

HOCKERILLNEWS

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SIXTH SENSE



Welcome to a special edition of 'Hockerill News' which focuses attention on the life of the Sixth Form. Attempting to capture in brief the events and news for this area of the College is a Herculean task, and what follows can only be a snapshot and a flavour of the rich diversity of life enjoyed by our Sixth Form students. Further coverage is available via the College Twitter feed (@HockerillCol) or via the news section of the college website (www.hockerill.com).

What stands out for me is the range of opportunities which are available to Hockerill Sixth Form students. The College aims to provide students with a chance to discover new talents and build upon existing achievements both inside and beyond the classroom. The snapshots in the following pages show just how varied the diet on offer is and I hope you enjoy this quick tour of College life.

Richard Markham, Principal

This newsletter reflects some aspects of every Sixth Formers journey through the IB Diploma. It illustrates the passion, enthusiasm and commitment of Hockerill Sixth Form students for their learning and contribution to our community. We are immensely proud of each and every one of our students and they leave Hockerill as well rounded, principled, mature, thoughtful young adults with the world at their feet.



Dave Letten & Steve Clark, Heads of Sixth Form



ACADEMIC

University / Oxbridge Applications

Hockerill Year 13 students who wish to go to university later this year have now completed their applications to UK universities. This process is coordinated by UCAS (Universities and Colleges and Admissions Services) and students are allowed to apply for up to five different courses.

Once students have filled in their on-line form, complete with a personal statement, the College supports their application with a reference which is carefully crafted by the key staff which includes subject experts and the mentors. Ms Barker coordinates and writes the Oxbridge references and Mr Tollervey and Mr Snell coordinate and write the medical and dental references. Once finished, references are checked by Mr Roberts and then the students face an anxious time waiting for the offers to come through.

Students then choose the offer they would like to accept (firm choice) and, if they want to, an insurance choice. We wish all Diploma Graduands the best of luck for their results, which they will receive on 6th July.

99%
pass rate
(80% world average)

36
point
average
(30 point world average)

517
average
UCAS points
(420 = 3 A* grades at A level)

93%
of graduates
achieved their
1st choice
University





SIXTH FORM INDUCTION

This year's Induction Day takes place on 23rd June. All prospective Year 12 students are looking forward to this exciting day out. After a short presentation, on the life and standards expected in Hockerill Sixth Form, we will depart for Thetford Forest where the students and staff will put themselves through the vertical challenge of 'Go Ape'. They will also have the opportunity to use their strategic skills on the 'Battlefield Live'. There are also additional activities like Segway and bike rides through the forest. A barbecue lunch and refreshments will be provided.



At the very start of the academic year in September all Year 12 students have a College Induction Day and along with a number of team building activities and form group activities the students have an opportunity to get to know their fellow students and familiarise themselves with the College surroundings.



CREATIVITY, ACTIVITY & SERVICE

All IB students must complete a CAS programme - Creativity, Activity & Service - part of the essential core of the IB Diploma. Hockerill Sixth Formers engage with CAS each Wednesday afternoon as well as undertaking activities during evenings and vacations. The Wednesday afternoon sessions permit Sixth Form students to participate in team sports, engage in Art, Music or Drama, or be of Service to others through help in Charity shops or assisting in Primary schools. The extensive after College Club programme like MUN and Interact form the bedrock for many students' CAS programmes along with the Wednesday afternoon activity. The College also organises a number of summer trips including Conservation research in Samos, assisting on a teaching farm in Uganda and producing plays in India. Other students organise their own summer CAS activity and every year someone tells of volunteering in wild and underprivileged parts of the world.



EVENTS

There are a number of events throughout the year. Two of the most popular events are the Masquerade Ball and the Leavers' Ball

The Masquerade Ball is organised by the Sixth Form Prefect Leadership Team and takes place at the end of the first half term of the academic year. The event includes a three course meal, welcome drinks, a glass of wine, live music entertainment and dance and is a wonderful opportunity to get to know your fellow Sixth Form students.

This year's Leavers' Ball will take place on the 22nd June. The event will be held at Parklands, Quendon Hall. Mrs Lee and the Leavers' Ball Committee have been working hard to ensure that this evening will be a wonderful opportunity for Year 13 students and staff to celebrate the end of the Academic Year.



PREFECTS

All Sixth Form students are expected to be excellent role models for the College and during their time in the Sixth Form they are given many opportunities to take on positions of responsibility.

Sixth Form Prefects are appointed at the end of the first academic term in Year 12 when we also appoint our Prefect Leadership Team.

College Prefects are given added responsibilities and are involved in the smooth running of the College.



CLUBS & ACTIVITIES

Model United Nations

Every Tuesday at 1655hrs, there is a long line of Sixth Formers waiting excitedly for MUN to start. A student run and led club, they debate international issues in a formal way creating resolutions and amendments to resolve conflict, disputes and issues of Human Rights, just like their counterparts in the real United Nations do. In fact, sometimes the quality of debate in MUN is superior to the real thing.

With a formal leadership group led by a president, the College team enter debate competitions with other schools, both locally nationally and internationally. The Bath MUN conference, one of the largest international MUN conferences is regularly attended by a large Hockerill team. 20 students went to Bath in March and they came away with a clutch of commendations: Highly Commended were Jacob Grunberger, Milly Lynch, Noah Lawson, Chris McKinnon, Silvia Tauro and Celestya Riva. It wasn't all about the debate though: Bath is a fantastic city and the students had chance to tour the sights and visit the famous Pump Room. Ms Davids organised the trip which was accompanied by Dr Letten, Mrs Green and Mr Clark.



Interact

Mrs Lee (see Meet the Team, opposite) has a key role helping the Sixth Formers with Interact, another Sixth Form Club which is largely student led. Affiliated to the Rotary Club students develop their leadership skills through fund raising and event organisation. The Leadership Team is elected annually and this group is responsible for running the vast range of activities. This year's activities have included a Year 7 Freshers Disco (raising funds for Thirst), a Year 7/8 Social (supporting Make a Wish Foundation), a Valentines Auction (for Cystic Fibrosis), Kisses for Sale (supporting Cardiac Arrest in the Young) and Interact Live (supporting CazFest). The students also helped local families by packing bags in Waitrose as part of the Bishop's Stortford Rotary Christmas Collection. In total funds raised by Hockerill Interact are generally around £5000 per year – a significant sum for a College team. Well done to this year's President, Kristie To and all her team. Mrs Lee says 'they have been absolutely fabulous'.



Young Enterprise

Ark Enterprise were one of three Young Enterprise teams at Hockerill this year. Over 50 Year 12 students took part in the year long process. Our largest number yet. Ark were awarded best company report and best company at the East Hertfordshire final in March and won a place at the Hertfordshire final on Wednesday 27th April at the University of Hertfordshire. The students had to meet the judges at their trade stands and then present a four minute talk in the Weston Auditorium to a large and varied audience. The team did very well and were awarded a trophy for problem solving as they raised over £1000 for charity without the help of a business advisor. Students have learnt many skills from the process including teamwork, resilience and sales skills.

Equipe Activities

As well as the performing arts competition the equipes compete in a wide variety of activities throughout the year. Many are sports teams with hot competition in netball, rugby, football, rounders and hockey.



Art / Music / Drama – Equipe Performing Arts Competition

Much of the Sixth Form engagement with the Arts has been focused this year through the Equipe Performing Arts activity. This has brought together students from Art – painting the sets for each play, Music – choosing and playing the sound tracks, and Drama – producing, directing, acting and singing in the plays. The Equipe competition generated intense rivalry and four very different and creative approaches to each of the plays. The evening performances were played to packed houses and the judges had the most unenviable task of selecting a winner from the four winners on stage each evening. Our Year 12 students took the lead role in all aspects of their productions and enabled one of the most collaborative events across multiple disciplines in recent years.



MEET THE TEAM

Did you know that the Sixth Form has its own dedicated administrator? Mrs Lee is the heartbeat of the team of tutors and mentors ably led by Mr Clark (Director of Sixth Form) and Dr Letten (Assistant Head of Sixth Form). These three work closely with Mr Roberts, Assistant Head and IB Coordinator, to ensure that all Sixth Formers are looked after.

Nothing is too much trouble for Mrs Lee who keeps the Sixth Form Centre running with impeccable organisational skills and a cheery South African smile. Without her, the Centre would certainly be a duller place.



SUMMER TRIPS

The college runs three Year 12 summer trips: India, Uganda and Greece. About 24 students go on each trip and their experiences are incredibly varied. The trip to India is an opportunity for our students to work with the Kings School in Tamil Nadu. This year they will be producing the sixth Hockerill musical, Peter Pan. Kira Farm, just outside Kampala welcomes our students who work closely with the Amigos charity and the Ugandan students who are re-building their lives. The third trip is a bio-diversity expedition to Samos where the students take part in Operation Wallacea. The activities and exposure to different cultures have a profound effect on the participants and many reflect on their time as a life changing experience.





SPORT

Hockerill has a very good reputation in terms of its sporting achievements and all students are encouraged to be fully involved in the sporting activities. Fixtures are scheduled for rugby, football, basketball, netball and hockey and there are also many other sporting clubs and activities.

