

THE INVICTUS MAGAZINE

SUMMER 2019



INVICTUS
Education Trust



WEST MIDS TRACK AND FIELD CHAMPS

P9

A huge well done to Luke Bailey, Cian Wood and Rhys Lees who represented Dudley at the West Midlands schools track and field championships. It was held at the Alexander stadium in Birmingham...

CHAMPIONS AGAIN

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On Wednesday 8th May 2019 13 students travelled to Pedmore to take part in the 2nd Invictus Games of the year. The events they were competing in were football, archery and swimming. The pressure was on, having won...

UK MATHS CHAMPS

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In March four gifted and talented mathematicians were given the opportunity to represent Kinver High School at the UK Maths Team Challenge. This is the third year that Kinver students have attended the...

F1 IN SCHOOLS WINNER

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Design and Technology students from Leasowes High School competed at the F1 in Schools National Final 2019 at AirbusUK, Chester. The year 9 and 10 students from Team Halo...

WALSALL FC SIGN OUNSDALE STAR!

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A huge congratulations and well done to Joe Foulkes for achieving his 2 year football scholarship at Walsall Football Club. He is very pleased and excited about it. Joe will complete his scholarship alongside...

YOUTH PARLIAMENT

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We have incredible news, a year 9 students at Pedmore High School has been successful in her campaign to become the Dudley representative for...



WELCOME

Welcome to the third edition of our Trust magazine ‘The Invictus Magazine’.

Another wonderful term has flown by, I would like to say a huge well done to each and every one of our year 11 students that have recently completed their exams and to our support teams that ensure the examination environment is perfect for our students.

I would also like to congratulate the 12 amazing Invictus students that appear on the cover of this magazine; the 6 girls and 6 boys were recently appointed Head Girl and Head Boy of their respective schools.

It was my absolute privilege to welcome them to our HQ this week for a photoshoot, as much as I have enjoyed my new role, I do miss the day to day interaction with our students. Being around our future leaders, listening to their achievements and future plans is very energising.

I would go as far as to say seeing our students together and spending the morning with them at Himley Hall was one of the highlights of my term.



Mr T Bowles
CEO - Invictus Education Trust



Well done to:

Saman Batool & Darius Holder (Crestwood)
Lydia West & Jack Baines (Ellowes)
Lola Meyrick & James Hodges (Kinver)
Emma Bolton & Krzysztof Stasiak (Leasowes)
Harley Keasey & Anthony Teague (Pedmore)
Olivia Parker & Joshua Stevens (Wombourne)

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TERM DATES

END OF TERM / RETURN TO SCHOOL

	END OF TERM	RETURN TO SCHOOL
CRESTWOOD	19TH JULY	4TH SEPTEMBER
ELLOWES HALL	19TH JULY	4TH SEPTEMBER
KINVER	19TH JULY	4TH SEPTEMBER
LEASOWES	19TH JULY	4TH SEPTEMBER
OUNSDALE	19TH JULY	4TH SEPTEMBER
PEDMORE	19TH JULY	4TH SEPTEMBER

INVICTUS CULTURE

THE NEXT PHASE FOR US, IN TERMS OF A COLLABORATION, IS THE LAUNCH OF THE ‘INVICTUS CULTURE’. THE INVICTUS CULTURE HAS SEEN ALL OF OUR SCHOOLS, AND 6TH FORM, ADOPT A SHARED VISION, MISSION AND SET OF VALUES.

“ What is a culture? The feeling or climate conveyed without a word being spoken ”



INVICTUS VISION

OUR ASPIRATION, WHAT OUR SCHOOLS AND TRUST WILL LOOK LIKE IN THE FUTURE

Our communities have access to an outstanding education.

Our schools and 6th form cater for the social, economic and cultural diversity that our country is comprised of and deliver opportunities and experiences that celebrate that diversity.

We are to be locally based, but nationally important.



INVICTUS MISSION

A FORMAL SUMMARY OF WHAT WE DO AND WHY WE DO IT

We exist to provide our schools with the resources to offer independent minded education to their communities.

Our academic focus is on progress.

We achieve this with exceptional teaching delivered by outstanding teachers, who are supported by an outstanding team.

We provide our students with unique opportunities and elite experiences allowing them to thrive in whatever they pursue.



INVICTUS VALUES

OUR PRINCIPLES AND STANDARDS

- **Every day, in every way, our students come first** - Our first and most important value.
- **Anything is possible** - We focus on the challenge to identify it, our energy is spent finding a solution.
- **Accountability** - If it is to be, it is to be me.
- **Seek and seize opportunities** - We aim to deliver ‘WOW’ through opportunities and experiences.
- **Focus on relationships and all else will follow** - Open, honest and empathic relationships with clear and simple communication are the foundations of our Trust.
- **Start with the end in mind** - We identify our aspiration and put processes in place to exceed expectations. We celebrate our progress throughout the journey.
- **Think collaboratively** - We always ask ourselves; can we include more students, more of our team or more of our schools in everything we do?



OUR CULTURE IS EMBRACED BY EVERYONE WITHIN THE ORGANISATION, FROM STUDENTS TO CEO, AND EVERYONE IN BETWEEN,

COME AND SEE FOR YOURSELF AT OUR OPEN EVENINGS!



6TH FORM

As we approach the end of the academic year, it's time to reflect on what a busy and successful year it has been for both students and staff in Invictus Sixth Form.

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Students who did exceptionally well in terms of academic progress include:

Kiri Green
Psychology A*
Biology A
English B

George Adkins
Business Studies A
Mathematics B
Accountancy B

Ellie Smith
Psychology A*
History A
English Literature A

Katie White
Sport and Exercise
Science Distinction *
Business Studies A

Charlotte Collins
English Literature A*
Sociology A
Psychology B

September got off to a flying start as we celebrated the academic achievements of our Year 13 students.

Seeing so many of them proudly collect their A Level and BTEC results in preparation for university or advanced apprenticeships in the weeks and months to come was certainly a moment we won't forget. Once the national A Level results were published by the DfE a few weeks later, it became clear that the progress achieved by Invictus Sixth Form students is amongst the best in the country. Compared to all multi-academy trusts in the country, we had come in the top 10! In terms of academic progress, Invictus Sixth Form beat all local schools and colleges. Even more impressive were the results achieved by Kinver students and teachers. Kinver sixth form students had achieved results placing them in top spot out of 125 schools and colleges in the whole of Staffordshire, Dudley and Wolverhampton. Their progress is described by ALPS as outstanding and places them in the top 10% of all schools and colleges within the UK.



Year 13 students spent the early part of the Autumn term completing their UCAS applications, with many attending interviews and open days during the Spring Term.

We are especially proud of Lauren Baldwin who has been accepted to study medicine and Luke Baynham who, after a gruelling interview process, received an offer from Cambridge University to read Mathematics. All students in Year 13 have been working hard in the build up to their final exams and now await the August exam results day with both excitement and trepidation.

Also during the Spring term, prospective Year 12 students took part in taster lessons for subjects they had applied for, at their base campus.

This gave them the opportunity to see for themselves what an A Level or BTEC lesson would really be like in order to finalise their option choices during the interview process. For some students it confirmed that they had definitely made the right choices but for others this opportunity gave them the information they needed to confidently change their subjects.

FINAL EXAMS

The arrival of the summer term brought the start of final exams for Year 13 students. When they started with us in September 2017, many were nervous and not sure about what they could achieve. Although the time has flown by, to see them confidently sit their final assessments, looking forward to the future, makes us very proud. We can't wait to see what they achieve on exams results day.

INDUCTION

As we look forward to the start of the new academic year, prospective Year 12 students took part in sixth form induction on 24th and 25th June. Students had great fun in a range of team building activities. Scavenger hunts, 'Taskmaster' challenges, quizzes and softball games all helped students to bond and make new friends, before they undertook taster lessons at both their base and other Invictus campuses.

LIFE AFTER SIXTH FORM

For Year 12 students, the summer term means starting preparation for their life after Sixth Form. PSHE lesson revolve around this topic, with students using Unifrog and UCAS to carry out research into possible courses and apprenticeships and to start drafting out their personal statements. Visits to Halesowen College for a Higher and Advanced Apprenticeships Day and the Birmingham UCAS HE Convention in June both supported students in their research and decision making process. In July, Year 12 students also took part in a residential visit to Edge Hill University. They took part in variety of workshops and taster lectures and stayed in halls of residence. This gave them a real flavour of what university life is like.

SUMMER BALL

Finally, the sixth form summer ball took place on Thursday 11th July at West Midland Safari Park. Both Year 12 and Year 13 had an amazing time, dancing the night away, celebrating the end of another successful year at Invictus Sixth Form.



OUNSDALE CAMPUS

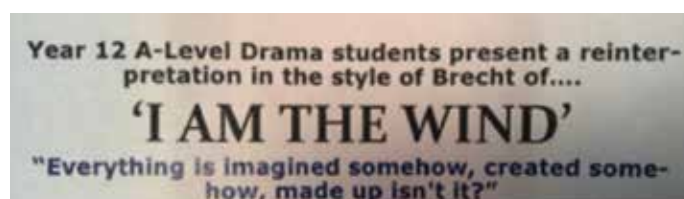
Year 12 students will, for the first time, be taking part in the English Speaking Board qualification in July.

This prestigious qualification tests students' research, communication and debating skills. Successful completion will reward students with UCAS points of between 24 to 30 points, depending on whether they achieve a pass, merit or distinction grade. Senior Prefects were also recently recruited. During next academic year, they will be taking part in a range of leadership roles to support both the school and wider community. For 2019-20 Shore Brittain, Jorge Bell, Alex Bonell, Lily Aust, Jonathan Young and Katy Abbott will take on this important and prestigious responsibility; they are really looking forward to leading the way in their final year of post-16 education.

CRESTWOOD CAMPUS

Crestwood Sixth Form would like to say a massive well done to our Year 13s! The Year 13'S have made Crestwood staff very proud, and everybody here wishes them good luck and happiness in their future endeavours.

It is now the turn of Year 12 to focus their efforts through an intensive period of university visits and tutorials designed to support students in their applications to universities and degree apprenticeships. As students are awaiting to hear the results of their mock exams in June, they have recently attended a Higher Education workshop at Halesowen College, and the UCAS Conference at the NEC. Students are also encouraged to visit University Open Days, and the sixth form have arranged a residential visit to Edge Hill University for students to experience life on campus. It is hard to believe it has only been one year since they were eagerly awaiting their GCSE exam results!



YEAR 12 DRAMA PRODUCTION I AM THE WIND

Two year 12 drama students have performed an interpretation of John Fosse's 'I am the Wind' to an engaging audience made up of teachers, parents and peers.

This formed Component One for their Drama exam and they have done so well to advertise and deliver a performance around the difficult topic of abortion - a key issue in society. This has been a useful period for them to make use of knowledge gained in their Sociology lessons to successfully deliver the performance through Drama.



“

MY NAME IS LILY FOX AND I HAVE JUST COMPLETED MY FIRST YEAR AT INVICTUS SIXTH FORM.

I am studying English Literature and History at Kinver, and Psychology at Ounsdale.

For me, the best part about the Invictus set up is the opportunity to study at different campuses, widening the range of courses available. Having previously studied at Kinver for my GCSEs, the opportunity to travel to Ounsdale offered new scenery and the chance to meet new people. This year has had many highlights for me, particularly the opportunities I have had such as the HE+ program, which enabled me to further my skills in history, a topic I am extremely interested in. Being in a smaller environment has also really helped me to develop friendships, as well as the benefit of smaller class sizes. I am currently writing my UCAS applications for universities, and the support I have received from staff, particularly in PSHE has helped me to discover the best options for me when I leave Kinver. PSHE lessons are also tailored to help me show off my skills and attributes in the best way when writing my personal statement. Overall, I have thoroughly enjoyed my first year at Invictus, and am looking forward to the opportunities waiting for me in year 13, as well as post sixth form!

”

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RUGBY ACADEMY

Considering it's the first year for the Invictus Rugby Academy, the players involved have made lots of improvements with their skills and overall knowledge of the game.

It has been tough at times, as injuries have depleted numbers in the squad. However, through some excellent trialists and commitment from the rest of the team, we have managed to train regularly and play the majority of our matches, with a few wins. As well as the hard work we put in, we are often rewarded with trips and various course to expand our learning. Towards the end of the year, as our knowledge has progressed, we have been given the freedom to run our own training sessions to develop what we feel is necessary to our learning. It's been great to be part of such a brilliant team, and to play with students from all over Invictus. We are looking forward to even more students joining us next year and helping the Rugby Academy to grow even further.



WEST MIDLANDS TRACK & FIELD CHAMPIONSHIPS

A huge well done to Luke Bailey, Cian Wood and Rhys Lees who represented Dudley at the West Midlands schools track and field championships. It was held at the Alexander Stadium in Birmingham. The weather was atrocious and all the lads gave their best and gained valuable experience for future events. It was a great opportunity for them to compete "at the home of British athletics" where the best in the world have competed and records smashed.

Luke competed in 1500m and long jump, Cian in 200m and long jump and Rhys entered the javelin and 200m events.



CRESTWOOD STUDENTS EARN PLACE ON RAF ENGINEERING CAMP

Seven Year 10 Crestwood students were nominated for the STAAR (Summer Time Advanced Aerospace Residency) as they demonstrated an interest and aptitude for Science and Design & Technology. The students along with many other students across the Midlands were added to a draw which took place on the 9th April at RAF Cosford

We are pleased to inform you that Sinead, Billy and Nick were successful and will be joining 17 other students for the fully-funded immersive week-long, hands-on residential camp.

The students, for five intense days, will have the full experience of life as an RAF engineering trainee, excluding aspects of military life such as marching of course! They will learn about advanced aerospace systems and concepts and will address how the need for solutions to achieve an air mission shapes the way engineers and scientists design aerospace systems.

Sinead, Billy and Nick will be taught about concepts such as wing design; hypersonics; power generation; how payloads affect weight and balance; innovative new materials and technologies; and the capabilities an aerospace system requires to achieve the mission and the overall effect. With their new knowledge and skills, the students will design their very own advanced aerospace systems solutions.

We will let you know how they get on!



FORMER CRESTWOOD STUDENT, KATIE GORST, CAME BACK TO VISIT CRESTWOOD EARLIER THIS MONTH TO SHARE HER WONDERFUL EXPERIENCES WITH HER FORMER TEACHERS.

Katie is now a fully qualified, Beauty Therapist, and is about to open her first Beauty Salon... at the age of 19!

Katie left Crestwood in July 2015 school, with excellent GCSE results, to start her training in Beauty Therapy. Katie studied for 3 years before becoming Level 3 qualified in 2018. Whilst studying Katie gained as much experience as possible in her chosen field, in 2017 she was employed by a local salon where she honed her skills in a live environment.

Katie's college were so impressed with her progress they entered her into a competition. Incredibly, Katie performed exceptionally, finishing runner up in a talented field from 27 colleges across the UK and earning a job at a top Leicestershire spa, Ragdale Hall!

This meant at the age of 18 Katie moved from her family home to live and work by herself in Leicester, a very mature decision that enabled her to further her skill base and gain invaluable experience.

Katie launched her own business in 2017, working from home or at clients houses, her

first and most loyal customers, being her Mum and sister. Katie now serves over 100 people in the local community.

The success of Katie's Beauty Bar has encouraged Katie to lease her first business property and launch her very own salon.

Katie initially contacted the school with an offer to sponsor this years Prom Queen Award at the school Prom in June. Headteacher, Mrs Sutton, invited Katie in for a coffee and a catch up.

Mrs Sutton said "I was so pleased to hear how well Katie was doing and intrigued to hear about her experiences in the last few years. Katie was a fantastic Crestwood student and I have no doubt she will be successful with her new venture. It is great to know that a former student of ours is becoming a business owner and will be contributing in many ways to the local community"

If you would like more information head over to Katie's Beauty Bar Facebook Page

Good luck for your launch Katie, look forward to seeing you again soon

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY VISIT

A group of 15 high flying Year 10 pupils were part of the Invictus educational visit to Cambridge University. The visit started off with a talk on the wide variety of courses on offer at Cambridge, before moving on the importance of GCSEs and A-Levels. Pupils were then treated to a guided tour of Girton College by current university students and were able to ask questions about day to day student life. After a short lunch, pupils entered Cambridge to be given a tour of the other colleges in Cambridge, including a chance to see the famous Mathematical Bridge. The visit was extremely beneficial to all pupils, giving them an insight in to what options they can choose in the future.



CRESTWOOD STAFF RAISED OVER £900 FOR CANCER RESEARCH



Four members of staff at Crestwood School bravely signed up for Cancer Research UK 'Great Golf Challenge'

The 4 staff members in question already had their work cut out convincing everyone that this actually is a challenge and that it is not 'any excuse to play golf!'

On the 15th June 2019 Mr Boerm, Mr Chatterley, Mr Dowd and Mr Lopez played 4 games of golf in one day. The stats showed they covered over 26 miles, taking over 50,000

steps and hitting around 350 shots!

The day started at 5.50am and the lads sunk their last puts at 9.50pm, a fantastic day for a brilliant cause

The challenge was completed at Perton Park Golf Club who offered fantastic support by donating the tee times to the cause, over £320 worth of golf! We are very much appreciative of the support shown by Jeremy and the team and want to ensure we justify their support by raising heaps of money for a fantastic cause!

The snazzy shirts were also donated by our friend's at Think Creative, Mr Dowd chose the colour:....





INVICTUS SAILING

MUMBLES SAILING OPEN (WALES)

On the 8th and 9th of June myself, fellow Invictus student David and a friend from Himley Hall Sailing club Mathew, were able to attend a sailing open in Mumbles. Although the racing didn't start till 12:30, for us it started at 6:00am on the Saturday morning hitching up the Boat trailer and beginning the 4 hour journey from Himley to Mumbles Yacht club near Swansea. As we arrived it was a scramble to get everything set up quickly in time for the beginning of the race. However due to the wind speed being extremely fast (30mph with gusts of 40mph) all three of us made the tactical decision not to race and instead "preserve our strength" for the next day which had more promising wind speeds.

As Sunday began the wind was looking to be

much kinder towards us, as we all set about prepping the boats for racing. There were 4 races on the Sunday, the first race seemed promising as good wind conditions allowed me to obtain a first place in class with David in 5th and Mathew in 6th. Due to a bad start on the second race I was unable to pull off such a victory again leading me to come 6th whilst David and Mathew moved to 3rd and 4th respectively. Race 3 was a similar story to Race 2 in terms of starting although I was able to pull a lot back and catch Mathew just before the line to end up 5th with David 4th and Mathew ending up 6th. Myself and Mathew retired from the racing after Race 3 due to a close shave with another boat which would have ended with both of us going for a short swim. Fortunately I was able to turn the boat away from the oncoming vessel to avoid contact with it, I was unable however to dodge the contact from my boom swinging over and crashing into the side of my head, I

understand now why it's called a boom... David on the other hand was able to complete Race 4 coming in 4th place.

At the end we all packed the boats back on to the road trailer and went into the club house for the presentations, and ultimately find out how we had done. In our class David came 4th, Myself 5th and Mathew 6th occupying 11th, 13th and 14th in the overall results. We would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to all those who organised the event, those who crewed safety boats and tallied the laps at Mumbles Yacht Club. I would also like to thank all parents who supported us in getting boats ready and transporting them to the club. With one final thank you from David and myself to the Invictus Education Trust for giving us the opportunity to take their boats racing at Mumbles and also for introducing us to the sport in the first place.

William Fletcher

"I am extremely proud of these students for all they have achieved, and the passion they have for the sport. William and David you are true Ambassadors of the sport well done."
Miss Hatton Director of Sport

CRESTWOOD 5K RUN, WALK OR JOG

On Monday 17th June 2019 Crestwood School held its first ever 5k run, walk or jog. The course was carefully planned, organised and prepared by our groundsmen. The students were competing in the event to raise funds for Birmingham Children's Hospital Charity. We are currently still receiving donations and aim to announce the total figure next week.

The students were invited to wear red or school uniform for the event and the winners of each race on the day received medals, presented by our PE Department. Our local primary feeder schools also supported the event and joined in with the 2pm final race. The final race was our biggest and included students from year 10, 7 and feeder schools.

The event was thoroughly enjoyed by all and following positive feedback, we look forward to planning another event next year.



CRESTWOOD STUDENTS VISIT BCLM

A group of year 8, students have been reading the book: "Martha's Story – The girl who broke her chains"

The book is based on real events that took place in the Midlands just over a century ago; it uses the diary of an 11-year-old girl to bring to life the experiences of working class children of that time.

Year 8 students had an opportunity to visit the Black Country Living Museum to see how life was back in Martha's time. Students could see chain making in action (which Martha was taught when she was 8 years old!). Students really got a feel for the book and wanted to know more about how Martha would have lived almost a century ago. Year 8 visited the school of Martha's time and they were shocked at how they were taught all those years ago, nothing like school today!



Visiting the buildings around Martha's time and learning that they had no electricity, computers or TV was shocking for some of our students. They came away experiencing how Martha lived, shopped and worked which all added to a wonderful experience, of reading this book.

Well done to those students they were a credit to Crestwood.

Miss Barnbrook



UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM VISIT

Mr Knowles, Miss Read and Mrs Sibley had the pleasure of taking 48 Year 10s to the University of Birmingham as part of Crestwood's more able programme. Pupils started off the day by taking part in a last man standing game where pupils were quizzed on their knowledge of university, followed by a talk on the importance of GCSEs.

Next up was a tour of the University grounds by current undergraduate students who were able to give an insight in to university life at Birmingham. After a quick lunch, a game of Pictionary opened the eyes of all pupils to the wide variety of traditional and niche courses on offer at Birmingham. Finally, pupils were able to ask all the important questions regarding student finance, settling in to university, accommodation and courses to a group of current student.

The visit gave pupils a fantastic experience to see a local Russell Group university, promoted the importance of GCSEs and encouraged pupils to think and discuss their future plans. It was amazing to see so many pupils talking about their future career plans and their determination to do well at school.



MISS BRADSHAW HEADS TO MACHU PICHU!

This Summer Miss Bradshaw will be taking on the huge challenge of completing the Inca Trail trek to Machu Picchu in Peru raising money for Birmingham Children's Hospital. The trek itself spans 4 days, consisting of approximately 25 hours of walking over 42km, the highest altitude reaching 4,215m.

The money raised for Birmingham Children's Hospital will be used to make a real difference to all those in the hospital. To make a scary and unsettling environment feel just like home. Your donations will help to find new ways to treat and cure childhood diseases.

P.S She won't have access to any real showers or toilets for the 4 days ... if that isn't worth a donation I don't know what is.





MEET OUR PREFECTS

DEPUTY HEAD GIRL

ASHLEA DAVIES

DEPUTY HEAD BOY

CONNOR HIGGS

During the summer term, the school prefects for 2019 -2020 were selected. This is an incredible honour and the competition was fierce. After a rigorous application process, the school was delighted to appoint 50 prefects. The school has never appointed so many and it is a testament to the year group that so many met the threshold.

These students will be examples to others in terms of attitude, behaviour, uniform, punctuality and attendance. They will represent The Crestwood School at important events and promote our values in school and the local community. They will also shape the school's future and journey to become outstanding.

DARIUS HOLDER

OUR HEAD BOY

I am overjoyed with having the pleasure of being head boy. Having this role has been a long time goal for me. I have had so much support from friends, family and staff to help me achieve this and I just about got the spot. To begin with I had to become a prefect before applying for head boy. I had to write an application for this and this application along with many other factors were used to determine a shortlist.

Once I was shortlisted the hard part came next. Interviews. I had to write a speech on what Crestwood meant to me and after I had performed this I was asked a few questions. I based my speech on the elements of teamwork, contribution and leadership. I explained how much people had helped me throughout my time here at Crestwood and surprisingly I got the spot! I was thrilled when I heard the news. I hope to leave something behind for the school in the future, to show my gratitude for how much the school has helped me.

SAMAN BATOOL

OUR HEAD GIRL

I was overwhelmed with joy when I found out that I had been given the role of head girl. It is a pleasure to represent the school as Crestwood's head girl and I will fulfil this role with a lot of pride and passion. Becoming head girl has been one of my main goals since year 7 and I have really tried to grab every opportunity that would contribute to me getting that one step closer to achieving my ultimate goal. I have worked extremely hard to be in the position that I am currently in today and I could honestly not thank Crestwood and the staff for giving me this huge opportunity. I have had so much support from peers, staff and family and it has really driven me to make the most of every opportunity.

ALISHAH AKHTAR
AMEENA AHMED
ALIA RIAZ
SAMANTHA ALLAN
KATIE ALLEN
LUCIANNE BARNBROOK
SAMAN BATOOL
TIFFANY BRZEZINSKA
ABIGAIL CASSELL
LAUREN DAVIES
PAIGE DAVIES
ELLIE JONES
JASMIN FAULKNER-HARPER
OLIVIAN GEORGE
JESSICA GOLDING
ALEX GRAZIER
MAIA GREEN
CHELSEA HALFORD
CHARLIE HAMPSON
ABBIE HASKETT
KAITLIN HIGGS
DARIUS HOLDER
HOLLIE SYLVESTER
AAISHA IMRAN
ALIYAH IQBAL
JAMIE KENDRICK
MEGAN KINGS
SINEAD LECKEY
DYLAN MANEY
ABI MEESE
ABBIE MILLWARD
SCARLETT MORRIS
CHARLIE MOSELEY

JACK DEELEY
TOM GOLDING
BILL BYRNE
ELLIE PHIPPS
ELLIE QUARRY
ELLIE RAY
CONNOR WILSON
ALICIA PASSMORE
LUCY TIBBETTS
ELICIA GWILLIAM
NATHAN PEARSON
CHARLIE MULLETT
ELLIE MULLINGS
MILCAH MUUZUWA
TIA PP NASH
NICHOLAS MURRAY
IRAM NOREEN
KYE ROCK VAZ
MOLLIE SAUNDERS
KIRAN SHAFIQ
LAUREN SKIDMORE
JOLIN SLATER
ALETIA SLESSOR
LEWIS SMART
BROOKLYN SMITH
JOE SMITH
EMMA TAYLOR
JOSEPH WAGSTAFF
KAITLIN WARD JONES
SAMUEL WHEELER
AARYANNA WHITE
ISABELLE WILLIAMS
DILLON NIXON

CRESTWOOD BUDDY TEAM



Everyone knows how daunting the transition from primary school to secondary school can be – a new place (which has a lot more stairs!); new teachers; new students; different timetable... and the list goes on. One way that Crestwood aims to make this move easier is by hiring a team of year 7 students to be Buddies for the new students.

In June, Mrs Bourne, Mrs Bradley, Mr Wilkinson and Mr Willis had the amazingly difficult job of choosing the team of students for 2019-20. The selection process is designed to be challenging – an application form and covering letter, and a formal interview. This year we interviewed 76 students, and the competition was fierce!

Whittling 76 candidates down to 32 was an absurdly difficult task. The students we interviewed conducted themselves professionally and maturely. If we could, we would have hired you all! To help

us choose, we looked at the strengths of every single student; we considered which students could work together and who would complement each other's skills the best; we looked at behaviour logs, attendance, and activities students had been involved with over the year.

So, with an enormous amount of pride, we would like to send our congratulations to everyone who applied, and to our Crestwood Buddy Team 2019-20. Well done!





INVICTUS GAMES CHAMPIONS!

On Wednesday 8th May 2019 13 students travelled to Pedmore to take part in the 2nd Invictus Games of the year.

The events they were competing in were football, archery and swimming. The pressure was on, having won the 1st Invictus Games. There were a couple of last minute drop outs, so a special mention goes to Jacob D for being the only year 9 boy to represent Ellowes Hall in the swimming.

For our year 7 footballers conditions were far

from ideal, having to compete not only with the other Invictus schools but also with the continuous downpour of rain. However, the boys did not let this phase them; each game they faced tough oppositions yet drew one game and won all of the others, finishing top of the table. They showed a positive attitude, great teamwork, resilience and responsibility in organising themselves.

In archery, our year 7 and 9 girls were worried they would not quite hit the mark, as archery is a sport they are not used to competing in. With a few practice goes and some expert advice, the girls gave it their best shot and came out on top combining their scores across both year groups.

The year 9 swimming was always going to be tough due to the high talent that entered the pool for each race. However, in true Ellowes Hall style they pulled together as a team and finished 3rd overall with the girls winning each of their races.

Well done to the following students for representing Ellowes Hall so well and having a fantastic attitude all day.

Kobi L, Oliver S, Daniel B-P, George H, Harvey B, Beth S, Chelsea M, Alex, Jacob D, April C, Trisha J, Hollie M and Emily C.



GSUS LIVE TOUR BUS

A fun type experience which helped them overcome everyday problems faced by all.

On the 13th May 2019 for a week the GSUS Bus arrived at Ellowes Hall School. All key stage three pupils had the opportunity to have an interactive Religious Education lesson on board. The pupils were amazed at how the computers rose from the desks. Their task was to choose a character who struggled with one of three themes either rejection, fear and forgiveness and the pupils had to offer them advice and help. The programme allowed them to listen to music and watch video clips to help them reach a decision. The pictures show pupils from 8C waiting to experience the interactive RE lesson.



REACH FOR YOUR STAR

There have been many leadership opportunities across this academic year for our students due to the vast array of primary and secondary school competitions organised by Mrs Ayris.

There have been 15 different opportunities which have involved approximately 200 leaders from years 7-12. These opportunities included leading at: school games festivals, numerous sports competitions, Change4Life events and a mini Olympics. By leading at an event students increase in confidence and improve their ability to talk to a group. Not only do their personal and social skills improve but also their knowledge and understanding of sport.

MINI OLYMPICS A HUGE SUCCESS YET AGAIN!

The mini Olympics was a sporting event that our 6th form organised for different primary schools to come to Ellowes and compete against one another. It was on the 5th April 2019 and was a huge success. Roberts Primary, Milking Bank and Redhall were the schools that came. Around about 100 children took part and made the day very successful as they were determined to win and loved representing their school in a sporting event like the Mini Olympics.

Members of Year 9 and 10 alpha took on different roles and responsibilities as leaders and a few year 11 prefects helped out the sixth formers with scoring, timekeeping and results. The results on the day were very varied to previous years as each school won the same amount of events giving us no overall winner. There were 9 events on the day which were:

GIRLS SWIMMING	1ST PLACE WAS MILKING BANK
BOYS SWIMMING	1ST PLACE WAS ROBERTS PRIMARY
BOYS BASKETBALL	1ST PLACE WAS MILKING BANK
GIRLS BASKETBALL	1ST PLACE WAS MILKING BANK
BOYS FOOTBALL	1ST PLACE WAS REDHALL
GIRLS FOOTBALL	1ST PLACE WAS ROBERTS PRIMARY
MIXED RELAY	1ST PLACE WAS REDHALL
GIRLS RELAY	1ST PLACE WAS REDHALL
BOYS RELAY	1ST PLACE WAS ROBERTS PRIMARY

Overall the day was very successful as everything went to plan and most importantly the young children enjoyed themselves and everyone got to take home a certificate for their amazing contribution and effort despite where they finished in the event.

Ashlea F, Year 12 student.



To encourage its pupils to read for pleasure, Invictus schools have just completed a successful sponsored Readathon. Kinver lead the way raising a whopping £707.52, followed by Ellowes on £233.74, Pedmore on £194.10, Leasowes on £148.87 and Crestwood on £98.50.

Pupils rose to the challenge, helping give the magic of books and stories to disadvantaged children in schools and hospitals across the UK. Georgiana P-B from Kinver High raised an incredible £202! Poppy L of Kinver High and Joel B of Pedmore were also top fundraisers. There was also a prize for the best book review, which was awarded to Bethany H of

Ellowes. Their achievement also earned the schools free books, provided by Readathon in partnership with Scholastic Book Clubs, to boost each school's library stocks.

Readathon is run by the UK charity Read for Good, which uses the sponsorship money raised to provide a regular supply of much-needed brand new books and storyteller visits for all major children's hospitals in the UK. Each hospital has a tailor-made, mobile bookcase, which is jam-packed full of the latest best sellers and classic favourites enabling children to choose what they fancy, without risk of infection.

Quote from Miss Ward (Invictus organizer) "I recommend Readathon to any teacher or librarian who wants to get their pupils reading for pleasure. Readathon creates a real buzz about books in the school; students are especially motivated to read when they are raising money to help other disadvantaged children in the UK. Well done to everyone who took part and a big thank you to teachers at all schools for their tremendous effort promoting it."

READATHON SPRING 2019

Enthusiastic pupils across Invictus have read anything and everything - from comics to classics - raising a huge £1382.73 to get brand new books to disadvantaged children in schools and hospitals across the UK.



END PERIOD POVERTY

In June this year Springs Church in Lower Gornal teamed up with the Health Champions at Ellowes Hall to tackle the issue of period poverty. Did you know one in ten girls are unable to afford to buy pads or period products and as a result 137,700 girls miss school each year?

Poverty happens when a person or household does not have enough money to meet their basic needs for food, clothing, shelter etc. As a result some girls are faced with the choice of missing school or improvising with other less effective substitutes for period products such as newspaper or socks.

The team at Springs Church gained funding to make sure this issue is stamped out at Ellowes. After receiving donations, the colourful packs pictured above were put together. They include all you need to see you through a single period and are freely available at the first aid office for the girls who are genuinely unable to afford products.

Silence is the biggest factor in breaking period poverty. So be brave, speak out and let's get talking about girls health issues so no one has to suffer alone.

BOXING SUCCESS FOR AIMEE



Aimee W, a Year 7 student at Ellowes Hall has been boxing since the age of 8 years old.

Aimee is an amateur boxer at Priory Park ABC, in Dudley. She is truly dedicated to her sport and trains rigorously three/four times a week with full support and guidance of all the fantastic coaches there.

She fought in her first England Championships on Saturday at the K2 Arena in Crawley, near London on the 18th May 2019. Aimee was given a walk-over for semi-final due to her opponent pulling out of the bout at the last minute. On Sunday 19th May 2019, Aimee fought amazingly in the final and won! Aimee is now the new Female Cadet Champion for the 38kg category for England Boxing National Schools Championships for 2019.

This is the biggest competition in the country for school age children and involves the best in the sport across the length and breadth of the country.

Aimee has earned herself a place in the England Boxing Team and has a bright future.

CHARITY UPDATE

So far for Movember we have raised **£193.00** by having a Bake Sale every Friday in November and painting moustaches on students.

Male teachers - Mr Evans, Mr Jeer, Mr Ming, Mr Marsh and Mr Sheppard groomed their moustaches to raise awareness.

For the British Heart Foundation we raised **£61.94** by sending valentines messages around School and selling pancakes.

We supported an Epilepsy charity and raised **£78.03** by having a Bake Sale.

The members of the Charity Club have been extremely dedicated.

Special thanks goes to Caitlin M and Jamie K are the main organisers with helpful members; Ashley M, Isobel N, Emily N, Kara-Mia R, Chloe P and Isabelle M.

We meet every Tuesday's during Prep in CR. Everyone is welcome to come and get involved.

Mrs Virdi-Jeer



Ashley M has been playing darts for several years now. During this time, he and his teammates have continually raised money for charity. Last year he and other dart players raised enough money to purchase a defibrillator for use in the Upper Gornal area. Because of this he was nominated for a Dudley youth award and although he did not win he received a certificate of commendation for being an inspiration to others. The local Tenants and Residents association also honoured him. To top what has already been a great year for Ashley he has now been selected to represent England under-18s in Gibraltar in September 2019.

Well done and Good Luck

MARATHON TRIUMPH IN MEMORY OF A DEAR FRIEND

On Sunday 28th April, Karen Salt, Administration Manager and Mr Jasper's PA at Ellowes Hall took part in this year's London Marathon.

Karen decided to take on the challenge after the sudden death of her long-term friend and former work colleague, John 'Foz' Hendley, the programme editor and historian at Wolverhampton Wanderers Football Club.

Foz died from a heart-attack in January 2018 and to honour his memory Karen chose to raise funds for the British Heart Foundation in his name.

After six-months of training she joined over 42,000 runners at the start line and completed the 26.2 mile event in 4 hours 49 minutes, raising over £3000 for the British Heart Foundation in the process.

Karen said "the training was hard work and the run itself was tough, but I really enjoyed it. The atmosphere was amazing and the support around the route was absolutely brilliant. In fact, I enjoyed it that much, I've entered the ballot for a place in next year's event!"

Karen would like to thank everyone for their support, sponsorship, cards and best wishes; including the group of Ellowes Hall students who donated the money they raised by selling pancakes and hearts on Valentine's Day. "Everyone has been so generous. The money raised will go towards lifesaving research at the British Heart Foundation. I am over-the moon and I know Foz would be too".



SPORTING SUCCESS

This has been another impressive year of success for Ellowes boys who continue to maintain their stranglehold on sport across the borough. As ever the first major event of the year was the Dudley Borough Cross Country Championships and despite a disappointing turnout of numbers across the Borough Ellowes were able to field full strength teams in all age groups. Having our very own tailor-made cross country course on site definitely provides us with an advantage both in experience and quality of performance and this was evident again with Ellowes Hall winning the overall events in the Year 7, Year 8/9 and Year 10/11 boy's categories. Notable performances came from Kian M in Year 9 and Alex P in Year 10 who both finished in the top 3 in their respective races. Thomas B in year 10 went even further by qualifying for the area finals and competing in the National competition for the fourth year running!

The football season was disappointing this year as the number of fixtures played was far below previous seasons which was a shame.

GIRLS, GIRLS, GIRLS...

Another pretty incredible year for the girls at Ellowes! With over 130 girls participating in at least one extra-curricular club, including competitive teams; leadership; and recreational sport, we could not be more proud of what we have achieved. Not only have we competed well in the borough and beyond, we have a phenomenal set of young leaders and have girls enjoying recreational sport more than ever before! Here's a quick review...

Kicking off the year with Netball, we performed pretty well in the tournaments, securing some top 3 places and a couple of finals, narrowly missing out on the Borough title! A tough season in the leagues but we can still hold our heads up high.

The U15 girls Basketball team made it to the Dudley finals after being crowned Dudley North champions but were pipped to the post in a well contested final against Hagley. The girls battled hard and displayed sheer grit and determination in what was a gruelling 40 minutes of play. It just wasn't our night and the girls learnt a lot about themselves, their resilience and their team spirit – which is why we love sport!

However Ellowes did manage to secure league victories in the Year 8, Year 9, Year 10 and Year 11 competitions.

Basketball is one of the sports that is enjoying a resurgence this year especially among year 7 and 8 students, a new lunch time club has seen numbers regularly exceed fifty students! To accommodate this Ellowes fielded a year 8 team in the year 9 league this year and whilst they unsurprisingly went winless through the season the attitude and effort shown by the boys was fantastic to see and we are sure that the experience will stand them in good stead for next season. The year 10 team built on their promising performances last year and managed to end the season as league winners but were unlucky to be beaten by Castle High's hugely impressive team in the area finals. The year

Other notable team performances included victory in this year's Mega Event that comprises of a series of sports played over the course of 1 day ranging from table tennis to rugby in which Ellowes boys competed with teams across the Borough in some fiercely contested contests. All the boys competed and behaved impeccably as did all schools entering the competition which was excellent to see. The year 8/9 boys qualified for the Black Country Games Handball finals finishing a respectable 3rd place; and the year 7/8 boy's inaugural dodgeball team qualified for the Black Country Games on June 28th.

We have qualified for several Level 3 competitions to represent Dudley in the Black Country Games, competing in: Athletics; Handball; Gymnastics and Dodgeball. As always, a great display of sportsmanship from the Ellowes athletes!

Now for individual shout outs...

Leah S – England Clay Pigeon shooting team

Abbey S – English Schools Athletics - Discus

Hannah B – Worcestershire County Cricket Ladies Squad and Regional Development Squad

Anyia L – Regional Excellence Centre - Football

Beth B, Charlie Beale, Shoni B – International Cheerleading squad 2019!

Lilie-Mae J – British Gymnastics Team.

Chelsea M and Bethany S – English National Swimmers

Great effort from staff and students all round – here's to next year!



LET'S GIVE THEM A CHEER

Bethany Year 11 and Charlie Year 8 competed in one of the world's biggest cheer competitions, The Summit with their club Sharon Ann Cheer and Dance Academy. The competition was held in Disney's ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex, Florida.

Their team were selected after a succession of major competitions which are invite only; you have to win bids or be national champion winners to be able to compete. The first day of the competition saw thirty-one teams from all over the world compete for the top ten places, the top ten then went through to day two of the competition. The competition was strong and the girls were overjoyed to finish second in the world in their division, International Junior One.

Shoni B and her team also exceeded expectations and did both the Sharon Ann Cheer and Dance Academy and their Country proud, as the first ever Unified England Jazz Team to be placed an amazing sixth in the World.

SA Supreme Jazz placed sixth in Open Jazz in the USASF Dance Worlds and fourth in the Nations Cup, the highest place the team has ever achieved in this division, three places higher than last years Worlds.

SA Supreme Lyrical placed fifth in the USASF Dance Worlds and third in the Nations Cup, finishing in the top five for the first time.

The 2019 USASF Dance Worlds have been an amazing one for the Academy's history.

SENIOR PREFECTS 2019/2020



Head Girl - Lydia W



Head Boy - Jack B



Deputy Head Girl -
Ella D



Deputy Head Girl -
Rebecca E



Deputy Head Girl -
Lilli G



Deputy Head Boy -
George S



Deputy Head Boy -
James L



Deputy Head Boy -
Jake S



Boys' Sports Captain -
Owen W



Boys' Vice Sports Captain -
Thomas B



Boys' Vice Sports Captain -
Joshua R



Girls' Sports Captain -
Elle C



Girls' Vice Sports Captain -
Lisa L



Girls' Vice Sports Captain -
Ellie W



Ellowes Hall Sports College Production

MISS Saigon

20th - 29th November 2019

Wed 20th, Thurs 21st & Fri 22nd - 19:30

Sat 23rd - 14:00

Wed 27th & Thurs 28th - 19:30

Fri 29th - 19:30 (Black Tie Event)

Tickets available from: www.elloweshall.co.uk/boxoffice
and from Reception: 01384 686600

SUCCESS AT UK MATHS TEAM CHALLENGE



In March four gifted and talented mathematicians were given the opportunity to represent Kinver High School at the UK Maths Team Challenge.

This is the third year that Kinver students have attended the Wolverhampton Girls' School for a day of solving complex Mathematical challenges, working as a team in four increasingly difficult rounds. The rounds ranged from a relay-style round where students have to run across the hall to get questions, to a crossnumber round where students have to work in pairs to fill in either the 'Across' or the 'Down' clues without being able to see the other half of the clues!

As always, the Kinver students worked extremely hard, and this year we were consistently in the top few scoring teams up until the last round. After a very difficult final round we were delighted to discover that we had placed 10th out of around 30 schools from the area; our best ever place! Tegan Hands and Jamie Bruce from Year 9, who both attended last year, were thrilled to have improved from last year's result, and Lottie Davies and Lucy Green from Year 8 both said they had a great day and would love to be able to attend again next year.

Kinver High Mathematics teacher, Miss Elvidge, who accompanied the students, said:

“The students represented Kinver fantastically; they put in their absolute all and I am over the moon with how well they have done. They were so polite and helpful throughout the day; real ambassadors for the school.”



STUDENTS GAINED TAE KUON DO BLACK BELT

Congratulations to Kinver students Evie Crooke, Molly McParland and Luis Handley who gained their Tae Kwon Do black belts before half term.

All three students, who attend Unite Tae Kwon Do School, started training from a young age and have all worked very hard to achieve their new belts. Year 10 student Evie successfully achieved her 2nd Dan. Molly and Luis both in Year 8 also successfully achieved their black belts 1st Dan.

Unite Tae Kwon Do chief instructors, Kai and Sarah Wilson, said: “We are extremely proud of everyone who graded. The club welcomed 4 new 1st Dan black belts and 1 new 2nd Dan to its ranks. The hard work and perseverance of all the students paid off and they really earned their new belts”.

Headteacher at Kinver High School, Mr Taylor, said: “These are tremendous achievements and testament to the hard work and character of all three students. As a school we are delighted for them and look forward to hearing about their future endeavours.”

KINVER AT INVICTUS GAMES

Congratulations to all of our Kinver High students who took part in the recent Invictus Games at Pedmore High School.

Kinver High School Headteacher, Mr Taylor, said: “I am very proud of all of our students who gave their best. Our footballers played particularly well and were unfortunate not to win a game, our Year 7s did well at archery against older competition. A special mention to our swimmers who were amazing and won the swimming competition and to Joel Hands who won outstanding male performer for the day. “The conduct of all of our students was exemplary.”

Kinver came 4th overall. Well done everyone!



KINVER STUDENTS VISIT GIRTON COLLEGE AT CAMBRIDGE



In March twelve Year 10 Kinver High School students were given the opportunity to attend Girton College at the University of Cambridge, along with two other schools from the Invictus Education Trust. The day was designed to give students a taste of university life, as well as giving them the opportunity to ask any questions they might have about Cambridge or life at university in general.

After a very early start, the day began with a talk about applying to the University of Cambridge - discussing different courses, types of universities, clubs and societies, and university interview questions. Students were then given a tour of the college by an undergraduate; viewing student accommodation, sports facilities, the library, the chapel, and the dining hall which looked like it was straight out of Hogwarts! Students were really engaged and asked many interesting and thoughtful questions about life at Girton College.

Miss Elvidge, Kinver Maths teacher, said: “We were then given a tour of Cambridge city itself, getting to see many of the different colleges, people punting on the river, and lots and lots of bikes! Our tour guides were excellent and gave us interesting information about Girton and the rest of the colleges.”

Year 10 student, Alice Rumble, said: “I really enjoyed learning lots of fun facts about the Cambridge colleges”. Fellow student, Maia Hill commented: “Cambridge is such a beautiful city and visiting has inspired me to work really hard at school so that I can get into a good university!”

Miss Elvidge, who accompanied the students, said: “It was a pleasure to spend the day with our students in such a lovely city and University. All of the students were really engaged and appreciated having the opportunity to visit such a prestigious institution. Since their visit they have started to consider what they want to do and achieve in the future!”

GEOGRAPHY QUIZ

Well done to our Year 8 geographers at Kinver High School who came 3rd and 4th in a Geography Quiz held at Haybridge High School, Hagley in April.

Kinver High entered two teams into the Geographical Association's Black Country round of the quiz, which test students' general geographical knowledge. Our teams comprised: Izzy Turner, Amelia Smyczek, Will Phillips, Molly McParland, Evan McGregor, Max Beaumont, Max Roberts and Dom Cattell.

Kinver High School Geography teacher, Miss Gilhooley, said: “I was very proud of all of our students, they did very well against strong competition.”



ROTARY YOUNG WRITER WINNER

Well done to our Kinver students who won places in the Rotary Young Writer Competition earlier this year, in particular to Year 10 student Edén Coley who was short listed to compete at national level.

This well-established competition, promoted by Rotary International in Britain and Ireland (RIBI), provides an opportunity for young people to put their writing skills to the test. It encourages imagination, creativity and the development of their writing skills.

Congratulations to our students Jolyon Davies, Edén Coley, Lola Meyrick and Tom Owen who all achieved winning places in the competition.

Some of our students, who took part in the creative writing competition, did so in lessons last summer and submitted those stories. Others took part in a creative writing workshop in the autumn term with a local author. They had to based their stories on 'My Inspiration' so a very open theme.

**STUDENTS WROTE ABOUT
INSPIRATION IN NATURE,
CELEBRITIES OR EVEN FAMILY
MEMBERS.**

Kinver High School English teacher, Mrs Cheadle, said "I was delighted by the standard of entries from our students at Kinver. I was thrilled that so many of them made it through the first round, and even more proud of Edén Coley whose entry won the district level competition. She was short listed for the national competition but unfortunately did not win. With some 63 clubs in district, many of whom take part in these competitions to gain recognition at district level, it is no mean achievement to win the district competition and Edén should be congratulated."

Well done to everyone who took part!

LANGUAGE STUDENTS VISIT WOLVERHAMPTON UNIVERSITY

A group of our Year 8 students at Kinver High School visited Wolverhampton University in March to learn about the importance of knowing a foreign language.

The day started with a talk from a linguist who discussed route words and where languages

had proven to be useful in his personal and professional life.

In the afternoon, students were divided into groups where they did some activities in Spanish and were given the task of producing a marketing campaign in the Target Language to promote to the rest of the group.



Modern Foreign Languages teacher at Kinver High School, Mrs Houghton, said:

“Everybody worked really well as a team and enjoyed the day. Our winners managed to deliver an entire presentation in Spanish - an ambitious goal which they pulled off seamlessly. Well done everyone..”

GAMBIA TRIP

REPORT BY MR FOX, HEAD OF SIXTH
FORM AT KINVER HIGH SCHOOL

“After a long day travelling, starting at 6am and arriving at our hotel at 8pm, staff and students settled into our surroundings ready for the busy week ahead. This year we were joined by staff from Brindley Junior and Foley Infants School, as well as ex-Kinver students Emily Whiston and Alice Grove who had supported the fundraising efforts throughout the year, and the week provided them with the opportunity to see the fruits of all of their hard work in supporting the different communities we partner with in Gambia.”

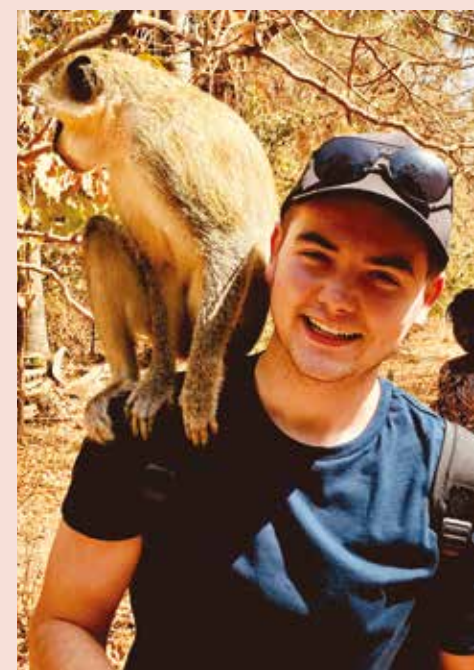
The opening day was quite relaxing, with trips to the nearby Monkey Park and Crocodile Pool, where students managed to get up close and personal with some of the native wildlife. This eased everyone into our new surroundings, and our new climate! The 24 Year 11 students, and six Sixth Formers were now ready for the real work to begin!

On Monday, we visited Mansa Colley Bojang Junior School, where staff from Kinver, Foley and Brindley taught lessons, and were very well-supported by the students we took with us. There were lessons on English Literature and Mathematics, as well as rugby and dance. Students from Mansa Colley were actually on their Easter holidays too, so they had come in especially to see us, which we were incredibly grateful for. As ever, the Kinver students excelled, despite being thrown in at the deep end! Mr Wilkes was also in his element teaching rugby to the Gambians, who even managed to sneak in a few tackles on Jonny Jones after his tutelage!



On Tuesday, we started work on the new Science Block at Mansa Colley. Students cleared the huge patch of land of all of the plants and debris that had been left, and within no time we were ready to dig the foundations! However, as both staff and students quickly came to realise, breaking through the hard, Gambian ground in 40°C heat was no easy task.

Yet everyone persevered, and before long, we had a trench ready and a whole group of students who were now experts in Gambian building practice.





On our final day, we returned to Nyofellah village, where we were warmly welcomed back by all. Students continued to show their dedication by painting and decorating the classrooms that we had built over the last two years. It was great for them to see where all the money they had raised has gone to, and to see the finished school which their efforts had helped to create. Alongside this, students taught their own lessons to the village children, who thoroughly enjoyed the arts and crafts inspired activities, as well as learning more rugby and dance!

Despite students (and staff!) feeling exhausted by this point, we managed to squeeze in a quick game of football. After going in 1-0 down at half time, Kinver equalised in the second half through a Tom Badland wonder-strike, which sent the travelling England fans into raptures! After a tense penalty shootout, Kinver won 3-1 on penalties, and we said our goodbyes to the village once again.

By this point, we all needed a good rest! We packed our bags and enjoyed a last meal together before flying back. Despite their tiredness Kinver students had thrown themselves into everything throughout the duration of the week.

Their efforts and attitude reflected just how much the visit had meant to them, and the difference they made to all of the groups we worked with will have a huge impact on the lives of our partner communities in Gambia, and hopefully on the attitudes of our own students here at home.

On an additional note, it was fantastic to be able to work with the Kinver Primary Federation Staff, who had done so much to raise funds and collect donations ready for this year's trip. Mr Willetts, Mrs Grove and Mrs Whiston, along with Alice Grove and Emily Whiston were brilliant throughout the entirety of the week. They threw themselves into every task, and fully immersed themselves into Gambian culture, and it was a pleasure to share their company whilst we were in Africa!

We are very grateful for all of their support and hard work, and we're really excited about continuing the partnership between our schools to help make an even bigger difference to our partner communities in The Gambia in future.



The following day was spent with Gambian families in their compound. We split into four groups, and trudged round the bright and bustling Brikama market to buy ingredients for our 'Chicken Yassa', which we would be cooking later on. Upon reaching the compounds, we set to work preparing the ingredients, and entertaining the children with dancing, games and football! The host families were incredibly welcoming, and before long everyone had got the hand of the cooking. Will Bridges was now a professional when using the giant pestle and mortar!

We then said goodbye to our new friends and went to visit Brikama hospital, the busiest hospital in the entirety of The Gambia. Whilst it was great to hand out the medical supplies and donations to the mothers that both Kinver Primary Federation and Kinver High families had donated, this was an eye-opening experience for students who could see the gulf in facilities and resources available to Gambians, and made us incredibly grateful for the care that we receive from the NHS back at home.

Despite the sombre end to Wednesday, the students returned to Mansa Colley to complete the foundations for the Science Block. As temperatures reached 42°C, the students battled on, and within a few hours the entirety of the foundations had been dug out. Both staff and students alike had exhausted themselves in

the heat, but our day wasn't yet done. We then visited a nearby orphanage school, for children who have lost one or both of their parents. We were all left speechless to see classes of over 50 students packed tightly into tiny classrooms, that had walls falling down, with virtually no resources other than a chalkboard at the front of the class. After speaking to the staff and the students here, as well as donating some resources and clothing to the school and its pupils, we would visit our final destination for the day.

We reached an orphanage near to Serekunda, which was for children who had lost both their parents, and were cared for and taught by those running it. Whilst the young children we met were excited to meet us and to receive the clothing and toys we had donated, it was also important for our students to see the harsh reality of life for some people in Gambia. We also met orphan twins, who had lost their mother due to an infection following their birth. Some of the money we have raised will go to providing them with food and care for an entire year. We will now be fundraising for both the orphanage and the orphanage school to help provide them with clean water, mattresses and teaching resources that can hopefully make a difference to the young children we met.

WE SAT DOWN
TOGETHER WITH THE
FAMILIES WE HAD
COOKED FOR, AND
ATE THE TRADITIONAL
GAMBIAN WAY,
WITH EVERYONE
COMMENTING ON
HOW MUCH THEY WERE
ENJOYING THE FRUITS
OF THEIR LABOUR!





MULTI-FAITH FORUM

On Wednesday 3rd April, over 50 representatives of the Student Council and Sixth Form participated in Leasowes High School's first Multi-Faith Forum.

Four inspirational Faith Leaders promoted a good understanding about communities, including both their distinctive features and areas of common ground. The range of religions celebrated were Christianity, Hinduism, Judaism and Sikhism. Each Leader shared their own philosophy, cultural background, beliefs, experiences and links with the wider community.

After the presentations, students took part in a question and answer session where they had the opportunity to ask more in-depth questions that provoked thought and enhanced their understanding even further. Some of our favourite questions included: 'What is the difference between being religious and spiritual? What festivals do you celebrate throughout the year? How do you prepare for prayer? Do you think science will ever replace religion?'

It is so important that students have the opportunity to explore cultures which may be different to their own, to help them understand that we live in a multicultural society.

The Multi-Faith Forum has reinforced the importance of religion within the community and how people should view one another. As a school we always aspire to a sense of mutual respect for all cultures and values and look forward to building on the forum in the future, celebrating all faiths and inviting an even greater range of Leaders.

Emma Bolton and Krzysztof Stasiak (Head Boy and Head Girl)



ARMY STEM WORKSHOPS WITH YEAR 7 STUDENTS

Throughout May, the Army base STEM team completed two STEM workshops with sixty of our year 7 students. The students worked in teams to design and build a programmable robot to undertake a series of logistical challenges. These challenges are designed to support the British Army when deployed around the world and are never more crucial than when disaster strikes.

During the activity, the students joined the Army Engineers, Medics and Logistics in deploying to a remote part of the world which has been hit by a destructive earthquake. The students learnt how to build, programme and operate their LEGO Mind-storm robot through a series of engineering and logistical challenges in order to achieve their mission and deliver the lifesaving humanitarian aid to the local people.

The students had a great time learning STEM skills as well as developing life skills in team work, leadership, critical thinking and perseverance.



FOCUS ON DANCE

In February, 14 of our talented year 8 dance students had the opportunity to visit the Birmingham Hippodrome to watch the Royal Ballet perform Beauty and the Beast. This was then followed up with 4 of our year 8's performing at the Walsall Forest Arts Centre along with other dance students from across Invictus. The students worked with Motionhouse dance company for 3 days' intensive dance workshop to create the piece. The overall performance was outstanding.

The girls and other dancers in the school are now rehearsing to create a Summer Dance Spectacular – more in the next edition.



BARCELONA TRIP



Thirty-eight year 9 and 10 students from Leasowes High School visited the magnificent city of Barcelona at the beginning of April. The group had the opportunity to experience some of the delights of Spain's historic second city as well as taking in the fresh, seaside air at the base in the small town of Coma-ruga.

There were many highlights within the trip, including observing some of the key sights in Barcelona and taking a leisurely stroll down the world-famous street of Las Ramblas, viewing the beautiful flower stalls, human statues and the lively La Boqueria Market.

Observing the young acrobats in the elegant square of Plaza Real was a memorable moment, followed by the unique Sagrada Familia Cathedral, which is still being completed after over 130 years of construction work.

Later, at the architectural museum of Pueblo Español, some students were able to make friends with a shopkeeper by practising their Spanish.

The itinerary also included a visit to the Nou Camp stadium, home to those giants of football, FC Barcelona. However, to our dismay, we arrived at our allotted time to find the doors closed! A key match between Barcelona and their nearest rivals for the Spanish league title, Atletico Madrid, meant that the dressing rooms, pitch and commentary boxes were all needed. No matter – luckily we were able to reschedule our visit for the final morning of the trip. Pity they hadn't let us in to see Messi et al in action though!

Sunny day three saw us at one of Europe's largest theme parks, Port Aventura, where students (and some staff!) had an exciting day on some thrilling rides.

All in all, it was lovely that so many of our students had the opportunity to experience another country and see one of the world's great cities. Thanks to Mr Chatterton and Miss McGarr who supported Mrs Finnegan in the running of the trip.



RACE FOR LIFE

Race for Life is Cancer Research UK's biggest series of fundraising events.

Taking place across the UK, the events include 5k and 10k routes for participants to walk, jog or run, as well as their Pretty Muddy Obstacles events. It started 25 years ago as a women only event, and has now raised nearly £500 million towards beating cancer over the last quarter of a century.

In 2019, for the first time, the Race for Life has opened its doors to men to participate too, making it a truly inclusive event, giving people the chance to come together with their family and friends, and join the movement to beat cancer.

AND THAT'S WHAT LEASOWES HIGH SCHOOL DID!

On Tuesday 18th June, the whole school joined together from years 7 to 10 and went on a walk around the school and Leasowes Park to raise money for Cancer Research. Luckily, the weather remained dry and the students and staff were in great spirits as they joined with friends in their classes, 'high fiving' and singing as they walked. Many wore the traditional pink colours and there many messages of support being worn by students and staff who had already been affected by cancer.

A huge thank you to the PE department, in particular, Mrs A Bennett who organised the event and the Sports Leaders who supported.



FOCUS ON FRANKIE YEAR 9

Frankie H is a student who takes her studying extremely conscientiously and has an absolutely first rate attitude to all she does. This is her journey this year in rugby...

This year, my head space and heart has been set on rugby, which has given me many opportunities throughout the year to improve my skills and ability in rugby. At the start of the year, my first ever North Midlands girls under 15's county trials run and there was a 50% cut out of 65 girls and I was lucky enough to be chosen to go through to the next round. There was then a final cut to get a squad of 28 girls and I made it into the team, which then allowed me to have harder training sessions and an unbeaten season. On top of my county achievements, at the rugby club I play for I joined the under 15 girls' team with some new players and brand new coaches. We trained hard and became extremely close friends inside and outside the pitch which made our team stronger and a pleasant place to be, which then

allowed us to go and win the regional cup final of our area with me scoring the securing try of the match bringing it from a draw to a win. We are now third in the country and plan on training harder to get that first place position. At the start of the season no one thought we would've have gotten as far as we did and due to my commitment and love for rugby I intend to carry on playing for my team and excel for bigger titles next season.

ALL AT LEASOWES AND INVICTUS WISH FRANKIE ALL THE BEST FOR THE UPCOMING SEASON.



SUCCESSFUL STAAR ENTRANTS FOR 2019 PROGRAMME

Hasan K and Daniel T have been selected for this year's STAAR Programme for the selected week of 22 – 26 July 2019.

The STAAR (Summer Time Advanced Aerospace Residency) Programme is brought to you by Northrop Grumman, with the support of the Northrop Grumman Foundation, and in partnership with the RAF Museum. It is being delivered by the Museum, Royal Air Force Cosford, RAF Youth and STEM Engagement Team and Tablet Academy.

STAAR is designed for Year 10 students who demonstrate an interest or aptitude for one or more STEM subjects. It is a fully-funded immersive week-long, hands-on residential camp, like no other. Successful students stay with chaperones on base at RAF Cosford and each day of the course is delivered at the RAF Museum or on base at RAF Cosford by RAF Museum STEM Ambassadors, industry experts from Northrop Grumman, Tablet Academy professionals and RAF STEM personnel.

STAAR Recruits will learn about advanced aerospace systems and concepts and will address how the need for solutions to achieve an air mission shapes the way engineers and scientists design aerospace systems. Recruits will also work towards a CREST Award and an Industrial Cadet Award during the programme.



NATIONAL FINALS FOR CENTRAL REGION F1 IN SCHOOLS WINNER



Design and Technology students from Leasowes High School competed at the F1 in Schools National Final 2019 at AirbusUK, Chester. The year 9 and 10 students from Team Halo and Aspire 6 had qualified from the Central Region Final as Champions and Runners Up and advanced to the National Finals to compete against the best 20 teams/schools in the UK at development class level (age 11-19). The National Final was a two day event, the teams had taken up the challenge to design, build (using CAD/CAM), test and race a miniature F1 car. The team were judged in a number of categories including scrutineering, engineering, verbal presentation, pit display, social media and enterprise portfolio as well as the car's speed being tested on the official F1 in Schools track.

The event was broadcast live on Youtube and Aspire 6 also appeared within Sky News.

Team Halo were nominated for the Team Sportsmanship Award, an excellent achievement at national level and further evidences their desire to work closely as a team and their support of other teams.

Aspire 6 won the award for Star Quality – Team Identity Award, which was an outstanding effort as this was against all teams in the Professional Class, as well as Development class – nearly 50 teams. Aspire 6 also finished the higher of the two teams, 7th overall within the National Finals.

**BOTH TEAMS ARE NOW
EAGERLY GETTING READY
TO PROGRESS TO THE
PROFESSIONAL CLASS FOR
THE NEXT SEASON.**

THE ROYAL AERONAUTICAL SOCIETY STEM CHAMPIONS 2019

Leasowes High School took two teams of D&T year 8 students to participate in a STEM based competition at the RAF Cosford Museum on Wednesday 15th May 2019. The Smallpiece Trust and The Royal Aeronautical Society organised the STEM challenge event, 'Mission STEM possible'.

During the event students worked through a series of cyber based challenges that enabled them to complete a final engineering based challenge. The teams presented their projects to the panel of judges and the other pupils.

The overall STEM Champions were COMET V2 from Leasowes High School. The team were outstanding throughout the event and were complimented for how successfully they worked as a team.

The students from COMET V2 are now planning on becoming the new entrants for the school within their highly successful F1 in Schools competition.

Congratulations to the winning students.



WARNER BROTHER STUDIOS 2019

On Monday the 17th June, 50 Leasowes students visited the Warner Brother Studios in London. This was a great opportunity for the students to experience the importance of the arts industry and identify where their interests within the arts could lead them in a career.

The day was a great success. The students were extremely excited upon arrival, where they were met by a Warner Brother's representative. They all received a passport to the studio and enjoyed the challenge of finding the Golden Snitch during their adventure.

The set designs and props were breath-taking and enabled the students to understand how a great imagination and creative skills can help to bring an idea to life.

Many of the students enjoyed the green screens, which provided the illusion of riding the broomsticks over the Thames or riding in the railway carriages through the countryside.

The magic wand training was a great hit. Students and staff could be seen taking instruction on how to move like a wizard, 10 out of 10 for effort has to go to Mrs McCollom.

Students wandered through the enchanted forest, and screams of horror and laughter of joy could be



heard as they encountered large moving spiders and beautiful, graceful Griffins.

After an action packed morning, students enjoyed a butter beer and bite to eat before observing more of the magic that the studios helped to create. We met Hagrid's double in the animatronic area, the sculpted moving characters were unbelievably real.

One of the biggest hits of the day was towards the end of the tour as we entered Gringotts Bank. The incredible sights of the huge space that was rich with marbled walls and crystal chandeliers made the students feel like they were actually a character within the set. The most thrilling and fantastic scene of all followed where the use of cinema 4D and clever stage setting sent the students into a state of fear as the Gringott Dragon escaped and moved towards them.



A content group of students and staff made their way through the souvenir shop, where many memories of the day were purchased before the journey back to school.



WOMBOURNE HIGH SCHOOL

As “the secondary school” in the large and beautiful village of Wombourne, we become Wombourne High School on the 1st September 2019. We are aiming high.

There’s a lot happening in our wonderful school as we continue to strive for excellence.

Our headteacher, Dr Gemma Smith, comes to the end of a very busy and eventful first year at the helm. We are delighted to confirm some of the great things our students, staff and the local community can expect during 2019/20.

Our students are already enjoying the benefit of a dedicated student reception. Lots of other building improvements are happening during next year too. As well as the new window and roof installations in our 3 storey teaching block, there will be new computer suites, new furniture and new toilets. The fabulous state of the art new 2 storey teaching block will be completed by Christmas. We are also working jointly with Wombourne Leisure Centre on a possible 3G football pitch project.

Our students are always at the centre of everything we do. There are lots of excellent curriculum changes too as we move to a one week timetable. Our new student council is already in place. Our prefects have been elected. We are expanding our extra-curricular activities.

It promises to be an exciting new year for us in Wombourne and we are ready.



**Wombourne
High School**
& SIXTH FORM



“ OUR STUDENTS GOT TO TRY OUT THE NEW UNIFORM FOR OUR RECENT PROSPECTUS PHOTO SHOOT, THE OVERWHELMING CONSENSUS WAS...THEY LOVED IT! ”





WALSALL SIGN OUNSDALE STAR!

A huge congratulations and well done to Joe Foulkes for achieving his 2 year football scholarship at Walsall Football Club. He is very pleased and excited about it. Joe will complete his scholarship alongside his studies for a BTEC Level 3 Diploma in Sport and his coaching badges... now that is commitment!!

You are a true inspiration to other students and staff Joe.... fantastic and we wish you all the best for your, no doubt successful, future.

DEMENTIA FRIENDLY SCHOOL

The school is working towards being awarded 'dementia friendly status'; assemblies have been held in school and posters produced.

Students are raising money for the Alzheimer's Society – selling cakes, doughnuts and samosas at lunchtime. Students will visit Woodford House in July to present the cheque.



DANCE



Well done to Corey Szczepanek, Emily Waring, Keziah Taylor and Olivia Potts for taking part in the 3 day dance workshops that culminated in a performance at Walsall Forest Arts Centre. Motionhouse Dance Theatre, Mrs Giles (Ellowes Hall Dance Teacher) and the students rehearsed well together and put on such a good show that it appeared they'd been working with each other for a considerable time.

ECO SCHOOL

We have started the journey to become an international Green Flag Award Eco-School.

The programme is designed to raise environmental awareness among young people and is run by the environmental charity Keep Britain Tidy. The school has a long way to go in terms of being environmentally friendly, but we are keen to make changes. A special well done goes to Harry Purchase in Year 10 for being pro-active in raising environmental issues with the school.

The Eco-Schools programme empowers students, raises environmental awareness, and improves the school environment.

FOOD APPEAL 2019

A huge thank you to all students staff and parents for donating to the food appeal. Good Shepherd Ministries came today to collect the food and were very grateful for what they received.



5K PRETTY MUDDY CHALLENGE

"I'm taking on a Race for Life Pretty Muddy to raise money to beat cancer soon!"

Grace Skett in Year 7 was inspired by Ounsdale Staff who did the Pretty Muddy Challenge last year to do it herself this year.

She took part in the 5K Pretty Muddy Challenge on Sunday 4 May at Weston Park and raised £258.25p for Cancer research UK.

Well done Grace!



DUKE OF EDINBURGH

ALL PARTICIPANTS
HAVE NOW PASSED
THE EXPEDITION
SECTION OF THE
AWARD.

60 students completed their assessed Bronze expedition last weekend on Cannock Chase in very challenging weather conditions. Students showed real determination in coping with the heavy rain they faced all through the first day. After putting their tents up and cooking dinner they spent a relatively dry night camping.

The second day went very well with all students navigating themselves to the end.

They are now completing the volunteering, physical and skills sections of their award. A massive well done to Year 9 and Year 10 students who have taken part in this challenging but very worthwhile personal challenge.



MFL BAKE OFF

Year 7 students got us all in the mood for Easter by taking part in the first Ounsdale High School Great MFL Bake Off. From macaroons to Spanish themed cup cakes, French parmesan biscuits, French flags made of icing sugar, gooey pineapple cake to German apple cake and lots of edible glitter! A fantastic array of creativity, baking skills and above all excellent effort.

All competitors received a certificate and a WOW work and the 4 winners received Easter eggs.

And not only were our Y7's stars but the whole event was managed by a small group of Y9 & Y10 students who used their enthusiasm and excellent organisational skills to create a very memorable occasion. Thanks also go to our judges who had the difficult task of choosing our winners.

Congratulations to Alfie Thistle, Daisy Aston, Dominique Mill-Klee and Layla Causer.



SPORTS NEWS



NETBALL

Year 10 Netballers continue to do incredibly well playing for the Invictus team. A massive congratulations to Georgia Parry recently named as Invictus netballer of the month.



ROUNDERS

Year 10 girls rounders team results (May):

Lost vs Wolverhampton Grammar 17.5 - 11.5 – a much closer result than in previous years against tough opposition and well done to Georgia Parry for getting player of the match Won 22.5 to 16.5 vs St Peters – a great win with Phoebe Bradshaw Corner getting player of the match and also a big thank you to Keziah Taylor for stepping in at short notice!

YEAR 7

In a closely contested first match for Ounsdale Year 7 Lost to Wolverhampton Grammar 'B' by only 2 rounders. Well done to player of the match; Abbie Dorrington

We lost to Wolverhampton Grammar 'A' by an innings but this was a really tough game and the girls showed excellent teamwork and commitment throughout. Well done to player of the match; Halle Glover.

YEAR 8/9

Played their first match of the season against St Peters and narrowly lost by 2 rounders, 15.5 – 17.5. a great result considering it was the first time they had played together. Well done to captain and player of the match; Charlotte Walters.

ATHLETICS

Students have been attending and doing well at athletics meetings held at Aldersley.

NOAH BRADBURN (Year 8) 3rd in 800m

PHOEBE BRADSHAW-CORNER (Year 10) 3rd in long Jump and 2nd in shot put

AVA CADMAN (Year 9) 2nd in High jump and 1st in Discus

JACK CUNNINGHAM (Year 10) 3rd in High Jump and 1500m

THOMAS FALLON (Year 9) 2nd in High jump and 1st in 300m

HARRIET GREENWAY (Year 10) 1st in 800m

JOEL HARRISON (Year 8) 2nd in High Jump

WILLIAM HAYES (Year 9) 3rd in Javelin

ALEX JONES (Year 8) 3rd in 800m

OLIVIA MALPASS (Year 8) 2nd in 200m

RUBY MARSON (Year 9) 2nd in 100m

MOLLY PROFFIT (Year 10) 3rd in shot put and discus

NOAH SANDLAND (Year 9) 1st in 1500m

TILLY STEELE (Year 10) 2nd in 1500m



Harriet Greenway winning the 800m



CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS



We are so proud of year 9 student Noah Sandland for representing Staffordshire Schools in the English Schools Cross Country Championships recently. The course was tough and the conditions were bad and despite him being ill just prior, he gave it 110% and ran a great first half of the race. He finished a respectful 304 out of 350 of the fastest 13/14 yr olds in the country which is amazing!!

Well done to our KS3 students attending the City Championship Athletics on 20th June. There were some great performances including this winning jump by Tom Fallon!



YEAR 9 BOYS CRICKET

OUNSDALE V HIGHFIELDS

The Ounsdale Y9 boy's cricket team started their season with a commanding win away against Highfields.

Ounsdale won the toss and decided to bowl first.

Cameron Jones opened the bowling, taking 3 wickets and conceding no runs. The second over was bowled by Matthew Larkin. Matthew continued to build the pressure by bowling a maiden over. At this point captain Louis Lloyd changed his original bowling order.

Sukhjot Paul bowled the next over conceding

one run of the bat.

Alex Kyte took the next Highfield wicket in the 4th over making the score 6 runs for 4 wickets.

Harrison Jones followed up by bowling a wicket maiden.

Sam Tayler bowled out the Highfields's number 7 batsman after conceding one run of the bat.

Louis Lloyd, Fin Murphy, Will Hayes and Jack Draper bowled the next four overs, each taking a wicket each to close the Highfields innings after 10 overs, with a score of 23-10.

The Ounsdale team agreed that they would still bat out their 15 overs even if their target score were achieved.

The opening pair, Cameron and Will, achieved the total within 4 overs. Will retired on 17 runs and Cameron on 19.

Alex batted at number 3, scoring 10 runs before being caught out in the deep.

Sam was the number 4 batter and retired after 4 overs of batting for 3 runs.

Cameron and Matthew guided the Ounsdale team to the 15th over, scoring 3 and 4 respectively. The final total being 78-2.

The Ounsdale team played well and with great sportsmanship in a very one-sided game. A greater test will be awaiting them in their next fixture.

'Well done boys!'

YEAR 8 BOYS CRICKET

OUNSDALE V ST EDMUNDS

The Ounsdale Y8 boy's cricket team started the season with a convincing win against St Edmunds catholic school.

Ounsdale batted first and lost their opener, Joel Harrison, early on in the innings.

Another wicket fell shortly after with Corey Banister being caught for 6 runs off St Edmunds opening bowler. The third wicket pair, Max Clifford and Freddie Murphy, dug in, settled the innings and started a counter attack. Max scoring 19 runs with three boundaries and Freddie finishing with 14 runs with 3 boundaries.

Wickets started to fall again rapidly in the middle of the innings and a new partnership between Will Kirkham and Charlie Cooke pushed the

score higher and guided the Ounsdale team to the end of the innings. Will scored 10 runs with one boundary and Charlie had an outstanding innings, scoring 36 runs not out with 6 boundaries.

This left the Ounsdale total of 119, setting a target of 120 for St Edmunds to chase.

Ounsdale started well when bowling. Seb Darville's opening over taking the wicket of one of the opening batsmen, and conceding no runs off the bat. Also opening the bowling was Max Rogers who bowled accurately and was rewarded in his second over with the wicket of the second St Edmunds batsman.

The next St Edmunds wicket to fall fell to Joel Harrison who bowled a fast and well directed over to remove St Edmunds number four batsman.

In the next over, Max Clifton removed another of St Edmunds batsmen with Freddie following suit with a wicket maiden in the 9th over. Charlie also joined in the wicket taking with two wickets in his two overs. St Edmunds number 6 batsman caused some problems for the Ounsdale bowlers scoring a total of 25 runs including three fours and two sixes. Seb removed this batsman in the final over to end the games, St Edmunds total of 95 Runs.

OUNSDALE WON BY 24 RUNS

WELL DONE BOYS!

YOUNG ENTERPRISE TEAM REACH DIZZY HEIGHTS!

On the 6th of June at HSBC HQ in Birmingham City Centre Pedmore High School Year 10 students competed against 6 other teams from across the region in the West Midlands Region Finals of the Young Enterprise Competition. They were the youngest team to enter and competed against 6th Form 'A' Level Business students from grammar schools and independent schools from across the West Midlands.

The students came away with the Company of the Year 2019 West Midlands Teamwork Award. Mrs Hunter, the YE Centre Lead and Head of DT/ Enterprise and Marketing, said the students were not thrown by the competition

and remained professional throughout. They are a credit to the school.

Young Enterprise is the UK's leading enterprise and financial education charity reaching over 250,00 young people every year. They make the connection between school and the world of work, enabling young people to develop the knowledge and attitudes they need to succeed, building on eight key skills: communication, confidence, financial capabilities, initiatives, organisation, problem-solving, teamwork and resilience.

A message from Marie Tedstone, the YE regional manager:

Please can you pass this message to the students from me:
Thank you for all of your commitment to Company Programme and for your professional approach to last week's event. The judges found it very hard to do their job as the standard was so high this year. You did a great job to become one of the top six YE companies in the West Midlands and your award for Teamwork was very well deserved. I wish you all the best with your continued studying and good luck if you decide to continue to run your business.



YEAR 10 PEDMORE STUDENTS MAKE A LASTING IMPRESSION
WE RECEIVED UNEXPECTED CORRESPONDENCE FROM ALLAN CLARE, HEAD OF FINANCIAL CRIME COMPLIANCE HSBC, WHO WAS FULL OF PRAISE FOR OUR YEAR 10 YOUNG ENTERPRISE STUDENTS. WELL DONE TEAM PEDMORE!



THE SPEAKERS TRUST SPEAK OUT



The Speakers Trust Speakout training is designed to build confidence, enabling young people from all walks of life to speak with clarity, conviction and impact. The vision is for every young person to be able to speak confidently and to be heard.

Originally 25 students were chosen to take part in a whole day training provided by Speakers Trust. Six students are selected as winners on the day who then take part in an Assembly final where one winner and runner up is chosen to then take part in the Speakers Trust Speakout Regional final.

Both of our students had the opportunity to take part in the final where they competed again 9 others students from Dudley and Wolverhampton. They have between one and half minutes up to three minutes to talk about something that they are passionate about using the skills they learnt on the day of the workshop.

Both students were an absolute credit to the school showcasing the skills they had learnt to develop their oracy skills.

PEDMORE VISIT JEWELLERY QUARTER

To inspire student's creativity whilst undertaking a jewellery project, Mrs Hunter, Head of Design and Technology, took a group of Year 9 students to Birmingham's Jewellery Quarter. Students attended a seminar on the history of the Quarter at The School of Jewellery, the only university in the world that specialises in jewellery. They continued to learn more about it's history at the Museum of the Jewellery Quarter. Finally they visited Betts Metals Bullion dealers and finished at the jewellery exhibition in Artful Expressions.



BBC MIDLANDS TODAY



Fifteen year 7 students thoroughly enjoyed their day at the BBC Midlands Today studio in Birmingham. On arrival, they had the opportunity to develop their presenting skills; reading from the autocue is harder than it looks! Students then had a lesson about fake news and worked in groups to decide which organisations can be trusted to deliver reliable and accurate news. Finally, they had a tour of the gallery and the studio where they met with Satnam Rana, the BBC Arts and Culture correspondent, to ask questions about her role with the BBC.

All the students had a fantastic time and are looking forward to creating their own news report when Midlands Today visit Pedmore High School in July.

Sensory Orienteering

On Tuesday 21st May 2019, Pedmore High School took a group of pupils to Old Park School to engage in a sensory orienteering event within their Forest School.

The pupils' five senses were tested with several exciting activities such as digging for dinosaur bones, exploring woodland paths that were abundant in potent smells such as garlic and mint, guessing the contents of a woodland-filled bag and playing various musical instruments.

After the fun-filled day, the pupils were kindly given a certificate of attendance and had a great morning! A very special thank you to Old Park School!



DISPLAY WORK

PUT THE KNIFE DOWN

Knife crime is a persistent worry and concern in schools all over Britain - especially as it mostly affects the young and vulnerable in our society. This display board is taking the concern further by teaching young people the huge implications and devastating consequences knife crime brings.

After Pedmore High School played host to West Midlands Police Force, with being the first school in the area to pilot the knife detector, it seemed fitting to carry on their message. The board displays information about knife crime explaining the consequences of carrying a knife and the huge impact a criminal record will have on an individual's life. The board will resonate with the pupils as it also shows real life examples of knife crime and the awful consequences it brings: showing pictures of 8 knife victims who were fatally stabbed just sixteen weeks apart in 2019.

Hopefully, the display board educates and acts as a deterrent to the pupils on the consequences of knife crime.



ONE PUNCH KILLERS

Young people's emotions are heightened by hormones, relationships with friends and family and stress. How they act on these emotions is crucial. Many young people don't realise the fatality of just one punch; this section of the display board aims to change that.

The board displays a real-life case example of a teenager who was trying to stop unwanted guests entering his house. 16-year-old Kane Thorpe was tragically killed with just one punch. This highlights that throwing one punch really can kill someone - it sends a message to highlight how people should not engage in hostile situations, as the consequences could be fatal!

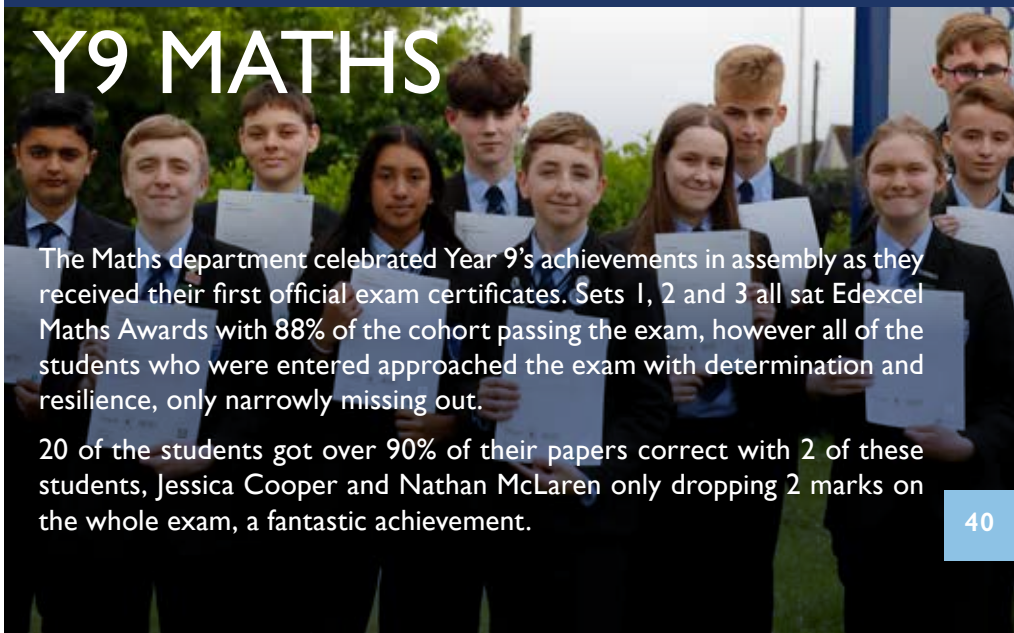
There has already been a lot of interest on this subject as it is a taboo - pupils just do not realise that one punch CAN kill. Our display board endeavours to try and change this. Hoping for a lasting impact, the next step is inviting a guest speaker to Pedmore High School to chat to the pupils about the importance of not carrying a knife.



Y9 MATHS

The Maths department celebrated Year 9's achievements in assembly as they received their first official exam certificates. Sets 1, 2 and 3 all sat Edexcel Maths Awards with 88% of the cohort passing the exam, however all of the students who were entered approached the exam with determination and resilience, only narrowly missing out.

20 of the students got over 90% of their papers correct with 2 of these students, Jessica Cooper and Nathan McLaren only dropping 2 marks on the whole exam, a fantastic achievement.



DRAMA AT PEDMORE

This year has been an absolute whirlwind of opportunities and experiences in the Performing Arts for students at Pedmore.

Drama Ambassadors

At the beginning of the year, all students were given the opportunity to apply to be a 'Drama Ambassador'. A role which involves receiving training with either a backstage or performance focus, mentoring and inspiring others in the subject, as well as showing a commitment to the development of Drama across the school. Successful applicants were also given a gold Drama Masks pin badge to mark their commitment.

LAMDA Acting qualification

Drama Ambassadors with an interest in performance were invited to train for the nationally recognised LAMDA acting qualification. The London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art is one of the oldest drama schools in the United Kingdom. Founded in 1861, it quickly established itself as a centre of excellence in performance training. LAMDA has provided theatre and the world of film and television with generation upon generation of first class actors and expertly trained stage managers across the world. Their qualifications have a reputation for excellence across the globe. The students are looking forward to gaining their qualification in December 2019, as well as coaching other students from September.

Lighting Workshops

facilitated by year 10 student, Anthony Teague

Another opportunity provided by the 'Drama Ambassador' scheme, was for students to be trained in lighting design and operation by our highly talented and knowledgeable Year 10 student, Anthony Teague. Anthony planned and facilitated a number of workshops for a group of Drama Ambassadors keen to find out more about the technical side of theatre. Thank you, Anthony – your support was very much appreciated – and we hope that you found the process useful, too.



WIZARD OF OZ

Year 7 Rewards Trip to see **The Wizard of Oz** at the Birmingham REP.

The Drama Department recognises the importance of rewarding those students who go 'above and beyond' in their school work, and consistently impress their teachers with their commitment to learning and attitude to school life. On the 13th December, myself and Mr Fenn took 30 year 7 students who had done just that in their very first term at Pedmore. The production was wonderful – a real reward for our students. Seeing live theatre in a professional theatre is such an enriching experience for students, and we plan to make many more visits! The students had a fantastic time and were a credit to the school.



CONCERT PERFORMANCE BY YOUNG AMERICAN POP SINGER KEELIE WALKER!

Pedmore students were fortunate enough to have the opportunity to have 15 year old American singer Keelie Walker (currently supporting Jason Derulo!) perform for



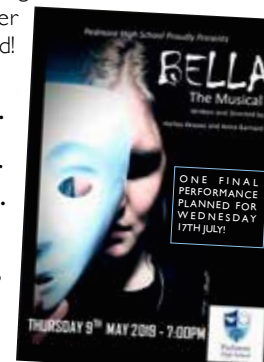
BELLA THE MUSICAL A SMASH HIT AT PEDMORE HIGH SCHOOL

Following a Literacy project based on the local legend of "Who put Bella in the Wych Elm?" last year, Pedmore students Anna Barnard and Harley Keasey (now in Year 10) were inspired to write their own Musical re-telling of the tale. In addition to writing the script and composing their own original musical score, the aspiring playwrights were also responsible for the audition process, direction, choreography and costuming.

This was an INCREDIBLE achievement in addition to their GCSE work and the multitude of other commitments and responsibilities these students have. Harley, Anna and the cast are delighted to have been asked to perform "Bella" for one final time on Wednesday 17th July at 7pm. Tickets are £2 (£1.50 for under 16s).

A reward day at the Royal Shakespeare Theatre in Stratford has been planned for the cast and crew of "Bella" on Thursday 18th July, in recognition and celebration of their efforts, hard work and incredible talent. We hope that you enjoy your personalised backstage tour of the theatre, 'The Play's the Thing' exhibition and tour of the new RST tower overlooking Stratford!

Congratulations everyone! "Wow. One of the best things I have ever seen! Such talent. Speechless by the end. Congratulations!"



them on Wednesday 6th March. Keelie performed four of her songs for our key stage 3 students, followed by an inspirational talk on how commitment and perseverance can lead to success. At the end of the performance, students were invited to ask questions (of which they had lots!) as well as having a selfie with Keelie and getting her autograph. Having Keelie come and perform especially for our students at Pedmore was an incredible experience. Students were amazed by her talent and high level of success at just 15 years of age. I think the concert inspired our Year 7 and 8 students to strive for their dreams and believe in themselves.

Keelie very kindly handwrote a letter of thanks to Pedmore's students after the event, saying how much she valued the experience and the warm welcome that she received.



supporting the English and Art Departments

As Drama is intrinsically creative, adaptable and very open to supporting other subjects, our Year 7 and 8 students were able to experience Shakespeare in both their English and Drama lessons, as well as the genre of the 'Surreal' (year 8) and 'The Mexican Day of the Dead' (year 7) in their Art and Drama lessons. This was a really useful holistic approach for

the students – and was beneficial for them to recognise connections in their learning outside of a particular subject area. The Drama Shakespeare project culminated in an end of term performance of a 'Macbeth' extract of their choice. The photographs highlight some of the stunning acting Pedmore students produced.

Next year we already have a trip to Ingestre Hall planned in March – where students will have the opportunity to stay for three days in a grade II listed mansion house in Staffordshire, taking part in drama, music, photography and art workshops facilitated by industry professionals. In addition to this, we are on the lookout for talented actors to join our elite theatre company and enter the All-England One Act Play festival 2020, where a select number of students will have the incredible opportunity of working together

Performing Arts plans for 2019/20!

in a professional manner to create a stunning piece of theatre. This will be adjudicated by an expert in the acting field, along with personal written feedback. Many trophies are available in a variety of categories.

Performing Arts at Pedmore 2019-20?
We can't wait – bring it on!

AUDITIONING FOR THE SNOW QUEEN!

We are so excited to announce auditions for our next production... "The Snow Queen" – which is planned for performance this Christmas 2019.

The play is based on the enchanting tale by Hans Christian Andersen. The story centres on the struggle between good and evil as taken on by two children: Gerda and Kai. A wicked sprite's creation spreads across the land, affecting the hearts and minds of all who come in contact with it.

Auditions take place on Thursday 13th June from 3 - 4.30pm. Please sign up with Mrs May.

We look forward to seeing you all there!



PEDMORE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT BECOMES DUDLEY UK YOUTH PARLIAMENT REPRESENTATIVE

We have incredible news, a year 9 students at Pedmore High School has been successful in her campaign to become the Dudley representative for the UK Youth Parliament and incredible achievement, we will let Laiba tell you all about it herself:

“On the 6th of February, I applied to become the next member of the UK Youth Parliament. To do this I had to create a short video which highlighted the key ideas that I would hope to tackle if I got the position. I mainly focused on mental health, because I believe it deserves more recognition by Dudley and by Parliament to

improve young people's lives. On the 16th of April I received an email which told me that I had been selected as a member of the UK Youth Parliament and that I am now a Dudley representative! I am looking forward to attending conferences and most importantly delivering a debate in the House of Commons later in November this year! I'm honoured to have been voted for and can't wait to begin my new role and hopefully change the lives of the young people in Dudley for the better.”

Laiba Kiren



PEDMORE HIT THE SLOPES

It's was morning on Friday 8th February and all the staff and students of the Pedmore Ski group were excited, enthusiastic and energetic ready to hit the slopes of Austria. The coach arrives and we loaded up and hit the road with a chorus of cheers and sing songs taking place. Fast forward 12hrs and we were still in the UK! Traffic jams, toilet stops, and eating is the order of the day and no snow in sight! The mood in the group is still jubilant and we have a 70s, 80s and 90s disco whilst we wait to board at Dover port.

Thanks to a storm on the Channel we were met by a tsunami of people feeling worse for wear. With every rock of the boat the previously jubilant Pedmore students started to dwindle and disappear to the toilets defeated by the ocean. A nice bit of quiet time for the staff! A lot of cleaning up followed.

Finally, 33 hours later we arrived at our hotel and the skiing began. Day one, and despite the fact the students were in groups they are peppered all over the slopes trying to ski. There was a lot

of brakes failing, turns going the wrong way but everyone having fun and the mountain air was filled with the staff and instructors repeatedly shouting, "SNOW PLOUGH!"

As the week progressed the students skied in various resorts around the Altenmarkt area and by midweek some had managed to make their way to the top of the mountain to ski down and got onto their first ever gondola! By the end of the week the entire group were on top of the mountain and the sun, snow and skiing continued with great enthusiasm and speed (most of the time).

On the last day every student did a slalom time trial to see what time they could achieve, and the gloves came off. Some students swished past and showed control and great parallel turns. But then there were the students who went so fast the gloves came off (with skis) and lots of snow clouds. Overall, an amazing experience for everyone with a great bunch of students and instructors.

Over the course of the week the students visited the salt mines under Salzberg, thermal baths, ice skating, a ski display evening and a disco. The group were an absolute credit to Pedmore and Invictus and a letter of thanks was received from the bus company complimenting

the students for their exemplary behaviour and cleanliness on the coach. One student even offered to Hoover the coach floor every day!

Next year the Pedmore ski tour is going to Waterville in New Hampshire with a day trip for shopping in New York. A number of the Austrian skiers are going again to perfect their skills.



A ROUNDERS SEASON

UPDATE!

15.5.19

YR9/10 team smashed it, beating Hagley RC winning 14-4. A great team effort by all, students were yet again praised for their conduct and sportsmanship.

Very proud of them.

Yr7/8 team unfortunately lost by 1 rounder. An improvement from their last game.

Yr9/10 team: Lucy Skidmore, Lucy Huffer, Bethany Barnes, Molly crew, Sophie, Danielle, Delia, Miruna, Amy, Jess.

Yr 7/8 team: Demi P, Jasmeen, Isabelle, Alisha, Zara, Lydia, Paige, Aayat, Jessi, Jessie, Manar, Kiara, Zaina, Insha, Hafsa.



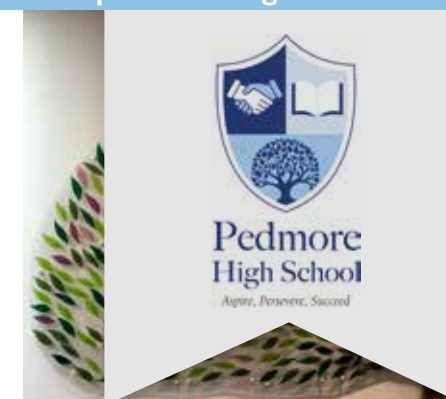
MARY STEVENS HOSPICE

Students at Pedmore High School have been involved in an exciting new opportunity to work alongside Mary Stevens Hospice (MSH), based in the local community, Stourbridge. Over the last few weeks Mr Paul Durnall and class Teacher Mrs Durrant have provided a bespoke curriculum designed to engage and motivate students into understanding the broader aspects of Hospice care. This project underpins the ongoing Literacy and Numeracy work designed to provide extra support as part of the students' core curriculum.

Mrs Durrant commented "Many of our students were aware of the hospice and where it was located but had little understanding of the role it played in providing much needed care for patients and their families within the local community. The aim of the programme was to promote and develop literacy skills; as students were tasked with a range of reading, writing and speaking and listening tasks. This was achieved by Mr Paul Durnall (Community Engagement Officer) leading a sequence of lessons designed

to educate our students in the holistic nature of the Hospice. Amongst other topics we studied: the costs associated with running the Hospice for residents and their family members, visitors to the day centre, the wide range of therapies on offer and how they promote activities to raise much needed funds. We had the exciting opportunity to take a look at their Social Media platform and how they promote events both in and outside the hospice venue".

On Wednesday 10th April we were lucky enough to visit the Hospice to meet some of the team, have a tour of the new purpose built building and talk to some of the volunteers who help to ensure the smooth running of such vital community support. We hope to continue to work alongside MSH in the future and would like to thank them for allowing us to engage with their cause and in particular, a huge thank you to Mr Paul Durnall for providing such exciting opportunities for our students.



EVENTS IN THE SEND DEPARTMENT THIS YEAR

On Tuesday 14th May 2019 a group of 10 Year 9 students attended the 'Careers Speed Networking' event.

The event was organised on behalf of the Black Country Chamber of Commerce and Black Country Skills Factory. It is designed to support and encourage students to discuss their career plans with potential employers, routes in to careers and familiarise themselves with apprenticeships across key sectors.

In preparation for the event, Year 9 spent 4 weeks working alongside the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) who helped them to develop communication and presentation skills. Their teacher, A Durrant said, "This was a fantastic opportunity for our students to gain a real insight into the world of work and what type of courses, careers and apprenticeship programmes that may be available to them. Students prepared thoughtful questions in advance of the day, which enabled them to focus on what is important when considering post

16 options. We met people from all kinds of professions including: Architects, Construction workers, Education professionals, Recruitment Consultants and Web designers.

One of the guest speakers was the inspirational 'Jay Blades' TV personality, entrepreneur and furniture designer. Jay has built a successful career, as founder of 'Jay & Co' a social enterprise which supports people from disadvantaged backgrounds to help them re-engage with society.

The DWP have continued to work alongside our students for the past 2 years and we are hoping to continue this ongoing relationship into Year 10 and beyond. This will enable us to support our students as they begin to consider what opportunities are available to them to ensure a successful and fulfilling future ahead.

SAVILLE STYLE PORTRAITS

Y10 Art students are currently working on a portfolio based on Self Identity. They have been looking at the work of contemporary British artist, Jenny Saville and have tried to recreate Saville's broad brush marks on their own portraits.



Bethany Barnes – excellent colour mixing
Anna Barnard

14.5.19

Unfortunately there was a close loss for the year 7 & 8 team, eventually losing 10 1/2 - 8.

Yr 9/10 team: Lucy- player of the match, Lucy, Bethany, Molly, Sophie, Danielle, Delia, Miruna, Amy, Jess

Yr 7/8 team: Demi, Jasmeen - player of the match, Isabelle, Alisha, Zara, Lydia, Paige, Aayat, Jessi, Jessie, Manar, Kiara, Zaina, Beth, Insha

21.5.19

Absolutely smashed it!!!

Yr 9/10 team beat Earls with a staggering 20 rounders to 10 1/2

Yr 9/10 team: Lucy, Lucy, Bethany, Molly, Aleesha, Sophie, Danielle, Delia, Miruna, Amy, Jess

Aleesha- outstanding work- given she's fasting, she must have run a mile during this game.

19.06.19

11:36 Louise Stanton: Yr7/8 team beat Earls in their 1st innings, but unfortunately lost the overall game. Poor Paige- took a ball to the eye during training (queue the black eye). Beth- stepped in as bowler, what a fantastic effort!!!

Yr 7/8 team: Demi, Jasmeen, Beth, Alisha, Zara, Lydia, Paige, Aayat, Jessi, Jessie, Manar, Kiara, Zaina, Insha, Hafsa.