

HOCKERILL NEWS

APRIL 2019 | ISSUE 47

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Top Ranked
Comprehensive
School (UK)

The Sunday Times
Guide 2018

Principal's message

Richard Markham



As we look forward to an Easter which is one of the latest I can remember I continue to be amazed at the breadth, range and consistently high quality of the day to day life at Hockerill.

This edition of the Newsletter can only scratch the surface of the many varied activities which have happened this term. However, I do hope that the following pages, articles and photographs trigger a memory of events and bring a smile to the face of those involved.

An education is about so much more than the 'academic' components of the curriculum. It is important that we also play our part, along with friends, parents and families in developing all round students. Students who are confident, kind and empathetic. An assembly for our Spectrum Society, which provides a forum for

LGBT+ issues, this week emphasised the fullness of our role in assisting in the development of tolerance and understanding. It is also important that we recognise our role is 'developing'. Students won't master all the skills they need by the age of 18 but I hope that they will know how to further develop and have the hunger, appetite and love of learning to do so.

I hope that you all enjoy a wonderful Easter. As ever, none of what we have done would be possible without the students, staff and parents, so 'thank you'.

Sixth Form News

Mr S Clark

Many of our Sixth Form students support us in the smooth running of the College and during their time in the Sixth Form they are given many opportunities to take on positions of responsibility. The majority of our Year 12 students have already been appointed as College Prefects and it now gives me great pleasure to announce our Sixth Form Prefect Leadership Team and our Equipe Prefects for the coming year.



Senior Leadership Team from left to right: Ella McGran, Zara Byng, Theo Clark (Senior Prefect), Mr Markham, Rhea Willson (Senior Prefect), Timi Adeyemo, Saskia Dembrey



Pictured with the Equipe Heads from left to right Bella Wagstaff, Thomas Wilson, Tracy Fu, Adam Wilson, Izzy Smith, Kate McCarthy, Dominic Tatchell, and Sophie Brixton

NOTICES

Tuesday 23rd April

Boarders' return

Wednesday 24th April

Term commences

Year 10 mock exams commence

Thursday 25th April

1900 Chamber Concert, Chapel

Saturday 27th April

Bake Sale

Monday 29th April

Year 12 mock exams commence

Thursday 2nd May

IB Exams commence

Friday 24th May

Half term commences (students depart at 1540)

HOW TO CONTACT US

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All change at Hockerill Parents and Friends

Richard Johnson whose twin boys are weekly boarders in Year 8 has taken over the Chair of HPF, as Marie Roberts stepped down. Marie has been a longstanding supporter of HPF and has done an amazing job as Chair. Samantha Wallace also stepped down as a trustee overseeing the successful 250 Club, our thanks go out to both for their commitment and hard work.

The team lead by Richard is Annalisa Cromie, Debs Rushman, Erica Payne, Jools Dunne and Katie Fraser. We are contactable via email at hpf@hockerill.com or via our facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Hockerill-Parents-and-Friends/669369693081040>.

The webpage <https://www.hockerill.com/92/hockerill-parents-and-friends> is currently under review and we hope to roll out an updated version soon.

We are currently looking for a representative for current Year 7 parents so if you would like to know more please contact us along with any other ideas of social events you would like us to consider.



Boarding News

Mrs C Faiers

Once again, we have had an extremely busy term in Boarding with classical concerts, bowling trips, Chinese New Year celebrations and climbing walls to name just a few.

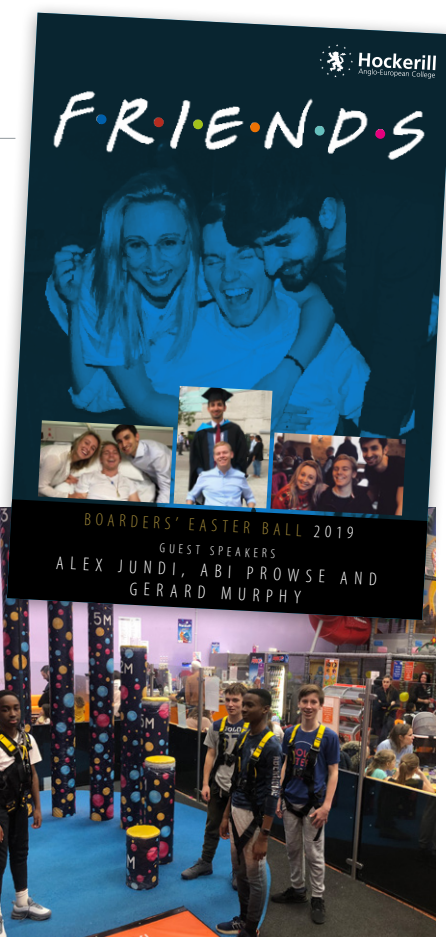
The term culminated with the annual Easter Ball. We were delighted to welcome back a table of our Alumni and their parents. Gerard Murphy, Abby Prowse and Alex Jundi gave a moving speech about how fortunate they felt to have come to Hockerill and how the friendships that they have made have been invaluable as they have moved on to University life.

A beautiful musical performance from Isabella Birt on the Harp provided a peaceful interlude before the students moved on to the Disco and entertainment. The rivalry in the "game zone" was not confined to students with the more competitive staff vying to win.

Next term the students will have the opportunity to visit Harry Potter Studios, Aqua Splash and Frinton Beach and of course Speech Day on the 29th June.

Our thanks must go to our catering team, Holroyd Howe, who not only provided a delicious three course meal for over two hundred and fifty people at the Easter Ball, but incredible food and demonstrations throughout the term. This week they put on a sushi making session at supper for the Boarders and engaged them in not only tasting the sushi but also making their own.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a wonderful break and hope that the boarders come back refreshed and ready for the challenges that lie ahead.



University Offers

Mr B Snell

Year 13 students have received excellent offers from universities in the UK and worldwide, including a record number of offers from Oxford and Cambridge (<https://www.hockerill.com/45/news/article/192/oxbridge-success-for-record-equalling-number-of-students>). We will provide another update on offers next term, including Medicine and international applications, as some students are still waiting to hear from universities.

A number of students have been offered unconditional places. In contrast to the views expressed in the news recently, our students are highly motivated by such offers and have continued to work hard to achieve the highest grades possible in their IB Diploma. Nottingham Trent University (Times Higher Education University of the Year 2017) has acknowledged the academic skills and talent of our IB students in offering unconditional places to Olivia Madill to read Psychology and Stella Seymour to study Interior Architecture and Design. Similarly, Lancaster University (The Times and The Sunday Times University of the Year 2018) has recognised both the value of an IB education and the intellectual capacity of our students in offering unconditional places to Ella Pickering for Marketing and Design and Frederick Fossey-Warren for History. Further afield, Michela Marongiu has been rewarded for a dedicated approach to her studies by receiving unconditional offers to study Business and Management at the Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore and International Economics and Management from Bocconi University. Also holding an unconditional offer from Bocconi is Giorgio Curti, this time to study International Economics and Finance.

The range of courses that students have applied for this year reflects the changing nature of the workplace and student aspirations, as well as providing overwhelming evidence that the IB Diploma is ideal preparation for all university pathways. Offers have been received for Scenic Arts (Ella Bloomfield), Fashion Management (Pietro Della-Rosa), International Disaster Management and Humanitarian Response and Sustainable Development (Tia Kinuthia), Medical Imaging (Olivia Philpott), Environmental Geoscience (Morgan Challis), Data Science, Analytics, Digital Innovation and Entrepreneurship (Guia Quagini), Film Studies, Television, Digital Production and Chinese (Avia Mladenova), and Bioprocessing of New Medicines (Sofia Iglesias Lobatch).

The process is already underway for the Year 12s as they attended the UCAS Convention at ExCel on Monday 25th March and have begun writing their personal statements.



Young Enterprise

Ms A McCulloch

Two Hockerill Teams entered the East Herts Showcase event on 19th March at County Hall, Hertford. Team Iris, led by Sarah Ipakchi and their business advisor Tony Woods, won best customer service award. Team Aluminade, led by Lilith Weimer and their business advisor Gladys Fleet, won sustainability and best presentation awards. They were also runners up at the competition and so go through to the next stage to be held at the University of Hertfordshire on 1st May 2019.



Music Department News

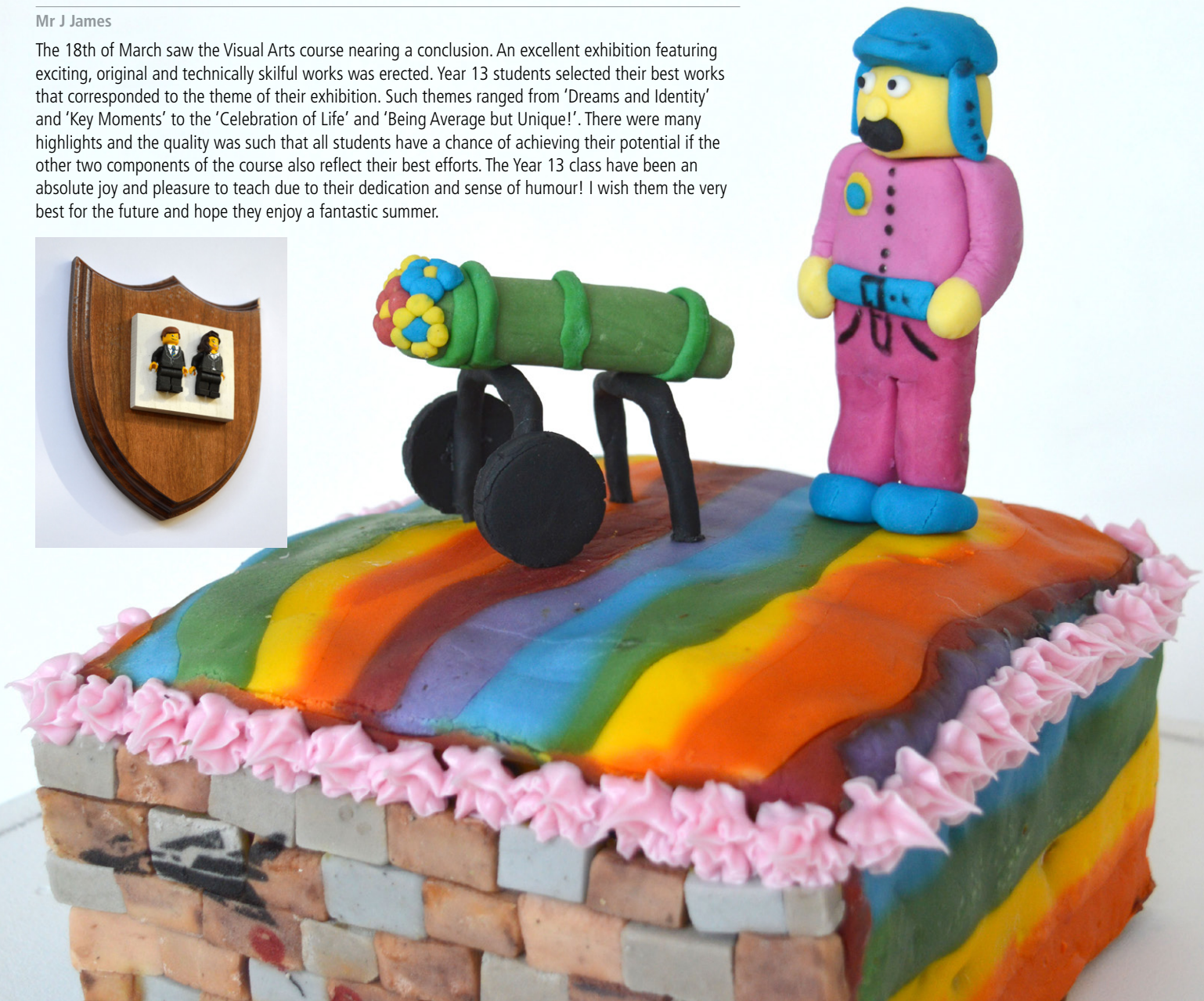
Recent music events have included the highly successful Spring Concert on 2nd April, showcasing the variety of the College's ensembles who have been working hard to perfect the repertoire they have been practising for in lunchtime and after-college clubs. We are also particularly grateful for Mr. Brady and Mr. Bates for hosting the well-attended Jazz Night on 13th March - the high-level of musicianship was first class, including improvised solos from many individuals. Thanks also go to Mrs. Morrow-Plant and Mr. Gilliver for organising the soloists' concert, a useful opportunity for students to perform their repertoire to a live audience in preparation for the various ABRSM and Trinity exams taking place. Many congratulations to all the students for their hard work and dedication to their musical studies this term!



IB Visual Arts Exhibition

Mr J James

The 18th of March saw the Visual Arts course nearing a conclusion. An excellent exhibition featuring exciting, original and technically skilful works was erected. Year 13 students selected their best works that corresponded to the theme of their exhibition. Such themes ranged from 'Dreams and Identity' and 'Key Moments' to the 'Celebration of Life' and 'Being Average but Unique!'. There were many highlights and the quality was such that all students have a chance of achieving their potential if the other two components of the course also reflect their best efforts. The Year 13 class have been an absolute joy and pleasure to teach due to their dedication and sense of humour! I wish them the very best for the future and hope they enjoy a fantastic summer.





Murder at Hockerill House

Ms N Day

On Friday 29th March, guests were invited to attend a cocktail party at Hockerill House. After the terrible murder of Lord Jonathan Hockerill the invited guests found themselves hot on the trail of the culprit! Senior Drama Club proudly presented their immersive murder mystery event Murder at Hockerill House. Having worked on the project in club the students devised, scripted, staged and marketed the event, giving them an insight into the role of not only the performer but also the director, designer, writer and producer. The cast of thirteen students from Years 10 and 12, worked as a collaborative ensemble to craft each moment and to create an evening of entertainment and mystery. The setting of the house thrilled audience members, with the Cloister transformed into the gallery and rooms of Hockerill House for one night only. After the crime was revealed, the audience began interrogating the suspects before heading to Hockerill Police Station to analyse the evidence gathered. The teams then gave their verdict before seeing the murderer and her motive revealed on stage. The audience completely immersed themselves in the case and worked hard to solve the crime. This project challenged our students by setting an ambitious task to create a drama event unlike any we have staged before. The students are to be commended for their excellent commitment to the project and should be very proud of all they achieved.



Library News

Mrs S Bruce

It has been a very busy term for the College Library, with author visits, World Book Day and the Essex Book Awards taking centre stage. On 8th February, Miriam Moss, author of 'Girl on a Plane' visited the College to address Years 8 and 11. Both sessions were enthralling, and the students impressed our visitor, posing some excellent questions during the Q and A sessions. Students then had the opportunity to meet Miriam in the Library at lunchtime.

March got off to a positive start with the distribution of a £1 World Book Day token to each student, to put towards a book purchase of their choice, from a variety of outlets. Year 8 students were also each able to choose from one of two WBD titles, as part of the Library's 'promoting reading for pleasure' initiative.

To complete the day in style the English Department organised an event, which was hosted in the Library, where students had great fun sampling a 'Taster Menu' of books from different genres. Miss Butler and Miss Frontain let their creative talents run wild as they adorned each 'tasting table' with a variety of genre specific artefacts, decorations and tasty treats to tempt students to explore the books.

Another joint venture this term has been shadowing the 2019 Essex Book Awards shortlist. Each of the five Year 7 English groups studied one of the nominated books, with the Library's Books & Biscuits Club shadowing the final title. A few students even managed to read the entire shortlist! To support the project, members of staff from different faculties – Mr Dinwiddy, Mr George, Mr Gilman, Mr Parsons, Miss Perry and Mr Whiteley – were invited to 'champion' one of the titles, to promote to the students that we are all readers. The Essex Book Awards ceremony itself took place on Tuesday 19th March, at Brentwood County High School, with twelve Year 7's attending as Hockerill's student representatives, accompanied by Mrs Bruce and Mrs Trimble. Not only was this a great opportunity to meet the shortlisted authors



Essex Book Awards

Mrs E Scott-Stevens

There was great excitement this week with the completion of the Year 7 Essex Book Awards Exhibition. Students have been shadowing the Essex Book Awards this term and each Year 7 class has read one of the books nominated. Students then worked collaboratively to produce a range of pieces of work to be included in the Exhibition. These ranged from clay models to film trailers! The students were very proud to display their work, which was viewed by staff and students from across the College. There were over 300 votes with the winner being 'The Extinction Trials' display.



Romeo and Juliet

Miss E Frontain

The Young Shakespeare Company are a highly sought after theatre troupe who specialise in making Shakespeare accessible and fun for school children. We were fortunate enough to have them visit Hockerill and present Romeo and Juliet to our Year 7s, who had already spent time learning this text. The company allowed our students to experiment with genre, understand context and better appreciate the choices that Shakespeare made when writing this iconic play. Our students were enthralled by the production, enjoyed taking part and laughed to their hearts' delight with these wonderful and talented actors who helped bring this play to life.



Münster Work-Experience Exchange

Miss T Stege

On Wednesday 13th February 13 excited students and two equally thrilled teachers set out on the eight day work experience exchange to Münster, not much more than a week after we had first met the German group in Bishop's Stortford. With the first leg of the exchange having gone really well, we had no doubt that our return visit would be an equally positive experience.

Even with the trains not running on the day, nothing could stop us on our venture, and the rest of the journey went smoothly so that we arrived earlier at the Pascal-Gymnasium in Münster than expected, where we received a very warm welcome from our colleague and host families. A short meeting the next day reassured us that all was fine and the students spoke very positively about their host families and their first day at work. While the students were busy and thus kept out of mischief, the staff enjoyed themselves cycling around Münster and planning the visits of the students. The weather could not have been any nicer, and with spring in the air the students had a lovely weekend ahead of them. Some cycled around Münster, visited Cologne or had a quiet weekend with their host families.

The next few days we visited the students at their placements, saw them in action at schools and kindergartens, a tourist information centre with a travel agency attached and even a theatre. This was not only an interesting but also a very rewarding experience as most of the staff in charge spoke very highly of our students, who demonstrated confidence, initiative and open-mindedness and thus proved everything Hockerill stands for.

As in Bishop's Stortford two weeks before, we also met for an Italian meal half way through the stay, but time was flying and soon after it was already time to say goodbye. However great a time we had, we were all looking forward to going back home after a week of work that nonetheless filled students with many new experiences.

I would like to thank all participating students and their parents for making this trip such a great success, Mrs Humphris for sharing the experience with me and everybody else who contributed to it.



Annual College Ski Trip 2019

The annual College ski trip took place over February half term in the beautiful resort of Sierra Nevada in Spain. The students had five days skiing with a ski school, and took part in other activities including snow tubing, snow shoeing, a night time astronomy session and a disco. The sixth form skiers also organised and ran a very successful ski quiz. The resort of Sierra Nevada is large and students were able to progress over green, blue, red and black runs. On the last day we were able to visit Torremolinos beach for lunch, on the way back to Malaga airport.

Ski Trip Student Review:

Amber Mays, Year 12

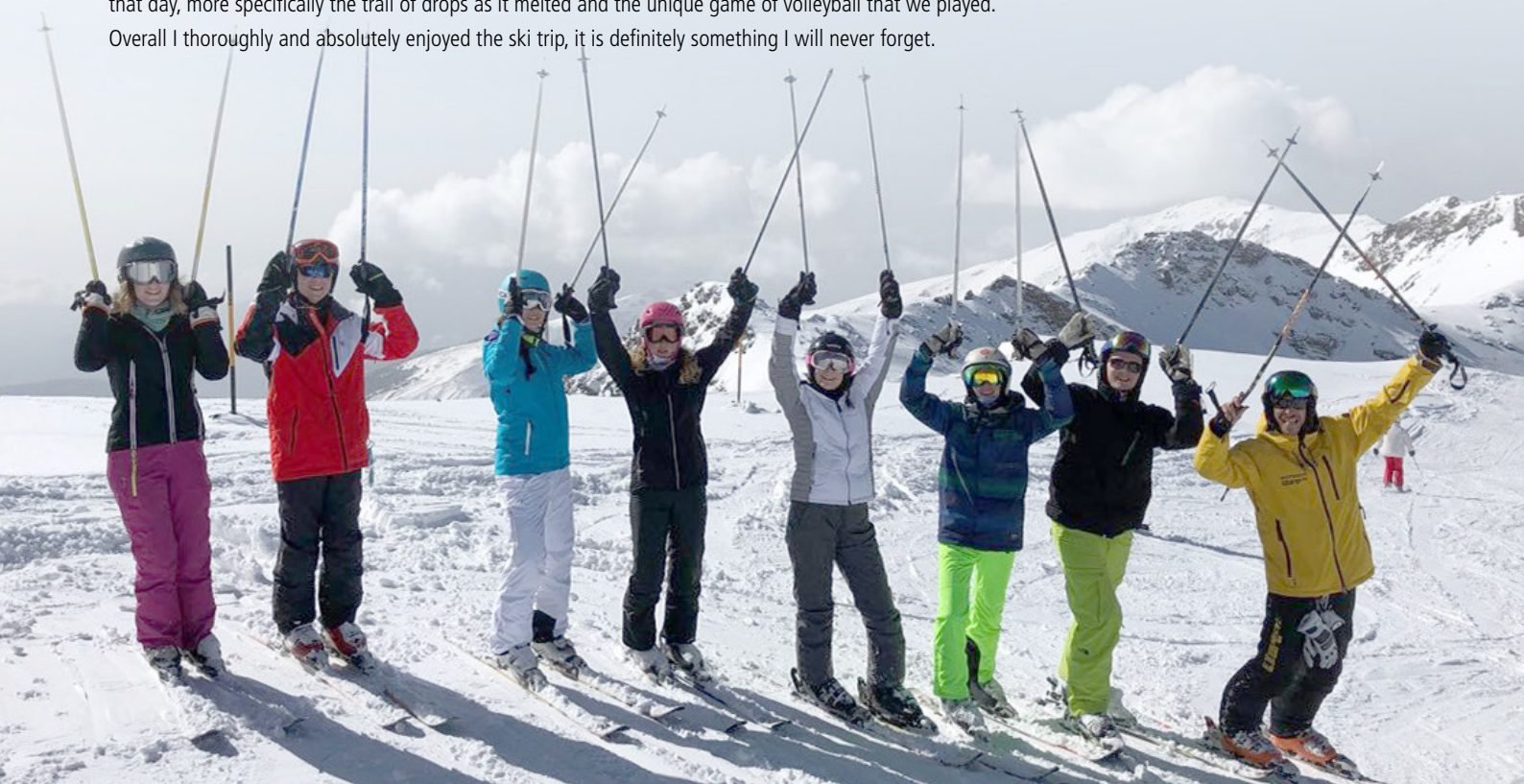
Over the half term I was fortunate enough to be able to go on a ski trip with other sixth formers and younger students to Sierra Nevada in Spain. It was a really enjoyable and unforgettable time, with amazing snow and so many highlights.

For me the top highlights were the apres ski activities, where we went stargazing, snowshoeing and snow tubing. They were all amazing experiences where we got to see more of the area, whether it be looking up to the sky or seeing the stunning landscapes from the mountains.

The skiing itself was incredible. I had never skied on a mountain before and by the end I can say that it is definitely better than I had imagined and much more fun.

On the last day we changed our surroundings from snow and mountains to the sandy beaches of Torremolinos. A very memorable moment was the ice cream that day, more specifically the trail of drops as it melted and the unique game of volleyball that we played.

Overall I thoroughly and absolutely enjoyed the ski trip, it is definitely something I will never forget.



Hockerill College CCF Flying day at Wittering

N Ashlee-McCrae, Capt OC Hockerill College CCF

On 26th March Hockerill College CCF cadets finally had the chance to go flying thanks to some glorious weather. We travelled to RAF Wittering and all cadets managed to get a flight for about 35 minutes each. For two of our cadets it was their first flight and a truly amazing one at that. Many got the chance to perform a few acrobatics in the air and take over the controls from the pilot. More flying opportunities will be available in the coming months.

Combat Cadet 2019

SSI D Riley

Cadets from the College CCF, led by Sgt Theo Clark, travelled to STANTA military training area in Norfolk to take part in the Annual Military Skills Competition run by the 7th Infantry Brigade (aka the Desert Rats). The exercise takes place over a weekend and is designed to test all aspects of the cadets' training from deliberate attacks on enemy positions through treating and evacuating casualties to navigation, patrol lanes and fitness.

The activities put the cadets under both physical and mental pressure, pushing them to their limits culminating in a 1½ mile run in under 10 minutes and 30 seconds. This is after the cadets have already completed approximately 13-14 miles of walking with heavy equipment.

The team put in an incredible amount of effort over the weekend and displayed all the good qualities expected of a Hockerill cadet. The team came a credible 3rd out of 18 strong teams, which is even more impressive when taking into account that some teams within this competition can select cadets from up to 1400 cadets, far greater than our established contingent.

Well done all.

COMBAT CADET TEAM

Sgt Theo Clark, LCpl Lester, LCpl Boutell, LCpl Bintley, LCpl Womack, LCpl Pitkanen, LCpl Scott-Stevens, LCpl Cattermole and LCpl Savopoulos

Welbeck STEM Leadership Challenge 2019

N Ashlee-McCrae, Capt OC Hockerill College CCF

Over the weekend of 22nd -24th March, 7 cadets from Hockerill College CCF travelled to Welbeck Sixth Form Defence College for the STEM Leadership Challenge. This is a competition we have entered for a few years now and have won twice, 2011 and 2018. The team was made up of Year 9 and 10 cadets and provides younger cadets with a vast array of experiences within the military. Over the weekend cadets participated in activities provided by the Royal Signals, REME, Royal Logistic Corps, and the RAF as well as a number of physical and mental command tasks, obstacle courses and orienteering. Twenty four teams from around the country took part and Hockerill cadets worked very well as a team to secure a top 10 place amongst both CCFs, ACFs and ATC squadrons. I am always proud to see how amazing Hockerill cadets are at these events and it was a pleasure to hear several Military staff comment on how calm and together the team were at all the different stands. They perform exceptionally well under pressure! It was also a joy to have ex-student Tim Popov, who is now studying at Welbeck, with us over the weekend and cheer us on.

TEAM WELBECK 2019

LCpl McCrae, LCpl Cashman, LCpl Trapmore, LCpl Hale, Cadet Balestra O'Dare, Cadet Seymour and Cadet Womack.



Premio San Clemente 2019

On Tuesday 19th March two Year 13 students, Ines Tollon and Isabella Birt (accompanied by Mr Geissler and Miss Bautista) flew to Santiago de Compostela to participate in the internationally renowned San Clemente Literary Prize. This provides an excellent stimulus for our students to continue to engage with literature and presents a priceless opportunity to further inquire into and learn about the background and context of the works studied by engaging in a dialogue with the authors. We are grateful for the invitation and opportunity to participate in the Premio and would like to thank the Rosalia for this as well as the authors. To read Ines and Isabella's report of the trip please follow the link - <https://www.hockerill.com/60/blog/post/48/premio-san-clemente-2019>.



Rotary Quiz

Mr R Mackin

As winners of last year's quiz, Hockerill was allowed to enter two teams into this year's Rotary Club Inter Schools Quiz, which took part on Monday 4th March and was held at Bishop's Stortford College. The quiz, which takes place annually, consisted of University Challenge-style seating and questions, with teams from schools across the town competing against each other in a knockout format. With both Hockerill teams winning their first round tie, the draw left them facing off against each other in the semi-final. The 'B' team consisting of Thomas Wilson, Erwann Harrison, Oliver Brunt and George Braeckman emerged victorious from this and was able to beat the College resoundingly on its own turf with a final score of 660-190.



Developments in AI

Rhea Willson, Year 12

On Tuesday 12th February, I had an interview with Anthropologist Kathleen Richardson surrounding the development of artificial intelligence, for use in my extended essay, as I study Anthropology at higher level. Thanks to Dr Purday (Head of Anthropology and a general Hockerill hero), I was lucky enough to be invited to a conference all about AI, hosted by Dr Richardson herself. The question that we were debating was: Can We Code Ethics into AI and Robots? My investigation of modern robotics came around when I started research for my extended essay (My question being: The impact - from an angle of technological and social anthropology - of female sex robots on human relationships) and, immediately came across new technological developments that I was not aware even existed.

To read Rhea's full article please follow the link to our Blog page <https://www.hockerill.com/60/blog/post/47/can-we-code-ethics-into-ai-and-robots>

History Bee and Bowl

Mrs M Fraser

Our very successful International Bee and Bowl team have carried off more honours. They competed at the London Bee and Bowl Championships in March and have been crowned Bowl Champions in the varsity division beating both the Eton and Harrow teams in the process! The team was Edward Braeckman, George Braeckman, Adam Wilson and Thomas Wilson. In the Individual Bee Championship Adam Wilson triumphed. Well done, boys!



Duke of Edinburgh Awards

The uptake for all levels of the Duke of Edinburgh Award continues to be fantastic with seventy plus students taking part in the Bronze award, twenty-six in the Silver Award and thirty-four in the Gold Award. Students have had the opportunity to develop skills including map reading, camp craft, leadership and teamwork whilst preparing for the expeditions across all three levels of the award.

During the past year, Mrs Hillcoat-Hyde and Mr Parsons have approved 144 awards at various levels, contributing to a College pass rate of 100%. Within those awards, we have seen a number of ex-students achieve their Gold Award and be presented with certificates and badges at St James' Palace. In May 2019, ten former students, who completed their Gold Award at the College, will be presented with their awards at Buckingham Palace and Mrs Hillcoat-Hyde has been nominated by Herts DofE. to attend this presentation.

Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award

A-Z Training Day 03/04/19

Harry Tomlinson, Year 13

The individual expedition groups joined again to recollect memories of last year's Gold DofE practice and competed in a short quiz to compile tips and skills in preparation for the qualifying expedition in June. The groups swiftly and effectively planned routes and produced detailed route cards, a process that was not quite as effectively completed during last year's preparation session. After the individual route cards were all planned thoroughly, groups then undertook the challenge of designing a diverse menu that satisfied all members' tastes. However, this enabled some degree of creativity and was interesting to complete, as we were able to plan for meals which we hadn't had during the practice, although this proved to be challenging as knowledge of practicality and efficiency of different food groups was required. Despite the intimidation of the approaching exams, the DofE preparation day successfully picked up from the expeditionary skills learnt amongst the groups from last year, and heightened anticipation for the qualifying expedition after exams are complete.

Emma Mall, Year 12

Today we had a DofE preparation meeting as we have our DofE practice this June. We learnt safety tips for the expedition and refreshed our memory and skills by putting up tents and Trangias. We were briefed by Mr Mascetti and Mr Riley on which foods are the best to bring and which clothing is the ideal for the expedition in the Brecon Beacons. We planned our route and wrote up our route cards. Mr Mascetti taught me how to use a compass in case we got lost.

PSHE corner

Miss J Perry

IB enrichment day

IB Enrichment Day for Year 10 this term focused on Drugs and County Lines with outside speakers invited to come in and discuss the issues around drugs. The students also had workshops focused on County lines, including how to identify the signs someone may need help or be involved with County lines, and how to help someone who is being exploited, as part of a Nationwide programme #knowthesignscountyline.

This term we welcomed Vanessa Rogers to give a parental workshop about discussing relationships and sex at home. With education about relationships and sex becoming a statutory requirement in schools by 2020, we aim to engage with what is being discussed at home and within the College. Hockerill is a part of the Department of Education's early adoption process, and is making changes by adding to the already in place Relationships and Sex Module ready for September 2019. For any questions you may have about the statutory changes in PSHE, please contact Miss Perry via email at perryj@hockerill.com.

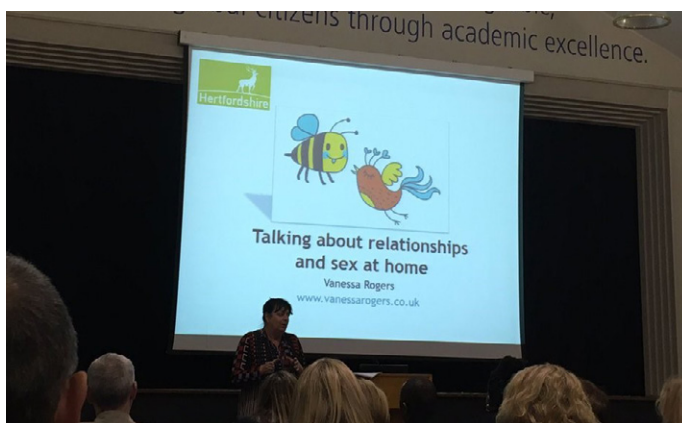


MYP Project

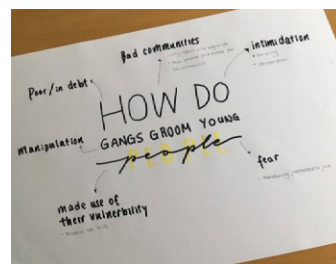
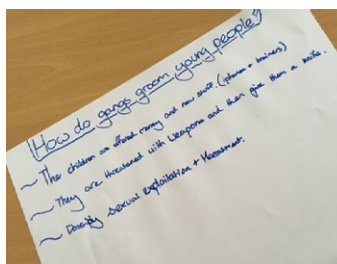
Mr C Audouin

As part of their MYP studies, our Year 8 students have designed their own games in French. Please follow the link to see photos of them in action and the project criteria.

<https://www.hockerill.com/31/image-gallery>



Talking about relationships and sex at home



Some work created by year 10 exploring how a young person may be exploited by a gang.



Former Student on Epic Motorcycle Adventure

Riding for Happiness is a one-of-a-kind motorbike adventure from Rome to Bhutan, crossing 16 countries and covering more than 14,000Km. Reversing the myth that "all roads lead to Rome", former student Carlo Avati will drive far beyond the Roman Empire, from the Alps to the Himalayas, from the "Boot" to the Land of the "Thunder Dragon".

The purpose of this adventure is to investigate the true drivers of happiness across cultures, interviewing the people he will meet along the road while raising money for Operation Smile.

His aim is to interconnect the more philosophical and anthropological perspectives on happiness held by the people he meets, to the more economic and scientific ones embedded in the "Gross National Happiness Index" (GNH) developed in Bhutan.

If anyone would like to follow Carlo's progress, you can find him on Facebook @RidingforHappiness

The Hockerill International Film Festival

Erwann Harrison, Year 12

The International Film Festival was comprised of eight films taken from around the world, offering an insight into many different languages and cultures. Every night Mr Jones set up the projector, explained to us the simple rules of film watching, and we watched each film enthralled. There was always a rush to get to the Sixth Form Centre early, so we could get as comfortable as possible for our viewing pleasure. The films varied from thought-provoking thrillers to comedy, and although more challenging than Hollywood films, were also more intense and rewarding. Having gone to all but one of the films, I can say this was a great experience, and I await next year's with impatience.



Visit from former student

Pippa Hale, Year 10

During early February, Year 10 pupils received a visit from previous student Fernando Ageo Damas as part of their CASE studies. Fernando studied at the College from Year 7 through to IB. He began by speaking about his experience at Hockerill and explained to the students about the importance of the International Baccalaureate, how the system was not just about the 6 subjects you study but also the importance of CAS, extra-curricular activities, languages and the extended essay. Fernando spoke in detail about how he was able to change his career focus from medicine to politics due to the options the IB gave him - he is currently studying International Relations in London. At the end of the talk, students were keen to ask questions, which Fernando answered clearly and informatively; it was a thoroughly enjoyable and insightful morning.



Eventers' Challenge

Mrs N Pierrejean

Allegra Squibb in 7P travelled to Forest Edge Arena near Swaffham in Norfolk on Saturday to compete in the National Schools' Equestrian Association 'Eventers' Challenge' on her 'Grade A' experienced show-jumping pony, 'Coppengh Oliver Twist'. The pair rode in the most challenging class of the day, the 'Open'. The course of up to 1.05m was made up of a series of show-jumps followed immediately by a cross-country phase of simulated solid cross-country style fences. The objective was to jump all of the fences clear and get as close to the pre-set 'optimum' time as possible. If the competitors refuse a fence, knock down a pole, go either too fast or too slow, then they gain penalties and the rider with the least amount of penalties wins. It is a true test of not only jumping ability but also of being able to gauge the correct speed especially as the riders are not allowed to use any stopwatch device to aid them.

Young Allegra and her flashy dun Connemara were pitted against other Eastern Regional riders from; Saint Felix School, Woodbridge School, Farlingaye High School, Kings Ely, Langley School and Kimbolton School. Most of these riders were a lot older, on larger horses and all vying for a qualification spot for the Hickstead Finals, which will be held in May. Allegra finished in 4th spot individually and narrowly missed out in qualification by one place - a fantastic achievement in her first outing for the College.



PE Department News

Miss J Perry

Netball Districts

Year 10

The Year 10A Netball Team competed in the Netball districts at St Mary's this term. The students played very well, and won their first four games, progressing to and losing the semi-final.

Year 7s win Netball District Championship

The Hockerill netball team have won the District Championships held at St Mary's on Thursday 14th March. The team faced excellent competition as well as some very windy conditions. The team played Herts and Essex in the final, and succeeded 4-3. The standard of Year 7 netball this year was excellent. We are very proud of all the Year 7s that played today, they have listened well in training and really focused on working as a team, we are delighted they have brought the shield back to Hockerill.

Equipe Sports Competitions

This term we have had the Year 11 dodgeball and football Equipe competitions, and the boys' hockey and girls' netball Equipe competitions. Next term we are looking forward to the KS3 girls and boys football Equipe competition to be held on Wednesday 1st May. All Equipe points won contribute towards the Vine Cup at the end of the College year.

Sports Hall Update

The Sports Hall is on schedule and we are excited to start to order brand new equipment, including indoor hockey equipment, badminton equipment and four brand new trampolines. The PE faculty were able to visit the new site and inspect the area and planning for the new PE curriculum to incorporate the new building is well under way.

Sports Tour 2019

Planning for the Hockey and Netball Tour to South Africa is almost complete. 37 students and five staff will leave for Cape Town on July 5th 2019 for twelve days of hockey, netball, sight-seeing, game drives and working in a local school to improve attendance through sport.

Girls' Football club

Girls' Football Club this term has been a huge success. The club is now focusing on preparing for the District football competitions for both U13s and U15s to be held at Birchwood School after the Easter holidays.

Year 9 Football Districts

The year 9s competed in the District football competition this term held at Birchwood High School. The boys played very well, against excellent competition and narrowly missed out getting into the semi-final.

Summer Term Clubs

For the summer term girls and boys cricket, girls rounders, boys softball, athletics and tennis clubs all start. Look out for the published clubs list on the first day back. We will also have district rounders competitions, and numerous athletics competitions, as well as District sports day and the College Sports day to prepare for.



Year 7 netball



Year 10 netball



Year 9 football



Hertfordshire Schools Golf Scratch Championship

Mr P Hopkins

On Wednesday 27th March, I took Hallie Copping-Jones and Max Hopkins (both Yr 11) to compete in the Hertfordshire Schools Golf Scratch Championship at Hanbury Manor. The course was in good condition, with obvious early season wet and inconsistent areas, and 72 young golfers played. Hallie played well and finished 6th in the Girls competition, a very pleasing first entry in to this competition, and Max won the U16 County Championship and finished second overall shooting a 2 under par 70. He will now represent Hertfordshire Schools in the Regional round, GCSE's permitting, and hopefully then on to the National Finals.