

# HOCKERILLNEWS

OCTOBER 2017 | ISSUE 40

WWW.HOCKERILL.COM

## Principal's message

Richard Markham



Welcome to our latest edition of the College newsletter. As ever, this has been an incredibly busy term and I hope that you find the following items a suitable 'nudge' for the memory of what has gone on at the College since September.

I would particularly like to draw your attention to the news update on former student Gerard Murphy who suffered a life-changing injury over the summer. I am incredibly proud of the response from former students and staff to this, and would like to publicly thank the many individuals who have taken the time to put themselves forward to offer help and support to Gerard. Gerard is very much at the forefront of our thoughts and I will be updating the College community of our activities to offer our support over the coming weeks. The first of these events is a Bake Sale on Monday 13th November.

Further details will follow after half-term.

In my Sixth Form Assembly this week I spoke to the students about 'Gratitude' and set them the challenge of keeping a 'gratitude diary' for the week as a means of encouraging a positive outlook and to add another piece to the 'toolkit' of skills we are hopefully providing them with in respect of their wellbeing and mindfulness. Acting selflessly and seeing the gratitude of others is within our power and I am so proud that our Hockerill students seem so adept at demonstrating this without prompting or fanfare.

I hope that you have a wonderful half-term break and look forward to seeing you all at upcoming College events.

## Just Giving page set up for former student

Gerard Murphy (22) was a former Deputy Head Boy and Boarding student at Hockerill who went on to study Geography and Arabic at the University of Exeter. Gerard had just spent a year in Canada and was due to return to Exeter to complete his degree in September. However, after suffering an accident whilst working in Sweden tutoring IB students this summer, Gerard is now facing life with C5 tetraplegia and is currently in Stoke Mandeville continuing his rehabilitation. Friends and family have set up a Just Giving page in order to raise the funds that will be needed to help him lead as independent and fulfilling a life as possible. It can be found at <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/we-love-gerard-murphy> and everyone at Hockerill wishes Gerard all the best as his recovery continues.



## Oracy at Hockerill Anglo-European College

Shamiela Davids, Director of Innovation

The development of conscious speaking and active listening continues to be one of the projects being undertaken by the CAMSTAR research group under the auspices of Cambridge University. A number of teachers are working with their classes to develop and assess frameworks for dialogue. The feedback from a number of students has been extremely positive especially in the developing their confidence, enriching content and sharpening their critical skills.

### NOTICES

**Sunday 5th November**

Boarders' return to College

**Monday 6th November**

Term recommences

**Saturday 18th November**

Sixth Form Open Morning

**Thursday 23rd November**

Year 11 Parent Consultation

Evening

**Thursday 30th November**

Year 12 Parent Consultation

Evening

**Thursday 7th December**

Christmas Show

**Friday 8th December**

Christmas Show

**Saturday 9th December**

Overseas Boarders' Parental

Consultation Day

(College closed to Day students)

**Sunday 10th December**

Christmas Market

**Tuesday 12th December**

Year 13 Parent Consultation

Evening

**Thursday 14th December**

Student Christmas Lunch

Carol Service, All Saints Church

(1900hrs)

**Friday 15th December**

End of Term (students depart at

1240hrs)

### HOW TO CONTACT US

By Post

Hockerill Anglo-European College

Dunmow Road

Bishop's Stortford

Hertfordshire

CM23 5HX

By Email

[admin@hockerill.com](mailto:admin@hockerill.com)

By Telephone

+44 (0) 1279 658451

By fax

+44 (0) 1279 755918

Twitter

@HockerillColl

# Message from the Joint Chairs of Governors

Rachel Lawson & Judith Braeckman

It is an exciting and rewarding time to be Chair of Governors at Hockerill. It's also a busy time, so it has been useful to have our combined brains on the job! To uphold the academic standards of the College is one of our overarching responsibilities as a Governing Body, so we are incredibly proud of the students and staff in achieving stellar results at IB and GCSE. Another key focus of our work is to set the strategic direction of the College. You will recall that, last year, we engaged with the whole Hockerill community – students, parents, staff and governors – to articulate our 3-year strategic plan. We are delighted to be able to provide you with an update on progress made against the strategic priorities.

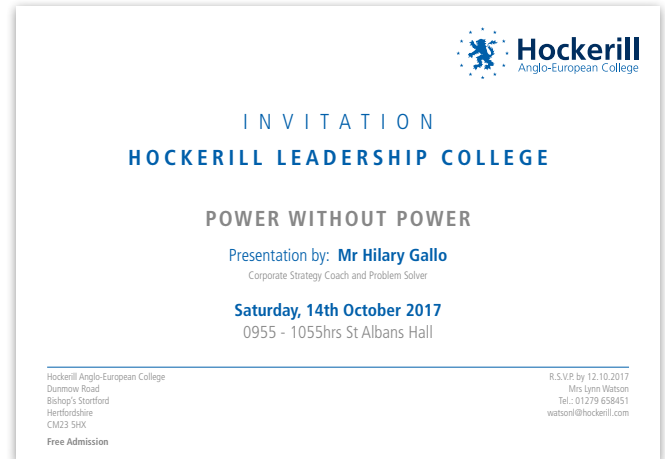
[http://www.hockerill.com/uploads/asset\\_file/3\\_694\\_strategicupdate1.pdf](http://www.hockerill.com/uploads/asset_file/3_694_strategicupdate1.pdf)

Highlights include progress on the development of the College site, with planning permission being submitted for both a new science block and a new sports hall. We hope to deliver at least one of these projects by the Spring term of 2019. Our third area of statutory responsibility is to guarantee the financial probity and stability of the College. Financially, the College is run extremely well under the Principal's stewardship, supported by Mark Aldridge as Financial Controller and a very well-run Premises team, often completing work in house to cut costs. It is, in large part, thanks to their prudence that we can contemplate such large-scale developments of the College site. That said, we need to engage you in our site development mission! These buildings are expensive and have increased associated maintenance costs. We urgently need to raise over £400,000 over the next 3 years. Any ideas, resources, networks, grants, funding streams – however slim an opportunity – you can share with us, the more likely we will be able to assemble the desired funds. Please get in touch with Governors or the College if you can assist us.... Great opportunities lie ahead to unlock the full site potential, ultimately to the advantage of every faculty, if we can increase and keep the funding streams rolling in. Once again, please get involved.

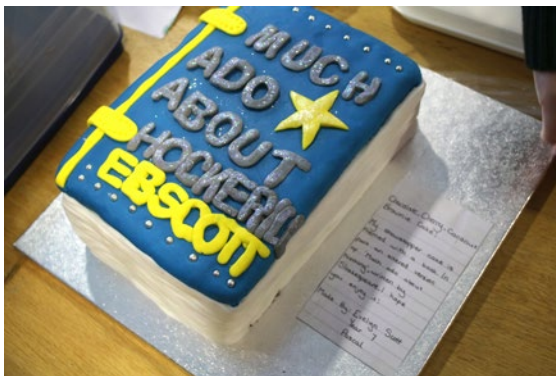
# Hockerill Leadership College

Shamiela Davids

On Saturday morning, we were delighted to have Mr Hilary Gallo addressing Year 12 students, staff, governors and guests with a very thoughtful presentation on different models of leadership. The event commenced at 11 am and was exceptionally well attended by a number of school leaders who took the opportunity to tap into Mr Gallo's experience, starting a very rich conversation which continued beyond midday!



# Hockerill Great "Anglo-European" Bake Off





## Young Enterprise

Alison McCulloch, Young Enterprise Centre Lead



Hockerill has two Young Enterprise teams this academic year.

Gentium, led by Managing Director Jasmine Blackham are currently developing a prototype for a bottle stand that holds wine glasses. They are supported by Mr Whiteley and their business advisor Gladys Street. Last week they held a 6th form fund raising event on Friday 13th of October where they showed a horror film in the 6th form centre. They raised £60 towards starting their business at this successful event.

Aggregate&Co., led by Managing Director Ella Pickering are currently developing a range of concrete products to sell using recycled cups as a mould. So far, they have developed candle holders, pen pots and plant pots. They also organised a fund raising event on Saturday where the Hockerill Bake Off raised £280 to put towards developing products.

Both teams are now working towards their first Christmas trade fair at Ware and Hockerill Christmas Fair. All proceeds will be given to charity in the end as the students claim CAS hours for their endeavours.

Thibault Goyvaerts and I were invited to present at a local Rotary group about the benefits of Young Enterprise. Thibault was Managing Director last academic year and is now using his experience of the process to support his applications to study Business at university and to apply for Higher Degree Apprenticeships.

## Capital Development

Richard Markham

Since I last wrote to you a great deal of progress has been made with respect to the College's exciting plans for the development of the teaching and learning facilities.

### Science

The Science Block went to the Planning Committee on Wednesday 8th October and I am delighted to inform you that the Committee spoke very positively about the scheme and that permission was granted subject to the resolution of a question regarding the technical design of the waste water dispersement.

### Sports Hall

The Sports Hall is now scheduled to go before the Planning Committee on Tuesday 8th November and I very much hope that in our next newsletter I will be able to update you on progress with this element of the overall project.

### Development Fund

Looking forward, it is imperative that the College raises over £400,000 during the next 3 years to allow the completion of the Sports Hall and Science Block and to begin the redevelopment of areas of the College vacated when these facilities are fully open. Some parents already give generously to the Development Fund but please can I ask that you consider whether you would be able to make a monthly contribution to get the College closer to its fund-raising total.

Information regarding the fund can be accessed by following the link below:

[Hockerill Development Fund](#)



## Wicked Music Trip

Marjana Morrison

Our GCSE Music students had the opportunity to see a live performance of Wicked at the Apollo Theatre in London on 5th October. This trip was closely connected to the Area of Study 3: Music for Film and Stage. Our Year 11 students have just finished studying and analysing Defying Gravity and Year 10 students will have an opportunity to work on this piece in November and December.

Seeing the live performance was a valuable experience allowing the students to create meaningful contextual connections and broaden their knowledge, not to mention enjoy the fantastic quality of singing, acting and truly brilliant set! There were a few tears of pure joy after an outstanding performance of Defying Gravity.

We are glad that the trip was a great success and, apart from overloading on McDonalds and bags of sweets, we hope the students will treasure the memory of imaginative characters, intriguing plot and show-stopping tunes!





## Superb Summer of Examination Results

Hockerill Sixth Form students celebrated a phenomenal set of results in the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme, with the College achieving the joint highest results in its history. The official statistics produced by the International Baccalaureate show that Hockerill students achieved an average of 36 points. Richard Markham, Principal was delighted with the results, "I am incredibly proud of the achievements of our students and delighted with the exceptional performances that have been shown by this year's leavers."

Noah Lawson, Head Boy, and Joshua Vitzthum both achieved the maximum 45 points (the equivalent of 5 A\* grades at A level), a score achieved by only 218 students worldwide out of almost 160,000 IB students in total, 21% of Hockerill students scored 40 points or more, a fantastic achievement.

Of those applying to University through UCAS, 98% have received the good news that they have been awarded their chosen institution with 77% of these being to a Russell Group University and five students have had places confirmed at either Oxford or Cambridge.

Students will be going on to study in a range of areas including Medicine, Law, Politics, Languages, Economics, Engineering, Architecture, Music, Dentistry, Design, Business, Natural Sciences, Psychology, History, Philosophy, International Relations, Computer Science, Performance and Anthropology.

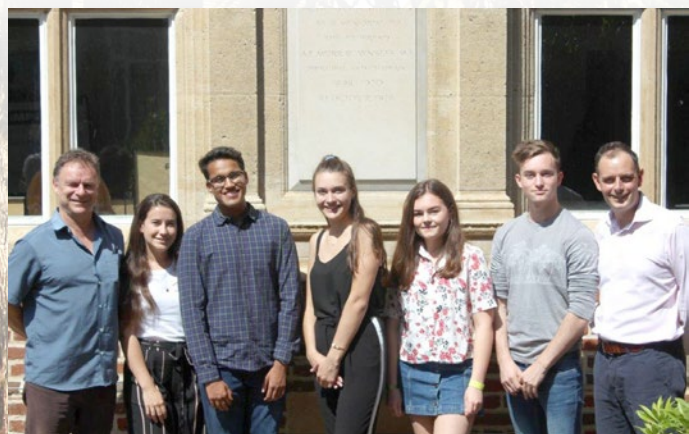
Mr Markham said, "The IB Diploma is without doubt one of the most rigorous and demanding qualifications available to students, and the College is absolutely delighted that the Class of 2017 has risen to the challenges posed and achieved such impressive results." Steve Clark, Director of Sixth Form added his own praise to the students for their effort and reflected that, "These results are a fitting reward for the time and effort expended by students and staff over the past two years."

The exceptional IB results were followed in August by a highly impressive set of GCSE results. The standard achieved by Hockerill students was significantly above the national average and places the College in an elite group of schools nationally. This is particularly heartening given the uncertainty surrounding GCSEs which has received considerable coverage in the national press.

This year's students are the first cohort to receive new grades in English and Mathematics, with Grade 9 – 1 replacing the model of A\* - G. Mr Gareth Roberts, Vice Principal (Curriculum) reflected:

"That results in these subjects was so strong is a testament to the hard work, application and adaptability of the staff and students. Hockerill students have significantly exceeded the national average in these subjects and results are record breaking."

The College's top performer was Eleanor Ivey who scored the highest possible grades in all examinations taken, with an absolutely outstanding score of three Grade 9s and seven A\*s, but our congratulations go to all Hockerill students: we are incredibly proud of all of their grades.





# Max selected for England Boys U18 Golf Squad 2017-18

Peter Hopkins

As a result of an excellent golfing year in 2017, building on a great end to 2016, during which he broke the Junior Course Record at Bishop's Stortford shooting 6 under par 65 in the Junior Open aged just 13, Max has been selected for the 10 boy U18 England Golf Squad at the age of 14, being one of the youngest members of the squad.

He has played really well all year and highlights include:-

In May he won the USKidsGolf European 14 Year Old Boys Championship at Luffness New in Scotland shooting rounds of 66, 69, 69 for a 12 under par total.

In July he won the Faldo Series South of England U16 section at Old Fold Manor and has qualified for the series Grand Final. This brings winners from around the world to the UAE in November and the overall winner (u21,u18 and u16 boys are included in this) wins a guaranteed start in a European PGA Tour event in 2018.

A week later he finished as the top English boy when he was 7th in the u16 Scottish Open at Fairmont St Andrews.

This was followed by finishing second in the McGregor Trophy (the u16 English Open) a week later at Burnham and Berrow in Somerset. This competition had 13 National Teams as well as individual entrants taking part and he was only 1 shot from winning. He was again the top English Boy and won the prestigious U15 Jean Case Salver.

He won the Hertfordshire Boys Championship (u18) at Berkhamsted at the end of July by 6 shots in the process successfully defending his u16 title from 2016 and following in the footsteps of Sir Nick Faldo. He shot 5 under par in the first round and this round has earned him a place at the Daily Telegraph Junior Championship at the start of November in Portugal – the competition recognises the best gross scores in Junior competitions relative to Standard Scratch throughout the UK and is a very important event that is covered and sponsored by Sky Sports. He was in yesterday's Daily Telegraph and I am sure that there is more coverage to follow as the field is really impressive.

His form continued as he played in the British Boys Championship at Nairn and Nairn Dunbar, near Inverness. This is for the best u18 golfers in Britain and Europe and 2 qualifying rounds of strokeplay are followed by KO golf for the top 64 out of a field of 258 (you had to have a handicap of plus 0.2 just to get in!). He successfully made the cut and made the last 32. This is in my view was best achievement in the summer.

The week after this he finished 3rd in the North of England u16 Boys Championship at Pannal, nr Harrogate, again finishing under par for his 4 rounds.

His handicap is now plus 1 and his good form continues still and being selected by England is his undoubted and thoroughly deserved reward.



## Hockerill Equestrian

Natalie Pierrejean

There have been two equestrian events entered by Hockerill students organised by the National Schools Equestrian Association this term. In the first fortnight of the academic year, Alice Somerville (12B2) and Estelle Pierrejean (9B) travelled to Keysoe Equestrian Centre in Bedfordshire to compete in the hotly contested Arena Eventing Championships. There were over 90 competitors from 28 different schools in the region in the two classes they had entered. Arena Eventing is a mixed discipline which comprises of half a course of show jumps followed by half a course of cross country style fences both set within an outdoor arena. They are judged not only on clearing the fences in a set time but are also awarded additional points for 'jumping with style'. Alice and her ever-improving young horse Jasper finished in 27th place in the 90-95cm class and 23rd in the 1m-1.05 section. Estelle on her new pony Ozzie was 35th in 90-95cm class and 17th in the 1m-1.05 section.

At the end of September, Kitty Haslam (12B1) and Estelle visited the Forest Edge Arena near Swaffham to compete in the National Schools Show Jumping Qualifier. Kitty on her trusted Gwynfaes Hedwanwr just missed out on the placings with an unlucky 7th in the 90-95cm class with a fine clear round with Estelle and Ozzie notching up an unfortunate 4 faults. In the 1m-1.05 class, Estelle and Ozzie finished in 13th spot.

The Hockerill Equestrian team are looking forward to future events to enter for the remainder of the year.



# Get on Board Event

Natalie Pierrejean

On Friday 13th October, the College held an open evening for nearly 40 prospective residential boarders. There was a lot of excitement as the new faces of Year 6 potential applicants made their way to the College Chapel to be greeted by existing boarders in Year 8 and 10. They were shown round the prep groups, explored either Winchester or Canterbury Junior Boarding Houses and then had the chance to socialise and get to know other hopeful boarders whilst playing table-tennis and basketball in the College Gym. At the same time, the prospective parents were given a presentation about boarding and life at Hockerill. This was an important evening to give the Year 6's an insight in to what boarding life is all about and to help them make their minds up before the application deadline of 31st October. There is a new boarding category of Flexi-Boarding as well as the usual Weekly and Full Boarding from September 2018 and there already is an indication that the College will be inundated with applications. All residential including Flexi applicants will be invited in for a Boarding Suitability Interview in November and the successful families will finally receive their long awaited news on 1st March 2018.

There is a similar Sixth Form 'On Board and Beyond' invitation evening for potential Year 12 Boarders on Friday 17th November. This is staged the eve before the annual Sixth Form Open Morning and so allows for possible longer distance and overseas applicants to attend both events. Boarding applications for this age group will then need to be received by Friday 15th December.

## Hockerill Parents and Friends – highlights of the first half term

Ina Gallo, Chair HPF

Writing this for the end of the first half term feels rather incredible. It has been quite a busy period, welcoming our new parents at a couple of events: firstly, we had a good turnout at the first HPF meeting of the academic year with lots of new people attending across all age groups. I'd like to again warmly welcome everyone. On the 30th of September we organised an event for all new parents, which at short notice got moved and morphed into an evening in Bishop's Stortford's Baroosh. It was great to see some parents of year 7 students turn up unexpectedly, have the heads of year 7 and year 10 joining in and see the event come together. A huge thank you to our Year 7 rep Katie Geiser (Fraser) for setting it up!

Looking forward, there are a number of dates to note: first of all, on Saturday, 11 November the next HPF coffee morning is taking place at the Nag's Head, Dunmow Road. On Thursday 16 November, HPF is holding its Annual General Meeting, with opportunities to get involved as a charity trustee because the term for both, the chair and secretary are coming to an end. If you are interested in getting involved in HPF a bit more and in a more formal way, this is a chance to do so. For more information or to express an interest in either position please email [hpf@hockerill.com](mailto:hpf@hockerill.com). And finally, although it is just the middle of October, the Christmas Market on Sunday 10th December. Behind the scenes the preparations for this annual event are in full swing, you can still get involved if you are interested – find out in what way, informally, either at the coffee morning or at the meeting on 16th November. Oh, and did I say: there will be cheese and wine at the AGM on 16th November, the meeting starts at 1930 hrs in the Sixth Form Centre with refreshments available throughout the meeting.

## CASE: Creativity, Activity, Service, Enrichment

Shamiela Davids, Director of Innovation

This half term has seen the launch of a genuinely innovative development in the curriculum. All Year 10 students have begun the carousel of Music, Mindfulness, Cultural Studies, Drama, Food, Ethics and ICT. In the three periods a cycle dedicated to CASE students have looked in depth at the social and personal issues connected with each of the topics. In addition, they have had several varied opportunities to reflect upon the skills acquired through these sessions. The cohort has also been introduced to the Service component of the course and they are looking forward to bringing their plans to respond to an authentic need to fruition in the near future.



## Parents' Reading Group

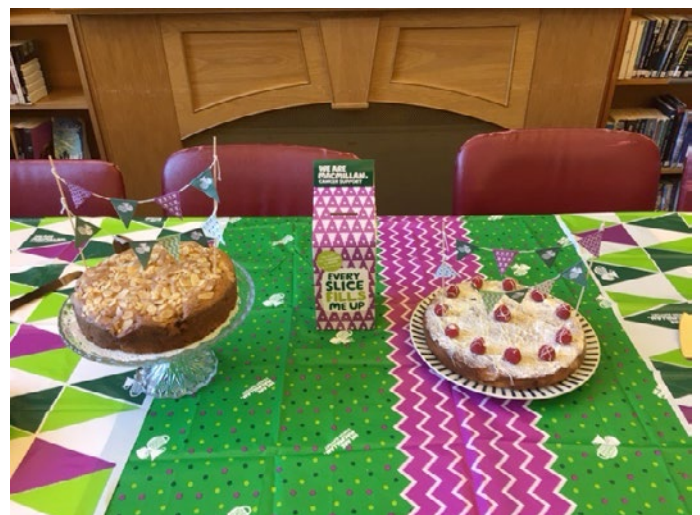
Julie Ballard, College Librarian

On Saturday 30th September, we started the new academic year for our Parents' Reading Group with a MacMillan Coffee morning. Some of our loyal members and a scattering of new faces chatted over coffee and an array of cakes and biscuits whilst taking part in fundraising games, buying books and entering the raffle. Along with further bookselling to staff we raised an incredible £311 for this worthwhile cause. Thank you to everyone who contributed.

It was good to see some new faces but unfortunately we do not have enough spaces for everyone who is interested in joining our book group. We now have a waiting list as we don't want to make the group too big and as we source the books from Essex Libraries we are restricted to the number of copies available.

Our group meets once a month on a Saturday morning and our current book is Skios by Michael Frayn which was longlisted for the Man Booker Prize in 2012.

For further details about our reading group please email [Library@hockerill.com](mailto:Library@hockerill.com)





# PE Department News

Jennifer Perry

## ESAA Cross County

We took 4 teams to a recent English Schools Athletics Association First Round of the Cross Country Cup, the inter boys finished 4th in their team race, with notable performances from Ibrahima Diallo and Ben Sloan.

Other notable performances came from Tom Fox who came 11th, running for the junior boys and Hallie Copping Jones running for the inter girls.

## Year 7 girls hockey

It has been a difficult start to the year for the Year 7 Hockey team, the year group has rallied together, and improved immensely in such a short period of time.

The first fixtures of the year saw the A team drawing and the B team losing to Leventhorpe. This is a stark difference to the victory against Herts and Essex in the last week of the half term. Lead by Captain Eve Fraser the A team managed to spend the whole game in the opposition D, but without a goal, it looked like a draw was once again the most likely result. Thankfully a goal was snatched in the last second of the game to secure victory. Notable performances from Isabel Sharp, tirelessly running up and down the wing, and Anahi Gamboa bravely steeping up to play in goal.

Work has been put into developing a team attitude, with passing being the core to the side. This is evident, with the girls now looking to pass the ball, rather than run. All of the girls have shown tremendous maturity with both the way they conduct themselves on the pitch, as well as off it, often helping with organising the teams for matches.

Overall the first half of term has proved very successful, despite the interrupted training routine, hopefully the girls will continue to improve next half of term as we prepare for the District tournament."

## Hockey National competitions

So far this term we have taken all our girls hockey teams to play in the Nationals competitions. These have taken place at Oaklands campus in St Albans, and the students have played against some excellent hockey schools including Haileybury and Bishop Stortford College. All have played extremely well with many wins, some draws and a few losses. Notable performances go to Isabelle (u13), Emily (u13), Imogen (u14), Faye (u18).

## Upcoming events

Monday 6th November: year 8 hockey district (Hockerill hosting)

Wednesday 8th November: year 7 hockey district (Hockerill hosting)

Thursday 16th November: u14s hockey district (Hockerill hosting)

Tuesday 14th November: District cross country (Grange Paddocks)



Cross Country



U15 Hockey



U16 Hockey



U18 Hockey





# Casino Royale

Angeline Lee

The Sixth Form Students thoroughly enjoyed a fantastic Autumn Ball, with a 007 Casino Royale theme, organised by the Sixth Form Prefect Leadership Team. The evening was a huge success and they enjoyed the food, company and had fun spending their "Hockerill Dollars" at the Casino and dancing the night away.



## Drama department update

Natalie Day

This term has offered our GCSE and IB level students the opportunity to watch two contrasting professional performances and to take part in a performance masterclass, developing their understanding of performance and how it is made.

On 02/10/17 we saw Metamorphosis by Splendid Productions, allowing us to consider how theatre companies take and adapt well known texts and present them in a new way and then on 17/10/17 we saw Frantic Assembly's 5\* awarded show recommended as "An intricate, inventive study of family life. Genuinely beautiful." by The Evening Standard. Blending physical theatre and movement work with a poignant story to allow our students to consider the importance of theatrical style to create an impact on the audience.

Our IB Theatre and Social Anthropology students also had the chance to work with The Kala Chethena Kathakali Company and participate in an acting masterclass with Kathakali actor, Kalamandalam Vijayakumar to bring the remarkable art and culture of Kathakali to the life in the UK. Our GCSE and IB students were then able to watch a full company performance and consider how the use of movement gesture, music, dance and costume come together to tell a story.



## Year 12 Summer Trips

This summer 3 year 12 groups had the opportunity to take part in trips where they learnt new skills, saw parts of the world they might not otherwise, made memories that will last a lifetime and had a huge amount of fun. It was also a chance for the students to visit places and work with people who do not have the advantages they have living in Bishop's Stortford.

The first trip went to India and was about supporting a school for orphans in Tamil Nadu. The students contribute between £5000 and £7500 to the work of the school. The India trip was for two and a half weeks with a two day tourist experience in Mumbai and then two weeks at the school - the Kings School - where our students taught various age groups and also lead the Year 7 students in putting on a musical for the whole school - this year it was Alice in Wonderland. Some students also undertook their social anthropology fieldwork while in India

We also sent a group to Kira Farm, a vocational training centre in Uganda run by the charity Amigos. They worked with around 40 disadvantaged young people, mostly orphans who have lost their parents either in conflict or to HIV/AIDS. They supported them in their classes, worked with them on the farm, and assisted them as they worked in the local community on a range of development projects. They also got to spend time with the four children that Hockerill sponsors. It wasn't all work and no play though as they also travelled across Uganda, experiencing all the positives the country has to offer including a game drive, Nile safari and white-water rafting.

Finally there was a scientific research group who headed to Croatia to work with Operation Wallacea in Krka National Park learning field study skills such as small mammal trapping, fish and reptile surveys, cave biology surveys, bird and butterfly trapping and identification, classification of indigenous species and infra-red camera setting to capture nocturnal animals including indigenous snakes and lizards. They then travelled to Mljet Island to complete their PADI Open Water scuba diving qualification before undertaking marine ecology research.

All three trips proved hugely successful, with some of the students describing their experience as life changing. The College is hugely grateful to the staff who make these trips possible and is already planning repeat trips for summer 2018.





# Canada Rugby Tour 2017

Will Conolly

At 06:00 on Wednesday 5th July 43 students and 6 members of staff departed for the College's second trans-Atlantic boys Rugby Tour. During the two week tour of Eastern Canada the two teams played four matches each, against Canadian opposition. Hockerill students were provided with excellent hospitality by Canadian families in Ottawa allowing them to develop lifelong friendships, I believe some of the boys are already organising return trips for their Canadian counterparts! We played eight matches, winning five and drawing one, improving throughout and providing our students with the opportunities to develop their skills and rugby knowledge. In addition, the tourists were able to recover through an extensive programme of recreational activities including watching baseball and rugby league games and a trip to Niagara Falls. Character was tested during grade 5 white water rafting on the Ottawa River. The student's heads for heights were challenged on a high ropes course in Ganaraska and at Canada's largest theme park. The tourists also enjoyed a cycle tour of Toronto and a visit to Calypso Waterpark in Ottawa. The tour was a complete success and has contributed to the international culture at the College. Finally, I would like to thank the students, parents and particularly the staff for their enormous contribution to the success of this tour, the support received was greatly appreciated especially during the fundraising efforts in the lead up to the tour.



## CCF Biennial Inspection 17th October 2017

Nicola Ashlee-McCrae, Captain, Contingent Commander of Hockerill College CCF

On Tuesday 17th October we had our CCF Biennial Inspection. This year it was an inspection by the RAF and we had the pleasure of welcoming Wing Commander Martin Larwood-Hughes to Hockerill. Wing Commander Larwood-Hughes is Head of the Combined Cadet Force (RAF) at Royal Air Force Air Cadets and has been in post for about 6 months. He is responsible for the delivery of the cadet experience across over 200 schools throughout the UK.

Since our last inspection in 2015, we have continued to grow and develop as a CCF and this inspection was the first chance our new cadets had to show off their newly acquired skills. For our more experienced cadets it provided a great opportunity for them to show off more advanced skills learnt on weekends and camps. The CCF staff had planned a full afternoon of activities from living in the field demonstrations, aircraft recognition lessons and a casualty evacuation under fire. Parents were invited to attend along with the college governors and other military personal and guests enjoyed a cream tea in the summer garden.

Once the full parade and inspection were over the Wing Commander had nothing but praise for all involved. He was extremely impressed by the cadets and their dedication, commitment and enjoyment of the CCF along with that of the time and commitment given by the volunteer staff. I would like to reiterate his comments and thank all the CCF staff for their support of the CCF at Hockerill along with the Principal, Governors and Parents of cadets for allowing their children to participate in such a valuable activity in college.



# Bright Ideas Careers Fair

Anne Winship

On Wednesday 11th October Hockerill held its biennial Careers Fair, this year entitled Bright Ideas, where students from Year 8 upwards got the chance to speak to a host of universities, potential employers and careers advisors to help them make more informed decisions on their futures.

This year the College welcomed 16 universities from as far afield as St Andrews and Exeter, as well as more local advice from, for example, Harlow College and Youth Connexions, giving students information on continuing their education in a variety of ways from apprenticeships to studying at Oxbridge. There were also stands providing advice on taking gap years and studying abroad.

In St Alban's Hall there were 28 stands covering areas of employment from accountancy and finance through medicine and local government to the armed forces and scientific research, and encompassing large international organisations such as BlackRock Investment Managers as well as much smaller businesses. We were also delighted to be supported by so many local companies such as ITVet, The Bishop's Stortford Independent, Tees Law and Weston Homes, and it was particularly nice to welcome back 3 of our alumni to talk about their careers since leaving Hockerill.

We are hugely grateful to all of the 55 exhibitors, including a number of parents, who gave up their time to attend the Careers Fair, it would not be possible without them and we do appreciate it.



## Enrichment Day

Geoff Pollard, MYP Coordinator

The first Michaelmas half-term culminated in the IB Enrichment Day for all our students. It was a really successful day off-timetable and the activities on offer meant that the students were able to collaborate and develop their skills.

Amongst the activities on offer were the Theory of Knowledge Day for Year 13s, the Group 4 Project for Year 12s and a Maths and Science Day for Year 11s.

The Year 7 students showed off their oracy skills with a Model United Nations conference which was ably led by the Year 13 MUN Committee.

Year 8 spent the enrichment day examining human rights. The day began with an introduction to what is a right and where human rights originated from. Students then participated in three workshops on poverty in India (the paper bag simulation), fair trade and education. After a rice lunch, the day culminated with a reflection on what they have experienced and some poetry writing on the subject of freedom.

Group 4 is the Experimental Science element of the IB Diploma and the Group 4 Project is an opportunity for students to work together over an extended period of time without having to worry about moving to the next lesson.

All the students I spoke to had a great time and thanks goes to all the staff who worked tirelessly to put on a super day for the students.

