

BEDDE'S

CURIOUS

Autumn 2022



EVENTS

REMEMBRANCE

Since writing to you in October there has been many poignant moments at Bede's. To begin - the Act of Remembrance.

The heart is warmed by a community gathered around a focal point, which never ceases to shift our attention to the bigger picture. Services like the Act of Remembrance has the ability to shake us out of the monotony and chaos of modern life. There is something about 1000 people standing in silence, where a reality beyond the individual is so deeply tangible. We are grateful for all of our community whose participation and respect made it the special service it was. The school donated £300 to the Royal British Legion.

In October Peter Thorely, the Chaplain of the Matthew 25 Mission in Eastbourne, addressed the School in chapel. He spoke sincerely about the compassionate work of the Mission which makes itself available for the most vulnerable in their community. By offering a hot meal as a doorway to healing, the charity walks side by side with those in need. The School's response was humbling. We managed to donate 23 crates of food, providing 750 meals for their kitchen.

The charity has since granted Bede's with Community Champion status for this substantial support. We pray that this will be the beginning of a long lasting relationship with the Mission. It is also inspiring that the Mission has offered two of our Upper Sixth pupils, Josh and Alana, the opportunity to become youth trustees on their board. Truly heart-warming news!

May the grace and peace of Christmas lighten your lives

Jarrold Taylor
Chaplain



CHRISTMAS POP UP LIBRARY

Ahead of the holidays, there can be few better things to contemplate than a winter's afternoon spent curled up on the sofa with a wonderful book to read.

As the term drew to a close, therefore, it was superb to see our termly pop-up library again ushering in the festive season with twinkling lights, a playlist of Christmas classics and, of course, a wealth of gleaming new books just waiting to be picked up. Though each pupil in the First Year is, at this point, well used to the idea of having a private reading book with them for English lessons, it is always great to tempt pupils to read just a little more widely. With piles of fiction texts and non-fiction books on every conceivable subject - from the economics of football to the origins of fast food - this pop-up has something for everyone. On the day, over 200 books were issued to pupils in all year groups, so we look forward to hearing what our pupils have enjoyed in January, as we launch a school-wide focus on the transformative mental health benefits of reading.

Sarah Evans
Librarian



DORMS BOARDING HOUSE OPENING

Robin Fletcher, CEO of the Boarding Schools Association (BSA) officially opened the new boarding house at Bede's Senior School on 12 October 2022.

Although the new boarding accommodation, Dorms House, opened its doors to the very first pupils at the start of this term, Bede's were delighted to welcome Mr Fletcher to the official ribbon-cutting event.



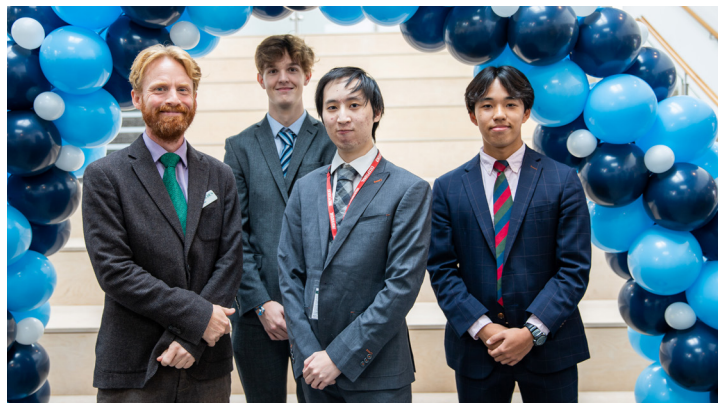
The grand opening welcomed both current and alumni pupils from old Dorms House, contractors, Sunninghill, Bede's Estates team, Governors and house staff for this very memorable occasion.



Bede's has a reputation for its outstanding boarding provision – boasting five stunning boarding houses, two of which have been recognised by the Institute of Chartered Surveyors for their Outstanding Design and Innovation. The latest addition to the boarding portfolio was a project started before the pandemic and whilst delayed, the finished result is testament to the hard work and dedication of both external contractors and Bede's own Estates team.

The stunning new development draws inspiration from its location next to the South Downs and includes modern facilities, accommodating 70 beds with scope for higher capacity, as well as a 170 square meter atrium, learning spaces, flexible spaces for meetings and conferences, offices, kitchen facilities, and storage areas. It also uses an eco-friendly heat source as part of the Trust's pledge to reduce its carbon footprint and create a greener

environment for their community. There is a focus of nature and the environment throughout the house, featuring wood finishes and floor to ceiling windows.



Guests to the opening event heard heartfelt speeches from Bede's Chair of Governors, Mrs Watkins and Headmaster and CEO, Peter Goodyer, before the official ribbon cutting, after which guests were invited to tour the facilities, now very much home to the boarders.

This opening event recognised all of the hard work that has gone into the 3-year plan and build of the stunning new boarding house. It also marks the beginning of a new chapter for Bede's pupils – particularly those in Dorms house who have a new home from home.

Robin Fletcher, CEO from the BSA (Boarding Schools Association) remarked: "It was an honour and privilege to be invited to open Bede's new boarding house, Dorms, see such excellent facilities, meet the dedicated members of the house boarding team and some of the boarders. Dorms is a great example of first-class, 21st century boarding accommodation which I am sure will be appreciated by all current and future pupils."



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CABARET

One of the school's blue-chip events, Cabaret, was held in the Sports Complex again after a hiatus of three years.

This is an event which, as was said on the night, '... hopefully rivals that of not only any other school, but of any professional establishment, too'. Cabaret is one of those events that are special because of the sheer breadth and depth of talent that Bede's enjoys: it is made so by the hard work of, not only the teachers, but also support staff and external crew who make the MPH look like a professional theatre: the draping, proscenium arch stage and floor laid with deep, midnight-blue carpet, make it feel like a winter wonderland! The performances truly transported us all to another world: to hear Davina Ifie-Sekibo solo in Lola's Theme, to hear the concert band perform The Best of Bruno Mars and Waltz of the Flowers from Tchaikovsky's The Nutcracker was stunning. The evening consisted of fabulous performances from the Legat department: they enhanced the music no end, and I am grateful to Sherrie Pennington for all her leadership and creativity to help make Cabaret the success it was.

There really are too many pupils (over 100) to thank and mention, but some notable performances in their last year at Bede's include Trinity Gott, Nicholas Bernhardsen, Fearghus Beauchamp, Edie Carruthers, Anoushka Beardshaw, Sophia Titterton-Manos, Veronica Travers, Flossie Wilson and Grace Watkins, amongst many others. This year, I was delighted to be able to invite back four notable music alumni to Bede's who performed alongside our pupils (including our Prep School): Ed Stokes (music arranger and producer); Georgia-Mae Ellis (soprano and rising star in the opera world); Rosa Parris-Witts (choral singer, director and music arranger); Alice Auer (solo artist, who has headlined major pop events, such as headlining London gigs, and the Glastonbury Emerging Talent competition). We were treated to various and superb performances from them all. It was incredibly inspiring to hear how they have come on, and to see them perform alongside Bede's musicians.

Ending the evening, everyone took to the dance floor, dancing the night away accompanied by the jazz band with numbers such as About Damntime, It Don't Mean A Thing, Dancin' Fool, Man in the Mirror, and Ain't No Mountain High Enough. Anticipation is already building for the next Cabaret! We can't wait.

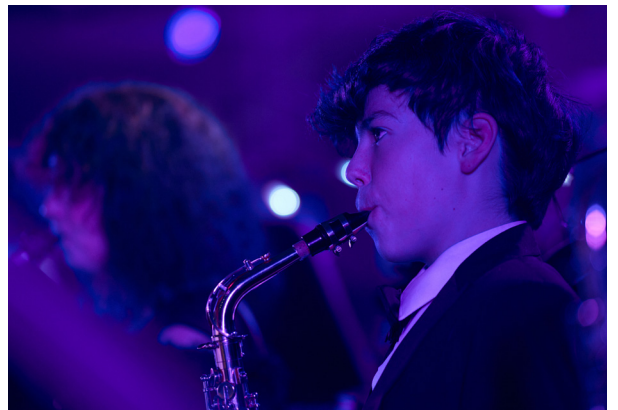
Robert Scamardella
Director of Music



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TALK WITH JOHN AMAECHI

On Wednesday 30 November, Headmaster Peter Goodyer hosted a talk with John Amaechi OBE.

John is an organisational psychologist, award-winning author, public speaker and executive coach and founder of APS Intelligence Ltd.

In conversation with Mr Goodyer, John Amaechi spoke on a range of topics including education and diversity. John spoke about the racism and discrimination that he had experienced in his life and warned against the dangers of both of unconscious bias and affinity bias, which leads people to surround themselves with people similar to themselves. He urged his audience to embrace differences and be curious and open to people from different backgrounds. John also implored us to challenge micro-aggressions where we encounter them in our everyday lives.

Speaking about education, he talked about his views on the importance of building emotional literacy in schools and helping our young people find strategies to cope with lives which are likely to feature many moments of frustration or challenge. He spoke persuasively about the benefits for young people in having agile and emotionally stable minds and argued that in many ways a person's emotional intelligence was more important than their intellectual capacity.

John finished the session by taking questions which had been submitted by parents, including one on how to build effective teams. He was also asked how we could help young people navigate the challenges on social media and encouraged parents to remain vigilant about their children's online behaviour and to find time in their busy lives to create "cocoon" spaces and moments where they are completely focussed on their children. When addressing a question about how to help young people improve their personal efficacy, he spoke about the importance of self-awareness and of ensuring that they get enough sleep!



GUEST SPEAKER: NICCI CLARK

On Thursday 24 November, we welcomed Nicci Clark who delivered a fascinating seminar discussing business enterprise.

We were very grateful to our guest speaker Nicci Clark, who provided a very insightful discussion about starting your own business. Nicci is the CEO and founder of Re:Nourish; the world's first fresh soup in a microwaveable, fully recyclable bottle.

Here Bradley Bover (Lower Sixth BTEC Business pupil) gives us an overview:

What were the biggest things you learnt from the talk/presentation?

When you have your own business idea keep it to yourself as anyone may steal it and the importance of legally protecting your invention.

Were there any bits of information which surprised you?

When Nicci Clark wanted to start her own business of "Soup In A Bottle" she was unable to get a loan from a bank or get any investors so to raise capital to invest into her business idea so she decided to sell her house and use the money to start up Re:Nourish. Nicci used the finance to research and develop the world's first microwavable and fully recyclable bottle.

Why do you think it's important to attend talks/presentations like this?

It's important because it makes you aware of what happens in the real world and understand that it's not easy to start up a business. It gives you a bigger perspective of the learning that takes place in the classroom and how that knowledge is applied in reality and in practical situations.

BEDE'S

The 42 Club presents:
NICCI CLARK
CEO & Founder of RE: NOURISH

TALK ABOUT BUSINESS ENTREPRENEURSHIP
Insightful discussion

Thursday 24th November 2022

LOCATION
Recital Room
5:15 - 6:30pm

Our speaker
NICCI CLARK
CEO & Founder of RE: NOURISH

Souperstar Journey
With a background in critical care nursing, in 2010 Nicci started a pioneering diet company, nourished, specialising in nutritionally balanced fresh meals delivered to the door.
In 2021 RE: NOURISH is officially the fastest growing soup brand and is now stocked in Waitrose, Sainsbury's, Ocado, Wholefoods and Planet organic to name a few!

RE: NOURISH

FINALIST
Winner of the Year

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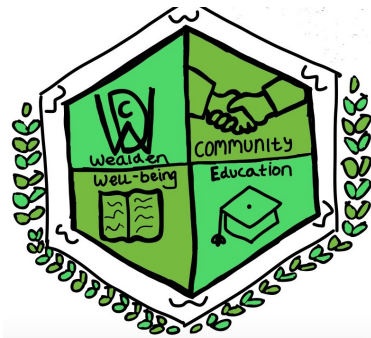
CHARITY AND COMMUNITY

BEDE'S PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMME

It's been another busy term for Bede's Partnership programme.

We were delighted to start the Wealden partnership at the end of last year involving 10 primary and secondary schools in the local area. In October, school council representatives from each school met together for the first time to share ideas and discuss how they would like the partnership programme to grow. It was a fantastic occasion to welcome over 100 pupils from the local Wealden area, joining forces and planning how we can best serve all pupils in the community. Pupils were able to brainstorm in mixed school groups, many of the ideas taken on board and coming to fruition this year.

Pupils were asked to design a logo for the Wealden School Partnership, the winner of which was Sienna Greenlees from Heathfield Community College.



Before half term, we joined forces again with Young at Heart day centre group from Heathfield. Ten members were able to join us to make cakes in the food room. The Young at Heart group visit many schools in the local area, so it was lovely that they could come and do something different with us. They were supported by some of our Sixth Form pupils who did an excellent job, caring and ensuring all tasks were safely carried out.



41 of our Sixth Form pupils have started to provide reading support at our local primary school. Pupils use their free time to help support and listen to children read of all ages. This support system not only greatly benefits the local school, but helps to grow confidence and independence in our pupils. The volunteering hours go towards completion of their Bede's Diploma, a worthwhile addition to any UCAS application.

On the 15 December, we joined forces with the wider Dicker community to sing carols and enjoy some food together. It was so lovely to get together and enjoy a bit of Christmas cheer. Pupils were involved in making the food for the event along with printing programmes and even managed a snow machine too.



Mary Leggett
Head of Partnership and Social Responsibility

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PERFORMING ARTS

Performing Arts Faculty: An overview of an exciting term

I write this newsletter as our wonderful Cabaret is being packed away and I still have the up tempo brilliance of **Copacabana** on an audio and visual loop, the emotion of the Barbershop's **You Raise Me Up** and the question of how did we pull it off in the midst of such a busy term? And one word sums it up: teamwork. A cliché perhaps, but it's true. The combination of the faculty's creativity and ambition on a foundation of highly talented pupils, eager to perform, rolled into one epic production and of course led by a Music Department that simply knows how to do it...and we have Cabaret! I cannot thank Mr Scamardella and his team highly enough for all of the hours of preparation and rehearsal that went into making this event such a success. Echoing Mr Scamardella's words later in our newsletter - Mrs Pennington, our Head of the Legat Dance Academy was also inspirational in her pursuit of brilliance for all of the Legat dancers.



The term has never been busier with masterclasses and live theatre events: a crucial element of our educational and creative diet. A particular highlight for me was the First Year Drama and English Trip to the Barbican where we feasted on **My Neighbour Totoro** and the Year 9 pupils watched awe-inspiring performance and design. The Legat Dance Academy found further inspirations on a trip to Sadlers Wells to see **Zoonations Mixtape** and later in the term to Wembley's Troubadour Theatre to watch **Peaky Blinders**.

Mr Rennison directed our School Play, **Coriolanus**, and dipping into rehearsals it was heartening to see pupils from First Year to Upper Sixth working cheek by jowl with such a sense of creative purpose.



We have experienced a few firsts too: This term saw our First Year 9 **BIG SING** led by the music department who delighted in seeing many pupils enjoy singing as a collective before being snapped up to join Bede's Singers - who are on the brink of performing at St.Bartholomews in Brighton. Eight pupils from across the school enjoyed a weekly **Mask and Props masterclass** from the wonderful Glyndebourne prop artist, Rose Beale. The work this group have produced throughout the term is stunning and we will have a waiting list next year!

I wish all of our wonderful, hard working pupils, a restful and joyous Christmas and look forward to seeing them return ready for new adventures.

Karen Lewis
Director of Performing Arts

PERFORMING ARTS

LEGAT

This term has been incredibly busy not only with our regular classes of ballet, jazz, contemporary and tap but with rehearsals for Bede's Cabaret, professional workshops and theatre trips.

We were delighted to welcome Terry Hyde from Counselling for Dancers to educate our pupils on dealing with anxiety and coping mentally with injuries.

Eugenio Contenti from the American Musical and Dramatic Academy led a workshop on audition technique and the further training courses they have available in the New York and Los Angeles colleges and the brilliant Alastair Postlethwaite led a musical theatre jazz class finishing with a routine from Gypsy.

The Legat company took a trip to Sadlers Wells to see an amazing performance of ZooNations Mixtape and the Upper Fifth and Sixth Form dancers were fortunate to see a performance of Rambert's Peaky Blinders at Wembley's Troubadour before they embark on a UK tour.

It was wonderful to finish the term with our own performance at Bede's Cabaret and we were delighted to welcome back our Legat alumni who were thrilled to join us and celebrate the return of this brilliant event after its three year absence.

Sherrie Pennington
Head of Legat Dance Academy



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PERFORMING ARTS

MUSIC

What a busy and productive term! As I write, we have just finished Cabaret, and are preparing for the carol service at St. Bart's, Brighton, tomorrow.

The year got off to a fantastic start with auditions for Cabaret, Bede's Singers and instrumental lessons. We are delighted that so many new pupils are joining ensembles - particularly Rock Band and Bede's Singers. It is so heartening to welcome pupils to all our various activities and take advantage of all the opportunities of music here at Bede's. Whilst Bede's Fest was sadly cancelled owing to the death of Her late Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, our other activities have continued and grown, needless to say, it is wonderful to have live performance back. Our first major event this term was the return of House Music, where the whole school was involved in one or more of the four elements: Big Song, Small Song, Solo or Instrumental category.

Please read our write-up on the wonderful event, House Music by Joshua Ting, an Upper Fifth pupil to follow.

After half-term, we hosted two smaller-scale events, a masterclass with Dr John Frederick Hudson: Dr Hudson gave a memorable and truly enlightening class to Sam French, Alfie Burton and Trinity Gott on the art of performance. All three were supported by their music scholar friends, and it was a lovely intimate occasion where we could witness, first-hand, Dr Hudson's insightful and deeply thoughtful teaching. A second, smaller-scale recital was hosted by Mr Aburn, and featured a number of our junior musicians performing a captivating programme of repertoire, from solo songs, to upbeat jazz numbers. This was the first outing for many of our young musicians in their career at Bede's.



Robert Scamardella
Director of Music



PERFORMING ARTS

HOUSE MUSIC

As ever there are House Competitions running throughout the year, but House Music is always a highlight. And what an evening it was!

The sports hall was transformed into a professional concert venue with an electric atmosphere we could all sense, setup with professional lighting, sound and dramatic effects. All the houses had been separated into four different groups, Stickways, Doristud, Knormston and Kambersbury and the contest was fierce. Before the main event houses attended rehearsals with the Director of Music, Mr Scamardella for the Big Song, Small Song, the band and solos. Everyone was practising relentlessly in their groups, hopeful that they would be crowned House Music 2022 champions! The whole event showcased the enthusiasm and dedication of all pupils, staff and the technical crew.

As a member of Stickways I was extremely proud of the energy that everyone had given and our house spirit, encouraging other groups in their performances. All houses had something unique and personal in their performance, and their rehearsal time together to make the performance seamless, was evident. As a soloist, I was thankful for the opportunity that my "house" had given me to perform a medley of two of my original songs "Answer the Call" and "Runaway". These two songs in English, Cantonese and Spanish encapsulate the feeling when I'm far away from home and missing my friends and family in my home country. On the day, I was so grateful for the reception and encouragement the Bede's community gave me, with pupils waving their phones lit up against the darkness - I brimmed with confidence the whole time I was on stage. I am so delighted I won the solo category and I could participate and contribute to help my house to achieve points in the inter-house competition.



The standard was exceptionally high and every soloist - especially Charlie Swan - performed incredibly well. One of the things which touched me most was how different cultures came together - it was wonderful to be part of this. From our Big Song, 'I'm Gonna Be (500 Miles)', to our small song, no matter what group we were in, we came together on this special occasion as a whole school community. Ultimately, despite the competition and high stakes, House Music is not about winning, it's about participating, working together and supporting one another. House Music is very special at Bede's, one of the highlights of the calendar, showcasing the many talents of the pupils and giving the pupils from far and wide a sense of belonging. I will hold the moments from this evening in my heart - the evening when my peers came together for a very special performance. This event would not be possible without the help of technical crew - Mr Hopkins, Mr Phelps, the band - Mr Scamardella, Mr Aburn and Mr Williams, Mr Boorman and the house staff, and to them, we are hugely grateful.

Joshua Ting
Upper Fifth Pupil



PERFORMING ARTS

DRAMA

It has been another fantastic term for Drama at Bede's and the pupils are going from strength to strength. The pupils we welcomed into the First Year and Lower Sixth have quickly found their feet in the department. With the First Years taking part in our newly reinvigorated program in which they have begun to understand the technical and design opportunities used in theatrical performance. The Lower Sixth dramatists are a veritable legion of theatrical provocateurs and philosophers and both these year groups are devising performances investigating the plight of migrants.

We have seen pupils be their kind and creative best on multiple occasions throughout the term, in attending one another's performances and coming together twice in drama assemblies to voice their opinions and offer guidance. It was within the second edition of this forum where after sifting through application letters and meeting a select group at interview we revealed the new Drama prefect, a redoubtable young man who has offered greatly to the school and who we know will set up the role for a legacy of success.

We welcomed RSC actor Johothan Livingstone in to share his skills during a classical voice masterclass which was attended by 50 pupils, who participated for 4 hours and came away with a shared confidence to experiment with an emotionally connected voice.



As ever the term has been thick with theatre trips and the department took the bold decision to take two coaches of First Year pupils to the Barbican Theatre to watch the epic production of *My Neighbour Totoro*, a dazzling production infused with colour and theatrical magic. Our Upper Fifth attended a production of *Noughts and Crosses* produced by Pilot Theatre, a play which will be integral to their development over the coming academic year. The Sixth Form pupils were audience to Frantic Assembly's version of *Othello*, a modern retelling of the tragedy relocated in a northern pub and our Upper Sixth were lucky to catch a production of Ibsen's lesser produced play, *John Gabriel Borkman* with Simon Russel Beale at the helm.



The wonderful work of the pupils brought together a very special version of Shakespeare's *Coriolanus*. The vocal flair and clarity that they expressed in the public performance was wonderful, they were able to find freedom within the poetry and release instinct and emotion. One of my favourite parts of the process was seeing the various year groups working together and each of them caring and assisting each other.



It's been a busy term for all our pupils and each class has been set pieces of prep to complete over the Christmas break. We look forward to working together in the Spring term and please may we thank you for maintaining your support for the department.

Will Rennison
Head of Academic Drama

PERFORMING ARTS

CAROL SERVICE

The term ended with our festive Carol Service in St. Bartholomew's Church, Brighton. The church was once again packed with our entire community of pupils and staff, over two services, before everyone enjoyed venturing out into the December snow on house outings. The Bede's Singers performed a selection of Christmas choral arrangements with real beauty and finesse, including O Holy Night and We Need A Little Christmas, and pupils from across the community gave Bible readings, as is traditional in this kind of service. It certainly put everyone in the mood for Christmas!

Robert Scamardella
Director of Music



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CREATIVE ARTS

THE LEGACY OF CREATIVITY WITH CLAY AT THE DICKER

The Creative Arts Faculty has got off to a great start during the first term of the new academic year. New artworks, workshops and opportunities have arisen. With regards to workshops this has included for our pupils but also the wider community.

The end of the last Academic year saw us say goodbye to Anthony Hammond after 28 years of

leading the Ceramics department at the Dicker. Mr Hammond has ventured to the Scottish Borders – just in time for the winter snow. Mr Hammond's legacy is to be seen everywhere around the campus and his passion, commitment and creativity with teaching ceramics shines through the work. These sculptures are dotted all around the campus - along with the art works that adorn the buildings inside and out. These



sculptures include the wonderful modernist work in the middle of the lake (Pictured). However, as we say goodbye to Mr Hammond, we welcome Ms Christie and Miss Wafer – who are bringing a new energy to the Art department. Next term, Ms Christie is introducing a textile activity while Miss Wafer is experimenting with ceramic glazes and working with glass and ceramics. This is an exciting time where new approaches will merge with past legacies.

This year also sees Miss Excell return to her role as Head of Photography – after Mrs Walpole's brilliant cover of the role. The photography, like the ceramics, adorns the school and the pupils mix tradition skills with contemporary approaches.

There is a long history at ceramics at The Dicker that goes way beyond Mr Hammond's reign – in fact he was carrying the mantle of a longer tradition.

Creating with clay has taken place in the Kennels at Bede's for over 35 years. However, fragments of pots dating from the Neolithic period have



been found in Sussex. Back in 1843, Uriah Clark set up The Dicker Pottery – on the site of an earlier 18th Century pottery. The Dicker Pottery specialised in earthenware until it merged with The Boship Green Pottery in 1912. The First and Second World War had their impact and the business had highs and lows – eventually closing in 1956. Pot emblazoned with the 'Dicker Ware' logo can still be found and The Boship Green Pottery still exists.

So, creativity with clay has existed since at least the Neolithic period, boomed in the Victorian era and 20th Century and has been alive and well at Bede's for almost four decades - with multiple pupils going off to study sculpture, jewellery design and prop design - carrying the ceramic sculptural tradition into the 21st Century.

Jonathan Turner
Head of Creative Arts Faculty



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ACADEMIC

What does the future hold? There's never a day at Bede's where something isn't happening. As I write this article, the last seven days have seen the superb Cabaret performance to promote and celebrate performing arts, House trips to build community and friendships, reports and assessments to provide a snapshot of pupil progress and Christmas jumper wearing to give pupils an opportunity to raise money for charity.

Time is flying by, and it will shortly be the end of term - when I hope that pupils, colleagues and family alike take a break.

In this fast-paced life, it can sometimes be difficult to keep track of time. I was born 44 years ago in 1978 (although, obviously, when asked by the pupils I'm celebrating my 30th birthday and have been for the last 14 years). What were the big stories of 1978? Big movies that year were The Deer Hunter and Grease, Space Invaders just launched in Japan, Night Fever by the Bee Gees was top of the charts - and the World Cup winners were Argentina (so maybe some things might not change - although I do write this a few days before the 2022 Final).

A similar period of 44 years is the difference between 1934 and 1978 - and for someone born in 1934 the world must have been almost unrecognisable 44 years later. The difference between my own formative years and that of pupils today must be vast, as must have been those born in 1934 living through the Second World War when they reached the age at which I was born.

Another 44 years will take us to 2066 - and what direction will society be travelling in by then? How will the young people of today influence those changes and how do we best prepare them for the challenges ahead?

Here at Bede's, we are looking to the future of the young people in our care. Our mission is to craft a more joyful education, cultivating a vibrant learning experience, motivating us to pursue our individual best. We want to provide a festival of opportunity, enabling us to discover new passions and develop new talents and finally we hope to build a kind-hearted community, inspiring us to enhance the lives of others.



Through our academic programme we want to stretch and challenge pupils so that, in addition to their other experiences, all of our pupils are encouraged to develop and succeed whilst also supporting them when they fail.

Failure is very much a part of this and helps to guide and shape their future. For pupils to experience the highs of success they also need to have experienced the feeling of failure. Pupils can often be reluctant to fail - particularly in today's society where failure is often viewed as a negative experience - particularly with social media having such an impact on pupils' lives.

As Henry Ford once said; "If you always do what you've always done, you'll always get what you've always got." and, in particular, for pupils aiming for exams this year there will be failures along the way and changes that need to be made. If pupils are looking to improve it's important to consider what changes they might want to make over the coming months.

As we come to the Christmas break I encourage all pupils to understand that failure is very much a part of success. They should be ambitious, consider what their future may hold and how best to achieve those aims. With the right intentions, and careful consideration of the actions to be taken, pupils can prepare themselves for whatever the future may hold.



Thank you to all parents, families, staff and, of course, our pupils for all they have done this term. There is an exciting future to look forward to, whatever it may look like, and I hope that you all have a fantastic Christmas.

Nicholas Abrams
Assistant Head: Teaching & Learning

STEM

It has been all about the extra trips and events this term for STEM!

Mrs Finat- Duclos writes that she is extremely proud of our First Year pupils who produced some outstanding models for our 'Model of the Atom' competition. Special mention to Abigail Lester (1st prize).



Four of our Sixth Form pupils delivered some fascinating talks during our Dr Joolz Chemistry Symposium, with an outstanding talk from Trinity Gott on treating sewage.



This year saw the return, in person, of the Royal Society of Chemistry Top of the Bench competition. Ethan Davis, Harrison Odendaal (FY), Harrison Tradewell (L5) and Amelia Burden (U5) travelled to Brighton College where they secured third place.

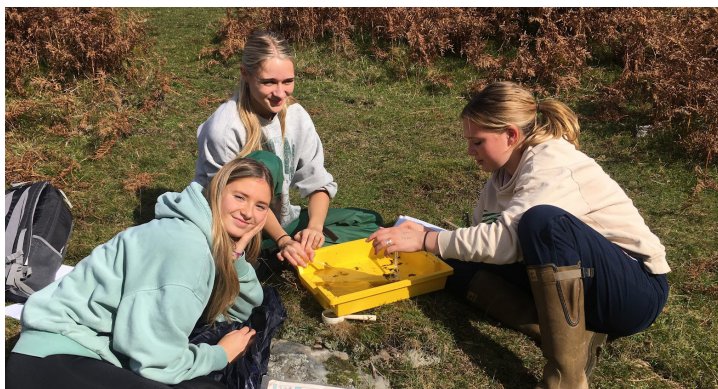


Physics have been enjoying a space theme with a trip to the South Downs Planetarium and some stellar shenanigans at home on 7 December. Our boarding pupils enjoyed a spontaneous astronomy viewing session with our large telescope. The sight of "Big Bertha" set up outside the Science block attracted many casual passers-by en-route to and from supper, and their reward for stopping by and braving the cold was spectacular views of the giant planets Jupiter and Saturn, as well as a nearly full Moon and Mars. All four of Jupiter's Galilean Moons were visible, along with its equatorial cloud belts, but the most breathtaking views were provided by Saturn, displaying its rings in all their glory. More astronomy evenings are scheduled to take place on site in the New Year.



Almost all of the School enjoyed our annual Christmas 'Magic of Maths' lectures, with the endlessly entertaining and thought-provoking Dr Matt Pritchard.

Our Biologists went a little further afield just before half term when we went stomping around the 'Ecosystems of Exmoor'. Always one of my favourite trips as an avid Environmental Biologist!



Wishing you all a Happy Christmas and Happy New Year.

Julia French
Head of STEM Faculty

SHAPE

The SHAPE Faculty continues to offer pupils a wide range of extra-curricular opportunities, on top of supporting large numbers of pupils who are making the transition from First Year to GCSE and A Level, and I am as always grateful to the Faculty staff who work hard to make sure these events run. Speaking of staffing, we have witnessed a 'changing of the guard' in Geography with Jonathan Slinger stepping down to focus on his teaching and new challenges within the school, and Helena Worrall taking over as Head of Department. We also have Faye Hartery taking on more responsibility within the Business & Economics department. I would like to thank Jonathan for his significant contribution over the years, and wish Helena and Faye every success in their new roles.

James Whitaker
Head of SHAPE Faculty

SHAPE MAGAZINE

A number of pupils recently took part in an editorial meeting for the upcoming edition of the SHAPE magazine, which will be published in the New Year. This is written, designed and published by pupils from across all year groups, with minimal input from staff, and will include articles and think-pieces from across the range of SHAPE subjects.



James Whitaker
Head of SHAPE Faculty

BUSINESS & ECONOMICS PUPIL EXPERIENCES

A number of pupils took part in writing competitions, and embedded learning from the classroom into the workplace through part time employment and voluntary work. Fearghus Beauchamp (Upper Sixth, Economics) and Daisy Russell (Upper Sixth, Business Studies) share their thoughts on how these enrichment opportunities benefit their learning and study skills. Fearghus entered the Royal Economic Society's Young Economist of the Year 2022.



What was the title of your essay?

The UK's 'cost of living crisis'. My essay was listed as part of the "commended" category.

What did you learn from entering the competition?

I went into more depth about a topic in economics which I was already really interested in, the cost of living crisis. Everyone in the United Kingdom has been affected in one way or another by the current crisis and finding out more about the causes and who it impacted was really eye-opening. Although the obvious answer is those on lower incomes, I was surprised to learn about the statistics surrounding the impact on children, the disabled and the role geographical inequalities have to play too. As much as this developed my own research and essay writing skills, the outcomes from my research were equally as rewarding.

Why is it of value to "go beyond the syllabus" and enter competitions?

Entering the competition was a great way for me to find out more about the subject I love, economics, and develop what I had already learnt from the A Level syllabus. It was an opportunity to go above and beyond the specification and write about a topic that I was already really interested in. To me, this was extremely important as it not only gives you a lot more confidence in the subject in the classroom, but it also makes a difference in university applications. It definitely helps to make you stand out.

Daisy has a number of commitments that she balances alongside her A Level studies:

What jobs do you have/ have had?

I currently work part-time at a riding stables where I am training to be an instructor as well as completing a range of manual jobs, looking after the horses and providing customer



SHAPE

service. A couple of times a year I also work at the events that Steam Publishing puts on, including the Attitude Awards and the Attitude Pride Awards where I have helped everything to run smoothly, providing customer service and checking people into the event. In the past few years I have volunteered at Mosaic Resource Centre in Tunbridge Wells, helping to decorate for Christmas as well as organising and moving around supplies such as sleeping bags and clothing donations.

What have you learned through this experience?

Through these experiences I have learnt many life skills including team working, resilience and organisational and customer service skills. The content I learnt in the operations chapter in Business A Level, I have witnessed first hand at the Resource Centre. For example; managing inventory by utilising volunteers personal storage spaces in order to minimise fixed costs. Overall, I have become aware of the importance of communication in order to make a business run seamlessly with few errors.

Why do you think it's important to work whilst studying?

I believe working whilst studying provides many benefits, the most obvious attraction to having a job being the money it provides. It also gives me an opportunity to put the skills and knowledge I learn in my A Levels into practice, especially Business A level, and it allows me to see how businesses actually function firsthand.

I also feel like it builds a bridge between school and the real world, preventing me from having to throw myself in the deep end at the end of Sixth Form or after University. I have experienced what working is like as an employee, so I now know what to expect even if it is on a small scale. Finally, I enjoy that it gives me a break from studying and a sense of structure on my weekends as well as allowing me to learn how to manage my finances.

What advice would you give anyone who wants to have a part time job?

I would suggest making sure that you still have time for school work, as being behind on your A levels will not be worth the money you earn. Also, as cliché as it sounds, having a job that you enjoy is so important, this way it feels less like work and provides a break from studying.

Barry Jackson
Head of Business and Economics

GEOGRAPHY FIELDWORK

Fieldwork is a vital part of geographical learning. It is only when pupils have designed their own studies, have collected and analysed their data and have reported their findings that they truly begin to understand where the geographical knowledge in their textbooks comes from. The penny drops that this knowledge has not always just been there, and has not just been made up by clever people, but rather that researchers and academics have conducted systematic studies, experiments and observations in order to find out how the world works and to better understand all the processes involved.



In October, our intrepid Upper Sixth geographers spent five days at the Slapton Ley Field Study Centre in Devon, learning about field study techniques and methods of analysis. They designed and then conducted some interesting studies investigating the relative success of various urban regeneration projects in Plymouth and studied erosion rates and performed cost benefit analyses of coastal defences on the Devon coast. There was time to have some fun too, watching a seal playing in the surf and making s'mores on a fire on the beach. These pupils have then spent the rest of the term analysing their data and writing up their studies. As a team of Geography teachers, we are looking forward to reading their research reports.



Helena Worrall
Head of Geography

SHAPE

MODEL UNITED NATIONS

On Saturday 12 November Miss Webster, Mr McIntosh and Amelia Richards, Izzy Hastings and Sophie Ray took part in our first MUN conference at Royal Grammar School, Guilford. This was a fantastic day, and all three girls gave a seriously impressive performance, having been tasked with representing Turkey and responding to the debates at hand from that country's perspective.



The debates presented cover current geopolitical events facing the UN, such as covering food security impacted by the war in Ukraine and the issue of money laundering. All three girls did themselves and the school proud; Sophie successfully had her resolution passed with a very healthy majority, something that does not happen often. Amelia held her own in a competitive debate by making impressive speeches and ensuring her amendment was passed. Izzy was highly effective in lobbying for support for our resolution and writing new clauses to accommodate compromises with other nations.



In the afternoon things moved up a gear as the girls represented Turkey in the midst of a major international crisis, when a UFO was believed to have landed in Russian territory and seized by Russian

authorities. All three girls lobbied for their clause to be debated on the floor of the UN General Assembly and sought to convince other nations to accept Turkey's proposals. Amelia took to the floor to make an excellent point of order, to argue that this crisis could be a threat to humanity and must be dealt with internationally. Izzy was our top agent in international espionage in gathering vital information by secretly taking photos of classified documents. And all three girls rose to the occasion to ensure the views of Turkey were heard.

Overall, it was a truly brilliant day and we all really enjoyed ourselves. It reached a fantastic conclusion when Amelia was awarded Highly Commended. Being a part of the MUN team develops sophisticated skills of thinking on your feet, problem solving, understanding and absorbing detailed information at a fast pace. You have to quickly respond to new directives or developments, master the art of negotiation and compromise through constructing convincing arguments. Being a successful MUN member requires maturity, aptitude and professionalism. These are fun yet formal academic events where genuine geopolitical issues are addressed.

Emma Webster
Teacher of History and Politics

SHAPE

RELIGION & PHILOSOPHY CONFERENCE



On Wednesday 30 November the A Level RP pupils visited London to attend the EthicQa RS Conference. Pupils had the opportunity to experience a range of key-note speakers covering a range of topics such as 'The Problem of Evil' with Professor Tom Greggs, 'God and Gender' with Professor Daphne Hampson, and 'Is theism rationally defensible' with Professor Keith Ward. There was also an interesting debate with Mr Costi arguing for Absolutism at the end of the day. Pupils found the day to be informative and engaging; for example Theo Gordon-Booth (Lower Sixth) commented that 'the speakers were really interesting and encouraged debate - it was good because for me, it opened up new perspectives I had not considered before.'

Savvas Costi
Head of Religion & Philosophy

UPCOMING TRIPS

Geography and Biology are running a joint trip of a lifetime to Madagascar in July 2023. The Geography Department is delighted that this trip has proven popular and much of this term has been spent laying the groundwork for this trip to successfully run next year.

Later in the school year the History & Politics department is offering pupils the opportunity to visit Washington, DC during October half-term. The GCSE Berlin trip, run in contention with the Languages department, will be departing in February half-term. It is certainly positive to be back in a position where a range of trips can be offered to pupils, and we are certain that all pupils participating will have a great experience.



As Head of SHAPE Faculty I am of course very grateful to my colleagues for putting on such a range of events, and of course to the pupils for supporting these with their energy and enthusiasm. We hope everyone has an enjoyable and relaxing Christmas holiday, and are looking forward to providing an engaging programme of events for the Spring Term.



James Whitaker
Head of SHAPE Faculty

LANGUAGES

With a host of events and a plethora of guest speakers, including a Michelin-starred Basque chef, a fashion writer for Vogue China, a traveller kayaking in Guyana, and an Oxford professor who lived in a badger sett, the Languages Faculty have truly brought the wild, the weird and the wonderful into Bede's classrooms this autumn. We've had competitions, masterclasses on crime fiction and even hosted a mini-Olympics. Yes, it has been another fantastic and fulfilling term of enrichment.

Matthew Oliver
Head of Languages

CLASSICS

Following on from the success of our first Classics Day last summer, Miss Saoulidou and her team of superb Sixth Form pupils again treated visiting prep school pupils to a brilliant day of activities, Olympic sports and exploration of the Greek language. Back by popular demand, the 'Meet the Monsters' session saw visitors delving into the mythical stories of the Medusa, the Cyclops and the Minotaur - all told through an interactive role-play with our Sixth Form pupils, helping to bring ancient tales to life.



Though only a select few pupils earned their 'kotinos' - the ancient olive wreath marking Olympic glory - all our visitors had enormous fun, and left with a keener understanding of how ancient languages have left their mark on the words we speak everyday. A huge thank

you to Ms Saoulidou for setting up and running the whole event, to Mr Cook, Mrs Martin, to Vinehall Prep and St Christopher's Prep, and, of course, to our excellent team of Sixth Form pupils: Tom Pateman, Rob Crook-Smith, Megan Linden, Ella Doyle, Sofia Malik, Annie Cairns, Tabitha Newton and Grace Watkins.

Pavlina Saoulidou
Head of Classics

MFL

As ever, MFL week reminded pupils yet again of the way in which learning a second language opens up a wealth of culture and opportunity. Throughout the week, teachers of every language taught at Bede's set quizzes and activities which took pupils beyond the curriculum and explored the incredible richness of European and Asian media, film, art, music and fashion. Pupils also offered crash courses to their peers in German and Cantonese.

We were delighted to welcome several (virtual) international guests over the course of the week, beginning with chef Elena Arzak, past winner of the Veuve Clicquot award for the World's Best Female Chef and current holder of three Michelin stars at her restaurant, Arzak. Calling in live from San Sebastain, Elena gave her Q&A session with Ms Lopez entirely in Spanish, and our Upper Fifth pupils were fascinated to learn about Basque culture, its language and world-famous cuisine. Let's hope that some pupils try their hand at the mouth-watering recipe for 'pil-pil' cod that Elena shared on the day! As part of Languages Week, Mr Rohmer's German pupils were joined



by traveller and Berlin-based journalist Barbara Woolsey, whose work has recently appeared in Lonely Planet, USA Today, The Guardian and Deutsche Welle. Given the breadth of her interests - ranging from food and culture to technology and politics - it was no surprise that Barbara's talk was as wide ranging as it was engaging. Pupils enjoyed hearing a writer's impressions of Berlin and its development, as well

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as her thoughts on the impact of globalisation on European capitals.



Miss Yan's Chinese pupils heard from Babette Radclyffe-Thomas, an English writer whose studies in Mandarin Chinese helped her build a career in fashion journalism and go on to write for Vogue China and China Daily. Speaking to pupils in all year groups, Babette gave a fascinating talk which touched on current trends in Chinese fashion, as well as on the way in which ideas about gender continue to influence designers and consumers in China, something Babette has been exploring for her PhD research. With its burgeoning economy and thriving arts sectors, Babette argued, China has never seemed so appealing to linguists, artists and would-be entrepreneurs, and it was pleasing to see that her message - 'look east' - was not lost on Bede's pupils already looking to take their Mandarin studies further at GCSE and A-Level.



Not to be outdone, our French pupils enjoyed an equally brilliant and insightful guest in the form of Alfred Le Prevost, a civil servant with overseas diplomatic experience, currently serving as the Head of Languages Development Programme at the U.K Foreign Office. Though Alfred was, as one would expect, the height of discretion in discussing his professional experiences, it was excellent for our linguists to learn first hand of the vital importance of clarity and precision in communication on the political stage and how nuances in meaning or mistranslations can - in press conferences

or treaties - become matters of concern, embarrassment or even outright disagreement. It was a superb discussion to round off a week which showed why language learning is, now more than ever, such a rich, rewarding and essential experience for our young pupils. We look forward to welcoming many more guests into our languages classrooms this year.



As part of the week's festivities, the First Year pupils were invited to take part in a 'Languages Escape Game' in the Drama Studio. Representatives from each House had to complete language tasks to enable them to unlock the treasure at the end of the game. All First Years did very well but the Crossways team was the first one to the finishing post. Bravo!



Veronique Gavinet
Head of MFL

EAL

The department enjoyed a wonderful pre-Christmas visit to London's West End to take in some culture, do a spot of sightseeing and witness a superb musical adaptation of Disney's The Lion King. Given that the EAL department fosters such friendships between our boarding pupils, it was superb for pupils of all nationalities to share a brilliant day together away from the Dicker. Even though Bede's

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produces excellent musicals in its own right, this performance had everything one would hope for in a big-budget production – dazzling costumes, evocative Savannah landscapes and superb choreography, all of which took the grey London skies away for a few hours and transported the class to sunnier climes.

Now that our overseas pupils are no longer locked down in the Dicker, plans are being devised for London visits next term, beginning with Ms Yan's Chinese New Year trip a few weeks after the school returns in January. As with *The Lion King*, this will be one trip no pupil would want to miss, so please book early to avoid disappointment!



Since September, the EAL department has also been developing even more ways to help teachers understand and enhance the Bede's experience for pupils who study English as an additional language. Led by Mr Dozagic, the teachers' professional development session is one of many separate focus groups which run concurrently on Wednesday evenings, yet this is the only one, thus far, to feature current Bede's pupils as part of its panel of advisors. One session, conducted by Lower Sixth Dorter pupil, Albina Milovidova entirely in Ukrainian, allowed teachers to experience what it might be like for our newest arrivals at the Dicker in September, whilst other discussions have also considered learning culture, the place for

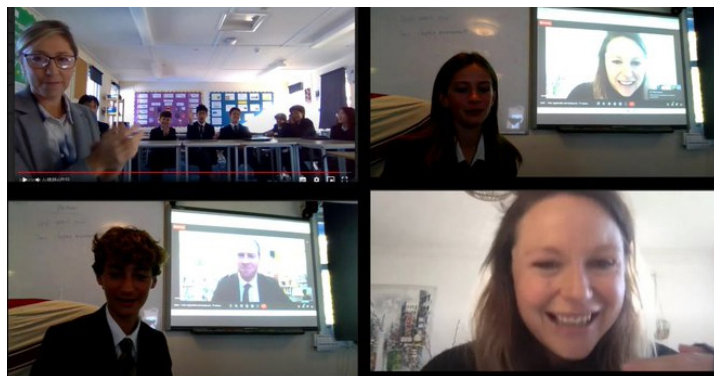


pupil-led study and one idea central to the focus group's work: that, regardless of the subject expertise they may possess, every teacher is a teacher of language. For their excellent ongoing service, the EAL department wishes to thank Howard Wong, Gui Boyer and, of course, Albina Milovidova.

Jason Cook
Head of EAL

ENGLISH

Whilst the English department continues to prepare its senior pupils for their exams, it is heartening, as always, to know that there is much more to English at Bede's than that. Undoubtedly, our First Years had brilliant fun seeing Joe Hisaishi's adaptation of Studio Ghibli's 'My Neighbour Totoro' at the Barbican, and our Upper Sixth managed a day-trip dash to Stratford-upon-Avon to see Shakespeare's *Richard III*, but I'm convinced that the most fun has been had in the Dicker itself. We've had three writing competitions, two visiting writers, a crime fiction masterclass from Mr Sealey, two regional debating heats and two pupil 'laudation' prize-givings.



In early Autumn, it was superb to commend Prep School and Senior writers for their excellent work in our summer Bede's Writers' Competition (taking colour as its theme). Congratulations are due to the following Bede's Prep pupils: George Martin-Jenkins, Jessie and Hattie Hiscox, Rex Hooper, Flo Clark and Joseph Berry. In the Senior Category, first prize went to Bloomsbury's Megan Cheshire for an outstanding poem inspired by the associations and connotations of the colour purple. Following this was our annual Exploration Writing Prize – a chance for First Year pupils new to the Dicker to consider what it means to 'belong', whilst crafting their own descriptive work on a personal experience. With us on prize-giving day was travel writer and broadcaster Pip Stewart, whose first book 'Life Lessons'

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from the Amazon is a Wanderlust Travel Book of the Year for 2022, and whose fast-paced Q&A took us through the murky meanders of the Guyana's Essequibo River. A huge well done goes to our shortlisted writers: Madeleine Derry, Skye Coetser, Siena Jovic and overall winner, Delilah Smallpeice. It's been a productive term for our debaters too. Three first time competitors gave an excellent account of themselves in the ESU Mace Competition, held online this year, proposing a divisive motion: 'this house would ban the sale and consumption of meat'. A big well done to Amelia Frohlich, Tom McNicholl and Jady Lutta. In the ESU's Churchill Public Speaking Competition, it was also superb to see both Bede's teams qualify for the next in-person round, held in the New Year at the Hove Club. Congratulations are due to Francis Gordon, Davina Ifie-Sekibo, and Helena Abushaban-Corbin for their excellent improvisation in the unplanned chairing and questioning of other schools' speeches, whilst keynote speaker Lola Waddingham gave a powerful and commanding address on the impacts of the 'MeToo' movement. Credit must also go to George Marsh, who not only gave a main speech on nuclear power in his own debate, but stepped in to support another team in need and posed superb questions on the night. We look forward to our upcoming live event in January and the return of the in-person Oxford Schools and Cambridge Union events too, so any pupils wishing to experience live debate should contact Mr Oliver for further details.

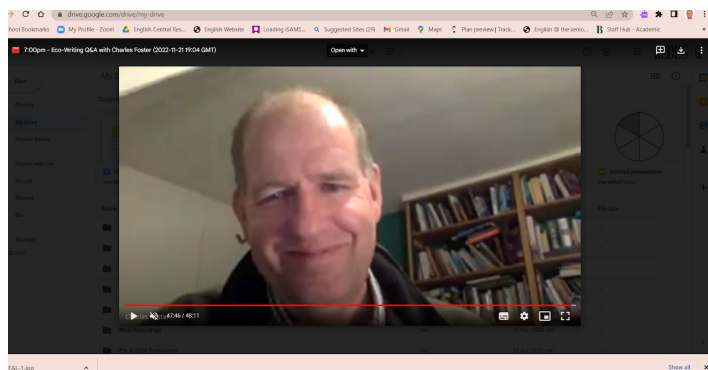


This term gave a new first for the Languages Faculty - the new half-termly 'laudation' for outstanding work. Given that we have so many great work things going on throughout all our departments, it seems only fair that we gather together pupils who have really excelled, and treat them to cake and hot chocolate. Our first two laudations have been a real high point in the week, mainly because we are able to tell the twenty pupils gathered before us that each and every one of them has, in some way, made their teacher's day. We hope to recognise as many more brilliant Bedians in the New Year too!

Matthew Oliver
Head of Languages

ECO-WRITING PRIZE 2023

As we look ahead to the Christmas break, Bede's pupils can set aside time for two more very worthwhile creative challenges: the Eco-Writing Prize 2023 and the 'I Belong...' project.



On 21 November, barrister, vet, philosopher and writer Charles Foster gave a fascinating Q&A to help us launch our trust-wide Eco-Writing Prize for 2023, with the thought-provoking theme of 'borders and boundaries'. The competition, introduced last year by re-wilding pioneer and writer Isabella Tree, invites pupils to engage with an aspect of ecology and the environment in any written form they chose - be it polemic, poem, play script or prose fiction. Anyone can pen a piece over the Christmas break, and we've already had great interest from Bede's Prep pupils as well as Seniors. For those too used to the indoors, or to an exam rubric for writing, this surely provides a very literal breath of fresh air - a chance to shrug off the stifling requirements of exam boards and craft something both unmistakably unique and absolutely personal to each pupil. It was superb to have Charles with us to give the competition the launch it deserves.



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Though a Professor of Law at Templeton Green College, University of Oxford by day, Foster is best known as the award-winning author of 'Being a Beast' and 'Being a Human', two playful, exuberant works of nature writing. His Q&A benefitted from some excellent questions from Bede's pupils, such as Charlie Bennett, Jack White and Charlie Fisk, who prompted this erudite speaker to explore everything from the limits of human language to his time living in a purpose-built badger sett to better experience life from the unique perspective of a creature.

We hope as many Bede's pupils as possible enter a piece inspired by 'Borders and Boundaries' by Tuesday 10 January. Prep and Senior pupils can enter by emailing their work to small.island@bedes.org, or they can find further information by emailing matthew.oliver@bedes.org.

Short-listed writers will be invited to a special creative writing day at Wilder Blean Woods in the Summer Term, where we will find inspiration in the pioneering reintroduction of Bison to the English landscape. As always, many of our entries will be published in Small Island - the Language Faculty's annual creative writing journal.

Matthew Oliver
Head of Languages

through original texts, images and artworks. With the publication and sale of these collected stories of identity, the 'I Belong' project group will also raise money for two brilliant causes: the Gatwick Detainees Welfare Group and Kent Refugee Help. In a powerful speech launching the project to our Sixth Form pupils, Madame Bonheur spoke of the centrality of our theme for every pupil: "belonging is critical to our physical, mental and emotional wellbeing. It is critical to the health of our communities".

Bede's Prep and Senior pupils, as well as alumni from both schools can contribute in any form they wish to the publication - artworks and photography, poems, prose pieces or song lyrics are welcome, whilst our website will also be able to feature short films. In the New Year, the teacher-led steering group, which comprises staff from the Languages and Creative Arts Faculties, will seek a team of pupils to help curate the finished publication, and there will be a Trust-wide celebration of the published work and website in the summer term - featuring some very special guest speakers!

In the Spring term, pupils can submit work for consideration by the editors via the dedicated pupil hub page, whilst alumni can email it directly to the 'I belong' team. In the meantime, any pupils, alumni or parents who wish to be involved in the editing or design of the text, or those who have questions about the project can email: annie.bonheur@bedes.org.

Matthew Oliver
Head of Languages

'I BELONG'

This term, MFL teacher Madame Bonheur launched a trust-wide project aiming to inspire Bedians past and present to consider ideas of belonging, identity and community and share their personal stories



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INQUIRY LEARNING

It has been a very busy term this year once again! As we welcome PSHE into the faculty this year, we are growing in numbers and have a lot more to talk about! This term has been busy tackling the beginning of new chapters for the Lower Fifth, Pre-Sixth and Lower Sixth years as they embark on their new programs, alongside the increased pressures of the Upper Fifth and Upper Sixth years with upcoming exams and final deadlines. The pupils are getting to grips with these new challenges well and are going from strength to strength. We are seeing new courses starting in the faculty, with the additional option of Home Cooking Skills being offered to the Pre-Sixth and Lower Sixth as part of their Diploma programs, as well as an increase in pupils' option for Applied Science in the Lower Fifth; we are indeed growing! What a superb start to what has been a very eventful term.

Georgina Wainwright
Head of Inquiry Learning

Some of the pupil awards from last half-term:



Daisy Harrison
BTEC Applied Science



William Dodsworth
PSHE



Thibault Risbridger and Erick Evison
BTEC Psychology and BTEC Sport

EPQ and HPQ

As we embark on the latest project qualifications this term, we have seen an impressive 44 Lower Sixth pupils embark on their EPQ projects. Pupils have been very well engaged as they chose a topic which they are personally interested in which they are going to investigate. Topics in the EPQ include:

- What motivates young people to go into the healthcare profession?
- Should the death penalty be legalised in the UK?
- Is psychopathy caused by genetics or the environment?
- Women's beauty standards in today's society and how it's causing a pandemic of eating disorders.

On their Lower Fifth HPQ projects. The themes that are emerging are insightful, well thought out and I hope will provide a very interesting read. Investigations have begun into:

- How can children in different wars tell us about life during wartime?
- The dark side of the K-pop industry
- Are parents/guardians influentially responsible for childhood eating disorders?
- What is the future of meat?

Georgina Wainwright
Head of Inquiry Learning

BTEC

ANIMAL MANAGEMENT

We have had an incredibly busy first term, with our Lower Sixth cohort enjoying animal handling in our own zoo here at the school, and our Upper Sixth taking part in work experience at Drusillas Zoo Park. We aim to make our BTEC Animal Management programme relevant and as vocationally based as possible, with lots of hands-on activities as well as teaching the theory required to ensure that our pupils are skilled up and employable. Here we have Charlie Fisk handling a corn snake and Lena Grimmer handling a Madagascar Hissing Cockroach.

Paul Juniper
Head of Animal Management



APPLIED SCIENCE

In Upper Fifth BTEC science pupils have been busily preparing themselves for their upcoming mock exam on 12 December, and then their real exam on 3 February 2023. To this end we have been studying various aspects of science including gravitational potential energy. We have also looked at cells, explored the mechanism behind homeostasis and worked out all the interesting features the Periodic Table shows us. Special mention to Horatio Hodgson and Mazzy Trafford who have worked incredibly hard over the course of this unit so far.

In Lower Fifth pupils have begun their BTEC Science career with Unit 4: Biology. They have looked at health and disease, evolution and pollution. Pupils are beginning to understand the requirements of the course with so many achieving the highest grade possible so far. Special mentions go to Josh Hammond, Chloe Bremer and Mish Lee (who also won the Award for this term). During our second assignment we visited the Bede's zoo in order to learn how the classification of animals works.



Kathy Clarke
Assistant BTEC Coordinator

BTEC

BUSINESS

We have started how we have meant to continue the year, with commitment, dedication and enthusiasm from the onset. It has been a fast-paced term that has seen introductions to the courses fly by. The Lower Sixth groups have been engaged in coursework and exam preparation with investigations into the business environment and marketing campaigns, and those undertaking the Diploma course (Double), have been researching international business practice and the principles of management. Recognition awards have been handed out to Harvey Morris in the Lower Sixth for his continued efforts both in and out of the classroom. Leo Steel (Upper Sixth) has once again been awarded with a Recognition award for his continued mature approach to his studies, as well as Ruby Hall (Upper Sixth) for 'just being great' as her teachers put it. As they embark on the finance exam in January, the feeling is that things are 'starting to get very real now'. All the focus and attention has turned to revision and preparation.



The same has been true for our Upper Fifth who had their Finance exam in early December. They have worked really hard this term investigating their Business finance topics. We saw exceptional work from Bradley Worcester this term, which earned him a 'Recognition' award too. The Lower Fifth 'Recognition' award went to Josh Hammond, for his continued efforts both in and out of class. The Lower Fifth have been working on their first two coursework assignments into the marketing mix and market research. They will start to tackle the trickier concepts of KPIs next term, so will need to take advantage of the break while they can!



Georgina Wainwright
Head of Inquiry Learning

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Pupils in the Upper Fifth have filmed the majority of their clips for their five minute news bulletins, with news items ranging from the war in Ukraine to tips on fishing at this time of year, and school shows such as Cabaret. The Upper Sixth have been working on their programming skills, researching and reporting on the systems development lifecycle and learning how to code in Python. As the Programming unit is part of their coursework, they will be expected to create a program to achieve a specific task provided by Edexcel. Last year this was a quiz scoring



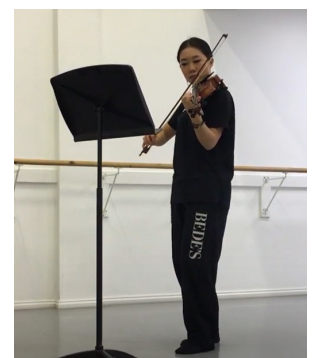
system. They are also working through units on social media and how business utilises apps such as Tik Tok and Snap Chat to reach new markets. The Lower Sixth have been working through their Unit 1 exam coursework, researching topics such as stock control management systems and Cloud Computing in readiness for their exam in June.



Chris Betts
Head of Computing and IT

PERFORMING ARTS - DANCE

The Lower Fifth pupils have been developing their dance skills and documenting their journey within a presentation. The dancers will also be taking part in Bede's Cabaret so are busy rehearsing the number 'A Million Dreams' from the Greatest Showman ready for this performance.



The Upper Fifth pupils have been completing their individual showcase unit devising two contrasting pieces to the stimulus 'Dedication'. We have seen dances, musical theatre solos and violin performances showcasing what a talented cohort they are.

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The Lower Sixth dancers have been researching dance styles in jazz and contemporary. Learning repertoire from Chicago by Bob Fosse, Cat's by Gillian Lynne and Edward Scissorhands and the famous Cygnets by Matthew Bourne.



The Upper Sixth pupils have been working on their devised pieces to the stimulus 'Within Their Eyes'. Each pupil has to choose their own dancers and choreograph a three minute routine developing the theme with their interpretation.

Sherrie Pennington
Head of Legat Dance Academy

MARKETING

This has been the second year of the marketing program and we have suitably impressed with the progress that has been made so far. Having to juggle the demands of a two year program in half the class time is not the easiest, but the group is working well. They have tackled marketing concepts of segmentation, targeting and positioning, and are starting the creation of their promotional plan for a new business idea, as well as looking at the organisation of, and the possible career paths in, the marketing industry. Progress is well underway for the unit 2 marketing exam in January, where pupils have been investigating the basic marketing principles. We have seen Luca Hawes, Josh Swanepoel and Josie Tabb achieve Distinctions on their first submission of work and Recognition awards awarded to Josie Tabb for their hard work and commitment throughout the course. A superb start to a fantastic group!

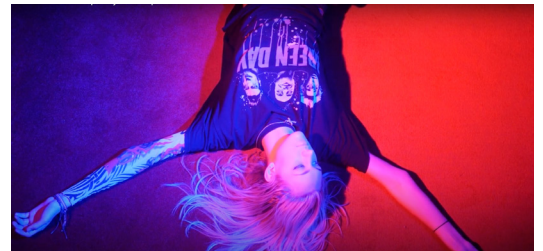
Georgina Wainwright
Head of Inquiry Learning

MEDIA

The Upper Sixth BTEC pupils have had a very busy term completing their music videos and television ads. They have learned a great deal about camera, lights, lip-sync and editing and have produced some fantastic work that really showcases their skills and imaginations. Now, we turn our attention to the final creative assignment whereby the pupils design, shoot and edit their own short horror film, using all the audio, lighting, edit and cinematography skills they have learned across the two years.



In the Lower Sixth the pupils have been working hard on learning the basics of Adobe Premiere Pro and also exploring how research techniques are employed across the media industries. Particular credit goes to Emily Scott and Will



Corrigan who have both received certificates commending the quality of their work. A great effort from a really promising cohort!

Rick Williams
Head of Media

BTEC

PSYCHOLOGY

The Lower Sixth pupils have been conducting multiple psychological studies in the form of questionnaires, observations, interviews and experiments in preparation for their next assessment where they will conduct pilot studies on a topic of their choice. So far the pupils have investigated the effects of sleep, personality type and even gender on stress, as well as conducting observations of pupil behaviour in the lunch queue, at the traffic lights and even in detentions! The findings have prompted lots of discussion amongst the pupils about social influence and conformity, and the impacts of authority figures on pupil behaviour.

In the Upper Sixth, pupils have been turning their hand to health psychology where they have explored a range of addictions and explanations for them, including heritability, social learning and cognitive distortions. They have also looked at various treatments for addicts and the likelihood of recovery based on psychological research. Although this group have not been conducting their own studies like the Lower Sixth, they have been participating in group therapy sessions to experience what various treatment options may feel and look like, whilst playing the role of characters invented for the purpose. They have also sampled a range of psychological treatments for stress, where they have experienced meditation, mindfulness and a very basic form of biofeedback. They are now deep in preparations for their exams in early January, where they can apply their newly learned stress management skills to optimise their performance!

Laurence Collier
Teacher of Psychology

IGCSE PE

The Lower Fifth have made a fantastic start to the course, completing three units to date; Health & Wellbeing, the Skeletal System and the Muscular System. Pupils have been taking part in a range of badminton and weight training for fitness assessments this term. The Upper Fifth are nearing completion of the taught content, having recently completed their in-class assessment, and are currently finishing the Ethics in Sport topic. As we move towards mock exams next term, we will be focusing on revision, revision, revision next!

Ali Rowsell
Head of Physical Education

SPORT SCIENCE

Pupils have been continuing with their coursework pieces this term, with the Lower Fifth focused on the 'applying the principles of training' unit and the Upper Fifth revising for the 'reducing the risk of injuries' exam. Well done to Margot Cabaret for achieving the 'Recognition' award for her excellent work in her coursework, as well as ongoing preparation for the exam.



Ali Rowsell
Head of Physical Education

BTEC SPORT

The Lower Sixth have been working well on their first assignment task for the Sports Coaching unit and have been making great progress. The results release will be in January. In Mr Caryer's unit, the Diploma pupils have been studying the variety of self-employment opportunities available and evaluating which is best to suit their strengths. Well done to Millie Kyffin-Walton who was nominated for a recognition award for an outstanding start to the course, alongside exceptional sports coaching to peers. Pupils are now currently focused on preparing for their January Sports Coaching assessments, whereby all pupils will be planning lessons to deliver to pupils aged between 10 and 14, in different sports.



The Upper Sixth pupils have been continuing their Applied Sports Coaching assessments, where they are required to deliver a six week progressive unit of work in a sport of their choice. Progress has been good so far and the deadlines will come fast on our return in the Spring term.

Ali Rowsell
Head of Physical Education

BTEC

FINANCIAL EDUCATION

Bradley, Jo and Egor have worked hard on the Unit 1 module for Financial Education. They have all passed the test, which is excellent. It is also great that a pupil from the Upper Fifth, Egor, has managed to fit Financial Education into his schedule. Personally, I have really enjoyed working with the boys and hearing their own views on what may constitute good financial management. They are really very well informed on many of the topics in the course and have also tried to teach me about crypto currencies, which has been fascinating.

Jane King
Teacher of Economics

ARTS AWARD

Another really positive and busy term for Arts award pupils! As we prepare for creative projects in the next year, Lucy Rose is planning a music theatre showcase, Uma Pau Steinfeldt is planning a theatre workshop, and Jolie Phillips will use her vocal talents in a performance which will include the Lower Sixth BTEC band. At the time of writing, pupils are preparing for their work experience or two-day workshop experience to add to their Unit A portfolio.

Georgina Wainwright
Head of Inquiry Learning

HOME ECONOMICS

Before half-term, we joined forces again with 'Young at Heart' day centre group from Heathfield. Ten members were able to join us to make cakes in the cookery room. The Young at Heart group visit many schools in the local area, so it was lovely that they could come and do something different with us. They were supported by some of our Sixth Form pupils who did an excellent job, caring and ensuring all tasks were safely carried out.

Mary Leggett
Head of Partnerships and Social Responsibility



PSHE

Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) education supports pupils to develop knowledge, skills and attributes needed to stay healthy, safe and prepare them for life and work in the modern world. PSHE education helps pupils to achieve their academic potential, and equips them with skills they will need in the future.

The First Year, Lower Fifth and Upper Fifth have been studying various topics on the PSHE carousel this term including; Self Concept, Substance Misuse, Managing Risk & Personal Safety, Mental Health & Emotional Wellbeing, Sexual Health, Fertility, Contraception & Parenthood, Positive Relationships & Relationship Values, Consent, Bullying, Abuse & Discrimination. There have been some fantastic discussions taking place across the school during PSHE, and it has been a real pleasure to see pupils participating and engaging in these relevant and meaningful lessons.

In the first half term, Lower Sixth and Pre-Sixth pupils used PSHE lessons to look at ways of managing their mental health and emotional wellbeing. This included discussions on managing anxiety, how to tackle feeling overwhelmed and strategies to manage stress. Pupils also looked at the challenges some young people might face and ways to promote positive mental health to help manage these challenges. They also had a session on Positive Mental Attitude where they set themselves personal goals to work towards across the year. This half term in PSHE, pupils focused on media literacy and digital resilience. In tutor groups, they considered how to set and maintain clear boundaries around personal privacy and to manage online safety, including seeking help when appropriate. There have been debates on how social media can expand, limit or distort perspectives and how the content we create and share may contribute to, or challenge this. There have also been talks by East Sussex Fire & Rescue on "Safer Driving", and a workshop on 'Research and Referencing' as part of the Bede's Diploma.

Upper Sixth pupils have had the opportunity to discuss the impact of substance use on risk-taking and personal safety. They considered how alcohol and other drugs affect decision-making, and ways to keep safe and support friends when socialising in situations involving alcohol or other drugs. This term, pupils have worked with their tutors to concentrate on how to identify and evidence their strengths and skills when applying and interviewing for future roles and opportunities, and applying these to their UCAS personal statements (where applicable). There have also been careers talks and support sessions led by Mrs Franks.

We also launched the 'I belong' project - an opportunity for all Bede's pupils to contribute to a special publication, promoting our school ethos and values on equality, diversity and inclusion.

PSHE Calendar

In addition to the timetable PSHE lessons, we have also had several

PSHE related events in the school calendar throughout the Autumn Term:

- World Teachers' Day - pupils sent merits to their teachers as a way of showing gratitude and appreciation. 438 merits were awarded and shared with teaching staff!
- Black History Month - updated content was shared via our PSHE website to educate and celebrate Black Culture. This included arts, literature, dance and a film/ tv watchlist.
- World Mental Health Day - resources were shared via our PSHE website on this year's theme, set by the World Federation for Mental Health, 'Make mental health and wellbeing for all a global priority'.
- Anti-Bullying/Kindness Week - Our newly trained Anti-Bullying Ambassadors led house initiatives during the week, to proactively promote kindness and build relationships within houses. Lower Fifth pupil Evie Moore spoke in our school assembly on the importance of recognising and dealing with bullying, and being actively kind in our everyday lives.
- Fifth Form Index Talks - Sixth Form pupils Leo Steel, Lianah Mirie and Laura Babic passionately spoke to our Fifth Form pupils on topics surrounding equality, diversity and inclusion.



Pam Nikiteas
Head of PSHE

GET TO KNOW THE BEDE'S COMMUNITY

We have interviewed one staff member and one pupil to encourage us to get to know each other... First up is Sebastian Robinson!

Which year are you in and what are you studying at Bede's?

I am in Lower Sixth and I am studying BTEC Business, Music and Drama & Theatre.

What do you consider your greatest achievement?

I think it has to be getting into the National Youth Theatre (NYT)



What has been your greatest disappointment?

I went on a cricket tour to India and didn't score any runs!

Which era in history would you most like to have lived through and why?

The 1980s due to the style and music - I love it!

Which places in the world are on your bucket list?

I would definitely say New York in winter.

What is the most beautiful place you



have ever seen?

Cornwall, England. Specifically Trevoze Head!

Who are your ideal dinner guests? (Dead or alive)

At my dinner table I would like Ray Charles, both my Grandads, my Great Uncle, Stevie Wonder, Zach Grooves and Queen Elizabeth II.

Which songs are your greatest guilty pleasures?

This will have to be 'Coffee - Early Eyes' and the whole of Rex Orange County's best album.

What was the last book that you read that was so good you didn't want to finish it?

Most of the Jack Reacher books.

What's your favourite restaurant or pub?

Rocca in Dulwich village.

Best advice you have ever been given?

"Once you start lying it's hard to stop" and "Try to cover up mistakes in life that you know are going to be found."

Favourite TV show?

Ninjago.

Favourite film character?

Rooster (Top Gun).

Next up is our Director of People, Mrs Maynard...



Tell us about your role at Bede's?

I am the Director of People and my role is to drive the Trust's strategic people and engagement agenda. My overall aim is to create an integrated and aspirant culture at Bede's that drives performance, promotes staff welfare, maximises efficiencies, celebrates success and champions diversity.

Tell us a bit about where you're from, your education journey, your career past etc?

The pathway of my successful career, like so many others, wasn't smooth, straightforward or indeed what I planned. An entry level retail job I'd taken up to earn some money, opened up an opportunity to move into an induction training job in London and I discovered a passion for working with people. I worked in training for a number of years before moving across into recruitment and then HR, starting my CIPD. I managed to achieve my first goal of being an HR

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GET TO KNOW THE BEDE'S COMMUNITY

Director at the age of 32 and went on to run my own HR and Training Consultancy before joining Bede's.

What do you consider to be your greatest achievement?

I have three, two of which are the incredible little humans I call my children. They fill me with happiness on a daily basis and I love the independent, loving and caring little women they are becoming. They adore being at Bede's and I can't wait to see where the future takes them.

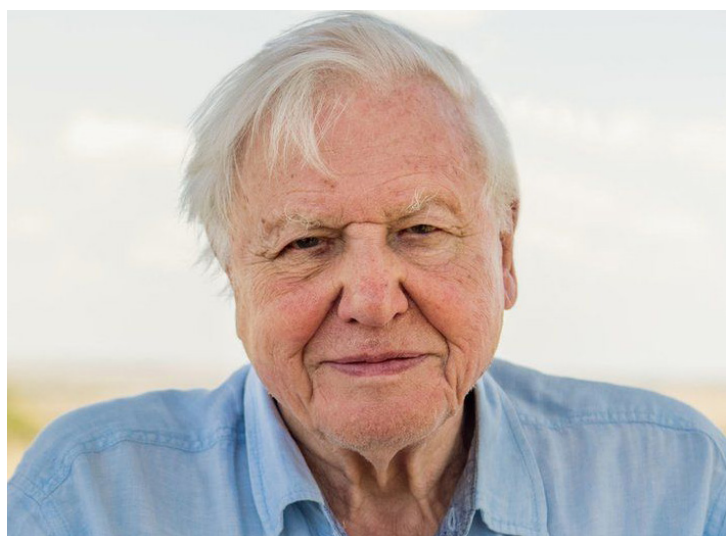
The third is running a successful HR Consultancy for a number of years before joining Bede's. My children were babies at the time and I was met with many pessimists that felt I was mad for attempting to launch a company at the same time as being a mum to two young children. However, my stubbornness paid off and within its first year the company was thriving with a waiting list of clients and won many business accolades.

What has been your greatest disappointment?

Disappointments come and go, they are difficulties of the moment. What I've learned is that it isn't the disappointments we need to focus on, it's the resilience and resolve we have that emboldens us to shape the next step of our future. I can remember one of the most difficult times in my life was the passing of my father, but his memory and knowing he would have championed my bold leaps is what propelled me on.

Who are your ideal dinner guests? (Dead or alive)

David Attenborough, Trevor Macdonald, Michelle Obama, Emma Thompson, Louis Theroux, My Grandfather - he was an immigrant from India and I'd love to hear more of his life story.



Is there a book that has changed your life/way of thinking?

Many, but the two that stick out are Simon Sinek's "Leaders Eat Last" and "HR Disrupted" by Lucy Adams. These books reinforced my belief that the standard practices in HR and Leadership are "not

fit for purpose" and new modern approaches towards people and management at work are vital if businesses are to thrive.

The best advice you have ever been given?

Always act with kindness; it should be your primary purpose in all you do. My job can involve navigating very difficult situations at times. The wisdom of one of my first managers rings in my ears to this day, that if you act with kindness as your purpose, even the most difficult of matters can be delivered in a compassionate way.

What made you decide Bede's was the place for you?

It's people and the vision it holds for how it wants to operate as an employer. I knew Bede's meant what they said when it came to wanting to place people at its heart. Bede's truly walks the walk when it comes to embodying its values, which is rare to find.

What piece of advice would you give to today's teenagers?

It's OK not to have it all figured out right now. You don't need to know what you want to do for the rest of your life right now or even who you really are. Our greatest mistakes often become our greatest lessons.

If you could be Prime Minister for a day, what is the first thing you would do - in an education context?

I'd prioritise neurodivergent funding and training for schools, specifically to focus on neurodivergent learning from a much younger age. We need to champion neurodiversity more widely and ensure children with learning needs are supported to build their confidence and belief in their incredible strengths. When every individual is able to focus on their strengths, their potential grows exponentially. At Bede's we are great at doing this, and I speak from experience as the mum of a neurodiverse child who has thrived with the support offered to her at Bede's, but so many children are let down nationally due to a lack of funding and support in mainstream schools.

SPORT

Bede's Pupils awarded first England Women cricket central contracts for 2022-23

Bede's recent alumna Alice Capsey, and current Upper Sixth pupil Freya Kemp, have both been awarded first England Women central contracts for 2022-23 from the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB). Alice and Freya are two of just 18 players awarded contracts.

The news comes following the ECB announcement that it would be funding 80 professional domestic women's cricketers from February next year, with the awarding of the 18 central contracts bringing the total number of professional female cricketers in England and Wales up to 98. This is the first time that the England Women central contracts have run from 1 November, to align with the professional contracts in the women's regional game.



Both Alice and Freya have had an incredible year - making their international debuts this summer and putting on some outstanding performances for England in the Commonwealth Games, T20 Internationals and The Hundred.

Alice completed her studies at Bede's in 2022, arriving in 2020 for her Sixth Form years. She has had an incredible couple of years, having completed a tour with the England Women's A Squad, accompanying the Women's Ashes Squad in Australia. In 2021, Alice was honoured as the first recipient of the PCA Women's Young Player of the Year. Alice is currently competing in the Big Bash Australia for the Melbourne Stars.

Freya Kemp has recently become the second successive teenager to win the Emerging Cricketer award, the second successive teenager to win the award after Alice Capsey. Freya is currently going through her

final year at Bede's and is balancing her Sixth Form studies alongside playing cricket.

Alan Wells, Director of Cricket at Bede's, whose 21-year cricket career included captaining for Sussex and an England Lions tour to India, comments on Alice and Freya's success, "We are extremely proud as a school of both Freya and Alice for receiving England central contracts. They have worked incredibly hard to achieve this and I have little doubt they have huge international careers ahead of them. To have been awarded contracts and such young ages is testament to their determination, ability and work ethic. We will be following them with a keen eye and wish them all the very best on their cricket journey.

Equestrian

We have had a great start to the school year with the equestrian team.

In October, Chloe Bremer represented the school at the National Championships at Keysoe in Bedfordshire with her horse Frank in the jumping with style class and came highly placed.



The team of Issi Drake, Matilda Jackson-Clutton, Lara Bath and Lola Woollard have qualified in the intermediate arena Eventing for the national championships in May. Matilda also qualified as an individual.

The show jumping team of Issi Drake, Lara Bath and Chloe Bremer won the county showjumping class at Felbridge; they go forward to the finals in May to represent East Sussex.

We continue with training every Tuesday afternoon in activity time.

Katy McKeogh
Equestrian Team Manager

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SPORT

Hockey

As the hockey season draws to the Christmas break, we reflect on a number of team and individual achievements both when representing the school and for their respective external clubs, counties, Talent Academies and nations. It has been wonderful to lead a programme that has featured so many players representing the school participation teams as well as the performance teams, who have all represented the school with great pride, determination and enjoyment.



Theo Dowse
Director of Hockey

Football

This season has been one of the busiest I can remember with already over 200 games played across all the teams and over 100 wins recorded. It is great to see the elite and participation teams performing so well with currently the U15B leading the way as the most successful team in the school with a win percentage of 87.5%. The 1st XI U18 Boys team took a little while to gel at the start of the season but are now performing at a consistently high level and have moved into the last 32 of the National Cup, trying to replicate last year's success. They have also finished top of their group in the ESFA Elite Cup. U14A, U15A, U16A have also made excellent progress through the early rounds of there Cup competitions. The girls' football programme continues to grow both in participation



and performance, and recently they had an excellent 6-1 win in the ISFA cup against Bedales. Individually, there has also been some outstanding achievements with Lola Brown representing England U17's, and Sam Bull being selected for the ISFA U18 squad.

David Caryer
Director of Football

Tennis

Tennis got off to a flying start this term with some of our first team boys winning regional and national events. Congratulations to Jack Ford and Henry Hughes (who continue to compete most weekends throughout the winter term). Due to Jack's success he has now started to compete internationally in ITF events in the hope of gaining points on the international circuit and join Nike Tummers and Gregor Leung in being internationally ranked.



Despite the weather, Bede's pupils have been training hard and are fortunate enough to have access to indoor facilities, meaning they are able to continue their intense programs all year round. It has been excellent to welcome a new cohort of First Year Academy players with the likes of Levi Routledge working incredibly hard in every session. Our Upper Sixth girls also deserve a special mention - Grace Tuson and Kirstin Orr have been exceptionally focussed this term.

Well done all and I look forward to seeing you in the new year for our pre-season training.

Francesca Byrne
Head of Tennis

CHRISTMAS CAKE DECORATING



Stud - 1st



Knights - 2nd



Dorms - 3rd



Dorter



Blooms



Crossways

Stud	1st
Knights	2nd
Dorms	3rd
Blooms	4th
Crossways	5th
Deis	6th
Dorter	7th
Charleston	8th
Dicker	9th
Camberlot	10th

ROUND THE HOUSES

We start the year in **Camberlot**, who had a wonderful Autumn Term, with Cambo boys getting involved in so many of the wonderful things that Bede's has to offer. It's been raining Bede's Best awards and the pupils' merit tally has rocketed. We have shared some wonderful parties with Dorter House and we thank them for hosting our Oktoberfest and Halloween parties. Our team of exceptional tutors have been strengthened with the addition of Helena, our House Manager and Antoinette, who joins Wendy as one of our two Matrons. We said a sad farewell to Ms Poyser and welcomed the fantastic Mr Furlong.



Weekly year group trips this term, where we invited our day borders to join our borders at a golf driving range, followed by McDonald's, were enjoyed by all. We look forward to doing the same with our Fifth Forms after the Christmas break and we hope they have more success in hitting a golf ball!

The fun we shared as a house continued in House competitions and into the latter part of the Autumn Term when we raised money for the Beachy Head Chaplaincy during the Camberlot charity week. The boys raised money for this worthwhile charity, who patrol the coast responding to emergency calls from anyone who needs support or someone to talk to. We did this by making hot chocolate reindeer stocking fillers, selling sweets and hot dogs during break time and the famous Santa v Elves day.

Tuesday December 13 was our Christmas trip day. Like the rest of the School we began at St Bartholomew's church in Brighton, then on to a buffet in Eastbourne, Christmas shopping and finished with Ninja Warrior. Lots and lots of fun and thankfully no injuries!

Christmas is a time of celebration, and there have been many things this term to celebrate in Camberlot. We hope the happy family environment that we've created continues to allow all to thrive into the Spring Term and we wish you all a very happy Christmas.

Term one of new **Dorms** complete and I am glad to report that pupils and staff are now very much at home in our impressive new surroundings. The boys have taken full advantage of all that the house has to offer with being able to meet with tutors within the house which has made the morning routine far more



personal. The pool table and table tennis tables have been especially popular and there is rarely a minute when they are not occupied or a tournament in play. They have become the beating heart of the house!

In October we hosted an impromptu BBQ aided by some very fine sous chefs, Hugo, Ryan and Barack and also a crazy evening of Bongo-Bingo with guests from Dorter and Camberlot. We are looking forward to lots more house events and BBQs in the Spring term as they are always such fun for everyone.



We were thrilled that House Music was back on again this year, and we teamed up with the girls from Charleston and a smattering of Knights boys to become Knormston. Charlie led the House in song and together we came first for the Big Song. Well done all.

In November Boris and Barack showed great house spirit by stepping up to carve pumpkins in the Inter-House pumpkin carving competition. With only 15 minutes until the judging, they did a sterling effort with their two-faced creation.

Another highlight of November has been the World Cup football tournament. We are lucky enough to have the big screen in our boarding house, so many evenings have seen the boys settled in for the night and shouting for their teams on the big screen.

In December, it was great to see Dorm's boys featured in the line up of Cabaret. Luciano on bass guitar and Matt on drums, we were cheering for them all the way and I was brimming with pride.

During the last week of term we had our annual Dorms Christmas trip to Brighton. We went ice-skating against the beautiful back drop of the Royal Pavilion. Taking 80 boys ice-skating was a particularly stressful experience, but I am pleased to report we all made it home in one piece and there were no broken bones!



Following ice-skating we went to an all you can eat at a Brazilian restaurant and left the restaurant considering their all you can eat policy. They were not expecting how much our boys (and staff) could put away!

As I write this we are now winding down for Christmas and I will miss

ROUND THE HOUSES

the sound of singing and laughing echoing down the corridors over the next few weeks. I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your families a very happy and peaceful festive season.



In **Dorter**, the term started with Speed Friending which was great fun for all new and returning Dorter girls and a great way to get to know everyone and this was followed by the house warming event on the first weekend. The girls enjoyed some home baked cakes, games and a new Dorter playlist as well as the first appearance of the fire pit and marshmallows.

Following the Amazing Race, the Dorter girls took to the stage for House Music. Anoushka and Trini were great in the band rocking the place with the Kaiser Chief's "Ruby, Ruby, Ruby" and "We are Family" was performed by the small choir with real gusto.

The Halloween Party this year had the el dia Mexicano de los Muertos theme. Everyone looked quite crazy and the winner of best costume team were Phoebe, Amelie and her friends. The boys from Cambo also joined in the fun.

The set up for the formal dinner involved a lot of planning and hard work and was a wonderful occasion. Following chapel we enjoyed performances from Lily, Brooke, Maya, GioGio and Anoushka. Mr Adlam gave an inspiring speech about his experiences on the Tibet trip and the importance of compassion and this was followed by emotional speeches by Dr Carville and Lianah.

November and December involved some World Cup viewing, cake baking and hot chocolate making and of course a lot of work getting the house decorated for Christmas.



Finally as the end of term approached, the girls enjoyed a busy week of Cabaret, the boarders' Christmas party, Christmas cake decorating (the final House competition of the term) and our house outing to Pinocchio restaurant in Brighton topped off

with a spot of present shopping.

During the **Knights** charity week cycling event, the boys showed real dedication and resilience; cycling for 16km is no small feat and by the end there was a lot of sweat and perhaps a few tears, but also a lot of satisfaction and pride. Our sausage roll sale was also extremely popular and finally those who put themselves forward to have their hair cut by two of our Upper Sixth - Sam and Tom - displayed great courage and helped raise a lot of money! Thanks to the whole Knights community - as well as the broader Bede's community for supporting us. We raised just under £1,500 during the week which is a tremendous effort.



Thank you to Alfie and Ernie who have been doing a lot of work around kindness, helping lead a training day for the house and thoughtfully rebranding "Anti-Bullying Week" to "World Kindness Week" which they considered to be a more proactive and positive way of approaching this important area.

The Knights boys have taken centre stage during both the School play; Coriolanus - well done to Charlie, Aidan and Sam C - and Cabaret which featured Sam F performing Beethoven, Aidan, Basie in the band and Sam C who performed in the pre-show. Charlie was also a wonderful comperé on the night.

Our House Christmas outing provided a welcomed opportunity for the Knights community to come together. After the carol service it was off to enjoy some ten pin bowling followed by a festive lunch in the Recital Room.

It has been a busy term in **Bloomsbury** and the girls have excelled in so many wonderful and varied ways.

Congratulations to Megan, Pearl and Meredith for their roles in the School play; Coriolanus. Megan made an incredible lead! Thanks also to Ruby, Amelia and Bella for all their backstage help. Everyone in Blooms felt incredibly proud of you all.

Also huge congratulations to Ingrid, Mareike, Liv, Lucy, Scarlett and Sophia for the part they played in this year's amazing Cabaret. And thank you once again to Ruby for her backstage and production team support. You were all fabulous!

The Lower Sixth and First Years' enjoyed a pizza and movie night. Thanks to the Lower Sixth girls and Mr Scott for organising everything. The empty pizza boxes told their own story!

ROUND THE HOUSES

There were so many individual achievements this year - with amazing Lamda results, Bede's Best awards and Ovations. Well done to all the girls who have achieved well earned individual recognition in these areas.

Thanks also to everyone who has donated to the 'Love in a Bag' charity fundraising. Over 50 bags have been donated by Bloomsbury House.

Issy, Amelia, Lucie, Megan, Megs, Milly, Erin and Romilly have all smashed it on the hockey pitch this term and of course huge congratulations to Lola Brown who has been selected for England U17s. We look forward to following her progress in the year ahead.

Blooms is currently standing in second position in the House competitions so everything is still to play for. The girls came a creditable fourth in the Christmas cake decorating competition and thanks to Jemima for the decorations and to Meredith and Ada for their part in the icing of it.



The House trip to Brighton was a great occasion and everyone enjoyed lunch and skating at the Pavilion. Thank you everyone for a lovely day out!



We began by welcoming our new First Year pupils in **Deis** with a Pizza and Pool evening in House, and beginning what has turned out to be a very dedicated ongoing pool competition throughout the term!

House competitions have so far seen us hit sixth place continuously, a 4-place improvement from our previous year!

Notably, we achieved a whopping second place in our conglomerate house in the House Music competition, despite

winning no overall categories, which means every performance was strong: all of our pupils gave their best. Hooray for Doristud!

We also had the pleasure of our Evensong and Formal Dinner event in late November, focussing on our value of Conscientious and an "Oscars" theme. We had a guest speaker in the form of David Spear who has been preparing to go into space and shared a fascinating story. We were entertained by our house musicians: Charlie Swan, Alfie Burton, Jonjo Murphy and Theo Gordon-Booth.



We ended the term with our house outing: a meal out at Donatello's and a paintballing adventure.

Some words from our Head of House, Eric Oxenden-Rodriguez:

"What a great term it has been! The atmosphere in the House has been brilliant. It's great to see everyone getting involved with the house and thriving in their personal activities. I'm proud of how we are working our way up the house competitions with a great performance in house music especially. My highlight was the formal dinner. A memorable night and a great talk by David Spear."

This term we welcomed new members into the **Crossways** family - it has been lovely to see new friendships forming. The 'older' members of Crossways have been brilliant in helping and supporting them - a massive thank you.

This term, we won House Music! I could not be prouder of Crossways! Having been at Bede's for 16 years, I have NEVER won any section of the House Music Competition. We combined with Dicker (a boys' Day house) and had the First Year, Upper Fifth and Upper Sixth of Stud House (our next door neighbours) - to form 'Stickways'. It was an incredible performance: our Big Song, was '500 miles', Small Song: Freedom, our Soloist was Josh from Stud and our Band performed their own version of '7 Nation Army'. We won the Soloist and Band categories, as well as winning overall. A huge thank you to: Elfie, Gladys, Davina, Milly, Atlanta, Laura, Skye, Matilita M, Taleen and Sophy for giving up so much of their time to rehearse.

Crossways girls have continued to excel in the second half of term. We have had a very successful charity week - followed by our Formal

ROUND THE HOUSES

Dinner and Evensong, which was a wonderful and heartwarming evening.



We had our Charity Week where animal theme cakes and hot chocolate were sold (in rather horrible weather conditions), we had a talk about Raystede from Zara (their communities co-ordinator), Crossways wore blue - to highlight the charity to the wider school community and the House staff dressed up as animals for a day. We will be continuing our fundraising for Raystede with our 24 hour disco (in the Spring term).

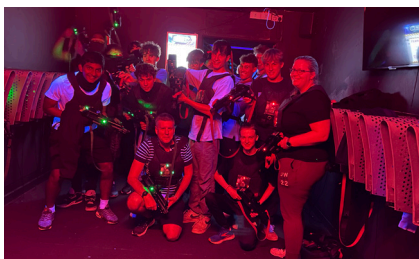


This has been an action packed term as the mighty **Stud** House have competed in competitions ranging from singing our hearts out in the House Music competition (we came first you know!) to carving pumpkins (not first) to kicking a football around a muddy field (first again in the juniors!)

The boys are quite understandably tired, but have benefitted from the care and attention from their excellent tutors, the brilliant Stud matrons, and the dedicated resident staff. Tutor



group trips have happened throughout the last few months with the First Years having a BBQ (remember when it was sunny?), the Lower Fifth went bowling, the Upper Fifth hit some golf balls and went to McDonalds, the Lower Sixth had a kebab and beach evening in Eastbourne, and the Upper Sixth shot each other with lasers (although they seemed to target Mrs Danielsen and me).



The First Years will be hamper packing in the next few days to help out the ABC Fund, our House charity, and the always game Stud teachers dressed up as Star Wars characters for the day- the images of Mr Dozagic dressed as Chewbacca, lounging on the main staircase, and of Matron Mollie challenging me, Darth Jones, to a lightsaber fight will live with the boys for a long time.

The boys have built friendships, enjoyed some good times, done some work, and now fully deserve their three weeks off. I hope to see you all refreshed and rejuvenated to start the Spring term.

As we close 2023, many of us will be looking back at a year full of unprecedented unpredictability and change in the world around us. All the more reason for us to be deeply proud of the positivity, support and action which has been evident in **Charleston** House. From day one back in September, the Charleston girls have lived our core values of "Kindness, Empathy, Hope and Gratitude" to the fullest. Our anti-bullying ambassadors Nell McLachlan and Evie Moore have created a space for kind messages to be shared with others. A special congratulations to Evie, who announced it with such confidence and poise at the school assembly.

Well done to all the girls who performed so well in House Music. The girls worked tirelessly to pull off their incredible performance in the Big Song. A huge thanks to the effervescent Grace Watkins for masterminding our path to glory! The whole thing was a real treat for your eyes - and ears.



ROUND THE HOUSES

As if singing wasn't enough show business for Charleston, the school performance of Coriolanus saw our house girls in full force with Anna Scott, Megan Lilley, Milly Stevens, Jolie Phillips, Nichola Strachan, Ava Hooper and Mabel Young stealing the spotlight for Charleston in a thought-provoking show.

It's not just on the stage where we have seen a commitment. This term the girls have shown real focus on their academic studies in preparation for their end of term assessments. As the nights get longer I have been deeply impressed by the girls' round the clock dedication, often using any spare second to revise in house.

Outside of school I am always amazed at what the girls manage to achieve. Lola Woollard was scouted for England rugby, Anna Scott got her black belt in karate and Molly Jones with her Class E Downsman hike - just to mention a few.

It has been a good term for **Dicker** house - the Dickerites have done a super job and stuck to their task well, even in the face of a very challenging, wet November.

A highlight was undoubtedly our winning performance in the House Music Competition, which saw a super camaraderie within Dicker and also with Crossways and Stud. We also performed very well in the early term team building event.

Josh Stockwell has led the house brilliantly - leading by example, and driving forward the Nominations system and a focus on kindness. We have had a couple of cracking sporting 'Dickers' on the subjects of whether England should have attended the World Cup in Qatar, and whether T20 was a good thing for cricket. Our charity week saw us set up our inaugural house tuck shop, which was subsequently diligently run by various tutor groups during the term.

Our Nominations system saw 800 Nominations this term for our pupils, staff and parents; Nominations were awarded within the categories: The 4 C's (the school values); Creativity and Arts; Resilience;

Citizenship and service; Mental and Physical well-being; Thank you. Wonderfully, the Dickerites expressed over 350 gratitude Nominations to others, which was great to see. The house also achieved 270 merits between them.

We rounded off the term with a well deserved Christmas trip of ice skating in Brighton.

Well done everyone. My thanks to everyone for your hard work and in particular to the wonderful Dicker tutor team. I wish the whole Dicker community a very Happy Christmas and New Year.





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