

Message from the Joint Acting Principals

Sarah Pearson and Alasdair Mackenzie



We have had a fantastic start to the new academic year at Hockerill and have loved welcoming students to our unique school. At the start of term staff attended a range of professional training courses ranging

from sessions on Inquiry-Based Learning, Mental Health and Wellbeing, Child Protection, Strategic Planning, the Role of the Boarding House Tutor to name a few. Students in Years 7 and 12 joined us for their first day with all Year Groups returning the next day.

During the summer a number of our students travelled across the world to participate in many exciting enrichment activities. You can learn more about these trips in the following pages. We are very grateful to our staff who give up their time so freely to provide our students with these wonderful opportunities.

It is with great pleasure we announce the opening of our new Sports Hall. This wonderful building will provide our students with a greater variety of sporting opportunities including the introduction of Handball, Badminton and Trampoline to the curricular and clubs programme. The new Science Centre is near completion; our Science staff visited the building and were overwhelmed by the facility, taking particular note of the floor to ceiling windows, increased teaching and prep space and fantastic views from the first floor. We are expecting the building to be completed in early November and look forward to lessons taking place there in the new year.

One of the great joys of the start of term is welcoming our new students and staff. We are delighted to welcome Mrs Eccleshall and Mrs Satchell to the English department. Miss Dambatta is a welcome addition to the Chemistry department whilst Mlle Armand joins us as a teacher of French. The Sixth Form welcomes Mrs Engeham as its new Administrator and Ms Brown is our new Head of Rochester.

We would like to congratulate Ms Bongiovi who celebrated her wedding in Sicily during the summer and Mr Jones who welcomed Henry to his family on 5th August.

This year is sure to be a very exciting one and we very much look forward to meeting you at the many meetings, concerts, sports fixtures, productions and other College events which make Hockerill such a busy, vibrant and rewarding place in which to both learn and work. We wish all our community an enjoyable year and thank you for your continued support of the College.



NOTICES

Thursday 26th September

Year 12 Parents' Information Evening (1900hrs) - St Albans Hall

Saturday 28th September

Open Morning

Tuesday 15th October

Careers Fair (1830hrs) - St Albans Hall

Thursday 17th October

Year 7 Parent Consultation Evening (1600hrs)

Friday 18th October

Half Term commences (students depart at 1540)

HOW TO CONTACT US

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Outstanding!

We have celebrated outstanding academic results over the summer at both the IB Diploma and in GCSEs. Our sixth form students received their DP results in early July where they achieved an outstanding average score of 36 points, six points above the global average of 29.8. Twenty-six students (22%) gained 40 points or over – an accomplishment for less than ten percent of IB Diploma students globally and exceeding 4A*s at A level. In addition, 63.4% of grades at Higher level were at an A level equivalent of A*/A, with 87% of Higher Level grades being at the top three grades achievable.

Particular congratulations should go to Gareth James, in achieving the full IB Diploma score of 45 points. Only 213 of the 166,278 students worldwide who took the IB Diploma this year achieved this feat. Gareth will be taking up his place to read Chinese at Oxford in September. He is one of six Hockerill students of those starting university in the UK heading to either Oxford or Cambridge in September, with other subjects ranging across Law, History, Archaeology, Music and Japanese.

Our GCSE results were equally as pleasing with many students achieving

top grades. Forty students attained 8 or more passes at Grade 7 to 9 with sixteen students attaining 8 or more passes at Grades 8 or 9. Some outstanding results came from Toyin Odusan who passed all ten of her GCSEs at Grade 9, Olivia Boutell who achieved nine Grade 9s and one Grade 8, and Freya Tischowitz achieving nine Grade 9s and two Grade 8s. Progress scores look to be very high again indicating that students have achieved above their expected grade.



YEAR 12 TRIPS

Croatia: 4th July to 18th July - Krka National Park and Silba Island

Mrs G Hodder

Twenty one students participated in a fantastic two week work experience opportunity in the stunning Northern area of Croatia. Students were involved in the collection of real scientific data, working alongside graduates, post-graduates, university professors and eminent scientists from the biodiversity and conservation fields. The networking potential and the valuable scientific skills that they learnt were numerous and underpinned their current IBDP studies furnishing them with a valuable real-life experience that will enhance their university personal statements. The terrestrial week saw students participating in many transect surveys, assisting the Operation Wallacea staff with data gathering in the fields of herpetology searching for the elusive Hermann's tortoise, fishing for endemic and native species, bird surveys using mist-netting techniques and caving searching for cave dwelling species of animals in general. The transfer to the remote, car-free, Silba Island in the second week allowed students to experience a marine ecology course that involved many of the students learning to scuba dive, all involved successfully completing their PADI open-water dive qualification; some students opted for snorkelling in this week and they were taught advanced free-diving techniques so that they could undertake underwater surveys collecting valuable data related to the abundance of sea-grass in the Adriatic. The experience is best summed up by the varied photos that highlight some of the activities that students were involved in and gives an idea of the stunning scenery that this area of Croatia affords.



Uganda Trip 2019

The Year 12 trip to Uganda, which took place during the summer holidays, was a huge success. A group of thirty students and five staff spent two weeks working with Hockerill's partner charity Amigos Worldwide at their flagship Kira Farm Development Centre project just outside Kampala. Here they met this year's cohort of forty trainees - young Ugandans who have faced extraordinary poverty and hardship in their lives but are being given a second chance through the work of the charity. Hockerill students joined in with a range of vocational classes including carpentry and tailoring and assisted in construction projects in the local community. This included building a kitchen, water collection jar and new toilet block (made out of recycled water bottles) at a local primary school. According to Mr Jackson who led the trip, 'Our students engaged extremely well with all the activities and quickly formed friendships with the Ugandan trainees. They have gained a huge amount from the trip but, more importantly, have made a lasting difference to the lives of the people they met.'



India Trip 2019

Thirty one Year 12 students left school at 5.00 a.m. on Wednesday 3rd July and headed for breakfast at Heathrow Airport before flying with Etihad Airways via Abu Dhabi to Trivandrum in the state of Kerala in south-west India. The members of staff accompanying us were Ms. Essien, Mrs. Johnston, Mme. Marin and Dr Purday. During our three days in Kerala we had the most extraordinary range of experiences. One evening we went to the Margi theatre to watch a traditional Indian performance called a Koodiyattam which was amazing. We met and talked with a group of Hijras which was very informative. We visited the Neyyar dam, went boating, and visited an elephant sanctuary and a wildlife park. One day we went to the Jatayu Earth's Center and travelled by cable car to top of the hill which was the site of a famous scene in Indian mythology. We had pure mehendi henna tattoos in the evening before or after going to wonderful restaurants for fabulous evenings out. On Sunday 7th July we travelled by coach to the Kings School at the very tip of India. Kings is a partner school of Hockerill and takes in orphans from the south of Tamil Nadu as well as serving the local community. It was not what we expected; it is a huge and beautiful school set in grounds with trees and plants everywhere. The children, from four to eighteen, are absolutely delightful and amazingly friendly. The school has an outdoor swimming pool of which we made plentiful use after school most days! During the weekends we went on outings to Tirunelveli where we visited the thousand year old Hindu temple and were blessed by the elephant god Ganesh, to the teak

Padmanabhapuram Palace which used to belong to the kings of Travancore, and to the seaside resort of Kanyakumari where we had a picnic. From Monday to Friday during both weeks we stayed at the school we taught the children in the mornings, either in the Kindergarten or in the Middle School. This was a super experience but we discovered that it can require a lot of patience! Every afternoon we ran rehearsals preparing all a hundred and ten Year 7 students to put on the Walt Disney Musical Adventure Moana. Some of us taught the music particularly the singing; some of us taught the acting; some taught the dance; while others of us designed the costumes, the backdrop and the make-up. Everyone had an important role. At least twice a week we went into the local town of Vallioor in the evening where we were free to wander and shop before meeting up in a local beautifully air-conditioned restaurant! We celebrated birthdays with such dinners and huge birthday cakes! On the Thursday of our second week at the school we put on the dress rehearsal which went reasonably well! The next day the performance was put on to an audience of a thousand students, teachers and parents and it was an outstanding success – the Kings students excelled, and we were very proud of them. That same evening, we had a party by the swimming pool for which the girls dressed up in saris with plaits of jasmine in our hair! That same night we flew back via Abu Dhabi to Heathrow arriving on the morning of Sunday 21st July. Our eighteen day trip had gone in a flash and it was truly a life-changing experience.



News from the Governing Body

Mrs R Lawson and Dr J Braekman

On behalf of the Governing Body, we would like to congratulate and celebrate the huge achievement of students and staff for a very impressive set of examination results.

The Governing Body oversees all different aspects of school life through its various committees. Find out who is involved [here](#) This term we welcome our new partnership governor, Mr Chris Wall, whose children formerly attended the College, on to the Governing Body. Chris has remained connected with the College through HPF and brings a wide range of professional and pastoral skills to our board.

Our governance work this term is broad and varied. As the building projects near completion, our focus turns to strategic planning for the next phase of the College's development. We encourage anyone in the position to support the College financially to please [get in touch here](#). We will be looking to repurpose the former Science rooms into new classrooms and using some of this area to enhance social space for Durham House boarding facilities. The former gymnasium will be converted into a Sixth Form Centre, funds permitting. A contribution of £500,000 must be raised to realise these goals. We would like to thank our Development Fund contributors for their support for the current projects and their continued support for the upcoming work. Similarly we thank Hockerill Parents and Friends for their fundraising and friend raising work.

A key priority is to carry out the recruitment process for the permanent post of Principal of our College and advertisements marketing this post have just been posted. We are fortunate to have impressive experience in depth at a senior leadership level and recognise our good fortune in having Ms Pearson and Mr Mackenzie in role as Joint Acting Principals and Mr Jones as Acting Vice Principal.

Wishing all members of the Hockerill community a successful academic year.

The Humans in Space Youth Art Competition

Mr E Vine

This started life as a Global Arts Competition covering the entire spectrum of the Creative Arts, encompassing Dance, Fine Art, Music Composition and Performance, Creative Writing and more. It is now run by the Sci/Art Exchange organisation <http://www.sciartex.net/> and the link takes you to the list of world class companies and organisations that support and engage with this fantastic project.

Successful entrants and winners are published worldwide and at relevant events. Hockerill students have been highly successful in this competition in years past and have had their work displayed or performed at events as the opening of the NASA Symposiums held around the world about Humans in Space, for example our students performed in Cologne in front of an international audience of space engineers and scientists.

Many congratulations to Year 13s Brett Rushman and Dominic Tatchell who were awarded a first place and third place respectively, it was quite an achievement.

Nihongo Cup Japanese Speech Contest

Mrs A Rajakumar

On a sunny Saturday on 22nd June, the Finals Day of the Nihongo Cup Japanese Speech Contest for Secondary School Students 2019 was held at the Nissan Institute of Japanese Studies, University of Oxford.

Every year, the judges and audience get to hear fantastic speeches from talented young Japanese-learners around the UK, and this year the finalists really surpassed themselves. Topics included (but were not limited to): ideal towns, tea ceremony, animal testing, the importance of empathy, personal growth and much, much more.

The contest started off with a whopping seventy-two individual applicants from nineteen different schools, all competing for the coveted eighteen places in the finals. Year10's Emma Troman took first prize in the Key Stage 4&5 Pre-GCSE category, with a very sophisticated and well-constructed speech discussing empathy. Olivia Boutell also impressed the judges greatly with her discussion on the topic of the many aspects of 'fear'.

Here are the summaries of Emma and Olivia's Speeches:

Emma:

共感することの大切さ

The importance of Empathy

When a child fails an exam, their mother says 'Don't give up!'. This makes the child sad because it doesn't mean anything. Instead, the mother can tell the child about her own failure, building a connection between them. Often, we become stubborn and can't understand other perspectives. We become absorbed in our lives and forget about others. But with empathy, we can help each other. We become kinder and happier. So let's practice empathy! When you argue with somebody, ask yourself 'What are they thinking? Why? Have I ever felt that?'. Maybe it can be solved. Next time you hear about a disaster on the news, don't say "That's a shame". Instead, close your eyes and imagine. 'What are they feeling? Have I ever felt that?'

Olivia:

しんぱいなこと

について

About Fear

This speech will explore various types of 'fear', and how we react to being scared in different ways. Everyone has a phobia of something; some people are scared of spiders, while some people are scared of public speaking, so fear is something we have all experienced. I would like to talk about how fear can be both positive and negative, and how we can overcome it. Finally, I will explain some differences between what people are afraid of in the UK compared to Japan, and how samurai dealt with fear in the past.



South Africa Hockey and Netball Sports Tour 2019

Miss J Perry

The day after we finished College for the summer, 37 students in years 8-11 and 5 members of staff met at Hockerill in full tour kit to begin the South African sports tour. We flew to Cape Town via Dubai, and after two long flights we arrived at our hotel in the centre of Cape Town. We had dinner and settled down for an early night ready for a big day ahead.

Day 2 was very busy, we were up early for breakfast, then headed straight to Table Mountain to catch the cable car to the top. The views were amazing until the cloud covered us as we wandered around the top. After lunch at a waterfront restaurant, we then headed to Hout Bay where we caught a boat to Seal island, to observe the wild seals in their natural habitat. The sea was very rough and made for a fun boat trip. We finished with Boulders Beach, to observe the wild penguins.

Day 3 started with a pro-led hockey training session at the Hartleyvale hockey stadium where students worked hard to get ready for their hockey games. In the afternoon we visited the Cape Town aquarium at the V&A Waterfront where we stayed for our evening meal.

Day 4 started with a pro-led netball training session. This was the students' chance to practice their skills in their tour teams before their matches. The students also spent some time enjoying the sports centre's giant soft play area.

After lunch it was off for our first fixtures, playing against the independent Curro Durbanville School. The girls worked hard in their matches, and enjoyed a post-match get together with the South African students.

Day 5 we were up and off to catch a boat for a tour of Robben Island, including a tour of the prison with a former prisoner. The students were really engaged in the tour and asked lots of questions. It was fascinating to learn more about the history of the island.

Once back on dry land and after lunch at the V&A we were off to our second set of fixtures against DF Malan High School. They were incredibly tough competition, and wonderful hosts. Again, we enjoyed a post-match function where the students got to know the South African students.

Day 6 began with a visit to Drakenstein Lion Sanctuary. The guide explained how the lions at the sanctuary were rescued from circuses and nursed back to

health to enjoy the rest of their lives in peace at the sanctuary. We also visited the chimp haven, where chimps are rescued under the same circumstances. The chimps had learned to throw mud at visitors and the students spent time dodging the chimp's playful throws.

After lunch we stopped by a monument to Nelson Mandela, and then it was time for more sports fixtures, and we travelled to the Strand High School. Here again the students played hockey and netball fixtures and enjoyed spending time with the students from the school. The school also made traditional South African snacks for our students to have after their games.

Day 7 began with a trip to the Langa township, where our students helped to run sports activities for the local primary students. The students taught basic hockey and netball skills, and also joined in tag rugby and other games. After working at the township, we headed to the beach for the afternoon, where the brave paddled in the sea and the rest ate ice-cream.

For the evening we headed up Signal hill, to watch the paragliders and the amazing African sunset.

Day 8 began by looking around the local craft market in Greenmarket square to buy some souvenirs. Some of our students were very good at haggling, and they bought an array of keepsakes and gifts. After a quick bus tour of Cape Town, we headed to a food market for lunch, and some henna tattoos.

We then headed to the V&A waterfront for some shopping and dinner at the Quay 4 waterside restaurant.

Day 9 we were up and checked out to head to the private Aquilla game reserve. On arrival we had lunch and checked into our accommodation. We then went for an evening safari, where students saw rhinos, elephants, zebras, hippos and much more.

Day 10 was a very early start as we prepared for a very early and very cold morning safari. We were very lucky on this day to see the lions, and the baby rhinos.

After the safari we headed back to Cape Town on a very quiet coach. When we had checked back in to our hotel, we ran the Hockerill sports tour quiz and awards.

Day 11 was our last day in Cape Town. We visited a local shopping mall and took a long walk along the promenade in the sunshine. We then headed to the airport to begin the long journey back to Hockerill.

The students and staff all had a fantastic time. I would like to thank the staff for accompanying the tour and thank the students for such a fantastic tour. The students worked very hard in the training sessions and all their fixtures. They enjoyed all the activities and visits and represented Hockerill proudly. I look forward to the next tour!







Hockerill Haircut

On Thursday 20th June a group of twenty students and staff, led by Keya Morzaria-Patel and Artie Littler had between seven and twelve inches cut off their hair in order to donate it to the Little Princess Trust to make wigs for cancer patients. Mr Coleman and Allan Lester were sponsored to have their heads shaved. The afternoon was a huge success and was very well supported. We are delighted to announce that

the team smashed their original total and raised £5,892 in all. Well done to everyone involved for such a fantastic effort.

Music Department News

We would like to congratulate all the students who sat ABRSM exams at the end of last term, in particular:

Molly Box – Grade 8 Piano

Emily Isaacs – Grade 7 Saxophone

Sakura Fish – Grade 8 violin (distinction)

Jara Santolaria – Grade 8 Cello

Year 12's Felicity Henry achieved an ABRSM Diploma on the clarinet.

At the same time Mrs Morrow-Plant completed her Grade8athon with

fantastic results; playing eight different instruments, she achieved Grade 1,3,5,6,7,8 with Distinction and Grades 2 and 4 with Merit. She has raised £4500 for Petals which will help them keep their Harlow office open for another year, this is an amazing achievement and one which the charity, which supports parents who have experienced trauma or loss during pregnancy or birth, appreciates enormously. If anyone would like to contribute, please follow the link - <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/amy-morrow-grade8athon>



Cornwall Surf Trip

Early on the last day of term fourteen students and two staff packed the minibus and set off to chase the waves. Some eight hours later we arrived at our base for the next four nights of camping in the



picturesque village of Gwithian on the north Cornish coast. We set up camp, ate fish and chips in Hayle and headed to the beach. Some of us paddled although the sea was pretty chilly. We played cricket, built sandcastles and watched the most beautiful sunset before heading to bed.

Over the next three days we ate eggs and bacon for breakfast, pasties at lunchtime, scones, jam and clotted cream in the afternoon. We all helped prepare the evening meals with Mr Russell and Mr Mackenzie although we did take advantage of the Pizza van on Monday evening. Each day we

Map It Out Careers Fair

Mrs A Winship

The Careers Department is very much looking forward to its biennial Careers Fair on the 15th October; we do still have space for more stalls and so would be delighted to hear from any parents who would be willing to give a couple of hours talking to students about either their career or the organisation or industry they work in. This is a fantastic opportunity for students to learn about the world of opportunities available to them and we are really keen for them to gain an insight into as many different careers as possible, so would be very grateful for any offers of support. If you would like to get involved please contact myself via the college switchboard or email winshipa@hockerill.com I look forward to hearing from you.

MAP IT OUT CFI9

HPF update

We have a number of events planned this year including:

Candlelit Supper - Friday 11th October in St Albans Hall

All welcome! £15 per ticket, to include a buffet meal and drink upon arrival. Licensed bar and cosy tables, so bring friends or come along and meet new parents in your year group. Featuring live music by Hockerill's talented jazz musicians. Tickets on sale via WisePay now.

HPF social evening - Thursday 14th November in Bishops Stortford

A chance to meet parents from across all years at Hockerill in a relaxed setting – the venue is to be confirmed.

Hockerill Christmas Market - Sunday 8th December

Our fantastic Christmas Market, with amazing stalls and skating rink! Lots of helpers required for this event - arranging, setting up, running stalls and tidying away on the day - so any support would be gratefully received.

You can follow us on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/HockerillParentsandFriends>

email us at hpf@hockerill.com or sign up for more regular updates at <http://eepurl.com/gDsh5f>



had four hours of surfing lessons on Gwithian Beach. Freddie was our lead coach and he taught us how to paddle to catch a wave and then stand up. Some of us were better at this than others but by the end of the first day most of the group could stand up and ride a broken wave. Although the waves were pretty small they were ideal for learning and throughout the week we all became better at selecting the best waves; by day three many of us were changing direction and riding along a wave. The surfing was great fun and we all enjoyed being on the beach and in the sea every day. Gwithian Academy of Surfing looked after us really well and made sure we all progressed. We were also taught about sea safety and learned about the sea conditions; a couple of the group had to cope with a Weaver Fish sting which appeared to be pretty painful.

In the evening we played on the beach, played pitch and putt golf and went for a walk and ice cream in St Ives.

Throughout the week the weather was lovely and this made the trip even more enjoyable.

This trip was a great start to the summer holidays and most the group were keen to hit the beach again during the long break.