park in November 2019, viewing the work of Henry Moore, Damien Hirst, Paolozzi, Barbara Hepworth, Anthony Caro, and many more.

Amazingly, after a very wet week the sculptures were not submerged in the lake, which was very high. However, the boys did get very muddy! The weather was ideal, and the light was spectacular for drawing and creating interesting photographs. We look forward to seeing the sculptures they will produce in the classroom in the next few weeks, stimulated by this visit.

Mrs Lewis



WUNDERBAR!

German trip 2019

The 2019 German trip was both a great cultural experience as well as an exciting one. It started with a very early minibus ride to Stansted Flughafen (airport!) followed by a quick flight to Germany. We went to the exciting city of Dortmund (Germany's 3rd largest) to begin with. The breakfast in Germany was enlightening with loads of different cheeses and sausages to choose from. But this was not to be a Wurst Käse scenario...

We were lucky enough to go see a legendary Ruhr derby between Schalke and Dortmund, which was a good experience even though it ended 0-0. The Dortmund Ultras were on a completely different level compared to anything in England. It was an exciting, if sometimes intimidating, experience. Having seen Jadon Sancho play, we then got the chance to emulate him after a tour of the football museum in

Dortmund. One of the activities there was playing cage football which topped off the experience! (Particularly attempting to nutmeg Mr Körösi.) We were also lucky enough to be given a guided tour of Borussia Dortmund's stadium where we got to play a game of football, stand in the 'yellow wall' and also in the prison cells!

We travelled by train to Hamburg to see a new city and go shopping, where we stayed in a 4* hotel. I also learnt many new words and got to see the German culture. I would definitely not miss out on the opportunity if it ever happened again! Wunderbar! Thank you to Mr Korosi for organising and running the trip, and Mr O'Shaughnessy for accompanying us - and because of whom we learnt the German word: Krapfen!

Giles Stout





Politics trip to Parliament and the Supreme Court

The weather may have been dull, but the Politics trip to Parliament and the Supreme Court in January this year definitely was not!

Year 12 students from all three senior schools took part in the day, which had direct significance for their studies in year one of their A-level in Government and Politics.

First stop was the Supreme Court where students listened to a case being heard. This fascinating insight was followed by a tour that enabled students to see all three court rooms. Court number one being of particular interest, given it was here that the landmark case of *R (Miller) versus The Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union* was decided in January 2017; a case that ultimately was to define Theresa May's brief tenure as prime minister. Brexit may indeed

have meant Brexit, but it was here that all 11 judges confirmed that Parliament - not a PM or government - is indeed sovereign in the UK.

Leading nicely from this, after a tour of Whitehall, the next stop was the Houses of Parliament. Here everyone saw both chambers and the opportunity to ask questions and be questioned by tour guides from Parliament's Education Unit. Mr Dawkins and Miss Jenkins were delighted that our excellent students were able to answer all the questions asked of them and ask so many probing questions themselves! Once again, this part of the trip directly acted to consolidate and stretch their understandings of the topics we cover in Year 12's focus on UK government and politics. It was a great day out, which was enjoyed by all.

Mr Dawkins



Mr Miles' reflections on the Junior Ski Trip to France, 2020

The fact that it was 2:30 am when the coach left the school car park did not deter the 32 middle School pupils from demonstrating incredibly high energy levels as we made our way to Birmingham Airport. I half expected "The wheels on the bus go round and round" to start booming out from the back of the coach.

The flight was surprisingly calm and painless and we arrived at Lyon airport to glorious sunshine and huge queues. The fantastic Alpine scenery meant the transfer flew by but served only to increase the nervous anticipation amongst the boys. Upon arrival at Les Menuires, a small village nestled neatly in the three valleys, it took only a minute before the first snowball was thrown, narrowly missing Mr Morris' cap. He was too tired to respond. Later that day, skis and boots fitted, dinner eaten, the boys were dispatched to bed, and despite having been up for 20 hours, their desire to go to sleep was sadly lacking.

And so it was that 32 bleary-eyed boys staggered down to breakfast the following morning, the first day of skiing, each and every one looking as if they could happily have stayed in bed till 1 pm. What better way to wake up than to hurtle down a mountain on skis with the Alpine air whistling through your sunglasses! By lunchtime, energy levels fully restored, stories abounded of who'd had the longest fall, who'd gone the fastest, who couldn't stay upright for more than 5 meters. The boys easily slipped into the daily routine of three hour lessons in the morning followed by two hours in the afternoon, with the potential for further skiing with staff if their fatigue levels allowed it. The boys were split into three separate groups depending upon their ability and experience, though during the week there was much toing and froing between them.

The weather can have a huge bearing on skiing enjoyment. Safe to say on this trip the elements ranged from bright blue skies with sun beating down, to severe snow storms whereby one could only see 5m ahead. The latter really tests one's confidence as it is impossible to make out the contours of the mountain and therefore tricky to ski with any degree of confidence, as all the teachers will testify to!

Another factor that can make or break the Junior ski trip is the quality and (perhaps more importantly) quantity of the food. Though not cordon bleu, pizza and chips for lunch always goes down well, and with more wholesome fare in the evening, there were only favourable comments reported back to the chef.

Of course on any trip there is more to it than just skiing; though to be fair the amount of free time the boys actually have is rather limited. The nightly apres-ski activities provided much entertainment for staff and pupils alike. Treasure hunts, movie nights, quizzes, and bum boarding ensured that by bedtime everyone was thoroughly exhausted...sort of. However the most popular activity proved to be the toboggan roller coaster, so much so that some boys returned under their own steam the following day.

Therefore, it was with much sadness that the coach pulled out of the freezing village at 5 am on the final morning. New friendships made, new experiences enjoyed, a marginal improvement in spoken French, and a huge improvement in ski ability. Thanks to Mr Lewis, Mr Morris, Mr Sollars, and Mr Ferraby for their help in running the trip.

Mr D Miles



LGS Tower lit blue in thanks to the NHS during lockdown



LGS Tower and School House

SECTION TWO

A stylized red heron illustration is positioned in the upper left quadrant of the page, partially overlapping the 'SECTION TWO' title.

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Art of the week





Les Misérables

A spectacular 525 celebration

As John Weitzel's programme note regarding the celebration of the 500th anniversary of Loughborough Grammar School in March 1995 by taking the whole school to a performance of *Les Misérables* at the Palace Theatre in the West End implied, the logistics might have been insurmountable had it not been for the willing co-operation of everyone involved, from the coach company to the theatre management. Yet, it could be argued, those logistics pale in comparison to the ones needed to bring the show to the school, particularly into the theatrically unfriendly confines of the Hodson Hall in March 2020.

That the outstanding performances achieved by the young cast would have not have disgraced the purpose-built and acoustically friendly spaces afforded by the West End was testimony to their abundant talent and the quality of the direction, musicianship, and technical support provided. The undoubted willing co-operation



of everyone involved in enabling such a 'big show' to leave indelible memories in the audience and performers alike must have been truly colossal in order to realise with such panache the ambition of creating new memories while reflecting on the shape of ones from a quarter of a century ago. The outcome of that co-operation was staggering.

Given the huge number of young actors involved it would seem invidious to single out individuals, especially in the light of the uniformly high quality of the acting and singing throughout, but the performances of those on whose shoulders the weight of the narrative depended were exceptional and for this reason exceptions must be made.

Freddie Capper as Valjean brought maturity to the role, well beyond his chronological age, and a singing voice to match (Bring Him Home was a special highlight); Olly Hilton delivered a Javert



who could be loathed but also accorded sympathy (his suicide was particularly effectively and affectingly staged); and, on the performance night about which this review is written, in the roles of Fantine and the grown-up Cosette and Eponine, Emilia Foot, Francesca Del Grosso and Lucy Clay were, all three, superb in both voice and character, eliciting genuine emotional responses from an enraptured audience. As Monsieur Thenardier, Alex Eveson was in his element (it is a wonderful part), comically yet repulsively convincing as the grasping and amoral landlord, in which characterisation he was joined by Lulu Wright, equally convincing as his mendacious and mercurially wilful wife, with the pair illuminating an already brightly lit stage at every turn. Ben Wilson's love-struck Marius was completely realised as a young man whose high ideals for his country and his love for Cosette are in conflict; Will Champion's Enjolras was every bit the ideal-driven young man for





whom the injustices of the state just had to be addressed; and, again on the night under review, Charlie Clarke brought Gavroche to life with the swagger and bravado of a genuine street urchin who would not have looked out of place in Lionel Bart's *Oliver*!

None of the above, however, would have been able to sustain their roles with such conviction had not the rest of the cast been so supportive in theirs, however small and seemingly unimportant. The ensemble playing was tremendous, with everyone giving due respect to the quality of the show's libretto and music and to the creative and engaging direction of which they were in receipt. The technical support was jaw-droppingly astonishing (the LED screens and the live action camera work were a revelation); the music was conducted and played in the manner of some of the very best pit orchestras; and the sound, special effects and scene changes were handled with skills which



belied the youthfulness of most of those who were practising them. Those who marshalled the vital elements of the production – Sally Bruton (Direction), David Morris (Musical Direction), Pete Viccars (Technical Direction), Stuart Thompson (Conductor), Garry Leeson (Compliance) and Al Waters (Production Management) – should be very proud of their parts in such a tremendously successful venture.

Before the curtain falls on this review, mention must be made also of the ambience of the auditorium; the colours, red and black in harmony with the tumultuous chorus of 'The ABC Café/Red and Black' number, and those dazzling chandeliers (they, too, were exceptional), creating a feeling that a truly significant event was about to happen – and so it did.

Ironically, for a celebratory event in which a show about injustice, oppression and poverty was



chosen as the centre-piece, it is unlikely that anyone who was in any way involved in its production or who saw it during the 525th anniversary celebrations at Loughborough Grammar School in 2020 would have left the theatre – a deliberate choice of word for the staging was so successful that it was possible to forget that it was taking place in a school hall – with anything other than a sense of *joi de vivre* engendered by the privilege of being there: miserable it was – most definitely – not.

In accord with that thought, in March 1995, *The Times* diary quoted the then school bursar, Philip Feather (explaining that the outing to the West End was 'part of the school's quinqucentenary celebrations'): "*Les Mis* may seem a slightly strange choice of show for a celebration but it's supposed to be very good." In the Hodson Hall in March 2020 it was much, much more than "very good" – it was a tour de force.

Review by Pierre L'Estrange



As You Like It

On Wednesday 13th November 2019 students in years 9 and 10 from the High School, Grammar School and Amherst came together to perform a 30-minute abridged version of *As You Like It* at the Curve theatre, Leicester, as part of Shakespeare Schools Festival, the world's largest youth drama festival.

The cast were complimented by the festival director on their ability to work as a team, the creativity in the staging of the piece, the outstanding delivery of Shakespearean text and the ensembles' use of movement to highlight key themes within the play.

They received this praise: 'Your ensemble work was particularly impressive with its great attention to detail. You maintained a very high standard throughout. I loved your movement work for "All the world's a stage..." which was further enhanced by your strong vocals and command of the language.'

The Festival were also impressed with the cast's use of ribbons as set and to highlight key moments in the play, commenting: 'Your choice and use of ribbons was wonderful. It was visually stunning how you created the environments including the wrestling ring and the orchard. In addition, the way you conveyed and echoed the characters' emotions was very effective as a means of storytelling and was fascinating to watch.'

Special mention to our technicians Lewis and Will, who did a great job and congratulations to Sam for his work in the Assistant Director role. Well done!

Performing Shakespeare's words on a professional stage takes bravery, resilience and creativity. All students involved should be immensely proud of this achievement.

Ms R Hooper





Siege of Herons perform Rats' Tales for Edinburgh



On the 4th to 11th August 2019 the LSF Drama Department took a cast of seven students on the annual trip to Edinburgh Fringe Festival where they performed Rats' Tales under the company name Siege of Herons.

Written by poet laureate Carol Ann Duffy and adapted by Melly Still, Rats' Tales combines folk stories from around the world to present a play that deals with the sometimes painful and sometimes hilarious transition from childhood to adulthood.

The performance was an excellent success. The cast

committed to the grotesque style and gave entertaining, dark and magical performances. Notable performances include Ollie Hilton's quirky portrayal of The Squire and Freddie Capper's comically dark adaptation of the Pied Piper. All of the cast worked tirelessly to perform and sell tickets on the Royal Mile and give a spirited performance every day and should be extremely proud of their achievements.

Whilst in Edinburgh students also took advantage of the opportunity to see a variety of performances on offer, including



a range of genres and styles of theatre which will inspire their theatre-making when continuing to study A Level Drama in Year 13. All of the students really enjoyed themselves and had an experience of a lifetime; many have decided to come along again next year!

Many thanks to all of the members of staff that made this trip possible, including alumna Ella Shipman for directing the production, Miss Boon for organising the trip, Miss Hooper and Ms Bruton for giving up their time to supervise the trip.

Gothic horror



On a dark and misty Tuesday night in January, a group of LGS and LHS Drama pupils from Years 9 and 11 travelled to the Curve in Leicester to see *The Woman in Black*. Having read that it was a very well-reviewed piece we had high expectations of experiencing lots of gothic horror and jump scares.

The production was just as expected, with a slower first act to set the scene. There was a nerve-tingling build up of tension, which made for lots of screaming. The second act was a perfect compliment to the first, with a faster pace and well-judged jump scare relating to the door of the haunted nursery.

Overall, due to the tension, scares and thrills (which is a very hard skill to maintain), this was one of the best plays we have seen. I particularly appreciated the great acting and writing with a fantastic unnamed cast member – the woman in black herself – being the highlight. We all thoroughly enjoyed the evening.

Theo, Year 11

A BRECHTIAN PARABLE

On Monday 14th October 2019 Drama students from LGS and LHS enjoyed a performance by visiting theatre company Theatre Centre. The Border was a high energy, outrageous Brechtian parable that explored the lines we draw between ourselves and other people and the absurdities of borders.

Students enjoyed the original songs and the live break-out debate. The story followed Julia's mission to find her dog and how she found her voice in the process – and her bark. "Woof!"





MUSIC COMPETITIONS

The Loughborough Music Competitions took place on 1st and 2nd February. There were eighteen different competitions taking place through the weekend: three age categories in singing, woodwind, percussion, piano, brass and strings.

Organised and run by Loughborough Schools Music, the event was well attended, with over 200 competitors aged between 7 and 18 coming from across the Midlands.

The competition winners received monetary prizes and vouchers from our sponsors, Windblowers and LCM Exams, as well as the opportunity to perform in a celebratory concert as part of Al Fresco.



FESTIVO! THE LOUGHBOROUGH SCHOOLS MUSIC SPRING CONCERT

Held at De Montfort Hall, Leicester, on 14th March 2020, the annual Spring Concert is a joyful celebration of the hard work and dedication of the pupils from across the Foundation, guided so carefully and skilfully by the staff of the Music department.

Performers were drawn from Year 7 upwards through the Senior Schools and included staff and returning alumni. This years' programme included works from Britten, Sibelius, Vivaldi, Elgar, Brahms, Vaughn Williams, Villiers Stanford and Hastings Parry, and showcased arrangements by, among others, Kate Burns of the Music department of Andante Festivo from Sibelius and Concerto in B minor for four violins: Allegro by Vivaldi.

Year 7 singers from the Amherst, Grammar and High Schools and were joined by the Amherst Chapel Choir, Cantilena, Choristers and Consort, the Loughborough Singers and Alumni Singers. Many performers took dual roles either singing and playing an instrument or playing multiple instruments, making this a real celebration of the many thousands of hours of practice accumulated by everyone taking part.

The audience were very appreciative of the beautiful and uplifting music and singing from everyone involved; it was a wonderful way to spend a Saturday evening.



LGS PUPIL IS LSF MUSICIAN OF THE YEAR (FEBRUARY 2020)

In February, eleven musicians from Loughborough Grammar School, Loughborough High School and Loughborough Amherst School competed for the title of the Loughborough School Foundation Musician of the Year. Each performer had received the highest place as an internal candidate in their respective category in the Loughborough Music Competitions the previous weekend.

The evening was an extraordinary exhibition of the highest quality solo music making. We were delighted to welcome Christopher Allsop as our adjudicator, and he had the tough job of picking the winner.

It was an evening to remember for the Grammar School Music Scholars, who took a clean sweep this year! Year 10 violist Simeon, who had won both the Strings Competition and the Piano Competition (15 and under) against some very impressive other performers at the weekend, was nominated for special mention for his performance of Rebecca Clarke's Morpheus.

The runner-up was adjudicated to be Year 12 clarinettist Edward, who performed the first movement of Malcolm Arnold's perky Sonatina.

Our overall winner, and retaining his title as LSF Musician of the Year, was Year 13 cellist, Danushka for a simply mesmerising performance of Schumann's Adagio and Allegro.

Richard West - Director of Music



STRINGS AND ORCHESTRAS CONCERT

Students 202, Strings tuned 724, youngest student 6 years, oldest student 50 years, ensembles 8, smallest 'ensemble' 1, largest ensemble 94. This was how the evening of Thursday 13 February looked in numbers for our Strings and Orchestras concert. It is always a concert of contrasts, in age, style and level but there was quality from each group. It's lovely to see the students grow in skill year by year and move through the ensembles. This is also true of our parents' classes who now split in to beginners and 'graduates'. Well done to all students and staff involved in this concert; we look forward to welcoming this year's beginners to our Year 3 classes next year.



MUSICIANS MAKE MERRY FOR RAINBOWS

A 'selection box' of musicians and singers took up residence in Loughborough's Carillon Court Shopping Centre on Saturday 7th December 2019 for a festive recital to raise some much-needed funds for the children and families who are supported by local charity, Rainbows Hospice.

Shoppers were treated to a delightful array of traditional Christmas melodies such as 'We Wish You a Merry Christmas' on woodwind, 'Hark the Herald' played by flautists, 'Ding Dong Merrily on High' on brass and 'Away in a Manger' performed by the choir.

All performers donned their best Christmas jumpers and Santa hats for the occasion with Director of Music, Richard West conducting the festivities. They successfully raised £329.05 for Rainbows Childrens' Hospice.

This annual concert is part of a string of different events that have taken place at Loughborough Schools Foundation to raise vital funds for Rainbows. Previous events have included a successful world record attempt for singing a single song in relay by Fairfield Preparatory School, which raised £4187.12.

LOUGHBOROUGH SCHOOLS PRESENT: WIND AND BRASS

Tuesday 26th November saw the annual Wind and Brass concert. With no fewer than eleven ensembles performing, the appreciative audience were treated to items from the Prep Wind Band, Concert Band and Symphonic Wind Band, along with Clarinet Ensemble and Quartet, Flute Choir and Ensemble, Sax Choir and Ensemble, The Wind Dectet and the Brass Ensemble.



Big Band Swing into RAF Cranwell

On Wednesday 12 February, the LSF Big Band was invited to RAF Cranwell for a workshop and, later, to perform with the RAF Swing Wing Band. Led by Sgt. Ringrose, the Swing Wing opened the day with a performance, which was simply breathtaking!

After a hearty RAF lunch, the LSF musicians then spent time with the RAF principals, working in sectionals, finishing the day with a full run through of the music. A fine day was had by all.

Mr Aidan Geary - Head of Wind, Brass, Percussion & Bands



LOUGHBOROUGH SCHOOLS PRESENT: PERCUSSION

The first of this year's 'Loughborough Schools Present:' concert series took place on the evening of Friday 15 November. The Percussion Showcase this year featured performances from the four percussion ensembles across the Foundation and three solo performances by pupils working towards their DipLCM performance diplomas.

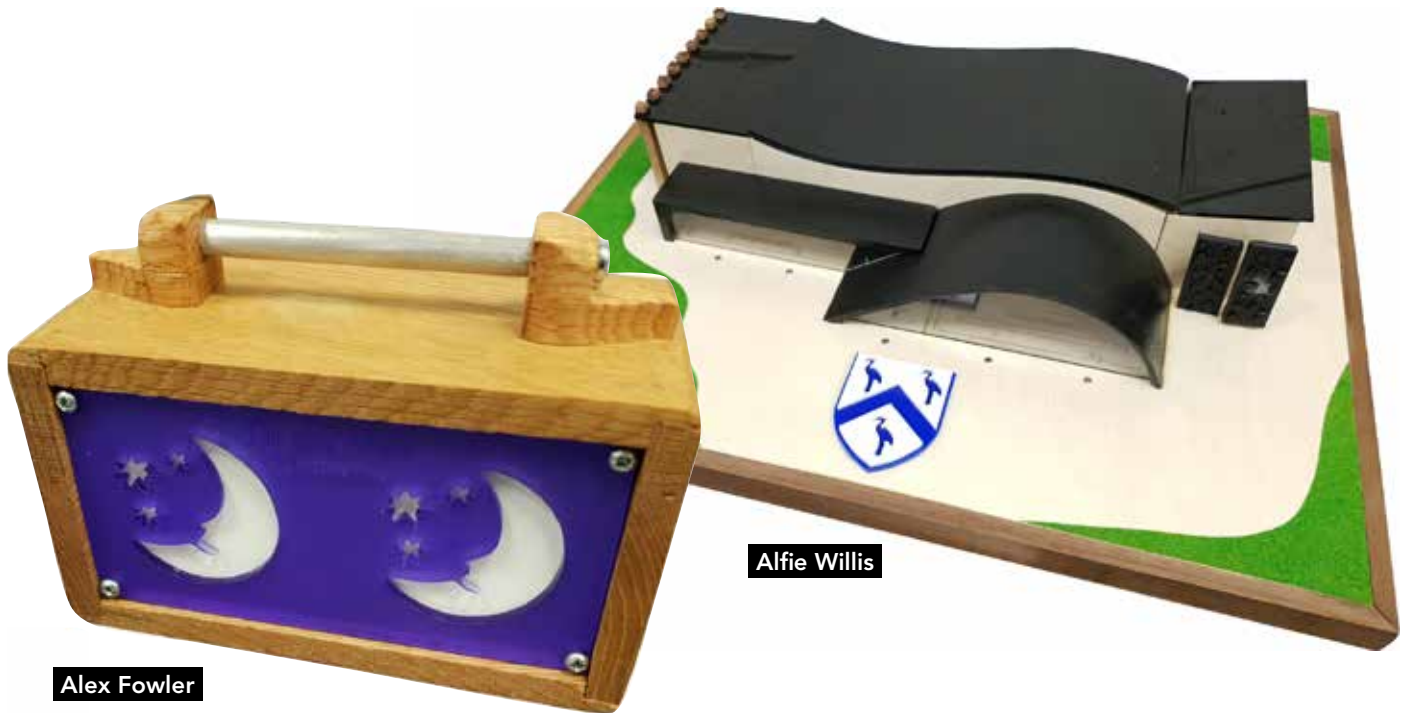
The appreciative audience was treated to a mixture of arrangements and original pieces, including Mission Impossible, The Lion Sleeps Tonight and the Fairfield Waltz.

Alison Beachell - Music Librarian



DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

ANNUAL REVIEW 2019-20



Alex Fowler

Alfie Willis

The last academic year started like any other with the department soon becoming a hive of activity following the pupils' return in September. Classrooms were busy with pupils from all year groups developing their subject skills, and lunchtimes were filled with pupils engaging in a variety of co-curricular activities.

At GCSE level, pupils continued to thoroughly address the challenge of their Non-Examination Assessment projects whereby they are to establish their own design contexts to investigate and create solutions. This led to a variety of designs in responses to a range of problems that each individual pupil had identified. These varied from interactive products to encourage children to play together in the school playground, LED lights to promote relaxation, and Bluetooth speakers for use by guests in hotels. Alex Fowler designed his one specifically for use with the Headspace App to promote positive mental well-being. The promotion of sustainable design featured prominently in the boys' designs. Charlie Barraclough notably used bamboo in his design of an interactive playground toy, whilst George Mayell created an interesting design for storage of precious items whilst staying at a hotel by using natural materials.

The pupils continued to demonstrate real confidence with the use of traditional tools and equipment, including the use of the centre lathe and bandsaw,

but will drawing upon advancements in 3D printing technology and other Computer Numerically Controlled devices. As ever, their practical outcomes are accompanied by portfolios that reveal their journeys through the design process. These are supported with designs communicated through various means, including the thorough use of sketch models and 3D modelling software.

Our A-Level pupils further impressed us with their own solutions to problems they had discovered. Both James McClure and Alfie Willis were keen to explore the issue of the need for sustainable buildings, with Alfie focusing specifically on the creation of an architectural model for a sustainable sports hall for use here at the Grammar School. Cody Chan created a new design for a portable laptop desk, which possessed a range of features including a hidden cup holder and LED lighting. In all cases, the pupils thoroughly considered the views of the affected user groups and applied an iterative design process to ensure their outcomes suitably met their users' needs. This involved them demonstrating a wealth of skills including thorough use of Computer Aided Design modelling and effective communication methods when presenting their ideas.

In both Year 8 and 9, our pupils were able to develop their skills in preparation for future study of the

George Mayell



Cody Chan



Charlie Barraclough

subject. Whilst at school, they refined their product analysis and communication skills by practising a variety of drawing strategies. They were also able to develop their Computer Aided Design and practical skills by manufacturing a variety of outcomes. Understandably though, the lockdown did influence our usual curriculum, particularly in the practical sense. However, our pupils continued to develop their skills whilst at home being taught remotely. In Year 8, the pupils continued to develop their sketching ability and were further able to design and make packaging designs. Year 9 equally refined their skills by creating sketch models from cardboard for a concept Bluetooth speaker.

To complement the rigours of academic study, pupils were involved in a variety of co-curricular activities before entering lockdown. Model-making remained a popular activity in the last academic year and the model railway has notably developed from its humble beginnings. Bicycle maintenance was also introduced to the pupils this year, where the boys took the opportunity to refurbish bicycles for a local secondary school. Pupils were further involved in the creation of planters for distribution along the towpaths in Loughborough by the Canal River Trust.

Mr T.A.Moseley

Wheelie good fun on Thursday afternoons

Mr T.A.Moseley

The Design and Technology Department was extremely busy on Thursday afternoons in the last academic year, as pupils were provided with various opportunities to develop their practical skills.

Miss Mansell, a teacher who supported the department in the autumn term, arranged for several bicycles to be brought to the department from the Maplewell Hall School. Each of these was in need to repair and maintenance, and our pupils soon got to work in refurbishing these to a high standard. Under the knowledgeable guidance of Ethan Jack, one of our Sixth Formers who possesses an excellent knowledge of bicycles, the pupils did a fantastic job in ensuring that each of these were restored to their former glory. Ethan even continued this work during lockdown by kindly volunteering his time to take a couple of the bicycles home with him to continue the necessary work. With the bicycles restored, they were gratefully received by Maplewell Hall School in September 2020.

Further to bicycle maintenance, several pupils also enjoyed model making within the department. Using kits generously provided by the Parents' Association, the pupils developed their practical skills and attention to detail by carefully assembling and painting a variety of different cars and aircraft. This activity was thoroughly enjoyed by the boys who particularly relished the focus and calm this activity brings.





TEENTECH 'SPECTIUM'

My idea for TeenTech, Spectrum, was an innovation for the blind, designed to improve their spatial awareness by playing a sound, varying in volume, depending on their distance from objects around them. I utilised ultrasonic sensors to detect the distance and bone conduction technology to emit the sound produced to the user at a specific volume. Using ultrasonic sensors allowed me to bypass emitting sound through the eardrum, hence enabling the idea to work for the deaf-blind as well. Spectrum aims to improve the daily issues encountered by the blind and deaf-blind to create change. Having programmed the project, I was eligible for the Digital Skills category, one of the 16 categories comprising the competition. Despite the unfortunate circumstances of lockdown, the experience of the finals lived up to the previously high standard.

The event itself consisted of two parts: the judging, which was a video call with representatives of the category sponsors, and the awards ceremony, a live stream announcing the winners. Subsequently, the leading up to the judging and awards ceremony continued normally but without the much-needed face-to-face support from teachers. Fortunately, I still managed to complete and develop my project and was able to carry out a virtual trial with Mrs Kaur and Mr Parish, before the tense judging. It began with my presentation, outlining its development. Finally, it advanced into questions regarding the future engineering problems I would need to solve, which concluded the 15-minute session.

The awards ceremony took place on the following week, which involved showcasing each project before then announcing the winner of each category. Thanks to the ongoing support of Mrs Kaur and Mr Parish, I had won my category, for which I am immensely grateful. And so, ultimately, the sensational experience of TeenTech demonstrated the importance of STEM despite the adverse conditions.

Ashish Singh, 10PG

BEBRAS FINALIST

Talented student Oliver Mitchell from Loughborough Grammar School was invited to the Department of Computer Science at the University of Oxford on Saturday 25 January as a finalist in a UK-wide competition – the UK Bebras Computational Thinking Challenge.

Reaching the final of the Juniors age group (aged 10 to 12 years-old) is an impressive achievement, as 79,986 students entered the first round for this age group. Oliver was among the top 61 highest achieving students invited to the final round in his age group, and was presented with his finalist's certificate at a prize-giving ceremony at Hertford College.

Brendan Miralles and Matthew Younger continued this success by reaching the final of the Seniors age group (14 to 16 years-old) is a similarly impressive achievement, as 22,722 students entered the first round for this age group. Brendan and Matthew were among the top 56 highest achieving students invited to the final round in their age group, and were presented with their finalist's certificates at a prize-giving ceremony at Hertford College.

The UK Bebras Computational Thinking Challenge, supported by the Raspberry Pi Foundation, is designed to get students excited about computing and computational thinking. It is a problem-solving contest with questions inspired by topics in computer science. In the first round, held in their own schools, students have to try and solve as many problems as possible in the allotted time. There are six age categories. The highest scoring students from the four oldest age groups (Elite, Seniors, Intermediate, and Juniors) were then invited to the Department of Computer Science at Oxford for the finals over two weekends in February.



STEM internship

LGS student Adithya Kunigiri met with the CEO of FDM in London who was the sponsor for his TeenTech Category in November 2019. Adithya so impressed Jonathan Young that he has secured himself a summer internship with their development team in Leeds.

This will allow him to develop his innovation and hopefully secure further success at the Big Bang competition in March 2020.



SENIOR MATHS TEAM FINISH IN SECOND PLACE



On Monday 11 November, our Maths team attended a regional heat of the Senior Team Maths Challenge competition, which included 15 schools from Leicestershire and surrounding areas (such as Rugby School). Our team consisted of Matthew (Year 13), John (Year 12), Adithya (Year 11) and Alex (Year 10). They competed very well in a variety of high-speed Maths tasks, but were eventually pushed back into second place (by a strong finish from the host team, Leicester Grammar School). Our team's overall score was above 90%, with all the boys doing a very good job on the day.

Mr Robin Bhattacharyya



BIGGER, BETTER, BIOLOGY WEEK 2019

This year's Biology Week has been bigger than ever! The three Biology Prefects have worked very hard to come up with new ideas and run various events.

As usual, the #BioBake was well attended, with sales raising funds of £122 for the Leicestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust. The competition was high, with Toby Alwtry being awarded the #BioBake Rolling Pin 2019 for his scientifically accurate comparison between a smoker's lung (chocolate cake) and a healthy lung (Victoria sponge). Other cake ideas included a blood cell cake, a Bristol Stool Chart cake, brain cakes, eyeball cake, cupcakes galore, Biology word search cakes and many more fantastic cakes. Even Dr Bingham joined in, with his fun millipede cake!

On both Wednesday and again on Friday, Peter Gao ran his Bone Identifier quiz - where boys examined different skulls and entered a quiz to see who was the best anatomist. The winners were: Joshua Smith (10MDB) and Henry Smail (7JAT), each scoring full marks.

On Thursday many Year 7 and 8 boys observed and joined in with the dissection of a sheep's leg and several gory eyeballs! This was also led by the Biology Prefects, who shared their skills and knowledge.

On Friday, the Biology Department welcomed Dr McLennan, who is a lecturer at Derby University. She spoke to year 10, 11, 12 and 13 pupils about Animal Magnetism- exploring various extreme mating rituals of creatures.



SECTION THREE



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FOOTBALL 1ST XI

After losing a fair few of the team from last year it was difficult to see how the 2019/20 season would play out. However, the new boys stepped up and the season was a great success. The team played eleven games and managed to progress to the Final of the Cup. Unfortunately, we were never able to play the fixture due to COVID-19, which also saw the cancellation of a few games towards the end of the season. The team ended the season with 42 goals for, and 20 goals against, statistics easily pleasing Mr. Hewitt and showing the worth of his defensively dominant 'chalkboard' sessions. Top scorer for the season with 11 goals was Tom Gamble, with a high percentage of those goals assisted by the selfless Alfie Willis. Other notable key performers during the season were George Rowe, Harry Towne and Jamie Thompson who all played in a combined 28 games, performing consistently as senior players.

The 2019/20 season had potential to be a great season for the LGS 1st XI. This was shown during a pre-season friendly, winning convincingly against Twycross House 10-3. This gave us a good foundation and the squad was excited to build on this going into the Cup after the Christmas break. The lads fought hard during our first competitive game, clinching a 4-1 win at home to Rugby to progress to the next round.

The first of three standout fixtures of the season began with Wellingborough away, a side who are often strong and have caused problems over previous seasons; this meant the lads were dead up for the game. We started slow, with Wellingborough dominating possession, but with good shape and being confident on the ball, we began to look the better side going into half-time at 0-0. After half-time LGS came out of the blocks strongly, with Chris Brannam winning a penalty early on, confidently converted by Tom Gamble. This saw us kick on, seeing Joe Rock become prime Ronaldo by showing great composure, finishing two good chances as LGS went on to win the game 3-0.

The second of three standout fixtures saw the lads head down to Radley College in the quarterfinals of the regional cup. Not knowing what to expect after not playing them before, the lads went 1-0 down early on but after regaining shape and

playing well as a team, the ball broke from a corner to Tom Bradshaw who strook a lovely shot right through the crowd of players into the top left corner, going into half-time 1-1. LGS managed to take an early lead after the break, through Chris Brannam from a corner, which meant LGS began to control the tempo of game. A key moment of the game was the disallowed goal from a quick-thinking free kick on the half-way line which sailed over the keeper's head and into the open goal. The goal would have secured LGS' place in the semi's making it 3-1, but after Radley's complaints, the referee then ruled the goal out as Radley's keeper 'was not ready'. Radley then tried to break us down; however, they were met by a strong centre-half pairing of Louis Whitmore and Lewis Wales who blocked, headed, and tackled everything that came their way, allowing us to see the game out winning 2-1.

The final standout fixture of the season was the semi-final against a Princethorpe side we drew to earlier in the season. Arguably the toughest game of the season saw LGS battle it out to get a 2-1 lead with 10 minutes to go with goals from Whitmore and McCandlish, and a rock-solid central midfield performance from James Dabin. In the final 10 minutes, some debatable refereeing saw LGS reduced to 10 men, captaincy swapped over to Lewis Wales and, after what seemed like a 3rd half of injury time, saw the game finish 2-2. With cramp eating away at each LGS player, the lads fought to finish extra time 0-0, progressing to a penalty shoot-out. After losing the toss, we were asked to go second. With Matt Hull between the pegs, he tipped one down around the post early on, along with everyone seeming to ton-up, the chance fell to James Dabin to win us the game... unfortunately, he went straight down the middle. Not to worry though, as the hero of the hour Matt Hull stood tall between the sticks saving a crucial Princethorpe penalty and sending LGS through to the final.

All-in-all, it was a joy to Captain and play with these lads. We had some ups and downs, but it was a successful season. Lewis and I wish all the boys the best for next season; it was a pleasure.

Captain Tom Gamble and Vice-Captain Lewis Wales

LGS 1st XI

Played	Won	Draw	Lost	Goals for	Goals against
11	8	1	2	42	20

LGS 1st XI Capocannoniere – Tom Gamble, 11 goals

LGS Goal of the Season 'Gol dell'anno' – Thomas Bradshaw (v Radley College)

The 2019/20 season was a successful one for LGS and was unfortunately cut short by the lockdown in March 2020. This cruelly robbed the team of the chance to play the ISFA LB Cup Final having just defeated Princethorpe College on penalties in the semi-final on the 11th March. The side had been solid all year, and showed some disciplined performances at home to Rugby (winning 4v1) and impressing away at rivals Wellingborough School. A 0v3 victory away at Wellingborough was the result of commitment and focus, with all three goals coming in the second half, where captain Tom Gamble opened the scoring from the spot. The performances of Joe Rock during the season had been somewhat of a mystery but he did deliver in this game, scoring two goals to seal the victory. There were disappointments losing to Oundle and to Bedford but these were put behind us by travelling 94 miles south to Oxford to play Radley College in the Cup quarter-final (report below). Following Radley, Princethorpe College followed the next week, where a 2v2 draw required extra-time and then penalties to decide the winner with Matt Hull saving the Princethorpe's sudden-death penalty. Unfortunately, as soon as the celebrations from the semi-final were over, lockdown came and that was the end of the season. The boys can look back on the 2019 Milan Tour for some great memories and experiences together.

Mr Hewitt - Head of Football



Tuesday 3rd March 2020, 2.45 kick-off

Radley College 1 v 2 Loughborough Grammar School

(22' Bradshaw) (47' Brannam)

Independent Schools Football Assoc – LB Cup QUARTER FINAL

- 1' Kickoff
- 10' Foul by Radley and an early Yellow Card for one of their defenders for bringing down C. Brannam.
- 12' Chance for Radley – deep defensive line from LGS invites pressure but the shot blazes well over.
- 15' Nice build-up play from LGS – the keeper, M. Hull, clips the ball nicely into the H. Towne and then to L. Wales at centre-back.
- 18' C. Brannam put clean through and wrong-side of defender. He's hauled down by the defender on a yellow but nothing given by the referee, not even a free-kick. Looked like at definite free-kick and yellow card. Hewitt is seen making enquiries on the touchline about the challenge.
- 19' GOAL (Radley) – how things can change... From looking like they should have gone down to 10 men, Radley now lead. A long clearance from their keeper catches the LGS defence too high. The ball bounces twice and the confusion at the back between the keeper and two centre-backs leaves an empty net for the opening goal.



- 22' GOAL (Bradshaw: Loughborough) – what a response, what a strike! They say you're always most vulnerable after just scoring and that has come true here. The long throw from J. Dabin was not dealt with by Radley and the ball rolls out to T. Bradshaw at the edge of the box to rifle into the top left corner of the net.
- 25' Some nice play down the right from captain T. Gamble with the ball making it up to J. McCandlish, who has a shot just off-target.
- 30' Nearly a chance for Radley, LGS losing their shape in midfield and Radley getting to the edge of the box. They meet L. Wales and L. Whitmore who snuff out any chance of an effort on goal.
- 37' Another long throw from J. Dabin but dealt with this time by Radley.
- 45' Half-time
- 46' Second-half begins and an early chance from this corner for LGS.
- 47' GOAL (Brannam: Loughborough) – stabbed in from the corner. The ball was whipped in by H. Towne, Whitmore

cleverly pushes one of the defenders out the way. It pinballs off two defenders before Brannam was able to score from six yards. All the players join in the celebrations.

- 56' DISALLOWED GOAL (Gamble, Loughborough). Some quick thinking from the captain sees him take a quick free-kick just inside Radley's half. Gamble sees the keeper out of position and strikes in into the net. The Radley players surround the ref who decides to disallow the goal. Looks very harsh with Willis, Gamble and Wales leading the protests.
- 59' POST (Radley). So close for the home side... this should remind LGS to keep their concentration and shape.
- 66' Some evidence of dark arts here as one of the LGS players stands on the ball to stop the quick Radley free-kick. J. Rock spends some time sorting his socks out.



- 68' LGS win a throw-in and J. Dabin seems to be taking an age to get this back into play!
- 75' Chance for Radley – LGS committing too many men forward from their corner and they nearly pay the price. Hewitt can be seen shouting "shape" at his side.
- 84' Foul by Radley on Brannam. Physio comes out to treat him as he's stayed down.



- 86' Ball in from right from Radley but the striker handballs it and the referee blows for a free-kick. LGS reset their position and lines.
- 90' Full-time. LGS take the victory

RUGBY



1st XV

The Herons 1st XV season started with a two-day preseason training camp at Nottingham University where we refreshed our core skills, which some people needed more than others. Followed by a weights session, the first and last of the year for most of the team and finished with sprint training, possibly the last time any of the front row ran all season. We also got off to a good start, winning a warm up game against another team in preseason.

Our team this year was very well balanced with experienced Year 13s, talented Year 12s and a select few Year 11s who gelled well both on and off the field. Furthermore, the firsts and seconds were well matched with constant competition for all jerseys. Tom Williams led from the front as captain not only pushing us to victory but also keeping the team together in defeat.

Our first game against Northampton ended in a loss; however, the team remained positive, putting together a strong performance, to finish with a last-minute well-deserved penalty try. We went on to win our next two games including victories in the National Cup against Trent and Bishop Vesey,

scoring two tries in the last six minutes, one of which was in the last play of the game. Next we faced the hardest stretch of our season, winning only one out of the next four games, including a close loss to Mount St Mary's College, knocking us out of the cup, after half of our team abandoned us to look at rocks on a Geography trip. We managed a win that we had to work hard for against Bedford Modern.

This brings us to what I think every senior rugby player would consider their favourite moment of the season by far, the first game of our new annual event, 'The Clash' against Nottingham High. This amazing event was dreamed up and organised by the team and spearheaded by Josh Armitage. The match was played under floodlights on Loughborough University's 4G pitch, with a match announcer, food stalls and VIP guests. Just like a pro game! Unfortunately we did not play to the best of our ability and lost a very close game. However, the most important success was raising £3,435 for Leukaemia UK. We went on to enjoy further successes in the second half of the season, winning 5 out of 9 games.

Overall, the team played very well together, with the set pieces vastly improving on last year. The forwards hit the line hard constantly making

yards and putting the opposition on the back foot, allowing the backs to ship the ball out wide often breaking through the opposition's line. The team trained hard from the previous summer up until the very last game, which showed in our performance. The 1st XV should be very proud of their performance this season and the way in which they represented the Herons.

Unfortunately, the 7s season ended just as it was

beginning due to COVID-19; however, we had the opportunity to play in the Nottingham High School tournament shortly before schools closed.

Big thanks goes to our coaches Mr Lewis and Mr Sollars and our water boy Dr Ball, for giving up their Saturdays and for helping the team to reach their full potential.

Mr Lewis - Head of Rugby

2nd XV

P	W	L	PF	PA	PD
12	8	4	379	248	131

A very strong season was had by the second team, in which we recorded the best win percentage on record for the school since at least 1998. Notable fixtures include a 55-5 against local rivals Notts High, in which we dominated every minute of the game. Despite a slow start to the season with two losses, we quickly picked up form and went on a six game win streak, with the first five of these games seeing wins of over 40 points. This was sadly ended by a narrow loss to a very strong Stamford team, despite being one of our best performances of the season, showing masses of courage and determination after going down

early. This was followed by another loss to Solihull, a fixture that was tainted with injury problems. And then closing the season with two very strong wins.

Much credit has to be given to the players who turned up every week with incredible attitude and a desire to win. Credit is owed to leavers Alex Stone, Priyam Ghelani, Gowshan Sugeeven, Henry Straw, Josh Ellis and Dylan Butt who were all regular players; also to the many Year 12s who were always reliable. A debt is owed to Year 11s Theo Abdool-Rassool, Jake Tomassi and Dan Ormerod, who frequently stepped up an age group and performed at a very high standard. We also owe thanks to Dr Ball and Mr Gallagher for coaching us all through the season with words of advice and wisdom. Overall, the seconds had a very good season and I was proud to be able to Captain the side through it.

Henry Straw, 2nd XV Captain



U16

The start of the season is always a tough one, as we faced NHS, who are commonly known by their depth and strength in players. Nonetheless, the boys went out there with high spirits and showed some good rugby from an early start in their 2019/20 campaign.

As the season went on, injuries and results were a bit like a rollercoaster, but it is something that we cannot control (mostly the injuries aspect). The boys still managed to get a positive season out of it, with more wins (6) than losses (5), but unfortunately we could not give it a good farewell with silverware, as our final fixture in the County Cup final was cancelled due to Covid-19.

It has been an absolute experience being part of the coaching staff at LGS, as well as coming across some talented profiles in the game, and all I can do



is wish them the very best moving forward. Hope I have helped most of them grow not only as players, but also as human beings, and hope the next generations can match or improve the past results we have had in each age group.

Mr Tomàs

U15A

The U15 A team's season was building up to a fantastic finale, with another County Cup final appearance but lockdown prevented this from happening. This would have been a fitting end to a season that saw the side play some entertaining 15 man rugby against a strong fixture list.

Although the side won 9, losing 9 over the course of the campaign, the side never gave up in any matches, which augurs well for the years ahead. The heaviest defeat came at the hands of the powerful Oakham team in the National Cup, but only three days later the side produced their best display in a pulsating game at King's Worcester, winning in the last few minutes against a much bigger side. Other notable victories came against Haberdashers' Adams' Grammar School and local rivals Nottingham High School, before the side's run to the County final.

Captain Sam Joy led by example but all players deserve credit for their dedication to training and strong character throughout the season. The pack had a reliable and flexible front row in Toby Hutson, James Burns and the new boys Jacob Boam and Daniel Tsang. 'Mr Versatile' Josh Smith played



both front and back row and the engine room of Kian Dharamshi and Dillon Kalyan were a strong partnership in the second row. The back row of Sam Joy, Tom King, Matthew Thompson, Danny Stone (before his first injury), Finley Wills (who also played very well at centre when needed) and the previously mentioned Josh Smith provided the team with plenty of ball and worked tirelessly in defence. Behind the pack George Stephen continued to develop his passing and reading of the game, providing good service to Archie Le Jeune, whose footwork at number 10 created space for the outside backs before his season was ended early through injury. George Royle's strong running (and his excellent place kicking) plus Dan Fraser's ability to draw the man often meant the ball was seen in

the winger's hands. Alec Winfield produced some notable finishes and Archie Ingram's aggression and work rate ensured he was always in the game. The full back position proved to be unlucky as the side saw a number of injuries with Lucas Turrell, Ben Fleetwood, Pharrell Harewood and Danny Stone all missed games having played in that position. Callum Purcell, the B Team Captain also deserves a mention as he came into the side towards the end of the season and acquitting himself very well.

Coupled with a strong B team at U15 level, this age group have the makings of a very competitive side as they move closer to senior rugby. Their work ethic is excellent and hopefully we will see them again soon on the rugby field. Well done boys on another good season.

Mr Gidley

U15B

The under 15B rugby team had a supreme season, going undefeated and winning all eight games. They scored an incredible 329 points and only conceded 41. The boys were motivated, disciplined and extremely determined to consistently play rugby to the best of their ability. It was a joy to watch a team care for each other and produce consistent quality rugby. Joe Smith led the try-scoring stakes with Tom Hopkins close behind, while Callum Purcell was excellent as the skipper. His leadership, determination and genuine care for his teammates was exemplary. Well done boys.

Mr Kulk



U14A

The 14As had a tremendously positive Rugby term; showing dazzling skill, leadership and 'Rugby thinking' in equal measure. An away win at a soggy Kings' School Worcester was a real highlight as the boys fought back from 32-19 down, with four minutes to go, to win 33-32. The boys were pleased to host two touring sides in Abingdon School, Oxford and Amman Valley, Carmarthenshire. The way in which the boys were able to switch in and out of positions with vigour and aplomb was testament to the group's natural sporting talent.

There was a nucleus of strong leaders within the side meaning that the boys needed only a small degree of steering from their coach, Mr Ferraby. However, the most positive aspect to this group was the spirit in which the boys went about their business: respectful, passionate, tough but also determined to enjoy their Rugby together. They are certain to develop into excellent representatives of the senior teams at LGS. This report does not mention individuals because of the truly exceptional ability of the wider squad.

P	W	D	L	PF	PA	PD
16	11	1	4	455	223	232



U13A and B

The 13As and Bs started out where they left off last season and the drubbing at Northampton could have been enough to put anyone off playing rugby again; but not these lads. They stuck to it and have trained really well, following Mr O'Shaughnessy's instructions and plans in training. The B team quickly pulled off an excellent win against Trent college before emphatic victories over Worcester and Bedford modern.

The A team took a little longer to get off the ground, but when they did, they put in some excellent team performances to produce a 4 match winning run, on top of a hard-fought, excellent win away at one of the top rugby schools in the country in Warwick.

There has been lots of movement between the As and Bs (because of genuine competition and ambition, rather than the oft-heard A-teamer looking at a tough fixture and wet weather forecast and deciding that they are injured just enough to only be able to play FIFA on a weekend!). This competitive spirit, and the attitude to after-school training, has led to progress of all players, which has been excellent to see and bodes well for the future of this team.

Mr Körösi



U12

We had many reasons to start the 2019 season full of optimism. The previous season a large number of LGS Year 6 boys had played very successfully for the U12B team, so these boys were now eager to play at their correct age group. In fact, Myca Abdool-Rassool, Toby Alwitry, Seb Badley, James Ferraro, Harry Higgins, Owen Horsley, Will Hutton, Mishal Mahama, Luke Taylor and Ollie Thompson all proved to be absolute stalwarts of the rugby squad, their attitude and ability set a fine example to the other players throughout the season. These boys were joined by a strong ex-Fairfield contingent who were also keen to represent LGS. If all this talent at our disposal wasn't enough, we

also welcomed lots of other potential superstars to our early training sessions, including several who had never touched a rugby ball in their life but were keen to learn.

The Year 7 fixture list is always very challenging in the Autumn Term, and an early win against Bishop Vesey was followed by narrow defeats at the hands of Warwick, QEGS Wakefield, Kings Worcester and Bedford Modern. Despite these predictable early setbacks the signs of steady progress were there for all to see, so our hard fought victory at Ratcliffe College was well-deserved, a game that saw the devastating pace of Mishal Mahama in



action for the first time. This was quickly followed by a good win at Notts High, with the influential Myca Abdool-Rassool scoring a hatrick. A narrow defeat to Princethorpe was followed by a five star performance against Adams GS ... and another hatrick for Myca!

As we moved into the Spring Term a narrow and very competitive defeat to the mighty NSB showcased the impressive progress we were making; this was followed by a draw at Solihull and a win against Lady Manners School. The electric pace of Anthony Cimurs, Callum Brazendale, Luke Taylor and Mishal Mahama was always a threat in every game, meanwhile the engine room of Harry Higgins, Om Pandya, Neil Suthar, Will Hutton and Ayaan Tariq ensured we saw plenty of the ball. Myca Abdool-Rassool, Quinn Dunkley and Sam Smith provided the flair and trickery in midfield – and, like the rest of the team, their work rate and commitment to the cause were always of the highest order. Finally a special mention to captain Will Jones – an outstanding player who led by example and never let his standards slip no matter what the scoreline.

The Sevens season proved to be very successful, with the Lions playing in two tournaments and only losing two games; special congratulations are due to joint captains Callum Brazendale and Sam Smith.

This brilliant squad of players have the potential for huge progress as they move up through the school, and I look forward to following their progress. Most importantly they don't allow themselves to get too over-excited when they win, and they refuse to let defeat dampen their determination. Above all, they always leave the field with a smile on their face. It has been a most enjoyable season.

The end of season Presentations Evening saw the following awards being made:

Best Attitude: Om Pandya

Most Promising Player: Ayaan Tariq

Best Tackler: William Jones

Most Improved Player: Quinn Dunkley

Coaches Commendation:

LIONS: William Hutton

TIGERS: James Ferraro and Joseph Ball

Best Sevens Player: Myca Abdool-Rassool

Player of the Season:

LIONS: Will Jones

TIGERS: Alex Herniman

Mr J Parton

Lions and Tigers on Tour





Countless generations of LGS rugby players have enjoyed the famous Blackpool Rugby Tour, so it is with HUGE relief that we managed to squeeze in the 2020 Tour just three weeks before the global pandemic caused schools to close and the UK to go into lockdown. So it was with the usual near-hysterical excitement that a record number of 34 boys started their epic adventure at the Leicester Grammar Sevens on a sunny afternoon in early March. Leicester GS had kindly allowed us to enter two teams, so we duly split into 'Lions' and 'Tigers' and prepared to do battle. The Tigers used their try-scoring machine Seb Badley to good effect as they enjoyed a successful afternoon where rugby was the eventual winner in most of their matches. The Lions roared to several good wins, and in fact only lost one game all afternoon, the electric pace of Anthony Cimurs and Mishal Mahama being too hot for most opposition defences to handle. After scraping off the worst of the mud we journeyed to McDonalds for a hearty and very healthy meal.

Day two started with the traditional indoor cricket tournament. The standard was mixed, but a good time was had by all and one team won. From there it was off to RGS Lancaster for a wonderful fixture against one of the leading rugby schools in the northwest. Two exciting matches were played in spring-like conditions, both results were very close and in fact only a last ditch try-saving tackle prevented the Lions from securing what would have been a thoroughly deserved draw in their match. The day ended in the Blackpool Arcades, with all the boys successfully disposing of the money that had been burning a hole in their pockets since the moment the Tour started.

Day three is Pleasure Beach day, and thanks to more lovely weather it didn't disappoint, so a large percentage of the squad will tell their future grandchildren about the day they rode the famous Pepsi Max Big One. The day ended back at the hotel with the traditional Tour quiz.

The fixture against Kirkham GS on the final day is a real highlight of the Tour. Kirkham are another outstanding rugby school so the fixture is always competitive and keenly fought. The Lions played some excellent rugby as they recorded a well-deserved win on a rather muddy pitch! In fact, all the boys were at least two kilos heavier by the end of the games, so the visit to the Sandcastle leisure pool straight after lunch was well timed.

My sincere thanks to Mr Morse and Mr Hewitt for their good humoured, tireless support. Huge congratulations to the boys for their brilliant attitude throughout the four days that we were away – as usual several hotel guests and staff commented very favourably on the conduct and behaviour of the boys. The tour was a brilliant way to round off a most enjoyable rugby season.

Mr Parton

The Clash!



The annual 1st XV fixture between Loughborough Grammar School and Nottingham High School is always a Grammar School boy's dream and to play the match on a pitch at Loughborough University for a fantastic cause, only made the fixture even more special. Leukaemia UK was our chosen charity in honour of our respected teacher Mr. Miles, whose daughter is unfortunately suffering from the condition. With this in the players' hearts, the fixture meant a whole lot more to everyone on both sides of the pitch.

The fixture was played with passion and vigorous competition, resulting in Nottingham taking and holding a deserved lead and overall win. The difficult weather conditions meant the Loughborough side could not play their game effectively, though managing to stay in the game until the last play where their scrum on Nottingham's 5 metre line was painstakingly turned over. This led to Nottingham's opportunity to clear the ball and secure the win with a result of 13-20.

With the result aside, the main focus of the night was the fundraising. When planning for the fixture started in late June, the boys thought that £250 would be a reasonable goal and an amazing amount of money to donate to Leukaemia UK. To have raised over £2,000 before the game had even kicked off was unbelievable and raising £575 on the night via donations, epitomised the unimaginable generosity of the Schools' combined communities. This generosity cannot be thanked enough by all of those involved in the organising of this event, and we hope that 'The Clash' will bring our two communities together again to raise more money for charity.

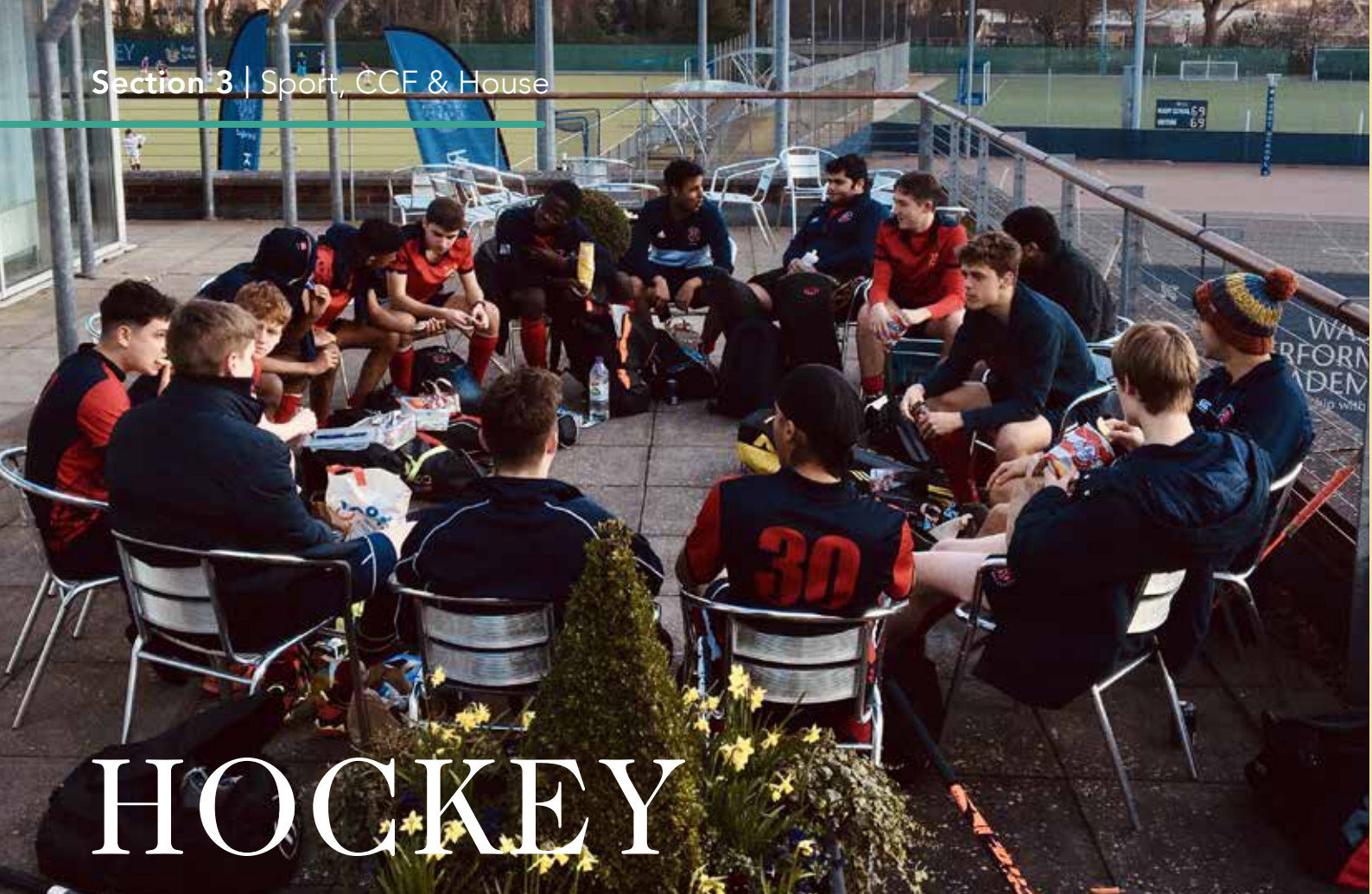
Over £3,400 has been raised overall which is beyond any of our wildest imaginations, therefore again we reiterate our thanks to the outstanding generosity of all 123 donors and the 400+ spectators who braved the rain to watch the match.





HOUSE SEVENS RUGBY

Saturday 8th February saw one of the most eagerly anticipated events of the School calendar, House Sevens. It was a great day all round: the weather, the atmosphere, food and prizes. The standard of rugby was excellent and it was great to see so many boys participating. Although it was not all about winning, a mention should go to the winning Houses of each Year group: Year 7 – Pultney, Year 8 – Yates, Year 9 – Pultney, Year 10 – Davies and the Seniors (Years 11 – 13 – Davies). A special thank you to the Parents' Association for helping to make the event such a success.



HOCKEY

1ST XI HOCKEY

COACH'S PERSPECTIVE

As the golden era of the Hockey family gathered together for the 2019/20 season, the playing group and coaches were full of hope and expectation. Years of practice, commitment, togetherness and technical ability, all fell wonderfully into place with this super group of players. Led by Sam France, the team played with attacking mindsets throughout the season... at times the gung-ho approach championed by the coach did not always pay dividends but it certainly made for an exciting ride! As always, the team had its key men: Arun and Kaylan Mistry playing with aggression, tenacity and wonderful skills; Ollie Jephcott, by far the most improved player of the season following his coming-of-age trip to India, was a constant threat to opposition defences, whilst the effervescent James Young provided the much-needed heart on the sleeve behaviour to complete the leadership group, led brilliantly, and always by example, by the wonderful Sam France.

All teams need the other working parts; Arun Phandey, Ben Hilton and latterly Roshan Lealh in Goal, gave the team solidity and expression from the back. Daniel Malpas, Jared Borrill, Max Goodyear and

Robert Dowsett, completing the back line, always gave of their best and developed hugely over the season. Ben Grundy, captain-in-waiting for the 2020 season, was heroic in his battling qualities in midfield along with Duracell-powered Joe Oram, a converted Goalie; what an effort to make the 1st eleven! The electric skills and pace of Sahib Ryatt, Mohammad Ibrahim and Jonno Griffiths completed the attacking options, alongside the aforementioned Jephcott, that supported the team to score a total of 41 goals from their 19 fixtures.

The highlight for these boys was without question qualifying as Midlands Champions at the U18 Tier 4 Midlands final day. The power and skill of the LGS team far outmatched all opponents on the day, and with Covid ruining their National Final trip away, this will long be remembered as the best day of their school Hockey careers.

Sadly, the send-off that all boys now look forward to, the 'Old Boys match' which precedes the presentation night was also cancelled, but these boys will live long in the memory of all who had the pleasure of working with and alongside them.

Mr J Clarke - Head of Hockey

CAPTAIN'S PERSPECTIVE

2020, the final year of our successful school hockey careers, and what a strange year it has been. For many of us this journey started back at Fairfield in year 3 with Mrs Sutcliffe, followed by junior sharks (now Hockey Herons) in Years 5 and 6 and this was the first time many of us met the inimitable Mr Clarke and Mr Sutcliffe. This early hockey experience led to many of us selecting hockey as our winter sport in Year 7, and what a great decision it was. Ultimately, it has given us the ability to also play hockey outside school for mens' teams around the county.

This year the 1st XI played a total of 19 games; winning 12 and drawing 3, conceding 14 goals but scoring 48. The top goal scorer was Ollie Jephcott with 10 goals, closely followed by Sam France with 9, with the top assister being Sahib Ryatt with a total of 8 assists, with Ben Grundy on 7.

Coming off the back of an excellent tour to India, the boys already had good experience and fitness to hit the ground running in the new season. The boys travelled to Repton for the first game of the season with high hopes; unfortunately we returned home with the silver medal.

Once again, the team was made up of many members of the Upper Sixth, a very vocal group. There was lots of hockey experience within this group and we all hope that we passed our knowledge on to those coming through, not only in the lower sixth but across the foundation in our varying roles as young coaches and role models.

With the humour of the Mistry twins and hard work of Mohammad Ibrahim and Ollie Jephcott (and James Young on the very odd occasion) the team had a great mix of desire and banter, which is perfect for any sports team. Fingers crossed these boys continue their hockey, wherever their studies take them in the future.

In the national competition we breezed through our group unbeaten and headed to the regional finals. Here we faced some strong opponents but yet again were unbeaten, with the man of the tournament being Sahib Ryatt. This victory in the competition set our eyes on Reading HC, the location for our national finals. A fitting send-off for a great group of lads. Unfortunately, these finals were later cancelled, thanks again to Covid, but the boys made the school and coaching staff proud in reaching our first national finals for many years.

Sadly due to Covid we also missed out on our final presentation night and the much anticipated 1st XI vs Old Boys hockey match....but we hope to be back to play in a future match.

Finally, I would like to thank all the staff who have helped out with coaching and umpiring over the course of the season.

Sam France, 1st X1 Hockey Captain

U15B HOCKEY

P	W	D	L	GF	GA
11	4	2	5	19	26

As ever, September began with pregnant anticipation of a season-defining fixture against King Edward's, Birmingham. A most promising 2-1 victory laid out a path for the season. Subsequent matches saw copious opportunities created up front, but lack of composure in front of goal led to missed opportunities to defeat Princethorpe, KES Birmingham (again) and Bishop Vesey's. Pace from Ian Collett Narvaez always led to possibilities in attack. William Bolton always provided outlets for build-up play with his sensible positioning. Solidity in defence was provided by Benedict Chester and the ever-robust Edward Bond. Mid-field dynamos Darius Rahimifard and Rick Suzuki produced vision and strategic sense, while the some-time creative geniuses of Don Earnshaw and Matthew Gamble could lead to wonderful play, most notably against Warwick School in a 2-2 draw the team was unlucky not to win. The commitment award is to Ishr Mann whose attitude to learning, coupled with his effort, is highly commended. The team was unlucky to have a negative goal difference and this did not reflect on Rishi Kotecha's or Brady Herring's goalkeeping. Sean Bence, Nathan Khalid, Dawon Kim, Luca Patel, Lewin Davies, Joseph Varley, Harry Mitchell, James Wooley, Perry Wong, Adam Marsh, Tom Byrne and Daniel Snell are all mentioned commendably. The final two fixtures of the season in late-March were cancelled as the whole country went into 'Lockdown'.

All-in-all, a season of mixed success. At their best the squad was magnificent in both creativity and resilience, most notably in a superb 2-1 win (with only the bare 11 in the team) against a very good Solihull side (with multiple substitutes), which provided a lesson in how to soak up pressure and then turn the tables on the opponent; a strategy for life. Many of those who played will go on to contribute greatly to senior hockey at LGS, but also to strong careers playing adult hockey. We wish them all well.

Mr Dowsett



U14 HOCKEY

A season of two halves unfolded for our U14 boys. This wonderfully coachable group of boys had struggled for the first few years of their school careers to find ways to win matches. However, following an all too similar start to the season, where good quality build-up play would provide little reward or outcomes, the boys found many ways to lose games. Goals conceded against the run of play were their Achilles heel. However, Mr Hie and Miss Walton took control midway through the term and the boys slowly became more confident and structured, especially out of possession. The belief of the team began to grow, as did several key players... they began to look more mature and the results also began to change. Confidence levels went through the roof when, at the county cup, the boys dominated Ratcliffe and Uppingham for the entirety of both games, finishing as county champions; they never looked back!

Winning the county cup allowed the boys a day out at the Midlands finals at Rugby school. I, Mr Clarke, ever the optimist, had told the driver to keep the engine running on the coach, as we would not be staying long. Of course, the boys proved me wrong... and how pleased I was. The boys played with a determination and power that I had not seen from them before. All comers were brushed aside, to allow us to take on the local rivals, Nottingham High School. The game ebbed and flowed, but with five minutes remaining Kellan Patel scored a wonderful counter-attack goal. Surely this was it... but NO! Notts scored their equaliser with 20 seconds left on the clock. As the game moved to penalty strokes, Notts secured

the victory in the sudden death round. Disappointing but memorable and just rewards for the time and effort and, moreover, the character shown by this stupendous group of boys.

There are too many top boys to mention in the A team squad; all have contributed, but I wish to give special mention to a few key characters who have driven the progress of the team. Alex Carter, Sam Beavon, Kellan Patel, Oliver Wardle, and Rahul Acharya, have shown superb attitudes and regularly given faultless displays. In Goal too, Neal Khambhayata and Rakshai Muthusamy have made epic progress to give the team that much-needed stability at the back. All boys can be proud of their achievements, and I am expectant that there will be a different group of names mentioned in future publications of the Loughburian magazine. We carried 21 players altogether and rotated them in school matches; it is without question the deepest and most talented squad I have had the pleasure to coach in my 20 years at LGS.

Alongside the A team we had a depth of players in our B team squad; so many in fact, that we had to split these into two teams and rotate their fixtures. These boys who work ever so hard to improve, are fully valued by the A team playing group and coaches. Through this process, several have made the step up into the A team squad. My thanks go to all the coaches, for their sterling efforts with these boys and to the boys, for just being wonderful!

Mr J Clarke - Head of Hockey



U12 HOCKEY

Our U12 season was one filled with high hopes and expectation; we were not disappointed. With the expanding awareness of hockey, boys are now arriving to LGS with developed skill sets that allow us to begin our journey on a much stronger footing. The work of Mrs Sutcliffe and other Fairfield staff is hugely valuable to us here at the Grammar school, but alongside those prep school arrivals, we were blessed by the incoming talents of boys who predominantly hail from Ashby Hockey club. With such a strong culture, our new players are able to pick up skills and good habits, which then boosts their own progressions. Games sessions are an absolute joy with these boys. They are supportive of one another, empathetic to others less able, and are highly coachable.

There are some key performers and, moreover, some key characters in the A team, but it is in the developing boys in the B, C and D team where my attention is drawn. These boys have clung fiercely to the coat-tails of their more talented peers; they are boys making debuts in a sport they had never heard of, playing with courage and freedom, in environments where it safe to do so, and they make me very proud. The A team boys must take huge pride in this as their examples are rubbing off on others; for any educator,

this is where the joy of coaching, or teaching, lies.

Results in the A team were fantastic: playing 16, winning 13, scoring 79 goals, whilst conceding 26. The only games lost were all to Solihull; all with a 2-1 scoreline... we can catch these boys... I know it! For our B, C and D teams, they played a total of 24 matches, winning 6, drawing 4 and losing 14. However, results are less important than the playing and enjoying of the games; these boys and the staff have thoroughly enjoyed witnessing this over the course of the season.

Where results do matter, of course, is when we attend cup competitions. On a cold, wet day in Oakham, the selected A team boys (pictured) travelled over to completely dominate the opponent sides. The LGS boys emerged, quite rightly, as champions and would have given a very good account of themselves at the regional finals day, had Covid not scuppered all our fun! Not to worry boys, I have every faith that that will not be your last silverware on a hockey pitch together. Well done everyone for all your efforts in your first season of hockey at Loughborough.

Mr J Clarke - Head of Hockey

Basketball and badminton

It has been great to see our basketball and badminton players in action both at School and away fixtures. Over the last few weeks in the Autumn term the Years 7, 8 and 9 basketball teams have been involved in the North Leicestershire competitions hosted by Rawlins, and Year 8 have made it through to the next county stage. The Senior badminton players have also been busy with a match against Ashby.

Mr Martyn Gidley - Head of Sport

Basketball

Alex Spencer-Hiatt, Jevin Chan, Michael Brown, Toby Shum, Noah Youel, Peter Gao, Joshua Drabble, Ranush Wijesekera, Baggio Liu, Kenton Lau, Addison Chan, Ethan Kirton-Cole

The Basketball 1st team had a very successful 2019/20 season, with 8 out of 10 of our fixtures resulting in wins. After losing a number of key players from the previous season, many younger players stepped up to contribute to the victories of the team. Notable wins include an astonishing 80-38 triumph against Oakham School, as well as the nail-biting 58-56 game against Stamford where the entire team played exceptionally to overcome the absence of some more senior players due to injury.

This year we were able to compete in a local league tournament, playing against many strong opponents and made it all the way to semi-finals; finding ourselves on the wrong side of an extremely down-to-the-wire game against St Pauls Catholic School.

Despite losing many more players at the end of this season, I see a bright future ahead for LGS Basketball. With many current team members being as young as Year 10 there is room for nothing but improvement, and I am sure certain players will fill the boots of their predecessors and take on key leadership roles.

Alex Spencer-Hiatt (Captain)





Senior Basketball Team 2019-2020 captained by Alex Spencer-Hiatt



County KS3 Badminton Champions

On Monday 2nd March Dani, Alex, Cheng and Quinn delivered a fantastic performance throughout the tournament at Babington Academy in Leicester and were crowned County Champions, winning all their matches in the process.

CRICKET

When schools closed in March 2020, it stopped our usual calendar of cricket matches. However, one had taken place in the Spring term. A Year 8 team travelled to Trent College to play indoor cricket in January. In a nail-biting match they beat the hosts by one run, before defeating Nottingham High School by five wickets.



SWIMMING



LGS SWIMMERS MAKE A SPLASH

2019-20 was a strong year for our school swimmers. The early season form was strong with overall victories against Stamford and at home to Oundle in the Autumn term. Uppingham provided stronger opposition in the Spring term where we recorded a defeat in the U18 age group but a resounding win in the U16s.

The Spring term continued with the annual Warwick 100s gala where our boys put in some impressive performances: Michael Brown, James Webster and Sandy Jarvis all recorded podium finishes against prestigious opposition. Overall we achieved a very creditable 4th place out of 10 teams.

In early March, a team of five boys attended three competitions in London. The Otter Challenge Match, held at St Paul's School on the Thursday evening always attracts the very best that HMC swimming schools have to offer and LGS showed that they can hold their own in such company with a very respectable 5th place out of 8 schools.

Particular mention must go to Sandy Jarvis who won the 100m freestyle event.

The following day saw events switch to the Olympic Pool in Stratford where the boys performed very well in prestigious if not slightly subdued surroundings, with entry numbers down significantly from previous years. The Bath Cup Freestyle relay saw us finish 22nd out of 49 schools. The Otter Medley Relay saw us win our heat, posting the 14th best time out of 49 schools entering. Huge congratulations go to Michael Brown, James Webster, Sandy Jarvis, Konrad Georgescu and Ben Webster for their efforts.

My thanks go to all of the boys who have represented the school this year, along with Mr Wilkinson, who has provided invaluable and inspirational training for the boys after school on a Tuesday. Thanks also to Michael Brown and James Webster for their commitment to the team as they leave at the end of Year 13.

Mr J Jackson



COUNTY CHAMPION SANDY JERVIS

LGS swimmer, Sandy Jervis, raced in the 50m, 100m, 200m and 400m freestyle, 100m backstroke, 50m butterfly and 400m Individual Medley in the January 2020 championships.

With times of 26.05, 54.59, 1.59.59 and 4.10.30 (all personal best times) Sandy showed his strength as a freestyle swimmer. He was a reserve finalist for the 50m, 7th in the 100m, 4th in the 200m and 2nd in the 400m! His 50m butterfly and 100m backstroke were also PBs.

However, Sandy saved his best for last taking overall victory in the 400m Individual Medley. At the half-way point of the race Sandy was six seconds behind the leader but, after a very strong breaststroke leg, with 100m to go he was less than half a second away – an awesome freestyle leg saw Sandy take victory by 0.15!

Sandy has now achieved Regional Qualifying Times in the 100, 200 and 400m freestyle, 400m Individual Medley and 100m butterfly. Well done Sandy – well-deserved success!

Derbyshire County Swimming Championships

Over two weekends in February 2020, Michael Brown in Year 13 competed at the Derbyshire County Swimming Championships. He entered six events and achieved six Regional qualifying times: 50m and 100m freestyle, 50m, 100m and 200m backstroke and 50m butterfly. He was in the finals for each event and achieved gold for the 200m backstroke, with a time of 2.15.69, a short course personal best. He also achieved bronze for both the 50m backstroke (28.57) and 100m backstroke (1.00.93) and another short course personal best in the 50m freestyle (24.97) and the 50m butterfly (27.62). We are very proud of him.

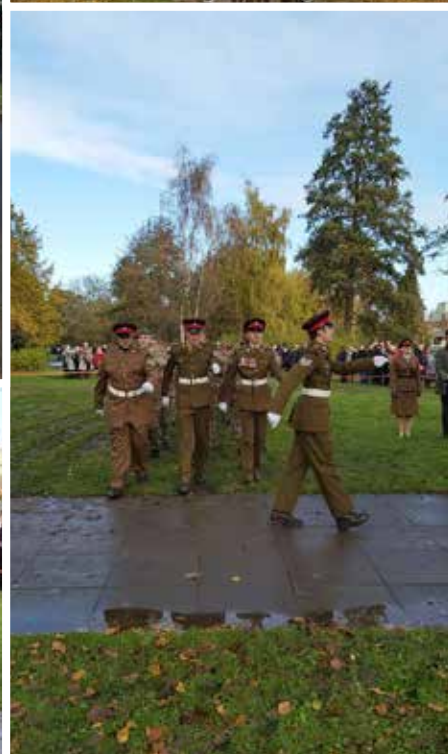


LSF Remembers

Over 200 cadets and staff formed the largest contingent at Loughborough's Remembrance Service in Queen's Park on Sunday 20th November 2019. The Contingent's wreath was laid at the Carillon by Regimental Sergeant Major Tom Williams, and the Standard Bearer was Flight Sergeant Steffan Bernhardt.

Members of the public and serving military officers complimented the cadets on the quality of their drill and turnout, and there was a real sense of pride when we returned to the Quad for the dismissal. 35 cadets were presented with their Institute of Leadership and Management Level 2 badges, and a further 6 were presented with shooting badges.

A huge thanks goes to the Parents' Association for providing hot drinks and cobs, and of course to the cadets for their excellent commitment to the day.

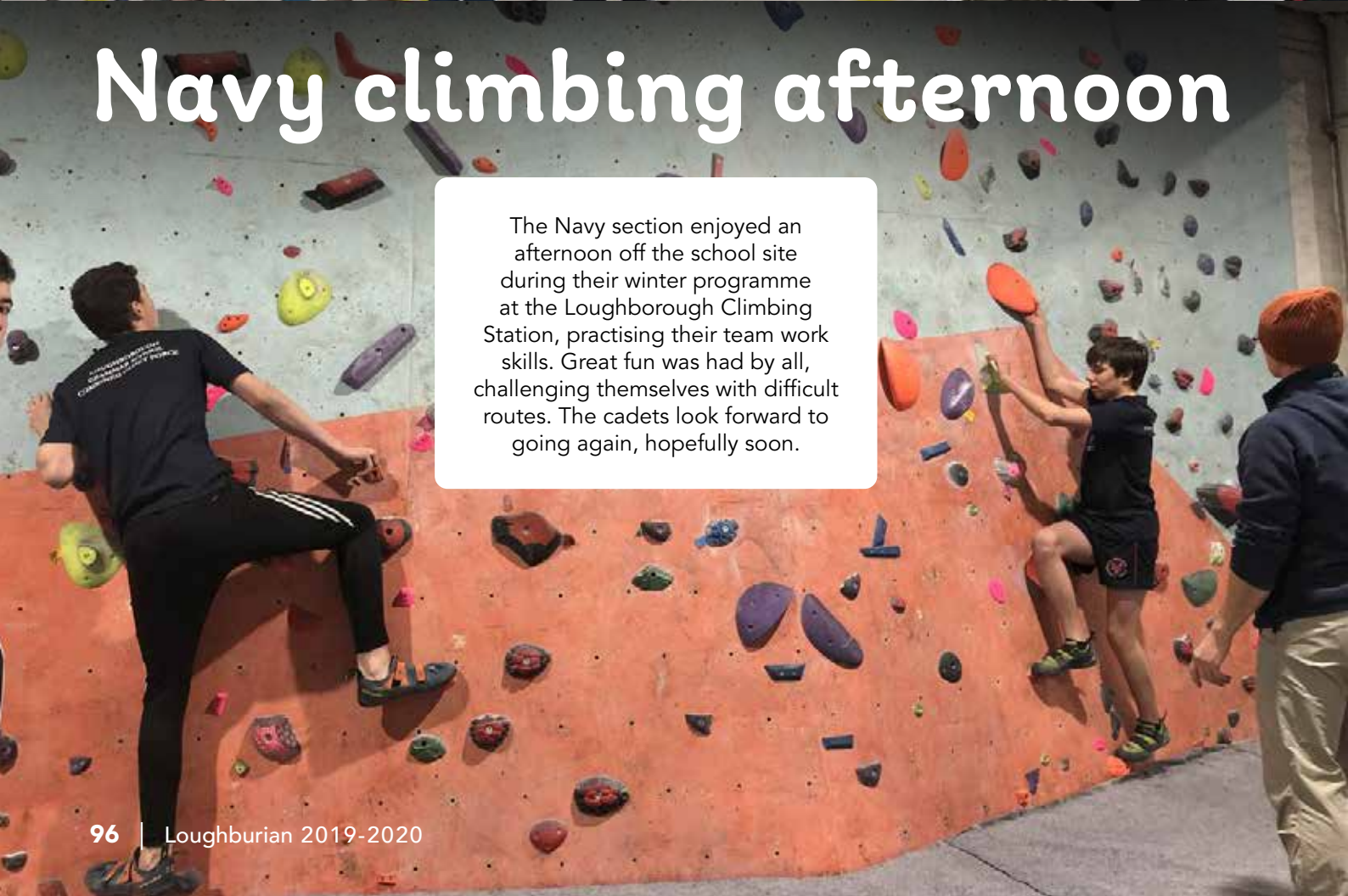






Navy climbing afternoon

The Navy section enjoyed an afternoon off the school site during their winter programme at the Loughborough Climbing Station, practising their team work skills. Great fun was had by all, challenging themselves with difficult routes. The cadets look forward to going again, hopefully soon.



RAF DRILL AND CEREMONIAL CAMP

Between the 10th and 16th of August, four of our RAF cadets travelled out to RAF Scampton in Lincolnshire for the annual national Drill and Ceremonial Camp. The cadets who went were Sgt Steffan Bernhardt, Cpl Antonia Buswell, Cpl Ryan Smith and Cpl Georgia Craig - all keen NCOs and leaders within our RAF unit.

The camp was available to all Air Cadets, meaning that there was a great mixture of

Combined Cadet Force and Air Training Corps cadets from across the UK. Across the week we worked hard practicing and preparing our rifle drill for the final parade, whilst also learning continuity drill. We aim to use these skills for the drill competition at the next Annual Review. The final parade was commanded by Air Commodore MacCafferty, and inspected Air Marshal Turner.

Corporal Ryan Smith, Y12





ROYAL NAVY PORTSMOUTH TRIP

For the Autumn Field Day, the Royal Navy section made its way down to HMS Excellent on the afternoon of 25th September 2019. The plan for the trip was to sail a combination of sail and motor yachts on the Thursday and then on the Friday we were going to visit the Historic Dockyard.

However, due to the extremely harsh weather which caused waves to make their way into the dock, the sailing expedition was aborted. Instead of setting sail out into the Solent, we opted to learn about the two newly refurbished powerboats and the sail yacht. This experience allowed the cadets to practise their map reading and chart plotting skills supported by

the instructors. It also allowed cadets - eager to take part in one of the offshore sailing ventures during the holidays - to have a better understanding of the types of vessels that would be in use for us.

After the morning activity the section moved on to visit Fort Nelson. Whilst we were there, we learned about the French threat and about the fort and its inhabitants. We saw a plethora of wax mannequins displaying the range of clothing and weaponry of the 1860s. Whilst strolling across the battlements, despite the weather, we were able to recognise the influence that the fort must have commanded by its vantage point and sizable structure.





Subsequently, we travelled back to HMS Bristol, which was a Type 82 Destroyer which had served during the Falklands war, and where we would be staying for two nights. Being accommodated on the Destroyer allowed the section to appreciate the conditions in which the sailors lived during the 1980s compared to the more modern Type 45 Destroyers.

As much as the 0630 wake-up pipe was a shock to the systems of the team, we arose on Friday to visit the historic Dockyard. The Dockyard consisted of HMS Victory, the ship on which Lord Nelson died, and the museum which contained helicopter simulations, shooting practice and rock climbing to name a few

activities. Onboard HMS Victory, we were very lucky to catch a quick glimpse of First Sea Lord Tony Radakin, and were able to witness first-hand the conditions the crew had to endure: the shortest ceiling was 5 foot. At the museum, where the higher-octane activities were taking place, cadets leapt into fierce competition on the climbing wall and involved themselves as a crew of a helicopter.

After these two packed days, we slumped back onto the minibuses and trundled back to school after a fulfilling and adventurous excursion.

Jared Borrill





Exercise Landranger

November to December 2019



Patrol Platoon Field Day

September 2019 - Swynnerton



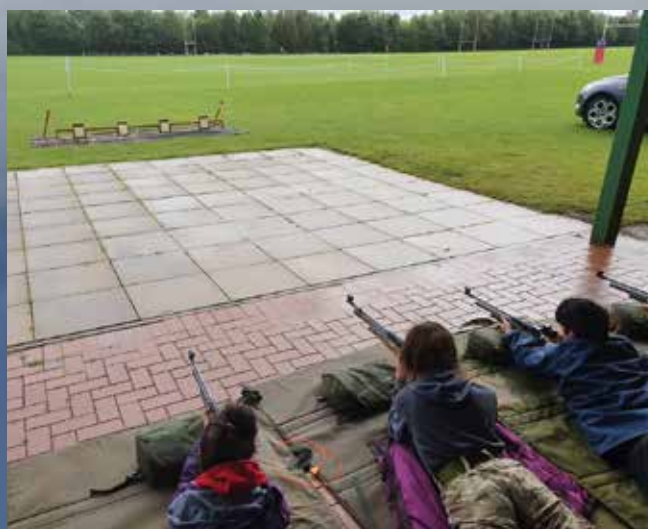
The new patrols platoon training had begun well in the first half term of the new school year. This was displayed as we headed to Swynnerton training camp for field day exercise. The two days started off well with a switch up in areas we adapted and practised our patrolling techniques and our harbour occupation. As our harbour was in a confined space we had to bug out and re-occupy to see how it is really done out in the field. This resulted in a good night sleep for the platoon apart from them being interrupted by their sentry duties late at night.

The next morning was an early start with stand to at 05:30. Our 5-star breakfast rations were eaten, and we headed out for our jam-packed rotation of activities. Firstly, the obstacle course. This was something none of the cadets or NCOs had ever taken part in before at Swynnerton and it was definitely worth it. There were a range of activities which were off limits due to the unfortunate weather, but the highlight of the course was the 10-foot wall. Teamwork was shown considerably throughout this obstacle with everyone helping each other climb over the wall. Next up was the camo and concealment with the cadets practising putting on cam cream and successfully approaching a target discreetly without being seen. Finally, after a long day in the rain they had a lesson on patrolling and target indication. This successful stand taught the cadets to always be vigilant and on the lookout. Overall the two days were very successful and lots of great skills were shown which is hopeful for the year to come.

William Savage

ARMY BCOY AND RAF BASIC COMBINED FIELD DAY

SEPTEMBER 2019



CADSAAM

Back with a bang!



After a long first week back at school nine of the finest cadets made their way over to Beckingham training camp in September 2019. It was an early morning for the squad, with multiple alarms going off at 06:00. Our first shoot was the Montgomery of Alamein at 09:30, with most cadets finding their feet, except for an unfortunate tumble by LCpl Harris. Next we headed to the pool bull competition, where RSM Williams smashed the competition with a 90mm grouping, winning himself £60. Then, after lunch, we travelled down to The Cadet 200 challenge, with CSM Straw and RSM Williams shooting well, both scoring over 90.

There was another early start for the team on the Sunday morning for The Red Rat Section Attack starting at 09:10. Good teamwork was shown by all through the race. Next was the main event, the Beckingham Falling Plate. RSM Williams, CSM Straw, Cpl Savage and Cpl Ryatt were up. The round was tense with one target in it which just didn't go our way. Overall we came 4th, the best the contingent has achieved in recent years; the whole weekend summed up the strong and fun team atmosphere that was present.

Corporal William Savage, Y12



SUMMER MARKSMAN



On 7th August, Captain Oliver organised a range day for ten Army and RAF cadets, firing the L98A2 rifle at distances of up to 300m in preparation for the cadet regional competition which takes in early September. All cadets achieved a shooting qualification, and the best shot (following his success with the .22 target rifle earlier in the summer at RAF Valley) was Thomas Wright. Huge thanks to Sergeant Hall and Captain Jackson for their support on the day.

SHOOTING AWARDS

Advanced Marksman (RAF)

Thomas Wright

First Class Shot (Army)

Will Foster, Katie Harris, Henry Straw, Tom Williams

Pass (Army) / Trained Shot (RAF)

Alexander Kerchey, Roshan Lealh, Parees Patel, Sahib Ryatt, Will Savage.



FLYING DAYS WITH 7AEF

On Wednesday 4th December 2019 six boys and I travelled to Cranwell in the hope of gaining an unforgettable experience; we would be trying our hands at learning how to fly the Grob Tutor planes with the help of current RAF pilots.

Upon arrival we were briefed on the schedule of the day ahead and watched a short video on safety procedures and how to maximize your enjoyment on board. We were then kitted up and were provided with a helmet and parachute. Before taking off each of us had to take part in an emergency drill to ensure we knew what to do should anything go wrong mid flight. We were then told to wait further instructions and we would be called up to fly.

Around half an hour later my turn finally arrived. Nervous, I made my way to the plane, where my pilot was getting things ready for take off. After a few checks we took off the ground. The anxiousness that I had felt wore away immediately as I was mesmerized by the scenic beauty of Lincolnshire beneath me.

Upon learning the basic controls, I tried my hand at some aerobatics such as barrel rolls and loops. It was a fascinating experience and I would definitely recommend it to anyone brave enough. It was a day that I will never forget.

Cadet Kritveer Jaggi





RAF Summer Camp

Six cadets (Thomas Wright, Alexander Kerchey, Adithya Kunigiri, Samuel Deacon, Jack Chung, Rohit Krishnan) were part of a 28-strong camp at the UK's fast-jet training base with cadets from Brentwood (largest CCF in the country) and the Lancaster boys and girls grammar schools in July 2019.



It was a busy and enjoyable week involving visits to the Hawk jet squadrons, mountain rescue team, leadership exercises, a shooting day, coastal cliff climbing, sports, and much more.

Second best shot on camp was Alexander, best shot: Thomas, and overall best cadet: Jack!



Redhill Trophy shooting vs Trent College

On Wednesday 9th October 2019, six members of the CCF shooting team competed in a rimfire target shooting competition away at Trent College. This was the inaugural match of an ongoing series that will see the two schools competing for the Redhill Trophy. We are delighted to say that our victory will be the first engraved upon it, thanks to a score of 450 out of 600 against Trent's score of 395. Our own internal competition saw the RAF beat the Army by just 22 points.

Congratulations to the RAF team: Archie Hill (best shot); Rob Swoyer; Thomas Wright; and the Army team: Izzy Spary; Ollie Roberts; and Katie Harris. A huge thanks to Squadron Leader Hayton of Trent College CCF for hosting us and running the range.



Alastair Smith awarded Royal Navy A Level Scholarship

Cadet Warrant Officer Alastair Smith was awarded an A Level Scholarship prior to joining the Royal Navy in 2020, following an interview in October 2019 for the role of Warfare Officer. He shared some useful advice for the two-day interview process with the Admiralty Interview Board, which can be read on the LGS CCF Firefly pages.

Picture: Al Smith's new home: Britannia Royal Naval College Dartmouth, the home of officer training for the Royal Navy.

CORPS OF DRUMS



The last academic year started like any other, with the Corps of Drums immediately preparing for the Remembrance Day Parade. Using Tuesday lunchtimes and enrichment time on Thursday afternoons, the pupils honed their skills in preparation for this important event within the Loughborough community.

Using the fantastic opportunity of the October Enrichment day as a day of preparation, the pupils were fortunate enough to receive tuition from Mr Geary, who is Head of Wind, Brass, Percussion and Bands at the Foundation's Music Department. Drawing upon his expertise, the pupils worked on fundamental principles to enhance their performance. Following this tuition, the pupils used part of the day to practise their marching with other cadets, which proved immensely beneficial with the November parade looming.

Under the expert leadership of Ben Dalrymple as Drum Major, the pupils' thorough preparation led to a fantastic performance by them for the Remembrance Day Parade. Confidently leading the Combined Cadet Force Contingent, along with other community groups, the pupils did superbly well. The Corps of Drums are proud to support this important event that brings the community of Loughborough together.

Following a brief respite period where the pupils took part in both archery and air rifle shooting, preparations soon began for the May Inspection Day. The boys used their Thursday afternoon rehearsal time to

prepare for this, which is the second major event for the Corps of Drums. Sadly, the national lockdown prevented it. However, the Corps took part in a parade rehearsal just before entering lockdown; whilst they did not have their usual audience, the pupils were excellent in showcasing their skills as a result of their continued hard work.

The unprecedented events of 2020 meant that it was not possible say our usual farewell to pupils leaving the Foundation. Ben Dalrymple had been with the Corps of Drums for the last two academic years and his passion for the 'drums was immediately apparent. Using every opportunity to develop his already excellent drum skills, Ben was soon promoted to Drum Sergeant, the youngest one we have had for some time. He took this position of responsibility in his stride and notably led the contingent by himself by providing single drum taps at both the Remembrance Sunday and previous inspection day parades. Recognising his developing leadership, Ben was the natural choice to become Drum Major in the most recent academic year. Working hard to develop his skills here, he acted professionally in leading the cadets for the Remembrance Day Parade. Whilst he did not have the opportunity to showcase his ability here further at the CCF Inspection Day this academic year, I have no doubt that he would have done exceptionally well. His passion for the 'Drums will be sorely missed.



The lockdown situation has had a notable impact on the 'Drums. However, we continue to practise as best we can under the circumstances, as we will be parading again in the future. Consequently, we always welcome new recruits; the band would simply not operate were it not the dedication of the those who support this club.

Mr T. A. Moseley

Corps of Drums Members 2019/20

Drum Major:

Ben Dalrymple

Drum Sergeant:

Dan Vu

Bugle Sergeant:

Patrick Culshaw

Fife Sergeant:

Pippa Higgins

Bass Drummers:

Zephyr Hong

James Whyte

Drummer Section:

Jack Chung

Harris Dakin

Amogha Javaraiah

Tom Liu

Trophy Mangsupakit

Abdullah Mulla

Mason Platts

Thomas McDonald

Bugle Section:

Greg McQueen

Fife Section:

Annabelle Watson

Alice Harper



CCF visited Fairfield

Jared, Thomas and Sam from LGS CCF visited Year 1 to talk about the activities they take part in each Thursday. The children loved hearing about the sailing, flying and hide and seek. They also enjoyed trying on the different clothing items the boys brought with them!



Leadership Weekend



On the weekend of 23rd to 24th November 2019 thirty-six cadets from all three Services of CCF took part in a Method of Instruction and leadership training weekend. They learnt through practical activities how best to deliver lessons relevant to their section, and were assessed on their leadership skills using command tasks.

Having completed this course, cadets will be eligible to apply for training at Wing and Regional level, such as the Junior Leaders Course, Air Cadet Leadership Course, and Senior Cadet Instructor Cadre.

Pilot Officer Randall



CCF LEADERSHIP

Last weekend (14th to 15th March 2020), seventeen of our Year 10 and 11 cadets completed their Level 2 Institute of Leadership and Management Young Leaders Award qualifications.

Run at School by training providers CVQO, the course comprised a mix of leadership theory and practical tasks. All the cadets had to analyse their leadership styles, learn how to give and receive feedback, and complete a range of practical

and academic challenges. Building up through increasingly complex team exercises, the weekend culminated in assessments of each cadet's individual ability to plan, brief, lead, and review a challenging task.

Huge thanks go to the team from CVQO plus Pilot Officer Randall, Dr Burnett, Miss Kartwright, and Mrs Grest for supporting the course.



Royal Air Squadron Trophy



Over the weekend of 16-17 November 2019 our team of fifteen RAF cadets travelled to RAF Cosford for the regional round of the Royal Air Squadron Trophy, in which cadets compete in their proficiency at Drill, Shooting, First Aid, Aircraft Recognition, Knowledge and Command tasks.

Our team went up against eleven other schools and won the Shooting competition and RAF Knowledge test with special mention for Corporal Thomas Wright, who achieved best shot in the entire competition. When we came third in the Uniform and Drill competition we were able to gain enough points to put us third in the competition; this allowed us to qualify, for the third year in a row, for the National Final taking place in March.

Robert Sower and Sam Oram

Well done to: Archie Hill (team captain), Robert Sower, Thomas Wright, Antonia Buswell (LHS), Georgia Craig (LAS), Karl Eberlein, Steffan Bernhardt, Sam Oram, Ryan Smith, Harry Barton, Alex Kerchey, Jakob Jankowski, Jamie Hill, Ed Morris, Mark Millward

And thanks to: Flt Lt Hopper, Fg Off Reavie, AUO Cartwright



Denstone College friendly shooting match

A team of eight LSF students ranging from Year 11 to 13 travelled to Denstone College for a shooting match on Thursday 5 December 2019. The competition consisted of three different disciplines; Grouping, Rapid (6 shots and reloads within a minute) and Snap (targets of opportunity at random intervals), firing the new .22 calibre target rifle. The home team were first up to shoot, and immediately we knew that these cadets were not messing around - they knew the rifles, were clearly well practiced, and indeed one turned out to be a Team GB hopeful.

Once the targets were in, Loughborough's squad gained an overall score of 359, which was sadly 70 points short of beating Denstone's team. However, we felt that this result is promising considering that this was the team's first time firing at this level against a 'shooting school'.

We look forward to being able to improve through experience as our list of matches increases, allowing us to practice at longer distances and with equipment not available to us on our own air rifle range at school.

Oliver Roberts

HOUSE COMPETITION



ABNEY HOUSE MASTER REPORT 19-20

It may have been a short but rather successful year for ABNEY in the House Championship. After 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2015 we have become the House Champions again in 2020. We have been contenders in the last couple of years too, however this time it all worked out. We have shown everybody that Abney is still the most dominant force in the LGS House system.

We had a strong start to the new season, probably one of the best ones ever, and continued to perform very well across the board throughout the school year.

In the first half of the Autumn term our Year 7 Cross-Country runners won their team competition. The Abney Year 7 and Year 10 chess teams both finished second in their competitions, and so did our Year 11 Quiz team. These were all very good results. We also managed to finish second in House Music, which is the biggest non-sporting event of the year, and which helped us stay in the lead. After half term we continued to perform well in various events such as

Year 8 Quiz, Years 8 & 9 Chess, Senior Badminton, and we were victorious in the Sixth Form Quiz. The highlights of December included two Year 11 events: Basketball and Swimming, both of which we won.

At the start of the Spring term we knew that this could be our year again and the Abney boys continued to act and perform accordingly. We finished second in many of the Spring competitions such as Year 9 Hockey, Intermediate Squash, Junior Badminton, Year 10 Football and Year 11 Chess. We were victorious in Year 10 Hockey, Junior Squash, Intermediate Badminton and Year 10 Quiz. We also finished joint first in House Art which helped us secure our position at the helm of the House Championship.

As always, I would like to say a huge thanks to every single person in Abney, pupils and staff, who with their enthusiasm and efforts make each year a successful one; fun and enjoyable for all. Thank you for your efforts and let's win the championship next year too.

Report by Mr P Gacs



DAVYS HOUSE

MASTER REPORT 19-20

2019-2020 was like no academic year in living memory and will no doubt be reflected on as a year of transition for Davys house and the wider house system itself.

The first highlight of the year came in the initial blue riband event - House Music. It will be doubtless be remembered as a swansong for the creative masterminds of many a House Music victory, the fabled duo of Edirisinghe and Eveson. Danushka began the day performing a Shostakovich piece on cello, then supported Alex and the band in a standout electric ensemble performance of You give love a bad name, Bon Jovi, before finally conducting a choir of 160 Davys devotees through the now-adopted House anthem of Mr Bluesky, ELO. As others threw beach balls at the bemused judges and used other clever devices of distraction I was reminded of the famous John Smith commercials in which Jack Dee delivered his 'No gimmicks' strapline. Our unadulterated music secured the overwhelming popular vote and took home the house points but alas narrowly missed out on the judges' overall winning verdict.

2020 saw the seamless introduction of house time in Davys; fortnightly meetings of individual year groups led by senior Davys boys. I owe a huge thank you to the year house captains, the ever enthusiastic staff of Davys house and above all the Year 12 boys who prepared diligently and inspired their juniors with awesome presentations ranging from 'The beauty of Maths equations' to 'My hobby; kickboxing'.

By New Year I had made a full recovery from Sumo wrestling Mr Korosi, but regular success in events was not happening in the normal Davys manner. Notable exceptions were the Year 8 Chess competition, headed by Krish Bassi, that made the 'Queen's Gambit' look like amateur hour and the galvanizing

performance of James Harlow in House Art. However, Davys roared on the Saturday of the next premier event - House rugby, with victory by our seniors (captain Tom Fraser) and Year 10 (captain Sam Joy). Despite some underhand opposition squad selections in the latter case! The lower years fought valiantly, with team captains showing real leadership that bodes well for future championships.

A real head of steam was being generated after a crushing victory in the Seniors swimming, with devastating performances from Ben and James Webster, Sandy Jarvis and the newly signed Konrad Georgescu in butterfly (that left Tom Ebdon of Pulteney wondering what he had to do to claim gold in this most challenging discipline...sorry Son!). As Easter began to approach the senior boys of Davys were showing their younger charges how we could topple Abney and a special codename was tentatively assigned to operation House Sports Day where Davys' class would ensure outright victory and the Stamper Cup.

BUT...then...Coronavirus...global pandemic...lockdown!

Great minds quickly devised the aptly named "Lockdown House Championship", Operation Sports Day was mothballed and it was even alleged that Mr Gacs finally released Mr Snuggles the cat from forced captivity. Several junior boys threw themselves wholeheartedly into these events, and other charitable endeavours besides, and they have my total respect (and guaranteed promotion into the higher ranks of the Davys machine) but in the main it appeared that Davys house preferred to keep their powder dry at this juncture and await the return of Mr Blueskies in a post Covid-19, fully vaccinated world.

Report by Dr M Ebdon

YATES HOUSE

MASTER REPORT 19-20

2020 was a year to remember for many reasons, but possibly the most momentous event came in the summer: Yates lifted a trophy!

At the start of the year, Yates came out of the blocks well as each year group elected their own year rep to guide them, or give them a not-so-gentle prod on occasion! Special credit goes to Jack Hallam in Year 9 for really coming into his own, inspiring his year group and ensuring that every event was well attended by the House.

As a house, we have been going for Gold at all times, and never was this more prevalent than in House Music. There were some exceptional solos, and a Hodson Hall filled with beach balls and echoing with the sound of 'Escape', sung mainly by the upper 6th in Aloha shirts, will live long in the memory, even if

the judges weren't such fans; we were the peoples' champions for bringing fun and enjoyment to House Music. We followed this up with the entire House memorably performing 'Gold' by Spandau Ballet and this seemed to focus our ambitions and augured well for the rest of the year.

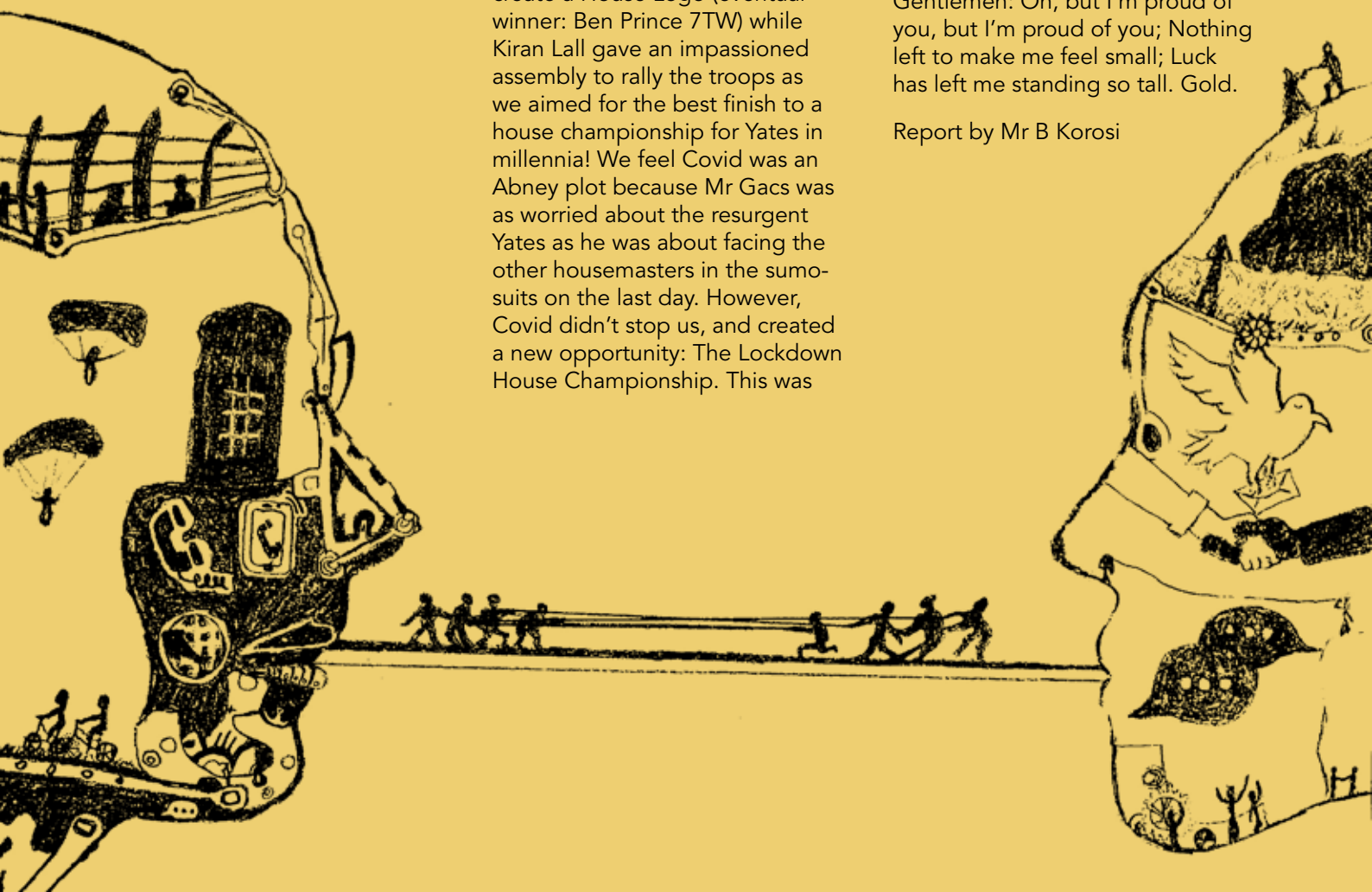
There were lots of excellent performances throughout the school, which kept us very much in the running with Pulteney and Davys. Year 8, however, was the secret weapon; like a swarm of golden bees, they destroyed everything in their path, winning nearly every event in their year group – an unbelievable achievement that has hardly ever been seen before in the House championship.

At the senior end, the Year 12 mentors helped younger boys create a House Logo (eventual winner: Ben Prince 7TW) while Kiran Lall gave an impassioned assembly to rally the troops as we aimed for the best finish to a house championship for Yates in millennia! We feel Covid was an Abney plot because Mr Gacs was as worried about the resurgent Yates as he was about facing the other housemasters in the sumo-suits on the last day. However, Covid didn't stop us, and created a new opportunity: The Lockdown House Championship. This was

a test, not of ability in each sport or event, like it is in the normal championship, but of effort, commitment and dedication to the House. So, naturally, we won! Yes, dear reader, no need to check your glasses or ring the school office about a misprint in the Loughburian, Yates blitzed it. Finishing top by a long way, with Year 8 again performing particularly well, but nearly every year group winning for their year. A massive congratulations to all boys involved; silverware is just rewards for their dedication this year and brings the golden House back to its rightful position. A big thank you to Mr O'Shaughnessy for helping me out over the year, assisting in organising teams and cajoling the troops; thank you to all the staff in Yates for their support and encouragement and a massive thank you to the boys.

Gentlemen: Oh, but I'm proud of you, but I'm proud of you; Nothing left to make me feel small; Luck has left me standing so tall. Gold.

Report by Mr B Korosi



PULTENEY HOUSE

MASTER REPORT 19-20

Over the past few years, Pulteney House have longed for the competition which makes a title race truly exciting. This season Abney delivered, and we battled all year to keep within reaching distance of the Stamper cup.

The season began with Mr Thornton taking the reins from Dr Rhodes, who retired from the position of Pulteney Housemaster at the end of last year. The House were left in the superb position, looking to secure a hat trick of titles after having won the Stamper cup in the previous two consecutive seasons. We were also delighted to warmly welcome the new Year 7 into the House, and they performed exceptionally well this year, winning all their academic events and their overall year group competition. I am very much looking forward to watching their continued success as they move through the school.

House Music was a thoroughly enjoyable event, with exemplary performances from many boys, including Lewis Daykin, Harris Daykin and Jack Chung. A creative take on Prince's Purple Rain did not win over the merciless judges, which saw Pulteney drop down into third place going into the Christmas break. However, the comeback was on and a huge number of boys stepped up to the mark to represent their House, clawing back some valuable points. One of Pulteney's strongest performances came in the Rugby Sevens competition, with Year 7 and 9 winning their tournaments and Year 8 and the Senior squad finishing second. In addition, Pulteney dominated the Quizzes, Chess tournaments and Football events to push back up to 2nd place. Historically, Pulteney perform very well in the Summer events such as House Athletics and House Cricket, but unfortunately the season was cut short by nationwide lockdown, leaving Pulteney just 40 points off the lead at the end of the season.

I would like to congratulate Daniel Ferraro, who captained the Year 9 team outstandingly through the first two terms, winning five events and gaining 250 points out of a possible 280. In addition to Year 9, Year 11 also won their year group competition.

Pulteney pupils should take pride in their achievements this year; the boys showed great determination and dedication to their House, and it was a delight to watch them push themselves to try new activities and thrive off the competition. I was especially impressed to see several boys taking leading roles within their year groups to ensure that our strongest team was always in the right place at the right time. Pulteney House can move into next year with great confidence in their ability to return the Stamper cup to its rightful home.

Report by Mr J Thornton



Staff Leavers

Heather Baker

It was a very special day in 1989 when Heather Baker strode down the Walks for the first time, at the start of a long and memorable career with the Foundation. No one, including Heather, could have envisaged that she would be with the Foundation for the next 32 years and become the longest serving SENDCo in the Warwick Group of schools.

Heather joined the High School as a full-time PE teacher. As a keen and energetic sportswoman and netball coach, Heather inspired and encouraged many girls to stay active and enjoy a wide variety of sporting activities while achieving national success with her netball teams. In addition, she also organised and supported many extra-curricular activities, including the senior ski trips and sports day.

As well as her love and commitment to sport, Heather was a much-loved Form Tutor, Head of Year and teacher of English, whilst joining in with the whole life of the school and raising her two children, who both went through the Foundation. Pupils will remember her many fundraising events, which enabled eight Guide Dog puppies to be trained, and fondly recall her office having images of the puppies on the wall. Her family even re-homed a retired guide dog.

Heather's knowledge of teaching English and the whole schools' development of SEN saw her sow the seeds to create, develop and teach the SEN programme at the High School, while supporting and making provisions for LGS, Fairfield and The Convent (now Amherst). This resulted in her taking on full responsibility as

Head of the SEN department at LGS in 2004, to allow a personalised curriculum for students with learning differences.

The Learning Support Department blossomed under Heather's lead; in the early days with fewer boys on the register, it comprised only herself and one part-time admin assistant but by the time she left it included herself, a Specialist Teacher, and three Learning Support Assistants! Between them they supported a great number of boys. Heather was something of a pioneer as a SENCO co-ordinator at LGS. She liaised with health professionals and Educational Psychologists to describe and embed the support needed by pupils and she championed the idea of 'whole school screening' for dyslexia, before the current IT systems made that an everyday reality. As the number of international boarders grew, and the English as an alternative language provision increased, she placed her voice and influence to enhance their support.

Heather's main desire was that boys should want to enjoy the support provided by the team in Friesland; it was important that they did not see it as a punishment and so Heather spent many an hour producing countless versions of timetables to minimise the impact on students' social time. Heather guided her staff to include games and activities within their sessions so that the boys had fun whilst learning and wanted to return the following week.

Heather's commitment to the boys was exceptional. Testament to that is the number of old boys over the years, who dropped in or emailed to let her know of their achievements, even years after leaving the school. They

all said the same thing; that had it not been for Mrs Baker's encouragement and faith in them, they would have given up. They simply wanted to thank her.

Not only did Heather drive forward the Learning Support department but she was also always keen to throw herself in to any of the shows produced at LGS and was often found behind the scenes working magic with make-up both at LGS and LHS. Her willingness to support these productions even included performing as one of the ugly sisters (another being our beloved Geography teacher, Dave Evans!) in Jack and the Beanstalk.

Come rain or shine, she could be found (with Dave Evans) attending countless school events over the many years armed with her camera to capture those special moments. She was willing and delighted to give up many hours of her free time and always did so with a smile and professionalism, even though she had been dragged to the back of beyond in the pouring rain on many occasions. Without her help and ideas 'LES' would not have the impressive archive material from around 2003 to 2018.

Associated with this was her invaluable help around Open Days, not only with the photos, but also setting up and being an integral part of the information team on the day. Heather was reliable and as always, a true professional, whose love of LGS shone out like a beacon.

It was with great sadness that we say farewell and wish her well on her retirement.

A collaboration by friends and colleagues of Heather





Alice Prince

Alice started her teaching career at the Grammar School in September 2014 as Miss Whitehead. Highly qualified and unceasingly enthusiastic and committed, she contributed a great deal to the English Department and to the school.

Her colleagues in the English Department will remember Alice for her immaculate classroom, always bright and inviting, and showcasing the excellent work produced by her pupils. They appreciated and benefitted from her organised approach, her high expectations and her helpful, well-structured teaching and marking. She was keen to take on responsibilities, nurturing wider reading and quickly becoming an excellent examiner of GCSE English Language, sharing ideas with her colleagues in a clear and

professional way. She organised trips, invited writers into school for World Book Day and ran a very successful Creative Writing Club for younger pupils.

Alice was also a dedicated Year 8 form tutor and was hugely respected and appreciated by the boys for the commitment and compassion she gave to this important role. Under her duty of care, her tutees went from strength to strength and her form rightfully earned the reputation of being supportive, creative, competitive and ambitious, putting on show-stopping productions for the Drama Festival and creating culinary masterpieces for the inter-form bake-off competition.

Alice is an impressive all-rounder; she led a choir, joined the CCF, helped with the Duke of Edinburgh Award and wrote superb and entertaining pieces in the Staff Creative Writing Club. Amazingly, she also managed to fit in her lovely outdoor wedding to Chris, despite the rain in North Yorkshire, and the birth of baby James, their own little prince.

Alice goes on to spend more time with James and to undertake a Creative Writing M.A. in Manchester. We are sure she will make a success of everything she tries, and we wish her well.

Karen Buckley

Bob Griffiths

Editor's note: although Bob officially retired in 1991, he is included in this 'Staff Leavers' section in commemoration, having died in March 2020. He could be regarded as our 'longest serving' member of staff, as explained below.

A historian, Bob started at LGS in 1955 and was immediately recruited into School House, which at that time was run by the Headmaster, W.L.Garstang. At the Burton Service in 1958 he met a young High School teacher, Ruth, in the Burton Chapel and they married the following year. They had three sons through the School:- Richard (1973-1980); Martin (1974-1981) and Andrew (1980-87) and two grandsons Matthew (2012-2019) and Jonathan currently in Year 13.

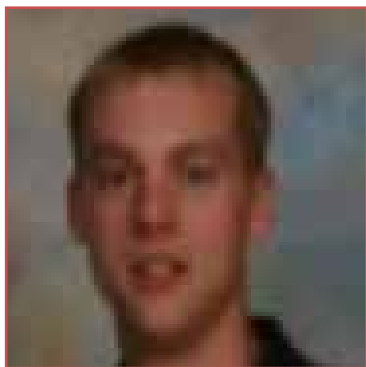
He was Head of History, a Housemaster and Senior Master but that only reflects a mere fraction of his influence on the School. He was an 'ideas' man and staff meetings were one vehicle for us all to hear his latest 'idea'; but that was nothing by comparison to what successive Headmasters had to cope with! As the School entered independence in 1976 it was Bob who had the ideas that were to lay the foundations for the School you work in today.

Bob retired in 1991, but living within walking distance he regularly visited the School to make sure we were still running it properly and to give us his latest thoughts and 'ideas'. None more so than on A level results day when he would arrive, look at the results and immediately challenge the Headmaster about them!

Ruth died in January and her funeral fully reflected the influence the whole Griffiths family has had on the Schools. When Jonathan leaves in July it will represent the end of an era spanning 65 years.

John Weitzel





Paul Jackson

Paul joined the Design and Technology department in 2007 having served with the Explosive Ordnance Company in the British Army prior to his completion of teaching training. Possessed with a genuine passion for the subject, he quickly made an impact with the boys, as he was able to draw upon his wealth of experience with mechanical systems to help the pupils work through their own design problems. Following Mike Rundle's departure in 2008, Paul succeeded him as Head of Department; he was the natural choice given his previous leadership experience when serving in the military.

Under his guidance, the department made significant changes to its curriculum to

modernise the subject. Notably, Paul introduced a laser cutter which immediately enhanced the pupils' designs across all year groups. This was later followed with the arrival of the department's first 3D printer, which continued to stretch the pupils' ability to create effective solutions where traditional methods had restricted them previously. He further led the internal refurbishment of the department in 2014 which dramatically altered the layout to maximise the teaching areas and to make it a more inviting learning environment.

Further to his leadership within the department, his experience of military service made him naturally support the school's Combined Cadet Force. Serving within the Army section, Paul climbed to the rank of Lieutenant and used his experience to deliver the CCF curriculum in a manner that was realistic to the boys serving in the actual army. He also used his contacts within the military to organise visitors. Notably, pupils were incredibly excited when the Explosive Ordnance Company visited the school to demonstrate their technical kit!

Paul's real strength laid in his keenness to develop the boy's awareness of the subject away from the classroom. As an avid

motorist, he introduced Motorsport to the school, where pupils had the opportunity to refurbish a Mazda MX-5 and Land Rover. This greatly appealed to the boys, particularly as they further had the opportunity to drive the Mazda, through Paul's affiliation with the Loughborough Town Car Club. The Motorsport Club was accompanied by Paul's introduction of the GreenPower National Go-Kart challenge to the school. For this, pupils design and race a go-kart against other schools at circuits such as Rockingham; it was often the case that the quad was used in preparation for these race meets! He further introduced the boys to Drones, Upcycling, Bicycle Maintenance and Model Car Club to name but a few of the other clubs he led. He was also instrumental in helping to organise the first large STEM day at the school by supporting one of his tutees in arranging a wealth of visiting lecturers and guests from a range of different science and technological fields.

Following his departure from the Grammar School, Paul initially worked as a mechanic before moving onto a role at Hartshill School in Nuneaton where he continues to enthuse pupils both in and outside the classroom.

Todd Moseley



Nate Ellum

Nate Ellum joined Loughborough Schools Music in 2015 having previously taught in schools in Stoke. An outstanding musician on euphonium, guitar, piano, Japanese nose flute and more recently, melodica, Nate inspired pupils across the Foundation during

his time here.

Nate was 'attached' to the Grammar School during his tenure and was heavily involved in the musical life of the school, teaching Music to boys from Year 6 to Year 13. Together with Rob Connolley, he helped the Department launch the Music Technology A Level in 2017, which has proved increasingly popular. His expertise in film music and musical theatre was also outstanding. His stamina was also incredible; who could forget the year when he taught four Year 8 classes back-to-back, galvanizing them to sing folk songs with gusto in each lesson!

Nate was a fantastic colleague and always had a smile on his face, both in the classroom and in the office. A proud Welshman, he

particularly enjoyed festooning his desk with English flags during the Six Nations and teaching his colleagues about the proper pronunciation of certain words. He had a wonderful sense of humour and was always ready with a joke to keep the office entertained.

Outside Music, Nate was a member of Boarding staff and regularly assisted on Duke of Edinburgh expeditions. Nate married in the summer of 2019 (did he tell you?) and after the birth of his son Sammy, wanted a job closer to home. He made a lasting impact on the Music Department and the Grammar School and will be greatly missed.

Charles Price



Kate Cross

Kate Cross joined LGS in 2017 and was with us for ten terms. On arrival, Kate single-handedly and efficiently transformed the EAL (English as an Alternative Language) provision at the school.

Kate adapted the Denton House common room into a classroom and brought EAL right into the heart of the boarding community. She worked hard to

establish EAL as a subject in its own right in the curriculum, and improved the timetabling and assessment arrangements for boys. Her innovative ideas and organisation led to the creation of the first International Dinner for boarders and day boys, which is now an integrated part of the award-winning Boarding Cultural Programme. She regularly used humorous and interesting ways to encourage boys to communicate well, such as "Draw My Life". Kate introduced the Cambridge English examinations to the school and carefully managed and monitored the process from inception to assessment.

In addition to her EAL responsibilities, Kate enthusiastically accompanied school trips, and contributed widely to extra curricula activities in the school, especially taking on the role as Charities co-ordinator.

She was generous in giving her time to the school.

Notably, Kate never fell into the trap of describing the boarders as one stereotypical group, but she had a care and concern for each child as an individual. She brought her expertise in cultural assimilation and international empathy to the role and was never guilty of generalisation. She cared for each pupil with knowledge of his name and character, his likes/dislikes and his learning style. All of her work was completed with great good humour, cheer and positivity.

The provision of EAL improved immeasurably since Kate began her work here. We wish her well for the future in her new role at a Leicester School. We will sincerely miss her.

Jeremy Parton



Nikki Krarup

The School has certainly had boarders since 1652 and for over 300 years their health was looked after by the Headmaster's wife. It was only with the arrival of Headmaster Garstang in 1955, whose wife didn't want to undertake the task, that a Matron was appointed for the first time and for the next 44 years a number of nurses undertook the task, living

in School House. In 1999 when the Matron retired it was decided to abandon the idea of having a 'live-in' Matron as there were fewer boarders and they didn't get ill as often!

The consequence of this decision was that a much wider field was possible as the School was not restricted to single women and the perfect solution was to appoint two parents, Nikki Krarup and Jill Bryan, to share the roll.

Nikki was ideal for the post as she had two 'sporty' sons – Charlie had entered the School a year earlier and Sam was at Fairfield at the time and was to follow two years later. This meant that she understood 'boys' and this was to be crucial in the way she cared for boys and staff alike over the next 20 years.

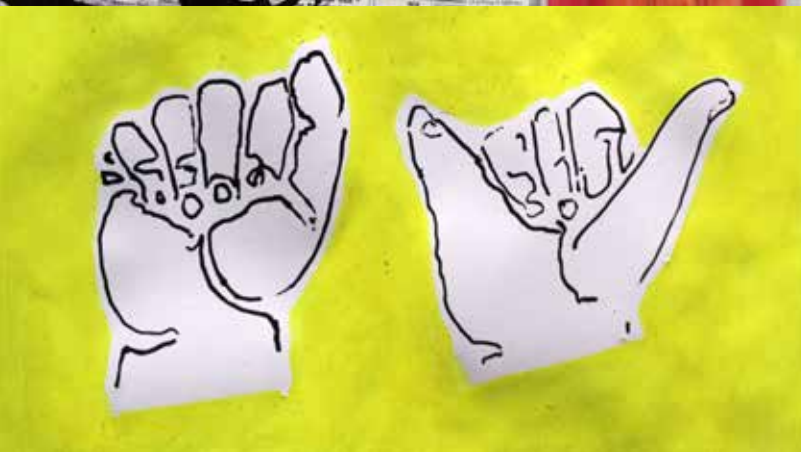
Whereas previously boys were

sent away on their visits to sick bay, now they were welcomed with open arms and very soon there were queues in sick bay which had previously been totally empty. The boarders, in particular, appreciated her presence and through the annual medicals, flu vaccinations and dealing with the weekly visit of the School Doctor she soon became their 'go to' adult when they had a problem.

The worst part of a Matron's job is having to phone a Parent to explain that their 'darling son' was ill or had been involved in an accident but her reassuring first few words were always greatly appreciated by them.

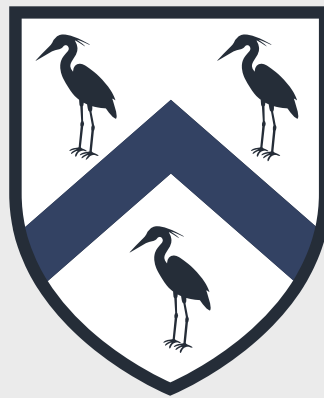
Everyone – boarders, day boys, staff and parents – loved her. She had changed the image of the School Matron for ever.

John Weitzel





Oliver Roberts Abney Year 13



LOUGHBURIAN

2019 - 2020

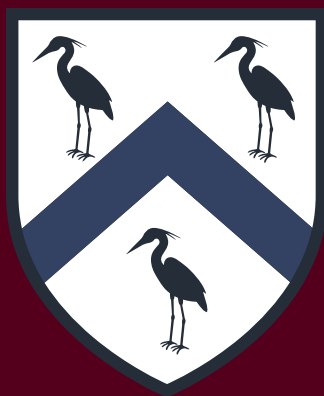
THANK YOU!

Thank you to all the teachers, staff and most importantly,
the students, for their reports, photos and stories.

We look forward to the next issue, 2020 - 2021.



Pg. 84, Lions and Tigers on Tour



LOUGHBURIAN
2019 - 2020