HOCKERILLNEWS

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Top Ranked Comprehensive School (UK)

The Sunday Times
Guide 2018

Principal's message

Richard Markham



Welcome to another edition of the College newsletter. As this lands in your inboxes we have students embarking on the Ski Trip, students braving the elements on their Duke of Edinburgh expedition and many contemplating an Easter holiday revising for internal and external examinations. As I have said to both year 11 and Year 13 students, and reiterate here, much of the secret to the next few months is attitude. Approaching revision in a structured and planned fashion is important and this will allow students to absorb the information they need.

They do also need to rest and to relax. 'All work and no play' ... this is what we need to avoid. That Year 11 students were included in the Duke of Edinburgh group I think is important because this vividly demonstrates perspective and balance. I hope that

everybody has a good rest and enjoys the Easter break, and yes I do think that revision can be enjoyable, as long as it is in proportion.

We look forward to seeing everybody fit, healthy and raring to go next term.

Sixth Form Prefect Leadership Team

Mrs L Spencer

The Ides of March were not an unlucky time for Hockerill Sixth Form. The day was busy with a final round of interviews for the Sixth Form Prefect Team. After letters of application, vetting by staff and presentations to their entire year group, nine prefects continued the selection process and were interviewed by a panel of Key Stage 3 students, the Sixth form team and then the Principal and Head of Sixth Form. All candidates were impressive young people who have the interests of the school and community at the forefront of



their goals and aspirations. Ideas for projects ranged from mentoring programmes with the younger years to early formal dinners for boarders and day students. We are proud of each of the students and pleased to announce that the following prefects have been elected to positions of leadership:

Jennifer Winship - Senior Prefect Kristian Peters - Senior Prefect Faye Crawford -Deputy Senior Prefect Beth Outhwaite -Deputy Senior Prefect Lincoln Delhomme -Deputy Senior Prefect Eboni Aymer-Jeffery -Deputy Senior Prefect

Governor News

Mrs R Lawson and Dr J Braeckman, Joint Chairs of Governors

Sometimes change happens imperceptibly, but well planned, clearly structured change can have the most effective and invigorating impact. At the weekend Sally Havers, who led the Governing Body as Chair of Governors for 5 years, a governor for two terms, completed her final meeting, leaving the Governing Body fortified by her major contribution to its work on all fronts. We are also sad to be saying goodbye to Sabine Craston who is retiring from the

Governing Body after 20 years of unstinting support. Her link governor role in boarding is to be passed on to Jonathan Williams, who moved to the position of partnership governor, in a Governing Body reshuffle ensuring all candidates who put themselves forward for Parent Governor election could join or stay on the Board. The 3 parent governor posts were filled by Simon Hutley. Rebecca Williams and Branimir Radukic (re-elected and vital to the oversight of the new builds).

Dr Tareq Abouharb and Dr Judith Braeckman moved from the posts of parent governor to community governor and.... yes... there is more ... Marie Roberts (HPF Chair, Capital Steering Project Fundraising Campaign Bids and Grant finder) joined the board as a community governor, with Simon Waring also being re-elected to this post.

Words cannot express our debt andgratitude to Sally Havers and Sabine Craston for their contribution. WWW.HOCKERILL.COM

NOTICES

Monday 16th April

Term commences (Week B) Year 10 and Year 12 exams this week

Wednesday 18th April Year 12 UCAS Convention

Thursday 19th April 2000 HPF meeting (Sixth Form Centre)

Friday 20th April Year 11 Boarders' Formal

Saturday 21st April

Charity Quiz Night in aid of Gerard Murphy

Thursday 26th April 1600-1830 Year 12 Parents' Information Evening

(St Albans Hall)

Saturday 28th April
1900 HPF School Disco for parents

Wednesday 9th May

(80s/90s theme)

1830 Freiburg trip Parents' Information evening (Chapel)

Wednesday 16th May 1830 Year 8 Munich trip Parents' Information evening (Chapel)

Friday 25th May

1445 Boarding Parents' Forum (Chapel) Half Term Holiday commences —

Half Term Holiday commences - students depart at 1540

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We are thrilled that, in a term when we gained the final planning permissions for the Science Block and Sports Hall, our board is in such safe hands.

Welcome Marie, Rebecca and Simon! Your formidable skills will be put to good use.

Boarders' Easter Dinner

Mrs C Faiers

The Boarders' Easter Dinner was, once again, a huge success. We were delighted to welcome Charles Kerr as the Guest Speaker for the event. Charles is a former Hockerill Student who is currently in his 3rd year studying BSc Management at the University of Nottingham. In January 2017 he co-founded the not-for-profit social enterprise "People of the Streets CIS" which he runs as Managing Director alongside his studies. There was much anticipation regarding the new House Captains for Thames and Roding and, following a rigorous voting process by staff and students, we were delighted to announce that Georgie Priest and Giorgio Curti would be taking on these prestigious roles next year.

Holroyd Howe once again surpassed themselves with the wonderful three course meal that they prepared and Lewis James, Year 10, provided an incredible musical interlude playing "In Walked Bud" by Thelonious Monk.

The junior boarders once again enjoyed a fish and chip supper in St Albans Hall. Although a less formal affair a wonderful atmosphere was enhanced by the incredible magic from Alan Hudson which truly delighted and enthralled the students. Despite the snow, it really was freezing, the students enjoyed the ice creams from the local Ice Cream Van which was parked outside.

Following the formal procedures the senior boarders and staff joined the juniors for the disco and dodgems. As always at Hockerill, no matter what the weather, the show will go on and fortunately the company running the dodgems were of the same mind. They worked tirelessly to enclose the dodgems to keep out the now and spent the entire night sweeping fresh snow from the roof.







Bugsy Malone

Miss N Day and Mrs V Marsh

From the 1st-3rd of March students from year 7-13 performed their version of 'Bugsy Malone'. We were lucky enough to play to a packed St Albans Hall for every performance despite the snowy weather. Students auditioned back in October 2017 and then rehearsed weekly with the Drama Department to develop their characters and create their very own speakeasy style.

The play saw Bugsy Malone (Brett Rushman Year 11), try to woo the new girl in town Blousey Brown (Abbie Younger Year 8), whilst trying to avoid getting splurged in the gang warfare between Fat Sam's (Evan Conboy Year 11) and Dandy Dan's (Lincoln Delhomme Year 12) gangs.

Transporting the cast to 1920's America was great fun and our audience were invited to immerse themselves further into the action at one of our Cabaret tables, where they were waited on by one of our Thames house waiters. The boys worked very hard to meet their guests every need and raised an excellent £538 all of which is being donated to the Gerard Murphy fund.

The splurge provided some of the outstanding moments of the show and seeing a familiar Hockerill face meet his demise at the end of Act 1 was met with much applause. Our backstage crew had a task on their hands cleaning the actors and set after every splurge, but they took it in their stride.

The band provided outstanding accompaniment throughout the play and the dancers brought the songs to life. To all of the cast, crew and staff involved we'd like to say a very big thank you.

Lincoln Delhomme, Year 12 commented "Playing Dandy Dan was such an enjoyable experience. I loved learning a New York gangster accent, as it was extremely amusing to use in the performance and is now a skill that I will be able to use forever. Also, being the antagonist of the performance made it exciting to perform as I was so different from every other character. Being able to perform a role that brought tension to the play; the villain who was sinister in his speech, made the play so much fun to be a part of. Hopefully I will get another opportunity to do something like this next year."









BBC School Report

Mrs E Wilson

Every year, thousands of students aged 11 to 18 across the UK become reporters for the day as part of BBC School Report. They make the news and upload it to a website that is then linked to the BBC via an interactive map, giving them a worldwide audience.

At Hockerill, a group of Year 8 reporters has met weekly since January to prepare for news day. They have worked in news teams to plan their articles, carry out surveys, arrange interviews and practise their presentation skills.

On the day itself, Thursday March 15th, they filmed and edited their reports and also produced written versions of their articles.

Go to the Hockerill School Report website https://wilsone54.wixsite.com/bbcschoolsreport to read and watch their reports, including an investigation into the effects of carrying heavy schoolbags, a look at teenage mental health, an exclusive interview with Year 10 golfer Max Hopkins and a weather forecast.

The Year 8s received fantastic advice and guidance on the day from Melissa Sharman, a senior sports producer at the BBC, and James Wilson, European news editor at the Financial Times.



Rotary Club Inter-Schools Quiz

Dr J Braeckman

The Rotary Club of Bishop's Stortford held their annual Inter-Schools Quiz and the Hockerill team beat St Mary's in the final. The team comprised of Thomas Wilson, Adam Wilson, Edward Braeckman (Capt.) and George Braeckman (who stood in for Dewi Chappel who wasn't able to be there).

Other teams from Bishop's Stortford College, Herts and Essex, Leventhorpe and the Boys High School took part and all did very well.



The Essex Book Awards 2018

Mrs J Ballard

Congratulations to our Books & Biscuits Club members Ben Brixton, Callum McLucas, Olivia Glover and Roslyn Somerville who took part in the Essex Book Awards 2018 'Book Trailer' Filmmaking Competition. Their film based on The Starman and Me by Sharon Cohen was the winning entry. Special thanks to Sarah Bruce for leading this activity and to the HPF for funding our equipment. We have won a workshop with IntoFilm, who judged the competition.

Ben, Roslyn and Matthew Waterhouse represented the College at the Award event held at the Danbury Outdoor Centre on Tuesday 13th March where we met the shortlisted authors and were presented with certificates by IntoFilm.

The Library has been taking part in the Essex Book Awards for three years and every year the shortlist has been excellent and enjoyed by the students. The students add their reviews to the Essex Schools Library Service blog and vote for their favourite book. The 2018 winner is Stewart Foster for his book All the Things That Could Go Wrong.



Young Shakespeare Company

Mrs E Scott-Stevens

Following the success of the recent visit of the Young Shakespeare Company to perform Romeo and Juliet to Year 7, they returned again on the recent IB day to perform Macbeth to Year 11. Students were particularly impressed by the versatility of the actors and the discussion of interpretation to support their understanding of the play.



Careers Department CW18 Future Fit Seminars

FUTURE FIT CWI8

Mrs K Lumbers

During National Careers Week on Monday 5th – Friday 9th March 2018, the Careers

Department organised seminars after school for students in Years 8-13. This year the seminars were tailored around the Future of Jobs Report from The World Economic Forum, identifying the top ten skills required by the workplace of 2020. Student that attended the seminars gained an insight into a broad range of careers. The Careers Department are very grateful to presenters who kindly gave up their time to help the College run these events. The Careers department are always happy to hear from parents who would like to volunteer their time and expertise to any of the career programme. If you would like to get involved please contact careers@hockerill.com



Books Get You Places

Stanley Hinton and Lorenzo Mori, Year 13

Santiago de Compostela was an unforgettable experience. Getting in touch with its culture and people was a welcome break from the everexhilarating rollercoaster that is Bishops Stortford, ensuring our stay was as informative as it was thrilling. Reading excerpts from Fernando Aramburu's Patria to hundreds of Spanish literature enthusiasts at the San Clemente award ceremony was certainly a new one, although we ploughed through, questionable accents in tow, and are both fairly proud of the outcome. The trip is certainly one we would both recommend, if not for the esteemed company of Dr Millán and Ms Davids, for the opportunity to experience Galicia and the cultural riches it has to offer.

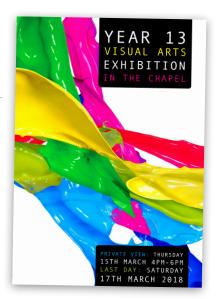


IB Visual Arts - Year 13 Exhibition

Mrs K Lumbers

The Year 13 Visual Arts Exhibition was a celebration of the hard work and achievements made by the students over the two year course. Parents, staff and students were invited to the private view on Thursday 15th March, younger years were encouraged to view the work during the rest of the week.

A big well done to Louie Edwards, Eloise Menzies, Giselle Turner and Jocasta Perry on their achievements.





World Book Day events

Mrs E Scott-Stevens

In addition to the visiting authors to mark World Book Day, students enjoyed matching teachers with their favourite books with two students winning prizes for the most correct guesses and Year 7 students created posters to represent their favourite books.



Forthcoming events...





Phenomenal Success for Hockerill students at the North and East Hertfordshire Company of the Year Competition

Ms A McCulloch

Aggregate&Co and Gentium, Hockerill's two Year 12 Young Enterprise teams, took part in the Young Enterprise competition on Tuesday 20th March at County Hall, Hertford. There were 8 teams in this round of the competition and 11 prizes to be awarded. The other schools represented were Presdales, Hitchin Boys' School, Dame Alice Owens and St Mary's High School. Another four schools had taken part but did not manage to submit the required elements for this stage of the process.

Each team had to submit a Company Report in advance of the competition, prepare a trade stand, have interview with judges and do a presentation in front of an audience.

We are delighted to report that Hockerill won 7 of the 11 prizes and that both teams have gone through to the next stage of the competition. This is our best result at this stage of the competition so far. The next stage takes place on the 2nd May at the University of Hertfordshire. Congratulations to both teams and good luck for the next stage of the competition!

The teams are supported by Centre Lead, Ms Alison McCulloch, who herself won an award last night for her support for Young Enterprise over the last five years, Mr Whiteley and Miss Perrone. They are also fortunate to have advice and guidance from Martin Budzinski and Gladys Fleet, two business advisors who volunteer for Young Enterprise.



Aggregate&Co - Managing Director Ella Pickering · Homemade concrete pots

North and East Hertfordshire Company of the Year Best Presentation Best Company Report Best Trade Stand

Gentium Managing Director Jasmine Blackham Vino - an innovative wooden stand for wine glasses. Runner up to North and East Hertfordshire Company of the Year Best interview Best Innovation and technology

Senior House Captains

Mrs N Pierrejean

This term, Thames and Roding Houses have been seeking to appoint their new House Captains to fill the shoes of current post holders Valentin Kabst and Emilie Fung. A series of letters of applications from hopeful Year 12's along with staff and student votes ensued until the result was finally revealed at the Annual Boarders' Easter Dinner by the Principal. Rapturous applause followed when the names of Giorgio Curti and Georgina Priest were announced with their Deputies, Gareth James and Ida Ehret. This is a great honour and they will have the support to continue to champion the views of boarders and lead the boarding community with vision as their predecessors have done so effectively this year.



Year 9 Winchester House Leadership Workshop

with Mr Hilary Gallo, author of "The Power of Soft"

Cynthia Yeung 9G

This afternoon, we had a talk from a special guest, Mr Gallo. The talk wasn't like a normal one we would have, but in this talk we interacted with each other which made it interesting and enjoyable. I learnt a lot of new things such as how power isn't just about being rich and successful, but having confidence and respect for everyone. We also did an experiment with slingys where there were 2 ropes tied on it and we put our fingers through the rope and put it in our ears. Instead of hearing normal sounds, I heard gun and shooting sounds. This experiment was to show us how it feels like to step into other people's shoes. Overall, I found this talk really helpful and fun and I enjoyed it.

Maya Scott 9P

To me, I feel like what we were being spoken about today at our workshop, really made me see things about life differently for example, he defined what having "Power" or being "Powerful" was about. He told me that it is not just about being rich and successful, but it is also about having people have a certain level of respect for you and having confidence.

I also loved the way he engaged with us and didn't just let us sit down for the whole hour. He was telling us that he wrote a book called "The Power of Soft", which basically talked about how people define you as how you see yourself.

Easter Revision

Mr G Roberts, Vice Principal



As our students look forward to a well-earned Easter break, for many of them it is a welcome time to be finally able to concentrate on their revision for the forthcoming exams. For others, it is that sinking feeling of knowing that they still have a lot to do before they are ready.

For teachers, there is the thought: 'Is it really that time of year again? So soon?' All teachers have been preparing their students for the exams and hope that now the students will realise that they have to settle quickly to revision.

Here is an anecdote which you may have heard in different forms but it still rings true nonetheless:

Alan Jay Lerner was a hard worker on the stage and behind the cameras as well. In the 1956/57 season when he won both the Tony and Academy Awards for his work on both stage and screen a friend on seeing the announcement while visiting with his father said: "My goodness, have you seen this about your son? Isn't he lucky?" To which his father replied (in writing) "It's a funny thing with Alan. The harder he works the luckier he gets." https://cinemastationblog.wordpress.com/2011/11/22/alan-jay-lerner-a-man-of-the-movies-too/

Exams commence as follows:	
IBDP Finals	27 April
Year 12 End of Year	17 April
GCSE exams	10 May
Year 10 End of Year	16 April

We wish all our Upper College and Sixth Form students strength and courage for their revision and the best of 'luck' in their exams.

Happy Easter.

Bake Sale for Great Ormond Street Hospital and the RSPCA

Mrs N O'Riordan

On Saturday 17th of March, 5 girls from Year 8 held a bake sale to raise money for GOSH and the RSPCA. This was done as part of Mr Pollard's Service Action. The girls baked a

huge amount of cakes and raised a total of £258. They will split the money evenly between the two charities; Francesca and Hannah will buy toys for the children at the hospital and Alyssia, Solene and Sophie will send their money to the RSPCA.

Thank you to everyone who came along, bought cakes and helped to make this event a big success - and a special 'thank you' to Miss Corrigan, Mrs Mackenzie and Miss Yates for kindly donating cakes! Thank you also to Eniola and Lydia for helping on the day.



Castle Park Parkrun

Mr I Fitchett

On a chilly exeat Saturday morning, Evelyn Scott and myself were on the start line for Castle Park Parkrun. Evie is one of our newest and exceptionally gifted runners who regularly attends the College's running club on a Friday morning as well as competing for the College in many sports. We had been in discussion for a while about what would be a good race for her to take part in, so we agreed to take on our local Parkrun. Evie brought all her family down, Mum, Dad and younger brother all eager to go and even Grandad (who has completed 18 marathons!) accompanied us on the run. Evie finished in an incredible 24:54 and in 70th place out of 251 runners.

For those of you who are new to Parkrun it is a free 5km run organised by volunteers which takes place in Sworders field and Grange Paddocks in Bishop's Stortford town centre. It is a perfect way to start any exeat Saturday morning and many Hockerill runners already take part. Evie and I look forward to seeing you all at the next parkrun and challenge you to catch us if you can!



Music Department Update

Mr O Bond, Director of Music

As another term draws to a close, the music department is delighted to congratulate all students who successfully passed their ABRSM or Trinity Music Theatre Exams.

Of particular note are the following students, who all achieved either a distinction and/or Grade 8:

- Esme Lawson ABRSM Grade 1 Singing (distinction) and Trinity Musical Theatre Grade 3 Singing (distinction)
- Maia Z'nae Smith Gaston ABRSM Grade 5 Piano (distinction)
- Cynthia Yeung ABRSM Grade 5 Viola (distinction)
- Eve Warrington Trinity Musical Theatre Grade 8 Singing (distinction)
- Zara Byng Trinity Musical Theatre Grade 8 Singing (distinction)
- Ella McGran Trinity Musical Theatre Grade 8 Singing (distinction)
- Freya Rowson Trinity Musical Theatre Grade 8 Singing (distinction)
- Bronwyn Feerick Trinity Musical Theatre Grade 5 Singing (distinction)
- Mattie Denniston Trinity Musical Theatre Grade 5 Singing (distinction)
- Leon Somsouthi Trinity Musical Theatre Grade 8 Singing
- Dewi Chappel Trinity Musical Theatre Grade 8 Singing
- Anna Box Trinity Musical Theatre Grade 8 Singing

Recent music events have included the highly successful Spring Concert, showcasing the variety of the college's ensembles who have been working hard to perfect the repertoire they have been practising hard for in lunchtime and after-college clubs. Miss McConnell's folk singers were a particular favourite, performing a popular song from the Nigerian Ebo tribe. Many thanks to the family of Zara Ojiako for the generous contribution of traditional costumes and jewellery, sent from Nigeria especially for this concert. Finally, we are particularly grateful to Mr Brady and Mr Bartlett's well-attended Jazz Night. The high-level of musicianship was first-class, including breath taking solos from many individuals. One of many highlights was the frenetic Be-bop



Jazz Night performer Tracy Fu with her teacher, Mr Bartlett

standard 'Donna Lee', performed by Lewis James, Rob Palmer-Fenny and David Harkness. Other impressive jazz solos were performed by Bashi Tingey, Rhea Willson, Katherine Lewington, Felicity Henry, Tracy Fu, Emily Isaacs and Archie Fraser. To keep up-to-date with the department's Summer Term events, please look out for our newsletter.

Mission X: To Mars & Back Again

Mr E Vine

On 23rd February 240 students from years 7 & 9 worked in small cross-year teams for their 'To Mars and Back' mission.

Preparation for our mission started late in the Autumn Term so that in January access to some of the online competitions and activities was opened to students.

Dr Genevieve Millard our robotics club lead started looking at ways we could give the students a quick start on the day, time was going to be pretty tight! HPF were a great help as they bought us 20 Bit Bots.

The whole day event and activities are framed as Equipe series of competitions.

To help on the day in with the students solving problems and make their own separate presentations we welcomed six leading scientists and engineers from industry and academia.

Activities covered using CAD to design, test and race rockets in a virtual environment, building and flying rockets, training like astronauts, learning how travelling in space affects the bones, fluid balance, the mind and how NMR scans give valuable insights to how the brain works.

Amongst our guests, we were privileged to have Paul Meacham from Air Bus who is normally busy being Lead Systems Engineer on the Mars Rover Vehicle Project and Jane MacArthur who is just finishing her PhD studying the mineralogy of Martian meteorites, and comet grains returned by NASA's Stardust mission, at the University of Leicester, working with Mr Catchpole and Mr Gillhespey to help 120 students code BBC micro bits to remotely drive or rather race, their BIT BOT Mars Rovers around a maze of a Mars Bases on specially prepared 1.5m x 1.5m Martian Landscapes.

The day ended with a grand final with 120 students enthusiastically cheering on the four teams on.



Mr Catchpole with winning student teams; Monty Lawrence, Cynthia Yeung, Swathi Gudapati, George Braeckman, Alasdair Evans and Jake Elmer

Maths Masterclasses

Cai Chapell, Year 9

I found the masterclasses to be very interesting. There were six classes, of which I only made it to five, all ran by different teachers. They all had different styles of teaching. My favourite ones were the 'Highly Mathematical Games' class and the 'Mathematical Modelling' class. I liked the way the people who ran those classes explained everything to us and these classes were more interactive, so it was hard to get bored. Overall the classes were all fun in their own way and there was not one class that I could point out and say that it was boring. I'm glad I went on this course and I've learned a lot from it.