

HOCKERILL NEWS

DECEMBER 2018 | ISSUE 46

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Top Ranked
Comprehensive
School (UK)

The Sunday Times
Guide 2018

Principal's message

Richard Markham



"What Starts Here Changes the World"

Anybody who has heard one of my talks at Open Morning will recall the emphasis that I place on our Mission Statement and my assertion that this is not just rhetoric, we do actually aspire and hold ourselves accountable to the standards within the statement. The quote above is the Mission Statement of the University of Texas and I have to confess a small degree of envy at such a simple yet powerful missive. Perhaps at the heart of my admiration for those in Austin is that I can easily see how this is applicable to Hockerill.

The pages of this newsletter are filled with the achievements and activities of the College community and it is evident that a number of these activities have resulted in changes for our students and the wider community.

One of the key points of our College Improvement Plan this year is to heighten the College's environmental stewardship. The work of the EcoClub and the Year 9 Community Project are but two examples of our increased rigour in this area and I look forward to sharing with you our progress in this regard as the year progresses.

As the College breaks up for the Christmas holidays I would like to wish you all seasons greetings and hope that you enjoy the festive season. I look forward to seeing the students refreshed and reinvigorated in January.

Year 9 Community Project

Mrs S Pearson

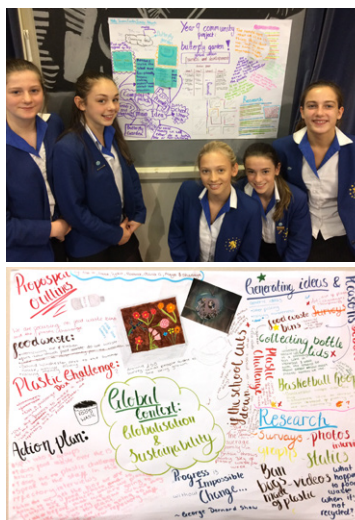
All students in the final year of the MYP are expected to complete an assessed project that gives them the chance to display their ability to research, plan and reflect. The project also provides an opportunity for students to think beyond the curriculum and to apply their skills in an unfamiliar area. For Hockerill students who complete the MYP in Year 9, the expectation is that they will complete a Community Project.

This focuses on community and service, encouraging students to explore how to implement service as action in their community. The Community Project gives students an opportunity to develop awareness of the needs in various communities, and to address a specific need which they feel concerned about.

We launched the Community project with year 9 students on the first Enrichment Day on 11 October. All students worked in groups to identify an environmental issue that they would like to become involved with. Some students are basing their work at the College whilst others are going to be taking action in the local community.

All students worked independently and collaboratively and we were really proud of their approaches to this learning. The day culminated in a display of the action planning posters each group had produced with all students giving feedback on how the projects could be improved further.

Since the Enrichment Day the students have set up their Process Journals, an integral part of the project and have met to discuss next steps. The students will have more reflection sessions in order to prepare for the next Enrichment Day on 1 March where they will be looking to further develop their projects. We hope to present the final projects to parents and the local community in June.



Go Green

Mrs E Wilson

Go Green Hockerill continues to play a key role in the College's drive to constantly evaluate the environmental impact of the choices we make as a community.

One of our priorities this term has been to ensure the classroom paper recycling system is fully functional. We have raised money to replace broken or missing recycling bins in each classroom and re-appointed form eco-captains, who are in charge of ensuring the bins are used properly and emptied regularly. We have also begun recycling the many board pens, biro and highlighters used in the classrooms, with bins now available in the sixth form centre, staffroom and library.

We were excited to learn that the Year 9 service projects would be related to environmental issues this year and were happy to contribute a raft of ideas, from increasing the number of butterfly-friendly plants on the site to creating artworks out of used plastic bottles.

The club has also continued its investigation of levels of air pollution around the school and encouraged students to consider a 'reduced plastics' Secret Santa. In our weekly meetings, we have had some lively discussions on a wide range of issues, such as the varied impacts of different diets including vegetarianism, veganism and reduced meat consumption.

After Christmas, we plan to investigate the possibility of installing our own DIY wind turbine, research the desirability and feasibility of more outdoor recycling bins and prepare for College assemblies in late March.

NOTICES

Monday 7th January

Inset Day
Boarders' return

Tuesday 8th January

Term commences

Wednesday 9th January

Year 11 mock exams commence

Thursday 17th January

Münster work experience
exchange parents information
evening
(1900 Chapel)

Thursday 31st January

Year 11 Parents' Consultation
Evening

Friday 1st February

Year 12 Boarders' Formal

Tuesday 5th February

Year 8 Parents' Consultation
Evening

Friday 15th February

Half term holiday commences at
1540

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In memoriam: Jo Barker

Mr L Jackson

Jo was an outstanding teacher; her overriding aim in teaching was to share her passion for literature with her students, helping them to fall in love with the subject. Jo's lessons – whether writing poetry on bananas or analysing the lyrics to Wham's Last Christmas were certainly fun, but lessons were so much more than that. Jo fundamentally believed that all students deserved a chance to engage with the best of world literature at the highest academic level. Through her choice of books and poetry, negotiated with her students each year, Jo explored the most complex and difficult themes with her class, relating them to the lives of her students and the wider world. Studying literature with Jo became a way for students to see the world from different perspectives, identify injustice and understand something of the power of literature to not only describe the world as it is but to show how it can be made better. In doing so, she inspired a generation of Hockerill students.

Beyond her subject, Jo firmly believed that a teacher's primary responsibility is to care for their students and to encourage them not just to be themselves, but to be the best version of themselves. Jo was a fierce defender of her students. Always able to see the best in them, Jo would speak up on their behalf and ensure their point of view was heard – and understood. In her pastoral role in Roding Boarding House and as a form tutor she provided exceptional support for those in her care. This often extended beyond the end of their time at Hockerill; Jo kept in touch and continued to mentor students throughout university and beyond. This was particularly the case with those whom she had supported through their applications to university. As the College's Oxbridge co-ordinator Jo was instrumental in raising the profile of Oxford and Cambridge amongst the sixth-form and introduced a comprehensive programme to support candidates applying to these universities. She would have been proud of the record number of students who interviewed this year.

Jo was a passionate individual and fought hard to advance the causes she believed in. A determined campaigner for the rights of women, she raised the profile of International Women's Day each year. Organising the distribution of yellow mimosa flowers from our international students to all female staff, teaching and non-teaching, was just one of the many ways Jo reminded the College community that women's rights mattered. She was also a strong advocate for LGBTQ+ rights in College, internationalism, recycling and environmental stewardship, Cornish independence, and disabled rights. Fittingly, Jo appeared in the audience of Question Time less than a week before she died arguing that a People's Vote on Brexit was needed to give young people a chance to have their say on the future of their country.

As a teacher, colleague and friend, Jo will be profoundly missed; however, her example on how to live a rich and meaningful life ensures a legacy that will endure.



Year 8 PSHE Lessons

Mrs N Ashlee-McCrae

Year 8 have been 'Celebrating their differences' in their PSHE lessons. This term we have talked about how we are all different yet the same and how our differences should be celebrated. We have used the life of Anne Frank as a starting point and last week we created ideas for a book cover to celebrate what we have learnt. As a group they have discussed and shared some very powerful ideas about how our differences as humans can and should bring us together. I have been very impressed with their focus and attitude towards their work, well done 8R.



Simon Dennis Memorial Plaque Unveiling



On the evening of Thursday 13th November we unveiled a beautiful plaque in memory of Simon Dennis. The event was attended by Simon's family, staff, governors and former staff and governors who had worked with him whilst he was Principal at Hockerill. It was



particularly appropriate that this event was held in the Chapel, as Simon was instrumental in organising the refurbishment of the Chapel organ and triptych amongst many other historical artefacts around the College.

National Poetry Day at Hockerill College

Miss E Frontain

National Poetry Day is an annual recognition of the importance that poetry plays in our lives. Each year the Forward Arts Foundation recommends a new focus for poetry writing and this year the theme was Poetry for Change. Hockerill decided to take that idea and break it up into three different focuses for change: Equality, Kindness and Environment. Students from every year group contributed poems in a variety of languages and forms showing not only their creativity but also their passion for poetry and for positive change in the world. The Poetry Day Competition was a huge success and the judging panel, made up of staff and guest judge, Julie Walker, a local poet and columnist with the Bishop's Stortford Independent, had a very difficult time trying to choose the winners from so many good entries. It was very exciting to see the variety of student work especially in so many different languages.



Boarding News

Mrs N Pierrejean

The highlight for the boarding community for this Michaelmas Term is undoubtedly the annual Boarders' Open Weekend. The College was closed for all day, flexi and weekly boarders on the Saturday morning so the parents of the majority of our full boarders had the chance to discuss the academic progress of their sons and daughters with their teachers. Many of our parents had made the journey from overseas and it is always a lovely occasion to be able to engage in a number of activities. Mr Snell very kindly gave a well-attended talk on University applications to a Yr 12 audience.

The Holroyd Howe catering team yet again treated us with their lavish meals put on for Saturday lunch, along with the much appreciated mulled wine and warmed mince pies for the rugby spectators, the Christmas buffet and the Sunday brunch. Mr Coleman and his extensive team of staff rugby coaches organised a collection of rugby fixtures against Bancroft's School both for home and away fixtures and this, for many parents, is the only chance to see their child represent Hockerill in a sporting arena. Next year, the hope is to extend this opportunity even further once the Sports Hall is completed to include sporting fixtures for the girls too.

Mr Bond and the Music Department created yet another magical Christmas Show, as alike with sport, it was a rare occasion for visiting parents to enjoy the outstanding musical talents on display. Parents had the chance to discuss whole College and Boarding topics in the Parents Forum on Sunday before indulging in the delights of the Christmas Market. A lasting memory will be the sight of Theo Clark and Lincoln Delhomme showing true potential as salesmen whilst donning construction hard hats in order to sell 'bricks' to help fund our two current capital projects of the Sports Hall and the Science Block.

Autumn Term in Winchester

Foluwa Omolokun

Michaelmas term in Winchester has just flown by. From the amazing weekly Dress for Dinner presentations held by our own girls to hosting some Japanese students and even learning some new languages!

Our weekly Dress for Dinner briefings give us a chance to take hold of the reigns and show off a skill or talk about something we're passionate about, including our heritage and individuality as well as celebrating our differences. So, for Nigerian Independence Day, girls from Nigeria and Africa as a whole and I decided to celebrate in style.

Complete with special guests, a dance, fashion show and traditional snacks our 'My Africa' presentation was a success.

Culture and identity are parts of Winchester that have inspired some of the girls to learn a new language. Ms. Essien has run Yoruba Club for almost 2 years and from the start, it has been a hit. Many Winchester girls are regular attendants, and enjoy it tremendously.

As well as this, a member of Roding staff has begun teaching a Thai class to a few of our girls.

Winchester also hosted eight Japanese students in partnership with the Language College. Every year since 2004, students from the College's partner school in Japan come over and visited prior to a Yr 11 Japanese exchange trip. On this trip, the school is extremely helpful, providing transport to and from their school, lunch, and on the first evening dinner is cooked by Hockerill and Japanese students alike. Due the massive amounts of hospitality, we receive, on their visit we try to give as special a welcome as we know we will receive. After spending the day with Hockerill students, they were invited to Winchester where they enjoyed some snacks and chatted to some of the Winchester girls. Then they had a little presentation, in which they introduced themselves, showed off some of their incredible talents, played a classic 'My



The dance



Yoruba Club



Bishops Stortford Remembrance Day Parade.

Captain N Ashlee-McCrae Contingent Commander, Hockerill College CCF

On 11th November, Hockerill College CCF took part in the Bishops Stortford Remembrance Day parade. We have participated in this event for a number of years now and it is a very special event. We had a group of 30 cadets and 3 staff take part and they looked extremely smart in their turnout. This year we were also delighted to be accompanied by Zoe Hughes and David Williams, 2 ex-students who are now Officers in the Army and RAF respectively.

LCpl Helena Scott-Stevens and Cpl Archie Fraser laid the wreath on behalf of the contingent.



Neighbour Totoro' on the recorder and then sang a beautiful Japanese folk song acapella with perfect harmonies. Amazing!

Overall, this term has been filled with overriding success, and only a few have been spoken about here! Winchester girls have grown, not only academically within college but also as individuals in a community; learning life skills and developing friendships, home and away and I think that is something to be extremely proud of.

GCSE Presentation Evening

Mrs N Ashlee-McCrae Head of Year 11 2014-2018

On Friday 9th November, I was delighted to welcome back the 2018 GCSE cohort to present them with their GCSE certificates. We were joined at this event by Ciara Waterfield an ex-student who attended Hockerill from 2009-2014. Ciara is an actor who spoke to the students about her own journey from GCSEs to working within the acting industry and offered words of wisdom about the importance of following your dreams and passion whilst also making the most of all the opportunities that Hockerill has to offer. It was great to see all the students and parents again and to hear how they are doing. Thank you to Annabelle, Eve, Tracy, Zara, Brett and Rhea for their musical performances during the evening, it is always a pleasure to hear them sing and perform.



Year 10 Spanish Exchange to Santiago de Compostela

Dr C Millan Varela

As usual, the Spanish exchange took place during the first half of the October half-term, from Friday 19th October to Saturday 27th October. This nine day trip offered students the unique opportunity to develop their communication skills in Spanish, to become fully immersed in the Spanish way of life, and to also learn about the local Galician culture. We all enjoyed exploring the old part of Santiago, the day trips to the beautiful city of A Coruna and the stunning Rias Baixas region. We finished our stay, of course, with the legendary 'chocolate con churros'. Students behaved impeccably and were true ambassadors to the College. The Spanish group will be at Hockerill from 28th April - 7th May 2019.



Italian Exchange

Miss R Bongiovi

There was great fun during the Italian exchange in Maniago! Lots of amazing food, great weather and lots of Italian spoken, which is fantastic! Our Hockerill students shone for their impeccable behaviour and their excellent effort in speaking Italian with their new Italian friends. What a great way to start their new GCSE Italian course!



Hockerill's First Trip to the Land of Fire and Ice

Mrs A Mackenzie

On Thursday 18th October 20 Geography and Science GCSE students departed for the inaugural trip to Iceland. The early hour did not dampen their enthusiasm and before we knew it we had been transported to the incredible island of Iceland. We were welcomed at the airport by Frodo, who was to be our coach driver for the duration. We managed to visit the 'Bridge between the continents', Gunnhver Hot Springs and mud puddles all before lunch. It was evident to all students and Mrs Hodder why Iceland is the best location in the world to see these natural geophysical features and it was fantastic to see how keen the students were, despite the driving rain and arctic winds! They also realised that the Icelanders are a really fascinating population. Where else in the world would you find a museum and earthquake simulator in a shopping centre?! Icelanders are also very proud of the fact that their country is unique and as a consequence we visited some amazing interactive museums which taught our students about plate tectonics in the most fun and informative ways. Our accommodation was amazing; groups of 4 to 6 friends shared a bungalow in the Icelandic countryside. Icelanders have big appetites so we never went hungry and ate like Vikings, and even dressed up like them one evening. I never knew year 11 girls could be so scary! Despite it being so very cold and wet, the students never complained. This may be because they read my packing list carefully and rarely took off their waterproof clothes or perhaps they were inadvertently enjoying the geothermal heat that all Icelanders do for a fraction of the cost of our expensive heating. This was put to the test in Laugardaslaug swimming pool in Reykjavik where the students frolicked in geothermally heated pools, slides and hot tubs (some of them even going under in the ice-tub!) A theme of sustainability was becoming evident to our group of geo-scientists who enjoyed a steaming hot bowl of tomato and basil soup grown in greenhouses lit and warmed by geothermal heat once more and an ice cream made in a dairy where you can observe the cows who provided the cream. After a zero air miles snack, we travelled to Gullfoss waterfalls. Once again, we got soaked but our spirits were not dampened, as the falls were spectacular. Our happy band were now tiring after 4 days of non-stop geo-fun. Nothing would prepare them for our last day, which for me was the highlight of an amazing few days. We walked to the snout of the Solheimajökull glacier, which was blackened, from ash

from the Eyjafjallajökull volcanic eruption. It was beautiful, yet gave a stark warning to those who do not believe global warming is credible. To finish off our tour we visited Reynishverfi beach, black volcanic sand surrounded by the most perfect basaltic column cliffs. Iceland casts a spell on its visitors, whether you are interested in its physical features or wish to experience the world's most northerly capital city and the charms of its friendly inhabitants (who thankfully all speak perfect English!). All of our students made the most of this amazing experience and were a pleasure to be with for the duration of the trip. Thank you to you all and Mrs Hodder for making it so memorable. Watch this space for details of the next trip in 2020!



Japan Trip/Exchange 2018

Archie Fraser, Yr11

On Friday 19th October, a group of 14 students, accompanied by Mrs Rajakumar and Ms Davids, departed from Hockerill and set out on a trip to Japan - a trip which would prove to be one of new experiences, education and immersion into the Japanese society.

After arriving in Japan, we travelled across the country to Nagano, a smaller, more rural city than Tokyo, which is home to the famous Zenkoji Temple.

We stayed in a Buddhist Monastery for four nights, and over the course of our days in Nagano, took part in various activities, such as travelling to the Togakushi Ninja Museum and shrine, and visiting the stunning Matsumoto Castle, one of the last of its type remaining in Japan.

We also visited our partner primary schools - Komaki and Wakatsuki - for three days, interacting with all of the students and participating in traditional Japanese activities such as Japanese-style drumming, origami and dancing, in addition to just generally experiencing this completely different schooling system.

Following our final day at the primary schools, we then travelled back to Keio School in Tokyo to meet with our extremely welcoming exchange partners, who had visited us at Hockerill in March, and their families. We spent 2 full days at school with our partners, again experiencing this completely different system and culture, taking part in a whole range of classes at school - ranging from music to studies of Japanese society.

The weekend was spent in our host families, who were all incredibly generous, showing us around different parts of Tokyo and helping us understand new aspects of Japanese culture and society. Not only was our time with our exchange families fun and exciting, but we all felt that it helped us improve and experiment with our Japanese language much more, and despite being difficult at times, was a very beneficial experience.

Finally, after saying goodbye to our host families, we spent our final day in Tokyo participating in the Tokyo Challenge - an urban-orienteeering activity in which travelled around the city by train in small groups, visiting the different districts in Tokyo and spending time in a huge range of areas - from Buddhist temples such as the beautiful Sensouji Temple, to Harajuku, the fashion district of Tokyo.

Overall, the entire trip was a truly fantastic experience, during which we learnt to understand the Japanese way of thinking, visit many of the country's wonders, and of course, improve our language skills drastically.



Berlin Trip

Jamie Atkinson, Yr 13

I found the History trip to Berlin to be a very enjoyable yet also insightful experience. A particular moment that stood out to me during the trip was going to Sachsenhausen concentration camp. The scale of the camp coupled with the exhibits within it created a very reflective environment that gave me a new understanding of

the horrors of events discussed in class. The trip however was not simply limited to visiting historical sights. We also received a tour of Berlin from two Syrian refugees. It was very interesting to hear their story of how they arrived in Berlin, and also left all of us with a greater appreciation for reasons behind people fleeing their countries. Berlin was really fun to explore and was full of interesting shops and places to eat. I would really recommend this trip to anyone studying History as it is a very good way to connect with the syllabus being taught in class.



CCF Promotions

Captain N Ashlee-McCrae

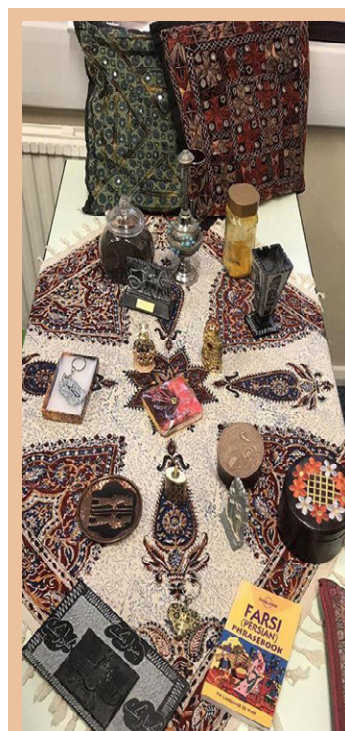


In October half term two of our senior cadets, Max and Theo, went to Beckingham Training Camp to complete their Senior Cadet Instructors Course. This is a tough and demanding week-long course which tests the cadets skills in a wide range of areas. Cadets have to teach Drill, Fieldcraft, Navigation and Weapon Handling lessons to their peers as well as show their competency in areas such as Military Knowledge, Resilience, Ability to work in a team and Effective oral communications. Max and Theo have received fantastic reports from their instructors, and it was a pleasure to promote them both to the rank of Sergeant at our final parade of the year. Well done to you both.

Bishop's Stortford Rotary Club Youth DT Tournament

Mr A Russell

On Tuesday November 7th, I took 3 groups of DT students to compete against 7 other local schools in the annual Rotary Youth DT Tournament at Birchwood School. The challenging task was to design and make a remotely controlled rocket launcher that propelled a capsule at least 3m in the air before separating from the launch pod and falling back to Earth with a deployed parachute. The Year 8 team of Anoop Dhillon, Henry Quinn, Olivia Rjnak and Evelyn Scott received an honourable mention for their original approach to the problem and the Year 10 team of Lucy Groves, Monty Lawrence, Toby McCrae and Nicholas Petkov won their category. Congratulations to all 3 teams.



Launching The Farsi Club

Niki Shahab-Dehkordi, Yr 12

Members of the Farsi Club hope to shine a light onto the beautiful and less well-known parts of Iran's culture. Recently Iran has been portrayed negatively in the media. It has often been associated with "terrorism" and placed in the spotlight for its nuclear programme. Iran has not invaded another country and every country has nuclear weapons, so why single out Iran? Iran is often judged from a political point of view, and people seem to be unaware of the true beauty of the country and the richness of its culture.

Members of the Farsi club have enjoyed learning about the value of community - an important aspect of Iranian culture. They learned that it is through community Iranians have been able to continue to take pride in their culture, despite the negative press their country often receives. Members have also enjoyed listening to poetry and learning about the many different celebrations. We have enjoyed several outstanding presentations.

Our future intentions for the Farsi Club include plans to form a partnership with Iranian schools around a joint project, have more lunchtime presentations with guest speakers and hold a joint charity event with an IB school in Iran. Through this we hope to further develop a culture of open-mindedness towards different cultures. Members of the club feel that ever since they joined this club and started learning about a new culture it has helped them grow.

Students are all to welcome to join The Farsi Club: Wednesdays at 13:05 in E4.

Library News

Mrs J Ballard

This term we welcomed Year 7 to Hockerill and they have taken part in a timetable of Library lessons in English and Science. The students have discovered how to use the Library, select fiction and learn basic research skills. During their Science Library lessons they all took part in the Royal Society Young People's Book Award and in English Library lessons the students were able to select a free book from a selection of 17 titles as part of the BookBuzz initiative from the BookTrust.

The Library introduced a Books & Biscuits eTwinning Club this term led by Mrs Bruce. The theme has been picture books and the students have been busily creating an eBook presentation about the College, to share with the project partners from other schools in Europe, where French, German, Spanish and Italian - as well as English - are spoken. The aim of the project is to each create a version of the same picture book, in native languages, and then share these with one another. The Hockerill students have now finished and recorded their book, and are eagerly awaiting the presentations in other languages. Watch this space...



Hockerill Parents and Friends

The HPF Committee would like to thank all those who supported last weekend's Christmas Market and skating rink. We hope you enjoyed the Winter Wonderland feel to this event - this year, without the deep snow which impeded us all in 2017! We are still counting the money, but we can say that: we printed 1,000 raffle tickets and we used them all; the tombola had 300 prizes and had run out by 2pm; our student stalls were incredibly busy throughout the day; and we received positive feedback about takings and the event from a number of external stallholders.

The skating rink was very much enjoyed by those who used it and we are grateful to all those companies who sponsored it. It was a lot of fun!

The Committee is always looking for new volunteers and open to new ideas. In the Spring, we'll be electing a new Chair and one other trustee, so please do email your details to hpf@hockerill.com and Marie Roberts, the current Chair, will be happy to call you and discuss what's involved.

Look out for Hockerill Comedy Night, scheduled for SATURDAY 9 MARCH, 2019, when Paddy Lennox, of Laughing Bishop's fame, will be bringing three comedians from the London Comedy Store to the College. Tickets will go on sale a few weeks ahead of the event.

Marie, Richard, Sam, Katie, Debs and Erika would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



Young Enterprise

Ms A McCulloch

Hockerill entered two teams to the Ware Dickensian Fayre on Friday 7th December.

Iluminade made candleholders out of recycled cans. They were runners up in the Trade Fair; additionally they won prizes for sustainability and business development.

Iris are still developing their product, which they hope will come to the market in the Lent term. They took the opportunity



to sell festive plants at the fayre to raise money for further development of their product.

Interact Club

Sara Ipakchi Yr12

Interact is one of many clubs offered here at Hockerill, and it involves raising money for a variety of charities through the help of Hockerill students and staff. Every year, a new group of year twelve students join Interact and work together to decide on the three charities they will raise money for throughout the course of the school year. The three charities focus on a local, national and international scale, impacting the lives of many people around the world.



The students at Interact strive to help the community and improve the lives of those who are less fortunate by organising charity events such as bake sales, movie nights, auctions and more. This year, we have already had three events led by Interact, one of them being the Candy Cane Sale which was a huge success. Students were able to send a candy cane to their friends along with a Christmas message, all proceeds going to charity. Another event that contributed to our cause was the non-uniform day, when all pupils wear casual clothes at school, involving the whole school in the process of raising money for our charities. The most recent event organised by our team was the Food Bank collection, in which students were asked to donate food, which was then delivered to the Bishop's Stortford Food Bank. We did this in hopes that we could make more people happy at Christmas, as many are not fortunate enough to have a full Christmas dinner. For our next event, we hope to plan a coat collection, distributing coats and warm clothes for those in need this winter and providing them with extra protection from the cold and the rain.

As a member of Interact, I would highly recommend this club as it's not only a wonderful way to help the community, but it also contributes to the development of you as an individual as each member is vital for the organisation of events and for the coordination of the team. It is a wonderful experience and with every project we finish comes an overwhelming amount satisfaction that cannot be replaced.

Going Global in the Careers Department

Mrs A Winship

The main activity in the Careers Department this term has been university based with Mr Snell currently handling 102 UCAS applications as well as a growing number of international applications for our Year 13 students. Dr Millard has also been busy with a record number of Oxbridge applications and a significant number of students attending interviews for which they have been prepared with both Principal's seminars in-house and taking part in the BSET Oxbridge preparation day. We have also welcomed IE University from Madrid and Bocconi University in Milan into College to talk to Sixth Form students.

Next term the Department is looking forward to National Careers Week from the 4th- 9th March; this year we will be taking inspiration from the College Mission statement and considering global citizenship. If any parents or former students feel that their background or career, or the organisation they work for, would fit into this theme and would be happy to give a short talk after school during NCW then we would love to hear from you, please get in touch on careers@hockerill.com.



Youth Rotary Public Speaking Competition

Dr C Millan Varela

On Monday 19th November, three Year 10 students took part in Youth Rotary Public Speaking Competition (Senior Category). Leila Trusty (Chair), George Braeckman (Main speaker) and Alex Mulvey (Vote of Thanks) represented Hockerill with the thought-provoking topic "We are all special". In a highly competitive event, they managed to achieve third place - a fantastic achievement considering this was their first time competing in the Senior category. Very well done!



Drama trip to see The Jungle

Mrs V Marsh

On Thursday the 4th October, the Drama Department took their GCSE and IB students to see *The Jungle* at the Playhouse Theatre in London. This was an incredible immersive theatre experience where students formed part of the performance and engaged with the plight of refugees in the Calais jungle before the camp was demolished. We also rubbed shoulders with the stars and happened to be sat in the audience with Sir Ian McKellan and BBC political correspondent Nick Robinson.



Year 7 Drama Group production of Stick Man

Mrs V Marsh

As part of the MYP, we encourage every student to engage in an act of service in the community. This year the Drama department organised a project that allowed students to carry out service through a Community Theatre project. The Year 7 Drama group decided to perform Julia Donaldson's heart-warming story *Stick Man* to local primary schools. They were led by CAS Students Molly Box and Zara Byng as well as CASE student Erin O'Connor. It was wonderful to see students of different ages cooperating and collaborating. The performances were extremely well received and we hope will become a feature in our Drama programme.



Christmas Show

There must be many in the Hockerill community for whom the Christmas Music Show marks the start of the festive season and the Music Department yet again ensured that the audience left in no doubt that Christmas is in full swing. Well done to all of the hugely talented staff and students from every

year group in the College involved on fabulous performances, and thank you to everyone behind the scenes whether lighting crew, serving refreshments, or corralling performers who keep it running, in particular Year 12's Molly Box.



PE Department News

Miss J Perry

First XI Hockey Team

The First XI girl's hockey team have had an incredible season. The team won the first round of the National hockey competition in St Albans, and then went on to win the second round of the Nationals at the University of East Anglia. The team put in an excellent display of talent and sportsmanship at the finals day, and despite not winning overall, they have been a pleasure to watch in the competition.

Yr 8 Hockey Team at the National competition

The Yr 8 hockey team attended the National hockey competition in St Albans this term, although they did not get through to the next round, they played some excellent hockey, with some outstanding goal keeping from Esme Lawson.

District Cross Country

On a cold day in November, our district cross country teams produced excellent performances at the Grange Paddocks course. The students put in some excellent effort. Notable performances came from Brett Rushman and Ben Sloan in the Senior Boys' race.

Yr 9 District Rugby

The Yr 9 boys went to the district rugby competition with a limited squad. They beat Birchwood, drew with Leventhorpe and beat St. Marys, which meant they turned out winners of the District competition. The boys showed great team spirit and resilience throughout the competition.

ESSA Cross Country

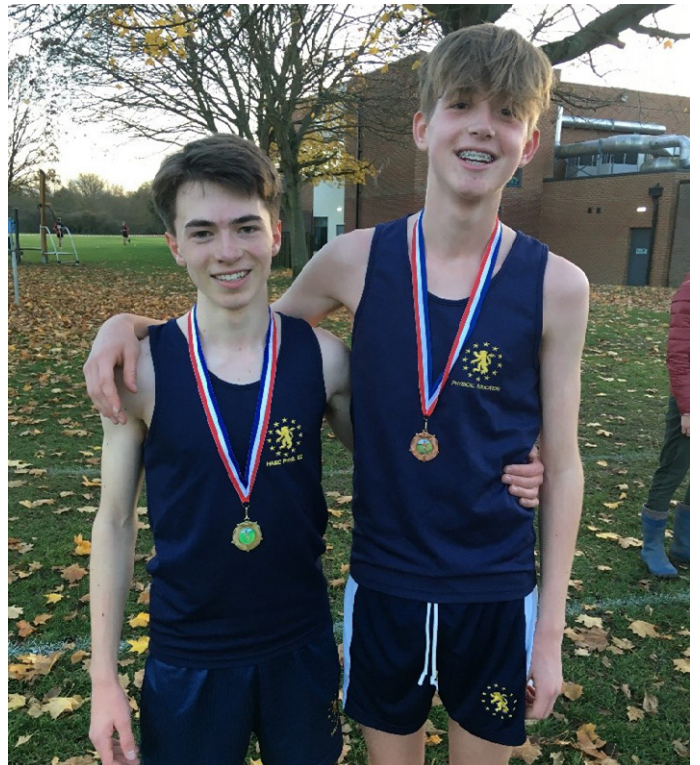
A number of Hockerill students attended the ESSA cross country competition back in October. A junior boys and junior girls team worked hard against some tough competitions in St Albans.

Sports Leaders

The Hockerill Sports leaders organised and ran a tag rugby festival as part of the West Essex Sports partnership. The leaders were a credit to the College, with many staff from other schools commenting on their professionalism and leading skills. The students ran two competitions, tag rugby and tag rugby for SEND students.

Equipe Competitions

This December we have had the Michaelmas Equipes. Yrs 7-9 had rugby and hockey Equipes, Yr 10 had football and dodgeball, and Yr 11 had volleyball and handball. The sixth formers will have their Equipes after Christmas. All points will go towards the house cup, so far in Yr 8 Goethe girls have won the



Brett Rushman and Ben Sloan, 1st and 3rd respectively in the Senior Boys Cross Country

hockey, Pascal boys have won the rugby. Goethe boys have won the rugby, and the Yr 10 Da Vinci girls won the dodgeball. In Yr 11 Da Vinci won the volleyball, and Goethe won the Handball.

Max Hopkins wins award

Max Hopkins has won an Indie, an award from the Bishop's Stortford Independent newspaper. The Indie's are given to those nominated for the Bishop's Stortford Independent Community, Sport and Business Awards, recognising the very best of Bishop's Stortford through selfless actions and outstanding achievements. Max has won the Young Sports person award for his exceptional career in golf. Max has competed on a National and International stage, he competes for both the England u16 and u18s, and he recently won the Vitality junior Golf championship Cup, the youngest person ever to do this. Max travels the world to compete in golf and works hard to keep up with his studies. Hockerill are very proud of Max and we look forward to following his success in the future.



Yr 9 Rugby District Champions



Equipe Competitions



Yr 8 Girls at the Hockey Nationals



1st XI Girls Hockey Team



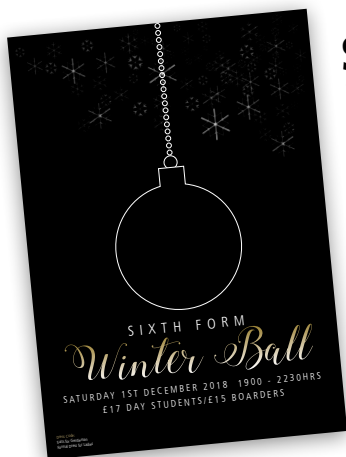
Max Hopkins



ESSA Cross Country team



Sports Leaders



Sixth Form Winter Wonderland Ball

Sixth Form Leadership Team

'Winter Wonderland', our first annual sixth form formal ball for all Year 12 and 13 students, was organised by the Sixth Form Leadership Prefect Team and what an event it was! Following a delicious formal three-course meal in a bedecked Refectory, resplendent with black and gold decorations, the attendees played

carnival fairground games and danced the night away in the gym and St. Alban's Hall. The games ranged from skittles, hoopla, bowl a brussel, football darts, bucket ball, velcro darts, tin can alley or coin toss. With 235 of the 250 students in attendance, along with a number of the teaching staff, this reinforced the importance of these regular social activities. The evening was a huge success and a lovely end to what has been a very busy term. Congratulations to all involved in the organisation of this event, particularly the Sixth Form Leadership Prefect Team.

Christmas Jumper Day 2018

Mr A Whiteley Head of the Lower College

As is "traditional" at Hockerill on Christmas Lunch Day we get to wear our Christmas Jumpers for a £1 donation to Charity. All student were invited to wear a festive Jumper, in addition to or instead of a blazer. This was the coldest day of the winter so far and an extra layer was most welcome! We ask students and staff to nominate their charity and give a brief reason for their choice. This year we were please to support Pancreatic Cancer UK, the Alzheimer's Society, Voluntary work of the Girl Guide Association in India and the Essex & Herts Air Ambulance.

We had a wide range of styles from the very festive and tacky to the chic and sophisticated. There were some new designs, some "hand me downs", some with electronics but I didn't find a musical one this year.

Over 500 students and staff participated and we raised £524.13, EUR2 and a Dime! (That's one tenth of a US dollar not the Swedish confectionary but that's spelt differently anyway). After a superb Christmas lunch and in the absence of our Biennial Equipe Carol singing Competition, we held an extraordinary Lower College Assembly to practice this year's College carol, "Once in Royal David's City".

Participation by the Lower College was excellent and Mr Bond taught all of the students how to warm up their voices to sing as well as how to perform the carol with confidence, in tune and with joy. When we have our final assembly of the term on Friday we will sing this carol again in All Saint's Church as we prepare to enter the Christmas season.

I do hope you all have a very Happy Christmas and Best Wishes.



Christmas in the Italian Department

Miss R Bongiovi

The Italian Department celebrated the festive period with two Italian Christmas parties, one for Year 13 students and the other for GCSE and Year 12 classes.

They had great fun in the Italian Department with all the classes celebrating Christmas altogether in the most typical Italian fashion with delicious Pandoro and lots of laughter with friends!

