

Bishop Luffa School

*I have come in order that you might
have life - life in all its fullness*

John 10:10

2023-2024



Dear friends of Bishop Luffa School,

Welcome to our yearbook, which looks back over 2023-4. Our vision as a community is that our students should experience the 'life in all its fullness' that Jesus promises in John 10:10 to all those who trust in him. I hope that the yearbook shows students embracing that vision and I hope also that you catch glimpses of how central the Gospel message of love and faith is to all we do.

It was a special year, as we marked the school's 60th birthday. Through-out the year we were joined by students and staff from different generations in the school's history. I have enjoyed listening to stories about the larger-than-life characters who founded the school, such as Mr Bartlett and Miss Marples, as well as learning about the origins of some of our traditions – although no-one has been able to explain to me why Burns Night is such a key part of the Bishop Luffa calendar!

When Bishop Luffa School was founded, children in Chichester had to take the 11plus exam. Those who passed went on to the Grammar school and those who failed largely felt forgotten. Bishop Luffa School was a school for those who'd been forgotten. The strength of the school has been in valuing everyone. The accomplishments on the following pages shows what can happen when people are told that they can be whatever they want to be.

At our Thanksgiving Service in Chichester Cathedral I asked the congregation if a church school like ours was still relevant in 2024. Please take this question with you as you read the year-book. I would be fascinated to hear your answer.

Best wishes,

Austen Hindman,
Head Teacher.

Contents

- News—Autumn 2023
- House Pages
- News—Spring 2024
- Students' Sporting Achievements
- News—Summer 2024
- Bishop Luffa Sixth Form



News

Autumn 2023

- ◆ Covid Rollercoaster ends happily at Bishop Luffa School
- ◆ A sunny start to the 60th year of Bishop Luffa School
- ◆ Bishop Luffa Greenpower F24 Team
- ◆ Year 8 visit Marwell Zoo
- ◆ A Fun-Filled Mediaeval Fair
- ◆ Year 9s Pop Art Designs
- ◆ Year 7 have fun on the Isle of Wight
- ◆ A Successful History visit to France and Belgium
- ◆ Go Green Week 2023
- ◆ Open Evening 2023
- ◆ Bishop Luffa hosts Healing Classrooms Conference
- ◆ Lest We Forget
- ◆ Remembrance Poppies
- ◆ Our Chickens arrived!
- ◆ International Week
- ◆ Romola Garai visits Bishop Luffa School
- ◆ Autumn News from Design & Technology
- ◆ Opera at Glyndebourne Opera House
- ◆ Movember 2023
- ◆ Bishop Luffa Careers Fair 2023
- ◆ CyberFirst Girls Competition
- ◆ Bishop Luffa takes part in West Sussex Guitar Festival
- ◆ Students win 'Best Physical Innovation Award'
- ◆ Cooking at Christmas
- ◆ Story House support Dementia UK
- ◆ Christmas with the Music Department

Covid Rollercoaster ends happily at Bishop Luffa School

Year 11 students celebrated their GCSE results in August. Austen Hindman said, 'our students have shown real character to come through the difficulties of the last few years. Results have returned to pre-Covid levels, but of course those students in 2019 hadn't been through what these students have been through. We are incredibly proud of them.'



One notable success is Eddie Baldry. Anxiety prevented Eddie from coming into the building for the whole of Year 8 and 9 and he didn't think that he would ever return to school. Not only did he come back, but he passed all of his GCSEs, even achieving a grade 9 in English.

Nika Muravets only joined Bishop Luffa from Ukraine last July and still managed to secure 9 strong passes at GCSE.

Katie Faulkner, Head of Key Stage 4, praised the year group for their resilience. 'I am not sure that many adults would have coped with this amount of adversity and still come out smiling. They are an incredible group of young people, who deserve this success.'

With the number of top grades falling substantially this year, the following students deserve credit for bucking the trend:

- Charlotte Hatton and Erin Pullen, who both gained seven grade 9s
- Alicia Witch, Zoe Smyth and Alex Wilburn, who gained five grade 9s
- Aaron Butters, who gained four grade 9s and six grade 8s.
- Sam Goldsmith, James Quail, Jasim Rahman, Johnny Sargent, Olivia Frymann and Ioan Harley who all gained four grade 9s.



Overall, 76% of students achieved grade 4 or above in English and Maths, and 53% achieved grade 5 or above in both subjects. The average grade at the school was 5.2.



A sunny start to the 60th year of Bishop Luffa School

In warm sunshine Bishop Luffa School came together for their first assembly of the school year. This assembly is a tradition of our school and it was fantastic to have everyone together – the whole Bishop Luffa family in one place. The assembly was led by Mr Hindman, with the opening prayer of Saint Richard of Chichester read by Ms Sutton, our longest serving member of staff.



It was great to see our new Year 7s and Year 12s (this is a record Year 12 group with 58 external students joining us), and to welcome back all our students from their summer break.

Mr Hindman spoke to the students about something this summer that really reminded him of our school and what we are about. “It was during the women’s football World Cup. I saw Bishop Luffa values when the football had ended. For those of you who didn’t watch, we played Nigeria in the quarter-finals, it was a tense match that was ultimately decided by penalties. England were cool and clinical and beat Nigeria. Can you imagine being one of the goal scorers for England? The feeling of elation, knowing that this is what you had trained for, that you were going to be a hero to your whole country...

“And the England goal scorers did feel like that. But their first thought was for the Nigerian goalkeeper, who was lying crushed on the floor, wrongly blaming herself for her team’s fate. The England players surrounded her, consoled her and gestured to the tv cameras to leave her alone.

“When I saw that, I felt even more proud of the England team. And it reminded me of you. Because every one of you makes me proud in that way. You do amazing things, and you do them the right way. I regularly get emails and letters from members of the public who want me to know how polite you were in the street, in shops and on the bus: believe me, you have to really impress someone for them to take the time to write to me. But that is who you are, that is who we are as a school. That belief that everyone in our school community matters is part of us, and I think it will stay with you through-out your lives.”



Mr Hindman then spoke about the fact that this is the School's 60th Anniversary – our diamond year. "60 years ago this week students of this brand new school in Chichester were going to the cathedral for a service of thanksgiving. Work had started on the building but they were in borrowed rooms in Orchard Street...so 60 years ago this was a building site..."

"So what does it mean to come to Bishop Luffa? What is the difference? Well, the people who set our school up believed that there was more to life than eating, sleeping and playing Xbox – and not just because Xbox hadn't been invented yet. They thought that God has a plan for each of us, a plan that we are free to reject, to grumble about, fight against and try to get away from, but ultimately a plan that will make our lives better in every way. By building a school on those values, they thought that they could give students a more meaningful life – the full life that Jesus told us about."

"I think that our school proves them right. We have values here that I think are in every single person that I've ever met, but sometimes these values are hidden. At our school those values are front and centre: they are who we are."

We hope to have many more celebrations during the course of the year to mark our 60th year.



Bishop Luffa Greenpower F24 Team

In 2022 Bishop Luffa started a Greenpower F24 kit car project. Greenpower F24 is an Education Trust charity based in the UK. It helps get young people enthusiastic about science and engineering by challenging them to design, build and race an electric car. Being part of the team gives secondary school age children the opportunity to design,



build and race an electric, single seater car on some of the UK's top motor circuits. Greenpower's IET Formula 24 category has a proven track record in engaging 11-16-year olds with Science, Technology and Engineering through participation in designing, building and competing in electric, racing cars.

During the first year the team were extremely successful travelling around the county. They competed in four races, from the Lotus test track in Norfolk to the Goodwood racing circuit in West Sussex. At the end of the season the Bishop Luffa team finished 8th in the F24 kit car category, which was an incredible achievement for their first year. The team are now into their second season and have achieved 1st place in the second race of the season held at Dunsfold Aerodrome race circuit, achieved through fantastic team work.

James Bonney, Head of Design Technology

Year 8 visit Marwell Zoo

Year 8 had a fantastic trip to Marwell Zoo in September. Each half of the year travelled by coach and went around the zoo with their science class and science teachers. The day also included a talk to each class by a member of the staff at the zoo about the adaptations of some animals to their habitat, particularly the giraffe. Students were amazed at the size of the bones in a giraffe's neck!



The students completed work booklets on the adaptations of other animals in the zoo, but unfortunately some of these got a little wet with the sudden downpours of rain! This by no means dampened the spirits and the students saw many animals up close who were posing for the many photos that were taken. These photos were used in the next topic to be studied in science, when *Adapting to Change* is covered in the Genes chapter of the Key Stage 3 course. The students also had the opportunity to enter the photos they had taken

during the day for an animal photo competition. The winners were— 1st prize Steph Sabaydash Janeiro (8Wilson), 2nd prize Sophia Smyth (8Otter) and 3rd prize Emily Farnell (8Burrows).



Jane Tyler, Team Leader KS3 Science

A Fun-Filled Mediaeval Fair

Saturday 23rd September dawned clear and fair. By 6.00am there was brightness in the sky that augured well. Finally, after over 18 months of warming up, plotting, asking questions, making suggestions and low-down begging, the Fair was happening. Driving onto the misty field with my family – all dragooned into service – we were at once joined by the intrepid Solomon Sutton (10Ridgeway) who had cycled in to be with us from 07:00 in the morning. As the hours to the Fair ticked by we were joined by more and more helpers; Mrs Hurry arrived dressed as Queen Elizabeth I which everyone enjoyed hugely and numerous students came in full costume, too, including Isaac McDonald (10Wilson) and Emily Frank (10Ridgeway) who carried off the student costume prize.



The arrival of Wobbles the sheep with 40 bales of straw thanks to the wonderful Mariella Eade (10Wilson) and her father was hugely exciting and very distracting. Tables were set up, gazebos pitched, bunting distributed liberally and the turnip shy swung into operation. By 10:30 we had in place over 30 stalls – Nomad Pizza, The Crafty BisHop, Jumping Jacks (with their bouncy castle, 'splat the rat', foam jousting and sling shot activities), two archery instructors from Bowstrings Archery with all their kit (former Luffa student and parent), Paul Fuller - the axe throwing instructor, and the brilliant Ben Fraser – fire eater, juggler and entertainer.



By 11am, there was a hum of activity with folk starting to arrive and Richard Plowman – Chichester's wonderful town crier – officially declared the Fair open. The sun shone gloriously and a warm, friendly atmosphere descended. People arrived in a gentle stream, expecting to enjoy themselves and did just that. It was what I call 'slow' fun. People were lingering and chatting at the stalls, exploring what was available, eating (very inauthentic, but delicious) pizza and the atmosphere was wonderful.

There were so many people who contributed to the Fair going ahead (above and beyond what anyone might reasonably expect) it would be impossible to list them all, but profound thanks goes to everyone who helped and support me at this fantastic event. As for me, I am looking forward to colleagues no longer looking nervous when I say hello!

Chloë Barnett, Teacher of Classical Civilisation & Latin

Year 9's Pop Art Designs

Students in Year 9 Textiles were asked to complete a research analysis task for our Upcycle Project. They were given this brief:

The Tate Modern is having a new exhibition on the Pop Art movement and its impact on the fashion industry. It is looking for a new designer to create a Pop Art inspired centrepiece for the launch of the exhibition. It must be an item of clothing and be inspired by the Pop Art movement. Research, design, and develop ideas and techniques that can be used to celebrate and represent the theme of 'The Pop Art Movement' on a T-shirt or another item of clothing.

They were asked to creatively experiment and explore their own initial designs using mini mannequins and paper manipulation. They then wrote an explanation of their design, using questions such as:

- Who is the target market for your product?
- What is the culture of your target market?
- Are you considering selling this to organisations (Tate Modern)?
- Describe the needs that you think they might have for the product.

All students were thoroughly engaged and enjoyed the task as you can see from their wonderful work.

Amanda Bonney, Design & Technology Teacher



Year 7 have fun on the Isle of Wight

Our Year 7s had a great time on the Isle of Wight—it was a fantastic way for them to get to know each other as they start their journey at Bishop Luffa School. The weather was mixed but it didn't stop them having a great time!



A Successful History visit to France and Belgium

Over the first weekend in October, the History department ran a trip for 64 Year 9 students to the First World War battlefields of France and Belgium. Nothing helps bring such monumental events alive than being where they happened.

After a prompt departure on the Friday morning it was straight to the Channel Tunnel and then on to Ypres in Belgium (our base for the trip). We launched straight into the history, heading first to Tyne Cot cemetery with its 12000 burials and 35000 names of the missing – staggering numbers to comprehend. Nathan Simons (9Story) laid a wreath on behalf of the School, whilst 'In Flanders Fields' was read to the group. Students and staff then had time to each lay a small wooden cross at a grave that they may have found particularly moving – helping emphasise the individual nature of the losses in the First World War. After that it was on to the German cemetery at Langemark, which felt much more 'sombre' and less about remembering the glorious dead. A mass burial of 25000 German soldiers again emphasised the scale of loss. From there we checked in to our hotel in the centre of Ypres, dined out (pasta!) and then attended the Menin Gate wreath laying ceremony, where Mrs Christopher, supported by Melodie Lushington (9Burrows) and George Stanbridge (9Andrewes), laid a wreath on behalf of the School.



Saturday saw glorious weather and we headed to the Somme battlefields in northern France. However, before this we visited Sanctuary Wood/Hill 62, where a museum full of artefacts, and a preserved trench system, including tunnels, gave some sense of the war we were on the visit to remember. On the Somme our first stop was Lochnagar Crater – a giant crater created by the British (using 27 tons of explosives) on the 1st day of the Battle of the Somme in 1916. From there we visited Thiepval, site of the largest Commonwealth war memorial in the World, with the names of 72000 British soldiers with no known grave – an incomprehensible number. We then went to Beaumont Hamel to see the Newfoundland Memorial site, including preserved trenches – the close proximity of both front lines showed the futility of the attacks made on 1st July 1916, when there were 60000 casualties in just one day. It was then back to the hotel, a meal

out, and more free time, again often in the games room!

Sunday saw good weather again, as we departed nice and early for the Tunnel, via a hypermarket, where many students proceeded to make sure they had some form of souvenir of the trip, no matter how sweet and chocolatey! The trip went very well, and the students time-keeping was exemplary. They also showed great maturity and solemnity at all of the historic sites, and were a credit to the school. My thanks must go to them, and to the staff who accompanied the trip and made it possible.

Justin Barnett, Head of Humanities



Go Green Week 2023

We had a fantastic Go Green Week with lots of competitions running, with Story coming out as the winning House! It was great to hear all the extra changes people made in the week - lots of students walked to school instead of getting a lift, other students and staff arranged car shares, and many cycled - some for the first time and others long distances (Tangmere and they arrived on time). We hope that many will try to make this change a habit.



It is worth sharing that 180grams of CO2 are emitted every km a car travels – cycling and walking helps tackle air pollution in our local community and climate change. Chichester air pollution is not great - it is 'Fair - which means it's 'generally acceptable for most individuals, however sensitive groups may experience minor to moderate symptoms from long-term exposure' (it is worse than many other towns in West Sussex). By more people cycling and walking we can try to improve our local pollution levels and therefore our health.

Lots of students have a reusable water bottle (many more than 2 years ago) and some embraced the meat free lunch - one member of staff managed the meat free lunch even though she found it a real struggle! Another member of staff planned their week so they could bring a plastic free packed lunch in every day. Thank you for all the contributors to the recycling and for the support at the various activities going on during the week such as recycled art, wildlife pop up museum, upcycling workshop, swap shop and a fantastic bake sale. Thank you for all the contributions to the bake sale – we raised over £100 which will go towards eco-projects in school.



We had some fantastic outfits worn on the last day of Go Green Week. Thank you to everyone who took part – some were in clothes they had made and outfits made from recycled materials. Thank you for all the amazing donations and for everyone's continued support for our Eco School ethos.

Megs Wilburn & Alison Congalton, Eco-School Coordinators



Open Evening 2023

We were delighted to welcome parents, carers and prospective students to our Open Evening in October. We had a great time showcasing all the fantastic things that happen at Bishop Luffa School. Students shared all the opportunities they have in their learning, both in the main school and Sixth Form. We also opened our doors each morning for a week, with students showing Year 6 children around on a normal school day.



Bishop Luffa hosts Healing Classrooms Conference

Bishop Luffa School hosted a Healing Classrooms Conference in the Assembly Rooms, Chichester. The first of its kind on the South Coast, the conference was led by the International Rescue Committee (IRC), which helps people whose lives have been shattered by conflict and disaster to survive, recover and rebuild their lives. Founded in 1933 at the call of Albert Einstein, it now works in over 40 crisis-affected countries, as well as communities throughout Europe and the Americas.



The Chichester conference shared the IRC's Healing Classrooms approach to offering children a safe and predictable place to learn and cope with the consequences of conflict and displacement and other adverse childhood experiences (ACEs). Attendees included not only educators from schools and universities, but also students, SENCOs and English as an Additional Language teams. In addition, there were representatives of charities, church and youth groups, hospices, Chichester Contact Centre and West Sussex County Council, as well as mediators, therapists, counsellors and psychologists.

The aim? To help displaced students and students with ACEs gain the necessary academic, social and emotional skills to develop their full potential.

Everyone at the event had time to share ideas, network and collaborate to support displaced young people and their families in the area.

Bud Hagan, from Chichester-based charity The Young People's Shop, which offers free counselling, emotional support, advice and guidance to young people aged between 11 and 25, came to the event. Bud said: *"I attended the conference to find out more about the Healing Classrooms approach and to deepen my understanding and awareness of what it is to be a refugee attending school in the UK. I learnt so much throughout the day and it was great to connect with other local services. It was wonderful to see that schools are having these conversations about trauma and looking at ways to best support their students."*

Bishop Luffa School and IRC teams have now developed a close link and very much look forward to working together to help young people with ACEs live life in all its fullness.

Susie Cooke, EAL Coordinator

Lest We Forget

After unpredictable cloudbursts, the weather just about held, and we were able to mark the Armistice on Friday 10th November. The whole School assembled on the field just before 11am for a traditional service of commemoration. We heard a mixture of readings and prayers from the Head and others, including Mr Bonney, our School Captains, Mrs Bradberry and members of our clergy team. As well as this, Freddie Lynas (12Otter), using a bugle from World War One, superbly played the Last Post and Reveille either side of a two-minute silence. Wreaths were laid on behalf of the School, and by a member of the armed forces, who we were fortunate enough to have in attendance at our service.



The weather held, but it rained during, and only during, the two-minute silence, which added to the poignancy of that moment of solemn reflection. The service ended with the blowing of whistles dating from the Great War. Behaviour was very good, and students showed that they appreciated the importance of this moment, when we pause and consider those people who made the ultimate sacrifice to protect our freedoms.

Mr J Barnett, Head of Humanities

Remembrance Poppies

As part of our Remembrance Day preparations my classes in Year 10 and 11 designed and made their own personalised poppies. The students were able to engrave family members' names onto their poppies, along with pictures to help make them extra special.

The learning opportunities came from using 2D Design software, laser cutting the pieces, learning about thermo and thermosetting plastics and engraving. The students thoroughly enjoyed making them and they were able to show off their designs, which they proudly wore at the school service on Friday 10th November.



Helen Ockwell, Teacher of Design & Technology

Our Chickens arrived!

After what felt like a very long period of preparation and excitement, we finally welcomed our flock of Bishop Luffa chickens to the school at the start of November, with some members of the Chicken Club braving a very wet day to greet the hens. They settled in well and students have been getting hands on with the hens, holding them, mucking them out, collecting eggs and looking after their general welfare. The joy that the hens are bringing to the students (and staff!) is already evident and there has been much chicken-related talk throughout the school.



We would like to thank the PFA for their generous funding which has enabled us to give the project wings, to individuals who have responded to appeals for equipment, and to Mr Fowles who has been pivotal in building and preparing the run in the school holidays.

Louisa Fowles, Teacher of History

International Week

In the Autumn term we got together to celebrate our first International Week at Bishop Luffa. Our wonderful International Team ran assemblies every day to give everyone the opportunity to get to know each other better. Together we learnt that at Bishop Luffa we are very lucky to have students and teachers from 33 different countries. That week also gave us the opportunity to learn more about these places.

Our students and teachers wrote an "I love from" poem to tell us more about their countries of origin. The poem told us where our students are from without mentioning the name of the country. As clues the first two lines of the poem were about food from their country, then they talked about their childhood memories and sayings and finally they mentioned famous people, family and friends.



During lunch time, our students ran an International raffle and the lucky winners received wonderful prizes donated to our school by our partners in South Korea and a variety of businesses. International week has finished, but our International Team still meets regularly to develop more projects that bring us all together.

Elizabeth López Gamero
Team Leader of Spanish & International School Coordinator

Romola Garai visits Bishop Luffa School

Actor, director and International Rescue Committee ambassador Romola Garai has said it's 'more important than ever' to make refugees feel welcome after a visit to Bishop Luffa School. The star of BBC drama *Vigil* and upcoming film *One Life*, recently surprised students who have been supported by the IRC's Healing Classrooms programme. During the visit, Romola - whose grandfather was a refugee from Hungary - learned how the programme's training and resources have helped the teachers to create a nurturing environment where refugee and asylum-seeking students can thrive. As well as taking a tour of the classrooms, Romola also spoke to Head Teacher Austen Hindman and EAL (English as an Additional Language)

Coordinator Susie Cooke about some initiatives at the school. These include an international club where different cultures are celebrated, as well as a buddy system for refugee children and a cooking club.



"The visit shone a light on the profound impact that trauma-informed training and inclusivity initiatives can have," Romola said, adding: "It highlighted that when given the right support, refugee students are able to truly enrich the wider school community."

Staff at Bishop Luffa initially signed up to take part in the Healing Classrooms programme after 21 children from Ukraine joined when war broke out in their home country last year. The school wanted to ensure staff were able to support the newly arrived children and their families as they integrated into life in the UK. Since then, 28 more students who are refugees have been enrolled at the school, some of whom Romola was able to speak with. Romola said: "I met some fantastic students who have come from Ukraine and were able to tell me incredible moving experiences," she said.

"All the young people I spoke to shared the effect of being with staff members who were able to listen to them, take time with them and understand how difficult it has been for them to integrate into a completely different school system in a different language. I think they feel very passionately at the support they have had from teachers in the school and it was a really incredible privilege for me to see that."



Speaking of Healing Classrooms, Head Teacher Austen said his staff initially had 'no idea' how to support the students who had moved to the UK. Austen added: "I have no idea what I would do if I had to leave my home today, travel hundreds of miles and then start a new life in a country where I don't speak the language. That has happened to the 38 children who currently attend our school. We had no idea how to support them, but fortunately we were put in touch with the IRC and were able to take part in training as part of the Healing Classrooms project. I would urge anyone who is working with children who have entered the country as refugees to join the project, as it will enable you to move beyond good intentions and begin to make a difference."

Romola is also starring in upcoming film *One Life* which tells the story of Nicholas Winton who rescued 669 children from Nazi-occupied Czechoslovakia at the brink of World War II, in cinemas across the UK this January. I am constantly inspired by the resilience of young refugees," Romola said. "*One Life* tells the story of children brought to safety in the UK, having been rescued from the imminent Nazi invasion of Prague prior to the Second World War. In today's context, the theme of the film and making refugees feel welcome in the UK is more important than ever, and the IRC's Healing Classrooms programme aims to do just that."

Photo credit: Scott Ramsey for the International Rescue Committee

News from Design & Technology

In Design and Technology lessons Years 7, 8 and 9 students combined practical and technological skills with creative thinking, to design and making products and systems that meet human needs. They learnt to use current technologies and consider the impact of future technological developments. All students are encouraged to think creatively and intervene to improve the quality of life, solving problems as individuals and as members of a team.

Year 7 Textiles have been making ECO Creatures in their Textiles lessons this term. **Year 7 Product Design** students have been introduced to basic workshop H&S, taught how to use hand tools correctly, learning the theory of different material properties of Wood and Polymers, and introduced to Computer Aided Design (CAD) and Computer Aided Manufacture (CAM).



A sample of **Year 8 textiles** students are trailing a project using E-Textiles within their cushion covers by adding a nightlight.

Year 8 have been busy in **Product Design** making Handy Grabs, using their knowledge of mechanisms, how to use hand tools and their designing skills.

Year 9 Textiles are midway through their upcycling project and have been enthusiastically designing and researching how to upcycle their items of clothing based on designers from the pop art movement. **Year 9 Product Design** students have been growing their Design Development skill this half term ready to make and finish a high standard, well-made Angle Poise Lamp in the new year.

Year 12 Product Design students have been working like a small architectural & design company, to design a new unique themed dog kennel that would blend into a busy household or work area in a practical way.

Exciting times ahead for **Greenpower** in 2024. We are now the proud owners of an IET Formula Goblin Car, which brings with it the opportunity for students to become Young Design and Technology Leaders, assisting me to run a club for the Primary Schools in the Bishop Luffa Partnership.



James Bonney, Head of Design & Technology

Opera at Glyndebourne Opera House

On Wednesday 15th November, A'Level and GCSE Music students went to Glyndebourne Opera House to watch 'Don Giovanni' by Mozart. This was a fantastic opportunity for our students to experience a full scale opera with an orchestra.

All students enjoyed the production and were impressed with the lavish set and incredible singing.

Jane Bowen-Melfi, Head of Music



November 2023

Over the month of November Mr Hindman, Mr Jackson, Mr Clarke, Mr Hill, Mr Luff and Mr Blewitt made the 'brave' decision to engage in the Movember movement. They grew different shaped moustaches as a symbol of better men's health. Movember is the leading charity changing the face of men's health, suicide prevention, prostate cancer and testicular cancer. With the charity funding more than 1,250 men's health projects around the world, challenging the status quo, shaking up men's health research and transforming the way health services reach and support men. To help raise money for this charity, students were able to purchase raffle tickets to win the opportunity to shave off a staff member's moustache.



Tom Blewitt, Teacher of PE



Bishop Luffa Careers Fair 2023



All students from Years 7-13 were given the opportunity to visit our Bishop Luffa Careers Fair. Approximately 50 exhibitors offered their time and experience to students. Students completed the Careers Fair Bingo for the chance to win a prize and met and talked to a wide range of employers and education/training providers including Aldingbourne Trust, Emsworth Dental Surgery, Goodwood, Rolls Royce, HNW Architects, PRM Studio, Chichester College, Exeter University, Surrey University and many more. Cobnor Activities Centre joined us this year, bringing along a boat and keeping students engaged with their fun activities.

Students asked the exhibitors lots of interesting questions about academic and vocational subjects, work experience opportunities, possibilities to work/study abroad, interview tips and what advice they would give a young person starting out in their career. There was a great atmosphere at the event and exhibitors commented on how polite, chatty and engaged the students were.

Angie Hopp, Careers Coordinator



CyberFirst Girls Competition



Year 8 girls were invited to King Edward VI School in Southampton for the launch of the 2023/24 CyberFirst Girls Competition, run by GCHQ's National Cyber Security Centre. The girls had a great day and made a fantastic start on the competition and they worked in their teams using a range of cyber skills to compete in code cracking, decrypting messages and solving puzzles in a contest which seeks to inspire young women to pursue careers in cyber. The competition, saw the

most teams and schools take part since its inception seven years ago, with 3608 teams from over 750 schools participating. The competition aims to encourage girls aged 12-13 to consider pursuing an interest in technology and introduce them the idea of a career in cyber.

Mrs Helen Williams, Team Leader of Computer Science

Bishop Luffa takes part in West Sussex Guitar Festival

Congratulations to Blanka Maruszak (9Ridgeway), Jennifer Ruffle (10Story), Ksusha Demchenko (10Otter), Devon O'Donnell (12Burrows) and Anna Swain (9King) who won the Junior Ensemble class at the West Sussex Guitar Festival, having been awarded 'very good' from the adjudicator. Jennifer Ruffle also won the age 15 and under solo class. All performers are students of Linda Kelsall-Barnett who teaches guitar at Bishop Luffa School.



Jane Bowen-Melfi, Head of Music

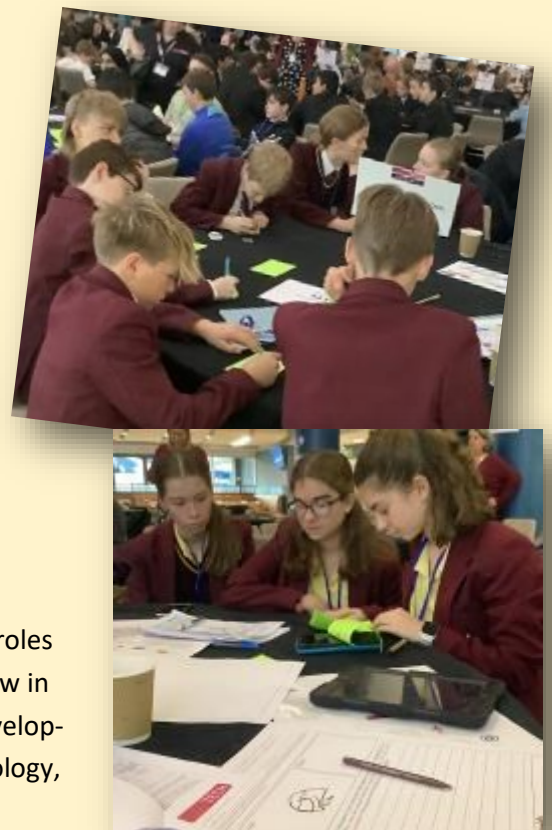
Students win 'Best Physical Innovation Award' at TeenTech Festival '23

Our amazing Design and Technology Award winning Ambassadors took part in a terrific TeenTech Festival at the Amex Stadium in Brighton. It was highly interactive and designed to inspire young teenagers about the contemporary industries shaping their future. The students were given the opportunity to try their hand at immersive challenges and experiments, to handle cutting edge technology and, most importantly, to spend time with engineers, technologists and scientists from a wide range of companies influencing their 21st-century lives. This fantastic event was run by Maggie Philbin, who some of you may remember from the Tomorrow's World TV show in the 1980's. She was so inspiring, telling us about new design and technology, and how our students are the designers of the future.

The students were designing and innovating all day, trying out new technology and taking part in competitions. Our team worked hard, in roles aligned with a start-up company, to become the innovators of tomorrow in an hour-long workshop and challenge! They became the designers, developers and marketing experts, using sensors, data and cutting-edge technology, to tackle real-world problems! WE WON! the 'Best Physical Innovation Award', for a biometric bike locking system pitch, headed up by Bella Wright (9Burrows). The other students who took part in the festival were Sophie Clunes (8King), Louisa Smith (8Otter), Ben Pitkin (8Burrows), Luke Pendry (8Ridgeway), Benjy Gardner (9Otter), Emmy Lamb (9Wilson), Hannah Beech (9Story), Dom Vida (8Ridgeway) and Brandon Paice (8Andrewes).

The Ambassadors at TeenTech were extremely impressed with our students' creativity, innovative thinking and conduct throughout the day.

Amanda Bonney, Teacher of Design & Technology



Cooking at Christmas

Key stage 3 students in Languages enjoyed celebrating Advent as it is done in Germany. They learned all about German traditions at this wonderful time of the year, and they were busy baking gingerbread at home. In lessons they have transformed their baking into the most wonderful artistic creations, which have been judged by the Senior Leadership team.



At the end of term, our Young Carers, who go above and beyond at home in various roles, had a relaxing time decorating Christmas themed goodies, from cakes to gingerbread men with a hot chocolate and cream in hand.



Story House support Dementia UK



In the lead up to Christmas, Story House were full of the spirit of goodwill and were keen to get involved in several charity-based adventures. Students and staff dressed up as elves, while others chose to exchange an item of school uniform for a red or green alternative, others wore an elf hat; there were also some who went "full-on elf"! 7Story organised a cake sale which went down very well with the students. The day was a great success with the House raising £417.82 for the charity *Dementia UK*.

Story House also took their charity endeavours out into the community and were welcomed back to Manor Barn Nursing Home, where our Christmas Choir sang to the residents, most of whom have dementia. All the students enjoyed themselves, as did the residents and carers. One resident who is unable to speak was able to sing along with us, which made his visiting wife cry with happiness.

Shona Charge, Head of Story House & Sallie Callaghan, 7Story Tutor

Christmas with the Music Department

The school choir and band had a very busy end of term. They performed at the Carol Service at Chichester Cathedral and this event always provides a memorable evening for students, staff, parents and carers alike. The Choir was directed by Jane Bowen-Melfi, our Head of Music, with the School Band conducted by Matthew Bennett. We were delighted that Edward Cooke was again able to play the organ for us this year. The evening was filled with beautiful music, readings from our students, and wonderful singing. The School Band and Choir also performed at The Cross in Chichester, helping to raise funds for local Rotary charities. This was a great opportunity for Bishop Luffa students to perform to a different audience and they had a wonderful time.





Students at Bishop Luffa School are supported by a strong House system, with each House having a distinctive identity. Read on to find out what each House has been up to this year.



Andrewes House



This year seems like a normal year - trips are running and there has been no major upsets. Hallelujah!

Our Year 7 managed a fantastic few days away on the Isle of Wight, having lots of fun and giving Burrows a good whopping at Laser Tag in the woods (as usual)! During the year, Andrewes have raised money for the Chichester Downs Syndrome Association by wearing odd socks. Even some of our pets joined in yet again! We have also taken part in lots of inter-house competitions and did well by winning the inter-house Dance competition. Well done to Kitty, Tilly, Amelie, Laila, Rachel, Eddie, Evie, Fia, Jasmine, Mable Emma and Ellie.

We put on a fantastic House Drama production of *Over the Wall*. Callum, Ella and George directed it and we made it to the final. It was very funny and well-acted - no idea why we didn't win! Well done to our actors; George, Ava, Emma, Harry, Ivy, Eva, Sophie, Rose and Matilda. We also had Henry and Josh working on the Tech team, so all in all a brilliant effort.



Many of 7 Andrewes were involved in doing assemblies at other schools with the international group. It was very brave of them, but they were terrific and made the school proud.

There are many other achievements from individual students in sailing, LAMDA, music, cricket and other things like the CyberFirst Girls Competition, Fruition, House Buddies, Inter-house Art, Corporate Challenge, Schools Sailing Competition and Digital Leaders. We also have many girls in the La Diva Choir. I am sure I speak on behalf of the Andrewes staff and students when I say we have ended the term exhausted. All students in Andrewes House, this year, have shown kindness and consideration to others and have made me and the tutor team extremely proud. I am sorry if I have missed anyone out.

A big thank you to our amazing tutors, Mrs Lopez, Mr Bonney, Ms Wells, Mrs Pegram, Miss Machado, Mrs Williams and Mr Barnett who have all gone above and beyond this year.

It feels like I have covered everything, but just one more shout out to Rachel who won the Christmas card competition! Not long till the next one! As we enter the summer, I pray that we will all manage to de-compress, wind down and get ourselves a good mental attitude ready to nail it in September.

Rob Goldsmith, Head of Andrewes House

<https://www.bishopluffa.org.uk/student-leadership/house-pages/andrewes/>

Head of House: Mr Goldsmith

Burrows House

If you believe, you can achieve!



Welcome to Burrows House! We always try to believe in ourselves to achieve the best outcomes we can. Whether that is in our work and exams, or whether it is in the many Interhouse competitions that we participate in.



We've all been very sad to see the Year 11s leave who have been part of our Burrows family for so long now. They will be missed by everyone, especially Mr Clarke who has supported them for many of their crucial years at Bishop Luffa. We wish them all the best in whatever they choose to do next.

The Year 10s all had a great time doing their work experiences this year. People did a variety of things including charity work, going to primary schools, going to a hospital and many more exciting things. This year group always tries to throw themselves into the many opportunities they are given, and will always try their best at everything they attempt to do.

The Year 9s picked the subjects that they will be taking for GCSEs and in some lessons have started to learn some of the GCSE content that may come up in their exams. We wish them all the best of luck over the next couple of years. They have also done a brilliant job at helping with Charity bake sales for *Dreams Come True* (our House charity) – this shows how committed they are to helping others and supporting the House in different ways.



The Year 8s went on a couple of exciting trips – one was to Marwell at the start of the year for a science trip, where they spent the day doing lots of fun activities. They also went to West Wittering for Geography where they learned different geographical techniques for measuring the land. Many of the Year 8s have also taken part in Interhouse events that have helped boost their confidence and made them feel more part of the Burrows community.

The Burrows family have been excited to welcome the new Year 7s and their form tutor Mr Owen into the House. They started off their year in the Isle of Wight enjoying activities like swimming, treasure hunts (which Burrows won), laser tag and bonfires in the evening. They travelled across to the island on a hovercraft which was a first for many. They've also gone on many other trips like the Winchester Science Museum where they went to the planetarium and designed their own rockets made with bottles which when shaken flew across the room. Lots of the Year 7s participated in House drama this year that managed to get to the Finals with their play '*Fantastic Mr Fox*'. We can't wait to see all they bring to the house over their time with us.



Written by Jessica Smith, Kathy Nightingale, Emily Burt and Hebe Winstanley all 10Burrows

<https://www.bishopluffa.org.uk/student-leadership/house-pages/burrows/>

Head of House: Mrs Bagdoniene

King House

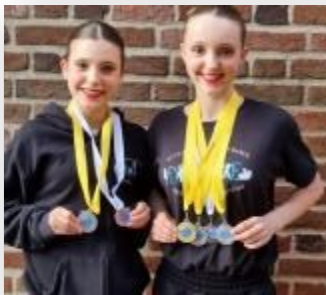
Success Through Practice



It has been a busy year for King House. Year 7 King made a great start to their time at Bishop Luffa. Their enthusiasm for life in all its fullness has meant that everyone is leading very busy lives. In sport we have cross country runners, cyclists, footballers and athletes, all competing regionally, and winning the inter-house football competition was an achievement that brought us all together. There is also a lot of academic success and I have given out lots of certificates for myriad achievements.



8 King have had a great year growing into the school. There have been many highlights over the year from the trips, to extra-curricular clubs and everyday life at school, the students are learning and maturing each day. It has been a very busy year and a highlight for many was our Enterprise day, having the opportunity to have some events off timetable and experience new activities. They have enjoyed and made the most of many opportunities given.



9 King have had another tremendous year. They have been helping at Chicken Club, contributing to the school council and organising bake sales, raising money for the House charity 'Breast Cancer Now'. There has been sporting success and lots got involved in House drama. It demonstrates their commitment to supporting the wider school community. 9 King were fantastic getting involved in Interhouse activities, charity week, and the careers and enterprise day. They are a fantastic group of students, and they should be incredibly proud of all they have achieved this academic year.

It has been a busy and exciting year for 10 King! Students completed their first year of GCSEs - it has been amazing to see how they have overcome challenges and become more resilient. They have had the opportunity to complete work experience with placements at a wide range of places such as Aston Martin, University of Portsmouth, Goodwood Flying School and local primary schools. We had some impressive reports from the members of staff that worked with them – they were a credit to Bishop Luffa School! Many of the tutor group are active in a variety of clubs both inside and outside of school, ranging from sailing, mountain biking, triathlons, Duke of Edinburgh, to name but a few.

This year has been remarkable for the students of 11 King. Their dedication and hard work in revising for their GCSE exams have been inspiring, showcasing their commitment and resilience. A highlight of the year was their prom, held in a beautifully decorated marquee. This has been a fabulous year for 12 King, who have repeatedly taken opportunities to showcase their talents and get involved with the many opportunities available at Bishop Luffa, including House Drama, sailing and cross country. Several students have volunteered to read with KS3 students and serve as peer mentors, building on the supportive and inclusive environment that our school is known for. 13 King have had a busy final term preparing for their A-levels. They've worked incredibly hard and have been supportive of each other and are a great team.

Kate Hurry, Head of King House

<https://www.bishopluffa.org.uk/student-leadership/house-pages/king/>

Head of House: Miss Hurry

Otter House

Believe, Achieve and Succeed

Another busy year and I'm as pleased as punch with the amazing activities that our bevy of Otters have been getting on with. We have seen the Year 7s settle into Luffa life with energetic verve and they certainly have proved themselves to be a tour de force, throwing themselves into anything and everything: girls and boys football to name but one highlight. We waved a bittersweet goodbye to Year 11s through the tear-jerker that is their leavers' assembly, climaxing with the highlight of the season, the Prom.

As ever, Otters have shown tremendous amounts of business enterprise in the Otter House charity fundraiser for Macmillan - the big Valentine's Day roses sale in February - expertly led by Mrs Smerdon-Corp and her Year 11s, which this year raised an incredible £450; a truly magnificent achievement. 7 Otter were amazing too and were the delivery service for getting the roses to the right people.

7 Otter were fortunate enough to experience the Luffa rite of passage that is the Isle of Wight trip - a success, as ever, with Laserquest, bowling and animal sanctuary visits, forest school and archery. It's always a great team building experience which Mrs Christie and I thoroughly enjoyed. 8 Otter have represented the school in football, rugby, cricket, tennis and basketball, as well as the Interhouse Dance competition.



House Captains Hugo Sheppard and Tabby Cooper, with Olivia Hoff, did a phenomenal job of directing the Otter House Drama which made it to the final this year. It was a feast for the eyes and ears as we were treated to a spectacular rendition of *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*.

We also had huge Otter representation for Schools Sailing week again this year. Well done to our 10 Otter explorers who completed their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh award, and to Ollie Mills and Lottie Tupper who have been chosen for Year 10 House Colours this term. Otters seem to be in every show band, choir, music and dance group going. Fruition was an amazing showcase of all their amazing creative talents.

Otter House is a warm and caring House to be at the helm of, not least because of the Otter Tutors. I am very lucky to have them by my side in the rough, tumble and wins of daily life. I can't wait for another year, with the older Otters guiding and supporting their younger counterparts, making sure we remain *otterly* amazing.



Jas Stone, Head of Otter House

<https://www.bishopluffa.org.uk/student-leadership/house-pages/otter/>

Head of House: Mrs Stone

Ridgeway House



Wow, what another busy year it has been for all of us in Ridgeway House. We have seen our Year 7s settle well into school life here and have said goodbye to our Year 11s too.

As ever, October meant the traditional Isle of Wight residential - this was a hugely rewarding experience for our new Year 7s giving them the chance to make new friends and bond with each other.

December saw us undertake our annual Reindeer Run raising money for Chestnut Tree House. Students donned the usual red noses and antlers and completed laps of the playground. In total we raised in excess of £250. We also took part in another annual event – the Rotary Club Shoebox Appeal which collates much needed gifts for disadvantaged children in places such as Albania, Moldova, Montenegro and Romania, plus children stranded in refugee camps.



In conjunction with Chestnut Tree House and our lovely Art Department, we have been involved with decorating an owl as part of a summer treasure hunt organised by the charity. The Luffa owl was located at Penny Plain in Chichester, before returning to the school where it will take up permanent residence at the school.

As part of long-standing Luffa tradition, we announced our House Colours for Year 10s in our final House assembly and awarded them with some commemorative certificates and colourful badges which they will wear with pride. We also awarded Subject Colours which were also humbly received – well done to those for that. This is very well deserved and is a significant achievement for any Luffa student.



This year I have been ably supported by Ayotola Beckley our Year 12 Ridgeway House Captain. Ayotola has been a huge support, from running charity events and assemblies, to writing and directing the House Drama. Finally, I would like to say a huge thank you to the Ridgeway tutors – they have been an ever-present positive influence in the lives of Ridgeway students and they deserve much of the credit for the successes of Ridgeway House. I genuinely could not do my job without them.

James Vann, Head of Ridgeway House

<https://www.bishopluffa.org.uk/student-leadership/house-pages/ridgeway/>

Head of House: Mr Vann

Sherborne House

Here to inspire, challenge, achieve from when
we start to when we leave



I am delighted to say this has been a hugely successful school year for Sherborne House with many students living up to the mantle of “inspire, challenge and achieve from when we start until we leave.”



Sherborne have led the House Cup race since the Winter Term with tremendous efforts from Year 7 and Year 9 in particular, topping their respective year groups consistently, and I was delighted to be able to lift the Cup for the first time since I became Head of House in 2018.

The Sherborne House Committee for 2023/24 was comprised of House Colours recipients Ben Webster, Emma Mayor, Mary Pitts, Ollie Taylor, Olivia Cogger, Holly Walford, Myah Brent and Hannah Carr (11Sh) and House Captains Edward Brommell and Erin Pullen (12Sh). Many thanks for their efforts in overseeing Sherborne student feedback and charity events over the past year.

Sherborne have organically developed a reputation for success in the performing arts over the past few years, with a number of finals positions in the House Drama competition, winning in 2021. This year’s entry was directed by Erin Pullen and Edward Bromell (12Sh) and was based on *The Adventure of Johnnie Waverley* by Agatha Christie. While just missing out on the final, all in Sherborne were captivated by the performance in front of the school and proud of the group’s acting talent and creativity. Lucy Pitts (9Sh) in particular deserves special praise for her role as Hercule Poirot.



After two years as part of Sherborne House, taking over from Mr Thomas and skilfully guiding the class of 2019 through to their final GCSE exams, we say a fond farewell to the very popular Mr Petts who leaves to teach A-Level Law at college and offer a warm welcome to Mr Buck as the new Year 7 tutor. Finally, many thanks to Mrs Bonney who stewarded Sherborne seamlessly in my absence during the Summer Term.

Tristen George, Head of Sherborne House

<https://www.bishopluffa.org.uk/student-leadership/house-pages/sherborne/>

Head of House: Mr George

Story House



Only a few weeks into our school year and 7 Story headed off to the Isle of Wight for a fantastic opportunity to get to know each other better, have fun, learn some new skills and avoid sleep as much as possible. Many in the form have fully immersed themselves in school life whether that is dressing up for charity or getting involved Interhouse activities. Others have joined some of the many clubs on offer and are now chicken carers, excellent knitters or budding chess champions. Several of our talented 8 Story students participated in the Young Writers' Writing Competition and we are proud that their hard work and creativity have paid off—they have been chosen for publication in an anthology! Students also showcased their impressive dance skills making it through to the Interhouse Dance final. Other students were involved in the Bebras Computer Challenge, continued their work with the Bishop Luffa International Team, and took part in a CyberFirst Girls Competition.

The journey through Year 9 has been one of remarkable growth, unforgettable experiences, and significant achievements. As we reflect on the past school year, it's evident that each student has made their unique mark, contributing to the vibrant tapestry of our year group's story, and they have demonstrated resilience and dedication in their academic pursuits. Students have thrived in various extra-curricular activities, from being part of the tech team, sports, House Drama and Interhouse Dance.



10 Story have had an eventful and successful year, marked by notable achievements and active participation in various school activities. A significant highlight has been their remarkable performance in inter-house sporting competitions. In addition to their sports accomplishments, 10 Story gained valuable practical experience by participating in a week-long work experience programme. Students also took part in the school's musical production of "Alice!" and the winning House drama performance of "Blood Brothers", as well as taking part in sports and the Duke of Edinburgh Award.



This year we have said goodbye to 2024's 11 Story. It has been a year full of commitment, dedication and hard work for Year 11 as they have faced numerous highs and challenging lows along the way. Congratulations to Lidiia Sydronko for winning the national Christmas coding competition, where she had to create her own coding project. The exam season for Year 11 was a time where they pushed themselves and gave their best efforts. And then we finally made it! Prom was an excellent evening to finish off their time at Bishop Luffa.

12Story shone brightly throughout the school year, showcasing incredible talent, dedication and leadership in various fields and making a significant contribution to all aspects of school life. Several members of the form took on school leadership roles, including a House and School Captain, as well as several members of the Sixth Form committee. They have been involved in lots of Interhouse competitions involving drama and art.

Other fantastic achievements in Story House include winning Go Green Week, awards in the UK Maths Challenge, and the Bishop Luffa House Drama Festival 2024! Our House Charity continues to be Dementia UK, a charity close to our hearts. To raise money we had an Elf Day, held cake sales, and a Blue Day (the official colour of Dementia), and are proud to announce that we raised over £1,000.

Mrs Shona Charge, Head of Story House

<https://www.bishopluffa.org.uk/student-leadership/house-pages/story/>

Head of House: Mrs Charge

Wilson House

Wilson means family, and that means no one gets left behind

It's always been one of my favourite aspects of my job to look back over the last year and see what Wilson House have been up to, and this year is certainly no different – needless to say everyone has been very busy, so I am very excited to celebrate their achievements!



This year's 7 Wilson are one of the politest and most easy-going groups that I have had in my time as Head of House. The Isle of Wight trip created some long-lasting memories with yet another victory in the Headhunters laser tag (now six years undefeated). They have thrown themselves into all aspects of school life – taking part in House Drama and Fruition, as well as after school and lunchtime clubs.

Year 8 are now firmly settled in to life at Luffa and again it has been pleasing to see so many of the group getting involved in events wherever they can. They certainly seem to be one of the sportiest groups that we have had in Wilson for quite a while, with lots of enthusiastic volunteers for Interhouse competitions and also representing the school in rugby, football, cricket, and pretty much anything else you can think of.

Terrifying though it might seem, 9 Wilson are now halfway through their journey at Luffa! Fortunately they have remained as calm and chilled out as they were in Year 7. It has been very pleasing to see so many of the group getting involved in wider school activities such as Fruition, and continuing their sporting successes too. I have no doubt they are all ready and raring for their GCSEs next year. Year 10 have now embarked on their GCSEs and it has been rewarding to see them flourish under their new responsibilities. This was also on display during their work experience, and I was lucky enough to go and visit many of them and to hear lots of glowing feedback from their placements. They have also become reading buddies and mentors, and taken part in the Duke of Edinburgh award.

Finally, we move on to Year 11, who we now must sadly say goodbye to. It seems like I say this every year, but yet again 11 Wilson were a remarkably calm and easy tutor group who gave me very little bother whatsoever – whilst there was certainly some cajoling required when it came to revision time, I never had to worry about them getting up to something they shouldn't be! I have also enjoyed spending time with the Sixth Form team where possible – Max Wright and Isla Kavanagh-Brown only joined the school in Year 12 but became invaluable House captains, assisting with House Drama and the Christmas Fair. The fair itself raised a record-breaking amount of nearly £1,500 this year, with all money going to the Friends of the Mombasa Children.

On a personal note, after this year I will be handing the reins over to Mrs Duke for 2024/25 and I look forward to seeing how Wilson continues to flourish under her leadership – I have no doubt she can only take the house on to brighter and better things.

Keith Allman, Head of Wilson House

<https://www.bishopluffa.org.uk/student-leadership/house-pages/wilson/>

Head of House: Mr Allman

News

Spring 2024

- ◆ Boys' Dance Showcase
- ◆ Year 7 History students get creative
- ◆ Year 11 Art students visit London Galleries
- ◆ Interhouse Art Competition
- ◆ Sports Studies Students visit Twickenham
- ◆ Sparx Maths Reward Bowling Trip
- ◆ A Fantastic Burns Night Celebration
- ◆ A Day for Design
- ◆ Computer Science Success
- ◆ Pen Pals
- ◆ Bishop Luffa Marks Holocaust Memorial Day
- ◆ Students enjoy visit from popular author Stewart Foster
- ◆ A Thought-Provoking trip to Berlin
- ◆ Woodwind Success at Chichester Music Festival
- ◆ Year 10 Work Experience Week
- ◆ Green Power F24 Team News
- ◆ Alice! The Musical
- ◆ Immersive Labs Cybersecurity Visit
- ◆ Spanish Exchange Programme
- ◆ Maths Feast 2024
- ◆ Shakespeare School Festival
- ◆ Rugby County Cup Success
- ◆ Forest School with the Goodwood Education Trust
- ◆ LAMDA at Luffa
- ◆ Chichester College's STEMfest 2024: Igniting STEM Passion
- ◆ Some Egg-scellent Historians!
- ◆ Interhouse Dance Finals 2024

Boys' Dance Showcase

Our Boys' Dance group performed at The Showroom at the University of Chichester as part of a Dance Showcase hosted by the University alongside groups from 12 other schools. The curtain raiser was performed by Zoie Logic Dance who have been advocates for boys dance for over 20 years.



Their performance piece was choreographed by Beth-Anne Hollyhurst and was based on different characters from popular online games. The group performed really well and were a credit to the school.

Jo Lawlor, Head of Arts Faculty and Team Leader for Dance

Year 7 History students get creative



Year 7 students finished off their history studies of the Norman conquest by looking at castles. To put the students' creative talents to use, some classes were busy making a realistic Motte and Bailey castle for their home-work.



These included collages, interactive computer models, a sandcastle on the beach (brave and chilly at this time of year), a song about castles, as well as these wonderful 3D models and cakes. Thank you to 7Sherborne (7F) especially for four tasty castles which were enjoyed by the class - they were delicious!

Louisa Fowles, Teacher of History

Year 11 Art students visit London Galleries



Year 11 students enjoyed a trip to London to start off their exam project. They saw work by the artist Antony Gormley, famous for his 'Angel of the North', at White Cube and then journeyed on to The Saatchi gallery to appreciate the work of husband and wife duo Christo and Jeanne-Claude whose works include ambitious, large scale projects such as wrapping The



Arc De Triomphe in fabric. They all produced some beautiful drawings on the day and will use the experience to help inspire and develop their own work back in the classroom.

**Laurelly Thorpe
Team Leader of Art**

Interhouse Art Competition

Over 200 entries were made into our Interhouse Art competition across all year groups. The brief was 'Structures' and students produced a range of amazing artworks in response to the theme including moon photography, etching, portrait painting, digital landscape drawing, comic illustration, collage, tonal drawing, ink drawing, oil painting and many more. The standard of work was incredibly high and we were very impressed with all the students who took part. Students across the whole school voted for their favourite artworks in each category during their art lessons and the results were as follows:

- Otter - 464 votes
- King - 391 votes
- Andrewes - 307 votes
- Burrows - 254 votes
- Wilson - 198 votes
- Story - 134 votes
- Ridgeway - 113 votes
- Sherborne - 83 votes.



Congratulations to the following students who were the overall winners:

Sixth Form

- 1st place: James Bell (12Story) with his Pomegranate painting.
- 2nd place: Harvey Cook (13Andrewes) with his large ink study.
- 3rd place: Gina Rizzo (13King) with her drawing of a girl in water.



GCSE

- 1st place: Theo Kus (11King) with his comic book illustration.
- 2nd place: Charlotte Lewis (11King) with her landscape painting.
- 3rd place: Tabatha Procter (11Burrows) with her portrait drawing with her cat.

Years 7 - 9

- 1st place: Layton Bone (8Otter) with his architectural drawings.
- 2nd place: Vika Kravets (8Wilson) with her digital game illustration.
- 3rd place: Lara Cook (8Andrewes) with her tonal portrait drawing.

Laurelly Thorpe, Team Leader of Art



Sports Studies Students visit Twickenham

In January Year 10 and Year 11 Sports Studies students travelled to Rugby HQ. The students experienced a fantastic tour of Twickenham stadium, having the true VIP treatment exploring the royal box, boardrooms, changing facilities and pitch side access.



Afterwards they sat down for a personalised workshop focussing on how England Rugby link to commercialisation and external stakeholders, all of which directly links to different units both groups study with, modern and purposeful examples. This was the first trip for the Sports Studies PE route way and we are positive it will not be the last. The students represented the school very well. Which sporting arena might we venture to next?

Tom Blewitt, Teacher of PE & Sports Studies

Sparx Maths Reward Bowling Trip

It was an exceptionally cold morning, but we wrapped up warm and headed off on our walk to the bowling alley. An incredible 96 students managed to complete every single “XP Boost” and “Target” tasks on Sparx Maths, in addition to the compulsory homework they are set each week. They had managed this from the start of September up until the Christmas holiday.



Mr Healy set the route – it’s a lot easier to navigate when the leading teacher is so tall! We were very happy to reach the warmth of the bowling alley, and the students wasted no time in getting on with their games. They were very competitive - particularly the Year 7s who also took great pleasure in using the machines to add a selfie to their names on the screens! We had some incredible scores and the students were amazing.

Hannah Kettle, Head of Maths

A Fantastic Burns Night Celebration



What a night! Bishop Luffa's Burns Night 2024 was a huge success. With a wonderful atmosphere, tartan bedecked hall, an enticing selection of raffle prizes on offer and excited, happy guests, it was definitely a great night and one to remember. 'The best one yet' was heard uttered by many guests.

There were many people involved in the background that made this event happen. They gave up their time and energy for free and we are very, very grateful to have such supportive families in the school. A big thank you to all of the PFA for their support, and in particular Simon and Greg for their involvement in the organising, and for securing the services of our chef, Sven from

Wellies, and our fantastic Maître d', Ethan from The Landing Place. A special mention from setting up and on the day and our profound appreciation for giving up so much of your time and energy is to our parent helpers. Another big thank you to all the wonderful Year 10 helpers who stepped in and made the evening a really fabulous event - they were just fantastic. They did us proud and worked so hard. Thank you to them all for their diligence and wonderful attitude to the job undertaken. They seemed to have fun too!

Sharon Quail and Julie Howard, Co-Chairs Bishop Luffa PFA

A Day for Design



As part of the Design and Technology GCSE programme, we organised a trip to the Design Museum and Tate Modern Gallery in London. For part of the GCSE NEA project work our students are expected to be able to respond in depth to the works of Designers/Design movements and/or Art movements. The trip fully met that and provided the students with valuable experience of this important component, working from primary sources. At the Design Museum we saw the exhibition 'Rebel'- 30 years of London Fashion sponsored by Alexander McQueen. This landmark exhibition

is one of the most wide-ranging surveys of contemporary fashion culture ever staged in the UK, offering an unprecedented look at how careers in fashion are forged, and the multitude of opportunities London's fashion scene offers young creatives. Other exhibitions also visited were the first major UK exhibition to map the design evolution of the skateboard from the 1950s to today – a story of design, performance and communities progressing together. The Eco Architecture exhibition and the Designer Maker User exhibition was also seen on this fully packed day of activities.



After a tour of the Design Museum we took a sight-seeing walk along the Millennium Bridge and the South Bank and had some lunch, before visiting the Tate Modern Gallery. This was a fantastic, inspiring creative experience for our students who had a blast!

Melissa Witherow, Team Leader of Textiles

Computer Science Success

Computer Science students were busy entering lots of competitions with great success....

DressCode's Halloween Coding Competition: Sibling Duo Clinches Success

A dynamic brother-sister duo, Hannah Carr (11Sherborne) and Jacob Carr (13Sherborne) earned accolades in DressCode's Halloween Coding Competition. Their separate entries in game design earned them prizes, with each receiving a "Tobbie the Self-Guiding AI Robot." This achievement highlights the creativity and innovation fostered within our Computer Science students.



BEBRAS Competition Champions Announced

Congratulations to our "Best in School" winners for this year's BEBRAS competition:

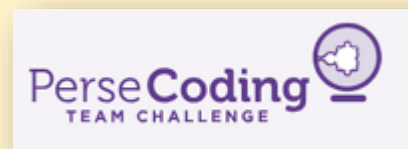
- Juniors: James Botham (7Sherborne)
- Intermediates: Benjamin Welch (8Story)
- Elite: Max Sydenham (13Andrewes)

Furthermore, Bishop Luffa had an outstanding 62 students ranking in the top 10% nationally, out of 408,339 participants. These students were invited to compete in the Oxford University Computing Challenge, with special commendation to Austin Belderson (9Wilson) for achieving a Distinction certificate.



Perse Coding Team Challenge: GCSE Students Showcase Programming Prowess

Our GCSE Computer Science students participated in the Perse Coding Team Challenge, testing their programming skills against teams from across the UK. The competition aimed for the prestigious Braben Cup, showcasing our students' dedication to excellence.



DressCode Christmas Coding Competition Winners Announced

Celebrating further triumph in DressCode competitions, we were delighted to announce the success of Dasha Holoshchapova (7Burrows), Lidiia Sydorenko (11Story), Solomon Sutton (10Ridgeway), and Nathan Goodge (10Otter). Each of them secured a prize for their outstanding entries in their Christmas Coding Competition. Their innovative contributions earned them the coveted "Tobbie the Self-Guiding AI Robot" prize, showcasing their creativity and proficiency in coding. Congratulations to these talented individuals for their remarkable achievements!

Helen Williams, Team Leader – Computer Science

Pen Pals

When we returned after the Christmas holidays we had a lovely surprise. Our pen pals' letters had arrived! Our Spanish friends had been very busy writing lovely letters to us about their Christmas traditions. We learnt a lot about how Spanish people celebrate Christmas, what food they eat and when they give each other presents. This term it was our turn to write to them. For the Year 8s this was the first time writing a letter in Spanish so their



letters were about themselves. They told their Spanish friends what personality they have, what type of activities they do in their free time, even the colour of their hair and eyes! For the Year 9 cohort, this was the third time they wrote to them so we talked about our holidays. Where we like to go in the summer, what we do when the weather is nice and even what flavour ice cream we prefer. All in Spanish of course!

Elizabeth López Gamero, Team Leader of Spanish

Bishop Luffa marks Holocaust Memorial Day

At the start of term Bishop Luffa spent time reflecting on the horrors of the Holocaust, as we approached Holocaust Memorial Day. Students had assemblies that explained the importance of Holocaust Memorial Day, including genocides that have occurred since 1945, and also the persecution faced by other groups within Nazi Germany. Students also heard from Harry Appleby and Tom Miller (both Year 13) about their recent visit to Auschwitz with the Holocaust Memorial Trust, and the significance of this site.



Beyond this, all students helped to create a piece of display work that celebrates the freedom that we often take for granted. This was displayed in the Bartlett Hall as a reminder of the freedoms we have, and that others lost.

We were also fortunate to gain places for a screening of the animated film "Where is Anne Frank" at New Park Cinema, which was attended by a group of Year 9 students led by Mr Petts and Mrs Shuttleworth. As some of them wrote, *'Our trip to New Park Cinema for 'Chichester Marks Holocaust Memorial Day' helped grow our understanding of the damage that the Nazis did to average people's lives during the Holocaust. We will be open minded and be able to notice situations where people's rights are threatened, and be able to try to stop it. We thought the film was moving and it also made us more emotionally aware of the experiences of the Jews and other groups that Hitler tried to discriminate against and persecute.'*

It is important that we reflect on the horrors of the past so that we can strive to help avoid such things happening again. Students were attentive in assembly, and showed a great sense of maturity at the screening of the film, and my thanks must go to all the staff who have supported the important work we do to help remember these terrible events.

Justin Barnett, Head of Humanities

Students enjoy visit from popular author Stewart Foster



On Thursday 8th February Year 7 and 8 students had a visit from popular author Stewart Foster. Stewart has published several books for young people to inspire empathy and kindness.

Stewart draws his inspiration from his best friend who has OCD who he has based his character named Alex on in the book *All the Things That Could Go Wrong*. Stewart shared his writing process and answered questions from students about his writing journey and what inspires him. Students then had an opportunity to have their books signed by the author. Thank you to Portsmouth Schools Library Service and Hayling Island books for supplying copies of Stewart's books.

Veronica Shuttleworth, School Librarian

A thought-provoking trip to Berlin

In February 50 History students from Years 10-13 travelled to Berlin for a four-day visit. The trip started at Wannsee, visiting the villa where the Nazis decided, in 1942, on the Final Solution. To stand in the room where such a terrible decision was made brought a chill to many, as did the accompanying information. The peaceful lakeside setting was in stark contrast to the reason why the house is known.

It was then off to the Olympic Stadium, built for the 1936 games. Expert guides gave us a tour that covered both the history of the site and its current use as a sporting venue. Conflicted opinions abounded

as students realised that the building was im-

pressive, but that this was also what the Nazis intended visitors to believe. We then travelled to the Brandenburg Gate and up into the dome of the Bundestag building, to admire great views of the city at dusk, and amazing architecture.

Finally we headed to Mercedes Platz for a chilly visit to the Berlin Wall, and some shopping time, before a hearty meal and a tram journey back to the hotel.



Saturday dawned damp and drizzly, perfect weather in fact for a visit to Sachsenhausen Concentration Camp. The weather set the tone perfectly, and fitted the sense of misery that hung over the site. It was a sobering experience to hear about the death rates, and to visit the remains of a gas chamber amongst other things.

There was obvious academic value in the trip, supporting as it did our studies in GCSE and A Level History. However, beyond this, it was an important visit to help students understand just how important it is that we don't forget the horrors of the past. They saw sites that bring home the fragility of freedom, and will help the realise the importance of the subject for a whole range of reasons.

Justin Barnett, Head of Humanities

Woodwind Success at Chichester Music Festival

Congratulations to the Bishop Luffa Woodwind students who took part in the Chichester Music Festival. The students were entered by Emma Milne, their woodwind teacher.

- Rebecca King (8Otter) solo clarinet, marked Commended.
- Ben Taylor (9Ridgeway) and Maurice Hatton (9Wilson) saxophone duet, marked Commended and Winners of a gold medal.
- Isabelle Fletcher (8Burrows) and Ellie Fletcher (8Andrewes) clarinet duet, marked Merit, bronze medal awarded.
- Anna McCallum (7King) flute Solo, Merit.
- Tom Peregrin (10Andrewes) clarinet solo, Merit.
- Max McCallum (9King) clarinet solo, Commended.
- Sam McCallum (12King) saxophone solo, Merit.



Jane Bowen-Melfi, Head of Music

Year 10 Work Experience Week

Year 10 students completed a week of work experience just before February half term. A valuable part of the students' careers education throughout their time at Bishop Luffa, this is an opportunity for students to develop employability skills and find out about the world of work.

Students worked hard to secure their placements and successfully organised work place experiences with a whole range of employers including: Arun Vets, Barfoots, Chichester Community Development Trust, Chichester College, Chichester Golf Club, Chichester University, Goodwood, Heirlooms, HNW Architects, Marks and Spencer, Petworth House, SGN, St Richards Hospital Superdrug and many more. Several students returned to their old primary schools to find out more about working in education and both the ex-students and their primary teachers enjoyed catching up with each other again. Overall, the week was a huge success.

Some of the highlights identified by students during their placements included: keeping physically active, going in the ships and docks, building bikes, soldering, choosing artwork for an exhibition, helping with the animals, learning how to use photoshop, social media management, being outdoors all day, statistics, the people, and teaching children.

Employers were impressed with the students commenting: 'had great customer service skills', 'polite and well mannered', 'naturally intuitive', 'the whole team was extremely impressed', 'an excellent ambassador for your school', 'an exceptional and delightful student', 'very keen to learn and work'.

Some students were offered part time jobs and further work experience opportunities. We are very proud of all the Year 10 students for making the most of their work experience and for being excellent ambassadors for Bishop Luffa School.

Reflections from Tom Congalton (10King):

"My work experience at Birdham Primary School was thoroughly enjoyable. In the months anticipating it, there was a little frisson - 'Aren't I a bit immature to work? Won't the adults look down on me? How different will it be to school?' but when I got there all of that flew out the window. They took me seriously and kept me very busy. The kids were great fun too. It impacted me by making me consider becoming a teacher. It also taught me discipline, time management and showed me that work isn't as scary as I first thought. I'd highly recommend it to anybody who enjoys working with kids, but to nobody who likes order and control rather than chaos and mischief! I can't think of anything to improve Bishop Luffa work experience other than having less PHSE lessons building up to it. We have two but one is enough."



Angie Hopp, Careers Coordinator

Green Power F24 Team News

In the world of Green Power racing, where innovation meets sustainability on the race track, the Bishop Luffa F24 Team showcased true determination and teamwork on their practice day at the renowned Goodwood race track on Sunday 25th February. Battling through relentless rain and enduring what can only be described as a test of their resolve, the team emerged victorious, claiming the top spot in their category. Despite challenging weather conditions, the Bishop Luffa Green Power team demonstrated their commitment to excellence and their passion for the sport. With each member contributing their expertise and dedication, they navigated the slippery track with precision and skill, showcasing their ability to adapt to adverse conditions.



"It was a long and challenging day, but our team really pulled together," remarked team Leader, Luke Pendry (8Ridgeway). "We knew it wouldn't be easy with the weather against us, but we refused to let that dampen our spirits. We live by the motto of living life in all its fullness, and today, we truly embodied that spirit."

Their hard work and resilience paid off as they crossed the finish line in first place in their category during their second practice session, marking a well-deserved victory for the Bishop Luffa Green Power F24 Team. Their triumph serves as a testament to the power of teamwork, dedication, and the unwavering pursuit of excellence. As they celebrate their success, the team looks forward to future heat competitions with renewed confidence and determination. With their sights set on even greater achievements, they continue to inspire others with their passion for Green Power racing and their unwavering commitment to pushing the boundaries of what's possible.



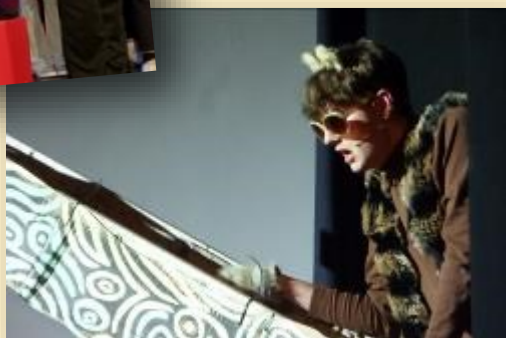
In Green Power racing, where every twist and turn presents a new challenge, the Bishop Luffa Green Power F24 Team has proven that with teamwork and determination, anything is possible.

James Bonney, Head of Design & Technology

Alice! The Musical

As part of the school's 60th Anniversary celebrations, the Drama department revived the school production *Alice! The Musical* based on Lewis Carroll's works. It was a pleasure for us to work with such a dedicated and talented cast and technical crew and an amazing show band which was entirely made up of students from the school, under the direction of Mrs Bowen-Melfi, Head of Music.

We were really excited to know that Julia Donaldson was in the audience alongside our governors and guests. She really enjoyed the performance and said "it's always lovely to see young people putting their heart and soul into singing and acting".



This was a special production for us as a school. It was first performed at Bishop Luffa in 1988 having been adapted into a stage play by Barry Smith who worked at the school as Head of English and Drama. We were delighted that the original actor who played Alice in the 1988 version was able to join us in the audience and presented the flowers to Erin Selves who played Alice in our 2024 version during the curtain call! It was also so exciting to have the music written especially for us by David Glasson who has long been associated with the Bonzo

Dog Doo-Dah Band. The show was a rollercoaster of madness and mayhem as only Carroll could imagine. This year we included a matinee for primary schools and we ran for four nights. We all worked incredibly hard and we are delighted that the production was such a great success.

Nicky Furnell, Team Leader - Drama

Immersive Labs Cybersecurity Visit

Sabrina, a cybersecurity expert from Immersive Labs, visited students from Year 10 to Year 13, sharing her journey into the field and insights into cybersecurity careers. She highlighted the diverse opportunities within cybersecurity and discussed prevalent threats like ransomware attacks. Sabrina introduced the students to Immersive Labs' Prompt Injection Challenge, providing a hands-on experience to learn about prompt injection vulnerabilities. Her engaging session left students inspired to explore cybersecurity further and consider future careers in the field.



Helen Williams, Team Leader of Computer Science

Spanish Exchange Programme

What a week full of unforgettable memories! This is the second year that we run an exchange programme with our partner school (Nuryana School) in Tenerife, Spain. This year we hosted 24 students from Year 9, 10 and 12 and welcomed three fantastic and dedicated Spanish teachers. It has been a wonderful experience with plenty of remarkable moments.

Our Spanish friends really enjoyed studying in an English school, eating English food and sharing and comparing their customs and traditions with us. We all went to London together and saw the top sights and also enjoyed a boat tour of Portsmouth Harbour, visited the HMS and the Victory and the museum. We finished the visit with a delicious fish and chips lunch in a traditional English pub. Our visitors spent time with their host families, some went to Brighton,

others went bowling and they all made the most of the glorious weather.

One popular activity among the students was playing football in the park after school. The majority of students and all Spanish teachers saw our production "Alice!" and were amazed by the quality of the show and the amount of work involved. They left thinking how they could do something similar in Spain. Special mention goes to Adrián González, who along with his English friend Thomas Bacon, was happily involved in the show every day of the week.



Elizabeth López Gamero

Team Leader of Spanish and International School Coordinator

Maths Feast 2024

In March two teams of Year 10 mathematicians from Bishop Luffa competed against their opposite numbers from Chichester High School, Ormiston Six Villages Academy and St Philip Howard Catholic School in a series of problems ranging from quizzing, through logic puzzles and crossnumber (the mathematical sibling of crossword), to construction of 3D models of cubes and even rhombic decahedra (3D shapes with 10 faces, each of which is a rhombus!) The competition spanned five rounds in total, and featured problems and exercises designed to show off lots of different areas of GCSE mathematics, as well as to provide some real-world context for where this maths might be useful in the future education and career paths of the students. Of course, when all is said and done, competitions have winners. I am beyond proud to announce that Bishop Luffa School and our students walked away with the following prizes:

- WINNERS of the TV quizzing challenge
- WINNERS of the crossnumber challenge
- HIGHLY COMMENDED in ALL rounds of the event

Huge congratulations to Jennifer Fitzgerald (10Story), Kathy Nightingale (10Burrows), Hayley Martin (10Wilson), Harry Kemp (10Sherborne), Austin Uphill (10King), Ned Coles (10Sherborne and Tom Vosper (10King) for their tremendous work ethic and application of mathematical knowledge across the whole event.

Damien Clarke, Teacher of Mathematics

Shakespeare School Festival

Congratulations to Bishop Luffa Drama Club who participated in the Shakespeare School Festival, performing *The Tempest* at The New Theatre Royal in Portsmouth. With three other schools contributing other adaptations of Shakespeare plays, the evening was a wonderful celebration. It was a fantastic opportunity for us, sharing our retelling of this delightful tale of magic and mystery in a professional theatre with a live audience. The performance was the culmination of months of rehearsal, exploring the play, developing characters, blocking the action, learning lines and gathering costumes, under the guidance of Spencer Dixon our Sixth Form director. It was such a positive and rewarding experience for our students. We very much hope to continue to be involved in the festival next year.



The Shakespeare School's Festival founder and creator of the BBC Shakespeare Animated Tales, Chris Grace, has written a letter to Spencer Dixon recognising the quality of his contribution as Director of *The Tempest*. Spencer had worked with our Drama Club developing the piece since September in preparation for our performance at the New Theatre Royal Portsmouth. He said *'There was active*

free flowing lyricism of movement and I liked the way the cast were used imaginatively to create structures' and then added *'the whole cast were committed, on cue, and worked together seamlessly...Above all, you let Shakespeare's words convey the narrative'*. He concluded by saying, *'your version was spot on'*. This is praise indeed. We wish Spencer all the best as he continues his study of acting toward a career in the theatre industry.

Nicky Furnell, Team Leader of Drama

Rugby County Cup Success

In March the Year 8 and Year 9 Bishop Luffa Boys Rugby teams ventured to a windy and grey Brighton RFC for the County Cup Finals. Both teams had only lost one game leading into this climactic event, with the Year 8s winning against Downlands and St Oscar Romero to reach the final. Whilst the Year 9s beat a very physical Weald team in the final play to make it to the big dance.



The Year 8s were up first against a very well organised Kings School, Brighton, who came out of the blocks fast and led by two tries in the first few minutes. However, as the game built into its flow the team found their rhythm and continuously stretched their opponents. Huge performances by the whole team led to the Year 8s winning the plate final 25-20. The Year 9s braved the wind and rain during their game against a physical opponent Dorothy Stringer, Brighton. From the off the team knew they would need to work hard and front up against their 'strong' opposite numbers. The game flowed well with Luffa showing strength and width in attack. However, the raw power of their opponents was the eventual deciding force with Dorothy Stringer winning 41-15. A huge success for both teams and an amazing experience for all those involved.

Tom Blewitt, Teacher of PE

Forest School with the Goodwood Education Trust

This year 24 Year 7 to 9 students (including those with Special Educational Needs and English as an additional language) have been enjoying regular trips to Forest School with the Goodwood Education Trust.

Forest Schools aim to enable all children, young people and adults to grow their confidence and skills and to enjoy making the most of being outside in the natural world. Goodwood's Forest School offers calm, enriching outdoor learning experiences in beautiful farmland and woodland. Experiences range from farm trips to a wide range of woods-based activities, all a stone's throw from Goodwood House and the Home Farm. Feedback from everyone going to Forest School has been overwhelmingly positive.

They have really liked seeing the animals, including brand-new Gloucester Old Spot piglets, deep-red Sussex calves and a lot of extremely springy Southdown lambs. They also enjoyed the chance to relax outside, 'cook' in a very muddy mud kitchen, enjoy crafts, games and activities in the fresh air and make delicious snacks on the fire.

Susie Cooke, EAL Coordinator

LAMDA at Luffa

The Spring term was a very busy time for LAMDA students at Bishop Luffa School. In late January a number of candidates competed in the Chichester Festival for Music, Dance and Speech at Oakwood School resulting in wins, placings and successful performances from all students who entered.



This was closely followed by the first exam round taken by 40 students in February achieving a 100% pass rate with 87% gaining a distinction. Luke, Charlie and I would like to congratulate all candidates for working so hard and well done to students who gained their bronze, silver or gold medal, accumulating valuable UCAS points! A great result. Finally, congratulations to Tom Congalton who is the recipient of the Bishop Luffa LAMDA Cup 2024.

Angela Watkins, LAMDA Teacher

Chichester College's STEMFest 2024: Igniting STEM Passion

Chichester College's STEMFest 2024 in March was a thrilling immersion into Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM). With 33 Year 7 and Year 8 students in tow, the event offered:

- 3D air drawing
- Recycling challenges
- F1 Race simulations
- Virtual and Augmented Reality experiences
- Hologram tent exploration
- eSports competitions

STEMFest sparked curiosity, inspiring students for future STEM careers in an engaging and dynamic environment.

Helen Williams, Team Leader of Computer Science



Some Egg-scellent Historians!

In History Year 7 were working on their annual 'egg-stravaganza' (!) of turning the humble egg into a historical tableau. With suitable motivation in the form of an Easter Egg prize for the winners, students created historical characters and scenes using eggs as the focal point. Some egg-stremely (!) egg-sciting (!) scene were laid (!) on, ranging from Albert Eggstein through to an egg-based depiction of Charles II's flight after the Battle of Worcester, where he scrambled (!) to flee from Cromwell's forces.

Although a light-hearted activity, it just shows how historical understanding can be communicated in different ways, and encourages students to think creatively about the subject.

Justin Barnett, Head of Humanities



Interhouse Dance Finals 2024

This year's Interhouse Dance Finals took place in March. The competition saw a large number of students enter dances into the heats and due to stiff competition the top four from each year group performed in front of a panel of external judges; Rachael Boarer (founder of RnB Dance Company, alongside Bishop Luffa alumni Lucy Keeping (studying Dance at the University of Chichester) and Rebekah Leggatt (dance and musical theatre teacher at Italia Conti). The audience also had the opportunity to vote as the fourth judge and the collated results including scores from the heats are below.

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	KS4
1 st – King 2 nd – Sherborne 3 rd - Andrewes 4th - Burrows	1 st – Wilson 2 nd – Burrows 3 rd - Andrewes 4th - Story	1 st – Andrewes (Jive) 2 nd – Andrewes 3 rd – King 4th - Story	1 st – Burrows

	Andrewes	Burrows	King	Otter	Ridgeway	Sherborne	Story	Wilson
Final Totals	27	20	16	4	2	7	10	8
Position	1st	2nd	3rd	7th	8th	6th	4th	5th

This year, for the 60th anniversary, we introduced a new House cup for the House with the most participants across all year groups and the first ever winners were **Burrows House!** Mr Hindman also had the pleasure of announcing the overall Interhouse Dance winners for 2024 - **Andrewes House!** The competition event had a great atmosphere with friends, family and staff rallying behind the dancers. Thanks to all who came to support the event, it was a spectacular showcase of talent and demonstrated the passion and dedication the students have at Bishop Luffa for dance and a great way to end the term on a high. Well done to all those involved!

After recently returning from maternity leave it has been a pleasure to see the talent of a new Year 7 cohort alongside dancers from Year 8, 9 and 10. How time flies! It is evident a lot of hard work has gone into the rehearsals and there was some very technical choreography and the standard was extremely high this year. There are some really talented performers at the school and it was such an enjoyable evening.

Jenny Feakins-Taylor, Teacher of Dance



Students' Sporting Achievements



Jonty Harwood-Webb (11Burrows) won the Southern Counties Boxing Championships in October 2023. He then boxed in the semi-finals of the National Development Championships gaining a bronze medal.



Samuel Machell (8Burrows) took part in the Irish Nationals in Northern Ireland. Samuel was one of 16 sailors chosen to be part of the GBR Junior Team 2023.



Charlie Gran (12Burrows) had great success at this year's 29er World Sailing Championships and was selected to represent Great Britain at the ISAF World Championships in Brazil.

Arran Goode (11Story) and Finlay Rustell (11Ridgeway) played in the final of the U16 Champions League cricket final, playing for Chichester PPCC.



Matty Mainwaring (9Sherborne) was selected to represent Brighton & Hove Albion in their tour of the Czech Republic against teams including Bayern Munich.



Jack Challen (7Ridgeway) was selected to be part of Sussex Cricket's U12 development pathway.



Alex Ponte (7Burrows), Ollie Robst (8Wilson), Alex Wilkes (7Burrows) and Charlie Johnson (8Sherborne) came 1st in both their races at the Sussex Schools County Championships, the fastest boys school team of swimmers in Year 7 and 8 across the county.



Hannah Day (11Ridgeway) competed in the Welsh Winter National Swimming Championships and did extremely well, coming away with a National Silver medal in the 1500m freestyle, and three Bronze medals in the 400m freestyle, 100m freestyle and 100m butterfly.

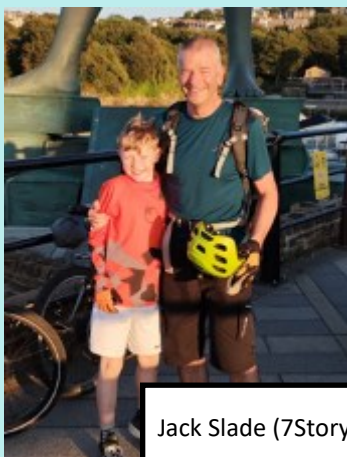


Elsie Huxtable (7Ridgeway) competed in the Sussex County Swimming Championships in October, completing eight races and coming away with six medals. Elsie is now the Sussex Champion in her age group for 50m butterfly and 100m individual medley. Elsie also took part in the South East Regional Championships in May, winning a bronze in the 100m breaststroke.

Charlie Mealing (10Otter), Matthew Board (10Andrewes) and Olaf Storton (9Ridgeway) represented Bosham Sailing Club at the Topper National Sailing Series.



Sam Machell (8Burrows) represented Great Britain at the 34th International 2024 Vila de Palamos Optimist Trophy Regatta, qualifying for the Bronze Fleet in the Final Series.



Elodie Hill (9King) competed in the English Schools Cross Country Championships for Sussex and finished 100th out of 339 runners.

Jack Slade (7Story) completed a coast-to-coast cycle in Devon with his dad, riding from Plymouth to Ilfracombe – 105 miles – in one day!

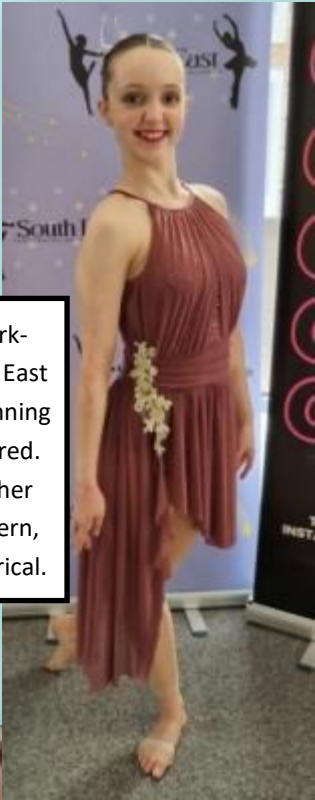
Alex Sydenham (11Andrewes) and Max Sydenham (13Andrewes) were selected for the British Sailing team in the 29er class. This team recognises their potential to succeed at the highest level in Youth and Olympic sailing and represent Great Britain at the European and World Championships.



Thomas Francis (9King) and Charlie Francis (7King) competed in the National Mountain Bike Downhill Series. Thomas is currently ranked 4th in the country.



Niamh Clark-Lyons (9King) and Indi Clark-Lyons (7King) took part in the CYD South East Performing Arts Challenge for Dance, winning medals in every category that they entered. Indi's Modern Dance won 2nd place in her category. Niamh won 1st place for Modern, 2nd place for Ballet and 2nd place for Lyrical.



Charlie Gran (12Burrows) had a fantastic summer winning overall Men's Silver medal and Bronze medal overall in this year's European Championships in Poland. This was followed by the equivalent of the Youth Olympics where his team finished up in the Silver medal position.



Ben Stewart (9Andrewes) finished 19th out of 343 runners in the National English Schools Cross Country Championships and was part of the Sussex Junior Boys team who came 1st.

Amelia McGurk (13Ridgeway) collected two medals at this year's Sussex Athletics County Championships – her efforts in the U20 400m gained her a superb 2nd place Silver and a Gold in the U20/ Senior 4 x 100m Relay. In her final Sussex Schools Championships Amelia had a great weekend running season's bests in both the 200m and 400m coming away with Bronze and Silver medals respectively.



Reuben Shewan (8Wilson) qualified to represent Sussex at the English Schools Regional Combined Athletics Competition in June. Reuben came 4th out of 17 athletes.

News

Summer 2024

- ◆ Sports Tour 2024
- ◆ Eid Celebrations
- ◆ National Choir Competition – the Results are in!
- ◆ News from the Spanish Department
- ◆ International Training Programme
- ◆ Remembering D-Day
- ◆ Celebrating Dance at Bishop Luffa
- ◆ Christian Union have fun at the Christian Youth Enterprise (CYE)
- ◆ Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award
- ◆ The Big Hoot
- ◆ Ollie awarded The Spirit of Cricket
- ◆ Students have fun in Greece
- ◆ Fruition 2024
- ◆ Students enjoy Jam Café on Enterprise Day
- ◆ Story House win House Drama Finals
- ◆ TeenTech Finals 2024
- ◆ Year 10 undertake Mock Interviews
- ◆ Students perform at Youth Orchestra Concert
- ◆ Chicken Club
- ◆ Bishop Luffa Shines at Schools Sailing Week
- ◆ Year 7 visit the Winchester Science Centre
- ◆ What an amazing week we had in Tenerife!
- ◆ Year 11 Prom
- ◆ Bishop Luffa Celebrates its 60th Anniversary
- ◆ La Diva Summer Soiree at The Guildhall
- ◆ Cup Winners & Head Teacher Awards

Sports Tour 2024

Over the Easter holidays 36 energetic students travelled across the Bay of Biscay to Barcelona for the school's second ever international sports tour. The group enjoyed scorching weather conditions, a PortAventura Theme Park excursion, local Spanish football fixtures, inter school football and netball competitions and a day out in Barcelona and a tour around the Barcelona Olympic stadium in scorching weather conditions.



Our travelling teams performed magnificently in their local fixtures with the U13 Football narrowly losing vs Montroig FC 3-4 and our U14 Football winning emphatically vs CF Cunnit 5-1. In addition, the Netball and Football teams represented the school to the highest levels in their end of trip Masterclass Tournaments with the U14 Netball coming 5th, U13 Football also coming 5th and U14 narrowly missing out on the big cup and coming 2nd on penalties. There were awards presented throughout the week: U13 Netball - Masterclass Player of the Week – Megan McGlone (8Ridgeway); Coach's Player of the Week – Amy King (8King); Masterclass Tournament Player's Player – Isabella Lendrum (8Burrows) and Juliette Stangroom (8Ridgeway); U13 Football - Masterclass Player of the Week – Isaac Searle (8Burrows); Coach's Player of the Week – Monty Wignall-Jones (8Sherborne); Player's Player vs Montroig FC – Freddie Hollingworth (8Otter); Masterclass Tournament Player – Finlay Squires (8Wilson); U14 Football - Masterclass Player of the Week – Billy Netley-Harris (9Andrewes); Coach's Player of the Week – Finn Schmidtschneider (9Ridgeway); Player's Player vs FC Cunnit – Ross Muvuti (9Otter); Masterclass Tournament Player – Josh Pressdee (9Wilson); Top Tourists 2024 – Monty Smith (9Ridgeway), Max Gayle (8Burrows) and Isaac Briffa (9Wilson).



Tom Blewitt, Teacher of PE

Eid Celebrations



Tutor time on Thursday 18th April with 9Ridgeway included a special celebration as they hosted a party in the Bridge Club to celebrate Eid, led by Mr Godfray and Sahar Al Kadri (9Ridgeway). The party featured Eid music and Eid bunting, snacks, chocolates and balloons, as well as a short speech by Ghalia Tomeh(10Burrows) about the meaning of Ramadan and Eid. Twelve of our students across the different school years have been observing Ramadan, which culminated with the sighting of the moon and Eid ul-Fitr on 10th April. Special invitations

were designed and delivered to invite them all to join with 9Ridgeway. Everyone enjoyed the chance to try a selection of delicious Eid treats kindly baked by Sahar's mum, including ma'amoul (butter cookies filled with chopped dates), seed biscuits and warm puff-pastry triangles stuffed with rose-scented curd cheese. It was a true privilege to be together. Eid Mubarak!

Susie Cooke, EAL Coordinator & Angela Smith, Assistant Head Teacher, Spiritual Direction

National Choir Competition – the Results are in!

In January we entered our Luffa *La Diva* choir into the National Choir Competition. The results are in ... *La Diva* scored 88/100 which earned them a Silver award (they missed the Gold award by 2 marks!). This is a wonderful achievement as at the point of entry the choir had only been together less than a year and it is their first competition.

This is what the UK Schools Music Festival adjudicator Victoria Simmonds had to say, "Thank you for this lovely performance of *Never Enough* from the *Greatest Showman* and *City of Stars* from *La La Land*. I really enjoyed listening to your well-balanced show choir. The moments when you all burst out into multiple harmonies are really special, and it was really nice to hear those moments of quiet unison as well. You followed your conductor very well, whether she was playing or conducting you – well done! The synchronisation of your consonants was really good – you clearly are excellent at listening to each other. It sounded like one voice at times."



Jane Bowen-Melfi, Head of Music

News from the Spanish Department

Our partner school from Spain, Nuryana School, paid us a visit at the beginning of May, and we were extremely happy to host them and spend the whole day together. We had 140 Spanish students and a lovely group of Spanish teachers. Our Year 8 enjoyed doing language activities with them but the highlight of the day was that they got to



meet their pen pals in person. The weather was fantastic so we ended the day teaching them how to play rounders and making an art project to decorate our classrooms. Our members of the International Team played an important role making sure that everything run smoothly and keeping everyone happy. Well done! We have been doing this for three years now so we decided to take a group photo together to mark our tradition. It was so many of us that it was a challenge to fit everyone in!

Year 7 started studying Spanish this half term and took part in a language competition called "Mafalda". Quino was an Argentinian illustrator whose comics were very famous around the world. His main character was a very intelligent and rebel girl called "Mafalda". Students in Year 7 have learnt about the Mafalda comics and the messages of peace and love that Mafalda has been spreading around the world for many years. The winner of the competition was Effie Watson in 7Sherborne - congratulations Effie! Effie's creation was not only beautiful, it also has her favourite Mafalda's quote. We are giving the best Mafaldas in the whole year to our partner school in Spain so their students in Year 7 can start to know us better. We are sure the Spanish students will love their present!



Elizabeth López Gamero, Team Leader of Spanish & International School Coordinator

International Training Programme

As part of the Bishop Luffa International Training Programme, we hosted four trainee teachers from South Korea, who were part of a delegation to the University of Chichester from the Ministry of Education in South Korea. During their stay they observed a variety of lessons, undertook training sessions and also taught some cultural and language lessons to our students.



On the first day, we prepared a little welcome ceremony for them and decorated the school library with traditional Korean Costumes to make them feel at home. We also bought them some English tea and shortbread biscuits to enjoy at break time. Our wonderful librarian, Mx Thomas allowed us to use the library every lunch time to share lunch with them and learn about Korean culture. We learnt about their language, traditions and even about Korean pop music.

Elizabeth López-Gamero, Team Leader of Spanish & International School Coordinator

Remembering D-Day



With the 80th anniversary of D-Day approaching, a group of Year 9 students took a trip to the D-Day Story Museum in Portsmouth to help grow their understanding of Operation Overlord. The museum helped students understand the monumental effort that was the Normandy landings by walking them through the extensive planning and build up to the invasion of Normandy, sharing the experiences of the allied forces on the beaches and discussing the impact that D-Day had in bringing the Second World War to a conclusion. The students were curious, excellently behaved and their reflections on why D-Day was so crucial were thoughtful. Highlights included the 83-metre-long Overlord Embroidery and the excellently restored LCT-7074, the last surviving Landing Craft Tank from D-Day.

Justin Barnett, Head of Humanities

Celebrating Dance at Bishop Luffa

The Dance department were very busy with lots of dance events. These included a visit from *3fall* Dance company, the 3rd year degree students from the University of Chichester. They led an inspiring workshop with a group of students from Years 9 to 13.

We also hosted our annual dance event to showcase performances and choreographies from students in Years 7 to 13. This was a wonderful evening and we were very proud of all the students who performed dances that were produced both in lessons and in extra-curricular clubs and activities.

Our amazing Year 13 A Level students also had their final practical exam. They performed solo and group performances and presented their final group choreographies. They were ably supported by a number of talented dancers from Years 10, 11 and 12. Year 10 BTEC Dance students performed at Dance House at the Pavilion Theatre in Worthing. They performed really well and were a credit to the school.

Jo Lawlor, Head of Arts Faculty and Team Leader for Dance



Christian Union have fun at the Christian Youth Enterprise (CYE)



In May Bishop Luffa Christian Union headed off on their residential weekend to the CYE centre in Chidham. It was a fantastic weekend, jam-packed with land and water activities, plenty of singing, fellowship, and lots of great food. Students arrived on Friday, and it wasn't long before they were playing football, and enjoying a camp fire with obligatory s'mores. It was that evening, we all realised that Mrs Bradberry and Andy Morgan could give Harry Kane a run for his money!

On Saturday, we got the opportunity to go sailing and kayaking. It was fantastic, as many of the CYE leaders were previous, or current, Bishop Luffa Students. It very much felt like a family reunion. We managed to fit in some crabbing before dinner, and I can confirm no crabs were harmed! This was followed by singing, testimonies, and games from 'One Church' in Emsworth. We managed to sing what is fast becoming the school anthem, 'My Lighthouse', on the CYE boat - a Bishop Luffa first! We ended the evening with the option of watching a movie in the snug, or playing some games. On our final day, we had a go at tunnelling and marshmallow archery, followed by a wonderful Sunday roast. The students represented the school incredibly well, and we were very proud of them. It was very much a weekend where we experienced *'life in all its fullness'*.



Claire Duke, Head of RE

Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award

This year we have our biggest ever cohort working towards their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award and it has been a pleasure to work with all of the students. In April the Year 10 students embark on their Practice Expedition, walking from West Dean to Upwaltham. The weather was not particularly kind, with the worst winds and rain ever experienced on an expedition, but this did not dampen their spirits in any way! The groups were absolutely fantastic at showcasing their navigation, campcraft, cooking and teamwork skills; and we as a team were really proud of their achievement.



In June 44 of our students took part in their Bronze Award Expedition weekend. This time we were blessed with the perfect weather conditions and we, as a team, are so incredibly proud of the students for successfully completing their final expedition. The assessors were impressed with their teamwork skills, and despite a few occasions where some groups were 'temporarily off their routes', all groups passed. Thank you to everyone involved with the Bronze award this year, we couldn't provide this opportunity for students without you.

Kat Wells, Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Coordinator

The Big Hoot



Bishop Luffa students took part in an exciting event taking place in Chichester and Arundel this summer. It's called *The Big Hoot* and is a sculpture trail of lots of different owls painted by local artists and schools to raise money for Chestnut Tree House. This is a fantastic charity which gives hope and support to many local children and their families and is supported by Ridgeway House. The Art department held a competition for the design of our owl which was won by Molly Stanhope (7Wilson). Students decided to combine ideas from other designs as well and the owl was painted by students before it went on display in Chichester.



Well done to all the students who were involved in creating it including Molly Stanhope (7Wilson), Jamie Botham (7Sherborne), Lucy Green (7Otter), Bebe Oliver (7Otter), Imogen Smith (10Otter), Alexandra Rattray (10King), Erin Pullen (12Sherborne) and Anja Rose (12Wilson).

Laurelly Thorpe, Team Leader of Art

Ollie awarded The Spirit of Cricket

On a fresh morning at Chichester Priory Park Bishop Luffa welcomed the custodians of cricket, Marylebone Cricket Club for our annual cricket match. Bishop Luffa welcomed back captain for the day Ollie Fuller, and Andrew Crookham and Joe Fuller as part of a young and developing team who showed great fight and potential. Finlay Rustell (11Ridgeway) and Ollie Fuller opened the bowling and showed early hope, creating pressure for Ollie Bowman (10Ridgeway) to take the first wicket of the day within the first hour. Joe Fuller's off-spin then prised the second wicket and the team were buoyant with the MCC 90 for two wickets. The renowned high-quality batting from MCC put Bishop Luffa to the sword in the second half of the innings with great persistence from Kai Lendrum (10Burrows) and Andrew Crookham, and pressure was applied. There was great vibrancy and 'never say die' attitude in the field from Ezra Osborne (9Otter), Oscar Dutton (9Burrows) and Ron Renjith (10King).



Turners pies arrived at the perfect time for Bishop Luffa to recoup and speak to the MCC players to learn about their pathway through cricket and share stories.

Josh Pollock (9Story) and Ollie Bowman opened the batting off the back of scoring 75 and 48 in recent club and school innings. Luffa raced to 37 without loss with Bowman driving through cover and clipping through midwicket effortlessly. The partnership gave the team a great base before Pollock was caught at square leg and the team were unable to threaten the MCC total of 244. At the end of the match the MCC awarded Ollie Bowman with the 'Spirit of Cricket' award for his tight bowling and glorious opening batting display.

Tim Godfray, Team Leader of PE

Students have fun in Greece

26 students from Years 10, 11 and 12 flew to Greece on the Classics and Latin trip. We spent the first two days viewing many of the sites we study for Classical Civilisation A'Level including the Theatre of Dionysus and the Theatre of Thorikos. We were also able to enjoy the astounding Temple of Poseidon at Cape Sounion, The Acropolis and its museum, taking in the sight of the birthplace of Western democracy at the Pnyx and the hill from which St Paul preached, as well as seeing the main sights in Athens. Day 3 took us to Delphi with a brilliant guide who blew us all away, drawing connections between language, myths, geography, religious practices, art and literature.



Day 4 took us to the Ancient site of Olympia and everyone ran or walked the original running track that was first used there well over two and half millennia ago. We then stayed at the beautiful town of Nafplio and enjoyed some freedom exploring the shops and the water front. Our last morning took us to Mycenae and the Lion Gate and ancient beehive tomb of Atreus. We returned sun-warmed, well fed, and vastly enriched by all the culture and beauty we had seen.

Chloë Barnett, Teacher of Latin & Classical Civilisation

Fruition 2024

I do not know how we manage it, but we were blessed again with good weather on the evening of the Art Faculty's Annual *Fruition* showcase. Our fellow creatives from the Design and Technology Faculty joined in the celebrations for another year. The evening was a huge success with all departments showcasing their fantastic work.

Our audience were able to wander through the arts spaces and outside spaces absorbing the creative atmosphere. Family, friends and students viewed an Art Exhibition presenting the work of GCSE and A Level Art students, enjoyed Dance performances, watched some extracts from this year's House Drama Festival, and were fed and watered by our wonderful PFA. On the 'bandstand' there was a wide variety of musical performances from exam groups and extra-curricular Music clubs, and the Dance Studio became a cinema for the evening to showcase a range of GCSE Media Studies and A'Level Media Studies projects.

Design and Technology proudly presented a range of exhibits of products designed by students, plus there was a chance to buy crepes and waffles and find out more about the Green Power Team's car 'Mercury'. Awards were also handed out to the Ambassadors for Design and Technology 2024.

The event was also supported by our Technical Youth Theatre crew, led by Mr Green, who provided sound and lighting across the evening. It was a brilliant and vibrant celebration of the work that staff and students create across the Arts and DT subjects. I extend my thanks to all those involved and to the hard working PFA for providing the refreshments. Here's to Fruition 2025!

Jo Lawlor, Head of Arts Faculty



Students enjoy Jam Café on Enterprise Day



Students enjoyed making tie dye tote bags and clay pinch pots as part of their wellbeing session on House Drama and Enterprise Day.

Jam Café is a CIC, supporting Creative Beatz charity who provide alternative provision opportunities in the Arts for young people. It is open Monday to Friday from 4pm until 6pm as a drop-in youth café, offering art and music classes and local events. All of the students wanted to stay longer than their allocated session and several have said they will come back! With thanks to Sarah and Maddie for running the sessions.

Kate Christie, Assistant Headteacher - Wellbeing

Story House win House Drama Finals

We were delighted to announce that Story House were the winners of Bishop Luffa House Drama Festival 2024 with their engaging and emotive interpretation of *Blood Brothers*, directed by Tilly Groves (12Story).

Bishop Luffa's House Drama Festival started on Tuesday 25th June with the all-day Festival. It was a lively event again this year, with a great range of drama achieved by all eight Houses. The Festival is a showcase of performing talent, with Sixth Formers directing students from Years 7-10 in short play as part of a House competition.



The four finalists who performed to an audience of special guests, parents, carers and friends were: Andrewes House with *'Over the Wall'*, Burrows House with *'Fantastic Mr Fox'*, Story House with *'Blood Brothers'* and Otter House with *'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory'*.



Our judge this year was stage actress and previous parent of the school Isobel Arnett. Her feedback recognised the very high standard of performance work achieved by all four finalists. It was an electric evening and a wonderful celebration of Bishop Luffa Drama with a huge response from the audience and high tension during the judge's feedback at the end.

Nicky Furnell, Team Leader of Drama

TeenTech Finals 2024



In June Bella Wright (9Burrows) and Emmy Lamb (9Wilson) proudly represented our school at the TeenTech 2024 finals. The event, which gathers school teams from across the UK, was a remarkable platform for students to showcase their innovative projects and engage with industry experts.

Bella and Emmy's hard work and dedication did not go unnoticed. Their project attracted the attention of several industry professionals, earning them significant recognition. The event was also a fantastic opportunity for collaboration and networking, providing our students with valuable connections and insights into the world of technology and innovation.

In an outstanding achievement, Bella and Emmy walked away with three certificates, including the prestigious 'Best Ethical Thinker' award. This is a testament to their thoughtful approach and commitment to creating solutions with a positive impact. Congratulations to Bella and Emmy for their outstanding accomplishments!

James Bonney, Head of Design & Technology

Year 10 undertake Mock Interviews

For the third year in a row Bishop Luffa School and the Rotary Club of Chichester Priory have collaborated to deliver the mock interviews programme to Year 10 students. Over the three years, a total of 643 students have benefitted from the experience. The concept is that the first interview the students have should not be the one that matters.

This year the programme was delivered with the help of a pool of industry professionals who collectively over two days interviewed 215 students. The students prepared a short CV in advance, they were briefed by colleagues from the Rotary Club and then had one to one interviews and personal feedback to help them in future interview situations.

Organisations that supported us this year are Lewis Brownlee, Chichester Recruitment, The NHS, Chichester Community Development Trust, Chichester District Council, Pink Sauce Leasing, West Dean College, Tradermate Ltd, Millstream Productions, Wotter Group, Fincoco Financial Coaching, De 'Longhi Group, DEFRA, Optimum People, Algolia, BBC, Henry Adams and a group of independent professionals who gave of their time.



Angie Hopp, Careers Coordinator

Students perform at Youth Orchestra Concert

Four musicians from Bishop Luffa played at the inaugural performance of the newly formed South East Hants Youth Orchestra (out of about 30 musicians). Ben Webster (11Sherborne) was impressive as leader of the orchestra and Jasim Rahman (12Burrows) played the 1st movement of Grieg's Piano concerto which was a really outstanding performance.

Other Luffa performers were Myah Brent (11Sherborne) on flute, Jasim on violin (when not playing the piano!), and Rebecca King (8Otter) on clarinet. The orchestra is open to musicians who can play at Grade 6 level or above.



Jane Bowen-Melfi, Head of Music

Chicken Club

This year has been the first year of having chickens at Bishop Luffa. In November ten rescue hens came to live in the coop outside the food-tech block. Members of the Chicken Club help take care of the chickens by collecting eggs, refilling water and food, scooping poop and making sure our much-loved chickens are happy. Alongside the general chicken club, there are wellbeing sessions run, such as calm chicken time in the mornings, for students who would benefit from the more therapeutic aspect of caring for the animals. At weekends and holidays students and families help out by checking up on the chickens and caring for them. Recently, a beautiful hen, Snowy, and a number of chicks have come to live at school. They were warmly welcomed by everyone due to their extreme cuteness.



We would like to thank Scarterfields for helping providing feed and bedding and Nyetimber Logs for providing the woodchip. Also a big thank you to Her Grace, the Duchess of Norfolk, and everybody who has supported us.

Everyone (families, students and staff) who help at weekends and during holidays also deserve our biggest thanks, as does Mrs Fowles, without whom this project wouldn't have happened. We all love having chickens at school and look forward to many more years of their presence.

Niamh Clark-Lyons (9King) and Anna Swain (9King)

Bishop Luffa Shines at Schools Sailing Week

The annual Schools Sailing Week at Itchenor Sailing Club was a fantastic display of skill, teamwork, and perseverance. Out of the 96 boats competing, 12 were from Bishop Luffa, showcasing both seasoned sailors and enthusiastic newcomers.

This national event posed a significant challenge, with gusts reaching over 20 knots. Despite these tough conditions, all Bishop Luffa participants demonstrated exceptional determination and competitive spirit. It was particularly impressive that even those experiencing their first event managed to complete all seven races over the two days, a testament to their resilience and commitment.

The remarkable camaraderie within the Bishop Luffa team was evident throughout the competition and embodied the school's ethos of teamwork and mutual encouragement, with each sailor not only pushing their own limits but also supporting their peers. The students were clearly committed to enjoying themselves and making the most of this incredible opportunity.

Bishop Luffa's sailing prowess was highlighted by two boats securing spots in the top ten. Isla Hill (9Otter) and Isabelle Tonks (10King) finished 10th. Jack Gardner (10Otter) and George Long (10Otter) also achieved an outstanding 9th place. Given the high calibre of the competition, all of the Bishop Luffa placements were commendable and reflect the skill and determination of our sailors.

Overall, the Schools Sailing Week was a memorable and successful event for Bishop Luffa, reinforcing the school's reputation for excellence and sportsmanship. The following 24 students took part - Jack Gardner (10Otter), George Long (10Otter), Isla Hill (9Otter), Isabelle Tonks (10King), Charlie Mealing (10Otter), Matthew Board (10Andrewes), Benjamin Gardner (9Otter), Zac Robst (9Wilson), Eva Jones (10Story), Alice King (8Burrows), Noah Chisnall (8King), Luke Pendry



(8Ridgeway), Hugh Williams (10Wilson), Joseph Clark (10Wilson), George Phillips (9Andrewes), Ben Stewart (9Andrewes), Ted Probee (8King), Thomas Mealing (8Otter), Olaf Storton (9Ridgeway), Ben Taylor (9Ridgeway), Louie Faulkner (8Sherborne), Emmy Boden (8Story), Lara Cook (8Andrewes), and Amy King (8King).

Year 7 visit the Winchester Science Centre

Our Year 7 students had a great time visiting the Winchester Science Centre to learn all about the stars, space and how rockets are designed. This tied in with the topics being learnt on the Earth and a previous topic on Forces.



The day consisted of time spent in two interactive exhibitions, where students could touch, feel, build and design a number of science/career exhibits. They then had an amazing Planetarium show, with commentary on our solar system. Each class took part in a workshop, where they were shown how to construct model rockets in teams, which were then fired across the room to see whose rocket went the farthest with the best design. This was very competitive and the students all took an active part in the workshop. A follow up homework back in class has been to design a rocket using the ideas from the workshop. Prizes were tickets to return to the Winchester Science Centre over the holidays. Feedback from the students was all positive, with many saying how much they enjoyed the experience. Staff were delighted with how amazing our students were and how well behaved and interested in the day they all were. Well done Year 7 and thank you for a fantastic science trip.

Jane Tyler, Science KS3 Lead

What an amazing week we had in Tenerife!

It is the second year in a row that we spent a week in Spain as part of our language exchange programme. The Spanish host families and teachers at Nuryana school were absolutely fantastic and made our adventure there unforgettable.



We had a week packed of wonderful activities. On the first few days our students experienced life in a Spanish school, learnt about the education system and the different subjects and topics Spanish students cover in secondary school. Later on, we explored "San Cristobal de La Laguna" (UNESCO World Heritage city), the cathedral, the Spanish market and enjoyed a "chocolate con churros". On Wednesday, we had a lot of fun in Siam Park, biggest water park in Europe, and it was a perfect day to develop strong friendships among the Spanish and English students. Towards the end of the week, we visited "Santa Cruz", capital city, and did a Language competition around the city centre to learn more about the history of the Canary Islands and visit all the iconic places.

Students spent every afternoon and evening with their host families and also had the opportunity to visit more wonderful places and beaches and to practise their Spanish and build up their confidence. It was an amazing trip to build long time memories and remarkable experiences. Students' feedback was extremely positive, they came home full of stories to share with their family and friends.

Alex Bravo, Dee Jackson and Elizabeth López Gamero, The Spanish Exchange Team

Year 11 Prom

Our Year 11 students had a fantastic time at their Prom at the end of June, celebrating the end of their compulsory schooling and to mark the parting of their ways as they go on their various post 16 pathways. The Prom took place in a large marquee on the school field beautifully decorated by our amazing PFA. The students had a great time enjoying a selection of food and a disco, before the evening culminated with an amazing firework display. Huge thanks must go to the Bishop Luffa PFA who worked tirelessly and for many hours to make this such a wonderful event.



Bishop Luffa Celebrates its 60th Anniversary

During the summer term we celebrated the school's 60th anniversary in a Service of Thanksgiving at Chichester Cathedral. It was wonderful to see the past, present and future of the school all together in one place. One of our speakers, Dr Josephine Kwahli, was from the very first class to enter Bishop Luffa, back when they were in temporary accommodation in Orchard Street. Dr Kwahli's message about social equality was very powerful: that the school was originally filled by children who hadn't passed the 11-plus, who felt unwanted by other schools and who were only given a chance because of the mission of the Church of England. That Bishop Luffa school went from such humble beginnings to becoming a school that means so much to so many, is a testament to the work of many people, all guided by the Holy Spirit. As another school year ends, it is a privilege to be able to carry on that work.



La Diva Summer Soiree at The Guildhall

In July Luffa's *La Diva* Choir performed their first official concert at The Guildhall, Priory Park. The evening was attended by family and friends of the choir. The program contained a range of songs from musical theatre and popular music. The highlight of the evening was a 15 minute medley from *Les Miserables* in 3 part harmony.

The choir won a Silver Medal for vocal ensembles as part of the National Music Festival 2023-2024 and have been invited to perform at a number of local events for the next year.



We are exceptionally proud of the talent and commitment of all the girls involved in this new vocal incentive at Bishop Luffa School.

Jane Bowen-Melfi, Head of Music

Cup Winners and Head Teacher Awards

The end of term was a big week for House competitions. The winners were:

The Sparx Cup went to King House;

The Sports Cup, which combines all of the inter-House competition, went to Ridgeway;

The Sports Day Trophy went to Burrows and King (it was a dead heat!);

The Alternative Sports Day Trophy went to Toby Hunwicke, 7Sherborne;

And the big one...the House Cup...went to...

SHERBORNE!

A first win for Mr George and his House, so well done!

The Head Teacher awards for most House Points in each year and House went to:

Year 7 and Story – Joseph Cleaver-Emons

Year 8 and Burrows – Ben Pitkin

Year 9 – Razvan Hitikas

Year 10 – Nathan Godge

Andrewes – Chloe Dearing

King – Holly Ratcliffe

Otter – Lisa Aluckal

Ridgeway – Isla Brown

Sherborne – Jamie Botham

Wilson – Phoebe Coton

Special Award for Progress – Sahar Al Kadri, 9Ridgeway

Special Award for Contribution to School Life – Isaac Siddle, 10King

Karen Goding Memorial Trophy for Contribution to

Music – Lucy Pitts, 9Sherborne.



BISHOP LUFFA

SIXTH FORM



News

Highlights from the Sixth Form

- ◆ A'Level Results Day 2023
- ◆ Year 12 PGL Residential
- ◆ History at Hampton Court
- ◆ Year 12 Art students visit the London Galleries
- ◆ Lords in Learning
- ◆ Students awarded Chief Constable's Commendation
- ◆ Bishop Luffa students remember the Holocaust
- ◆ Computer Science in Action
- ◆ Year 12 visit Global Technologies Racing
- ◆ Sell-Out Sixth Form Fashion Show raises over 12K for charity
- ◆ Alex awarded Arkwright Scholarship
- ◆ Computer Science Success
- ◆ Year 12 visit Marwell Zoo
- ◆ Sixth Form Production of *Kiss, Marry, Push Off the Cliff*
- ◆ Exciting Times in Politics
- ◆ GoodWoof 2024
- ◆ Fundraising Fun & Frolics in a Fantastic Charity Week
- ◆ Charlotte wins National Physics Competition
- ◆ Election Time at Bishop Luffa School
- ◆ Sixth Formers undertake Gold Duke of Edinburgh Expedition
- ◆ The Evolution of Computing
- ◆ Year 13 celebrate their time at Bishop Luffa School

A'Level Results Day 2023

There were smiling faces at Bishop Luffa School in August 2023 as students collected their A'Level results. Despite warnings that there would be fewer top grades awarded, 28% of entries were given A* or A. Similarly, students arrived worried about a squeeze on university places but left happy, as 92% secured either their first or second choice course.



Amongst many notable achievements:

- Jasmine Karim achieved three A* and an A and is now off to Bristol University to study Medicine
- Holly Pullen also secured a place to study Medicine at The University of Exeter, having achieved A*AA
- Will Rhoades achieved A*, A*, A*, A and is going to study Maths and Physics at The University of Warwick
- Seth Swain achieved three A* grades and will be reading Chemistry at Bristol University
- Jessica Spencer achieving A*A*A and off to Kings College to study Biomedical Sciences
- Tom Spencer achieved three A* grades and is off to Cambridge to study Geography
- Other Oxbridge successes were Tom Bisatt and Matyas Vecsei, who are both off to study Engineering at Oxford and Cambridge respectively
- Alex Webb is to read Law at Exeter University, having gained A*, A*, A.

And finally, the most remarkable set of results were well and truly earned by Olha Melnychenko, 13An, who achieved A*, A, A, despite only joining us from Ukraine in May last year. She is now off to Southampton University to study Physics with Astronomy.

Head of Sixth Form Jamie Saunders noted 'we have kept courses running that are in danger of dying out in school Sixth Forms, such as Music, Dance, DT, Latin and German. We feel that students benefit from a broad curriculum, and with 32 different courses on offer, our students choose their own unique pathway. This helps them when they are interviewing for universities and higher-level apprenticeships, as they show real passion for the subjects that they study.'

Austen Hindman said: 'this year group were taking national exams for the first time and have surpassed all reasonable expectations. The character and resilience that they have shown is remarkable. Not only have they endured the pandemic, but they have lost days to industrial action and had a cyber-attack that took out the IT system during their final term at school. It is an incredible achievement and we are very proud of them all.'



Year 12 PGL Residential

Our Year 12 PGL residential was all about fun, boosting confidence and team building! Teachers and students alike faced challenges head-on and tackled a range of different activities and sports designed to motivate and encourage a desire to succeed! We enjoyed three days of thrill-seeking activities such as the zip wire, as well as water-based activities such as raft building (and for many of us falling into water). Most importantly, we all made friends and got to know everyone a little bit better, as we supported and encouraged each other.



We also enjoyed an evening programme as a way to unwind with a campfire one night, and the biggest hit with all (staff included) was the silent disco! We had an unforgettable few days.

Stella Richi, Assistant Head of Sixth Form

History at Hampton Court

A perfect autumnal day provided the perfect backdrop for the Year 12 A'Level History trip to Hampton Court. The palace does not disappoint, reaffirming the grandeur of the Tudor Period. Students were able to step back in time, walking the grand hallways, visiting the private apartments and experiencing the solace and intimacy of the chapel.

Fun was had by all in the maze, with the fair-weather allowing students to access all the Palace had to offer inside and out. The day provided the perfect opportunity for our Year 12 historians to bond as a group, whilst immersing themselves in a period of the past they will come to know well during the course of their studies.



Kate Hurry, Teacher of History & Head of King House

Year 12 Art Students visit the London Galleries

Sixth Form students went on an exciting gallery trip to London to see the work of two very different contemporary artists. Claudette Johnson's work was on show at The Couthauld Gallery. Claudette is a founding member of The Black British Arts Movement and is considered one of the most significant figurative artists of her generation. Students produced sketches and were able to discuss and enjoy work from the permanent collection.



Sarah Lucas' major exhibition *Happy Gas* was our second gallery where work using ordinary objects in unexpected ways challenges ideas of sex, class and gender. The work was comedic, large scale and provoked a range of reactions to inform students' work.

Laurelly Thorpe, Team Leader of Art

Lords in Learning

Sixth Form students received an invitation to Portsmouth Grammar School to join in the *Lords in Learning* programme. Lord Strathcarran gave a frank and revealing insider's account of the work of the House of Lords, from selection, representation, working with the Commons Chamber, to the Select Committees.



The Hereditary peer also took questions on an enormous range of topics, from what Boris was like, what the best democracy in the world might be, his work towards supporting female Formula One drivers, the future of the UK's military commitments and much more... Overall, a useful and compelling insight into how government is checked and what some of our key politicians, including Prime Ministers have been like to work with.. And a photo op...

Matt Luff, Teacher of Politics

Students awarded Chief Constable's Commendation

We were the victims of a cyber-attack in the Spring. It was a very difficult time, and sometimes you wonder why you're being tested in this way: no good seems to come of it. In the Autumn term we had some good news. Two of our students, who were in Year 12 at the time, helped the police investigate the attack and advised us in school about what was happening and how to deal with it. Their dedication and skill led to them being nominated for an award by the Police Officer handling the case. When the Awards Committee saw what they had done, they upgraded the award. That means that Max Holben (13Andrewes) and Theo Lane (13King) were awarded the Chief Constable's Commendation, which is the highest award that the Police give to civilians. Max and Theo received the Chief Constable's Commendation from the Chief Constable and the High Sheriff of East Sussex. What an incredible achievement – we are so proud of them both.



Bishop Luffa students remember the Holocaust

Two of our Year 13 History students, Harry Appleby and Tom Miller (both 13Ridgeway) had the chance to visit Auschwitz Extermination Camp in Poland. The Holocaust Educational Trust's 'Lessons from Auschwitz Programme' runs trips to this infamous site to help ensure that the memory of the horrific events that took place there are not forgotten. Below are their thoughts on the visit:



'I went to Auschwitz with the Lessons from Auschwitz project, and from this experience I saw what the camps were actually like as opposed to seeing them through a photo. The experience was eye-opening. It was a very important place to visit to realise what conditions the prisoners were put under and what they saw every day, which was incredibly moving. The size of the camp is something that no one can expect, and with the fact that these camps were built for one purpose, the

Lessons from Auschwitz project is an experience that will stick with me for the rest of my life'. (Harry)

'I recently visited Auschwitz Birkenau as part of a project through the Holocaust Educational Trust. The day at the death camps was a very emotional and interesting experience. I was able to have a tour of both camps and deepen my knowledge of the topic whilst learning about some of the individual stories of the people that were killed at the camps. I'm going to use the lessons I learnt on this trip to commemorate Holocaust Memorial Day in school and highlight the importance of learning about this tragic and horrific event and what it can teach us about the future'. (Tom)

Justin Barnett, Head of Humanities

Computer Science in Action

It was an exciting day at Computer Science in Action. Nine A'level Computer Science students immersed themselves in a tech-packed itinerary:

- "Navigating UX Design" by Katrina Dargel. From basics to growth mindset, Katrina explored UX evolution and its role in innovation. Lead UX Researcher with experience at Ford and Airbus.
- "Smart Cities" by Professor Matthew Leeke, Matthew delved into ML algorithms and smart devices solving societal problems. Professor at the University of Birmingham.
- "The Quantum Computing Race" by Dr Nic Harrigan, Nic unlocked the mysteries of quantum mechanics and computing, explaining their transformative power. From PsiQuantum.
- Lunch break was a welcome pause and then there was an exam session with Professor Matthew Leeke.
- "Behind the Scenes of App Development" by Lyndsey Scott Lyndsey spilled secrets on app development, making them speedy, safe, and inclusive. Software engineer and coding educator.



We all gained an invaluable insight into the future of computer science!

Helen Williams, Team Leader of Computer Science

Year 12 visit Global Technologies Racing



Year 12 Design and Technology students had the opportunity to visit the Global Technologies Racing team at their headquarters. GTR has decades of experience and success within high level motorsport. Their exceptional work has resulted in supplying to a broad range of industries, including Aerospace and Defence, which has led to them being at the forefront within their industry of composite materials. GTR produce exceptionally high-quality products that clients have come to expect. From Formula One chassis to wishbone covers, or ballistic resistant vehicles to aircraft lift rafts. Structural or non-structural parts - no matter how small or large the production, GTR work or design and develop to the exact needs of their clients.

Year 12 Design & Technology students study the theory of composite materials, and the trip to GTR allowed this theory to be contextualised within the real world. Students undertook a tour of the factory seeing first-hand the process of a flat sheet of carbon fibre transformed into a Formula One car part. After the tour students worked hand in hand with current 2nd year GTR apprentices in a design workshop to show the lamination processes in a practical way. Our Design students engaged fully and learnt industry skills and techniques which they could take away and apply to an exam question with confidence. Throughout the visit staff at GTR were very impressed with our students' enthusiasm and skills.

James Bonney, Head of Faculty Design & Technology

Sell-Out Sixth Form Fashion Show raises over £12k for charity



A round of applause is thoroughly deserved for everyone involved in the Sixth Form Fashion show this year, whether they were helping behind the scenes, an enthusiastic performer, or the friends and families who came to watch and generously donated money. A record-breaking £12.2K will now be on its way to helping the Sixth Form's three nominated charities: The Sanctuary in Chichester, The Sussex Snowdrop Trust, and Grassroots Tanzania. This year the Fashion Show Committee - Molly Howick (13Andrewes), Reuben King (13Wilson) and Max Sydenham (13Andrewes) - who worked so hard on organising the event, switched up the long-awaited occasion by introducing a competitive aspect, making the dance group who raised the most money per person the winner. Yet the sense of community between students that Fashion Show each year achieves did not disappear, as proven by the fact that the day after the final night there were multiple students with sore throats who had perhaps screamed a little too loud when cheering on their friends!



Max Sydenham exclaimed, "It was great to see all the Sixth Form work together to put on such an amazing show. We still can't quite believe how much money we've managed to raise!"

Ms Lawlor, Head of the Arts Faculty and leader of Wednesday night's highly anticipated teachers' dance, enthused, "It was the seventh Fashion Show I have been a part of since I joined the school and it was definitely the best I have witnessed. From the organisation, to the music choices, to the costumes - everything was so brilliant. As a Dance teacher I was also really impressed by the choreography and the skills that were demonstrated."



Mr Hindman added, "What a Fashion Show! The organisation was incredible – the Sixth Form Committee did a wonderful job. They have absolutely smashed all fund-raising records – I'm not sure how they have managed to get over £12,000 from the school community in the middle of a cost-of-living squeeze and in the run-up to Christmas. Unbelievable!"

Cerys Holmes (13 Otter)

Alex awarded Arkwright Scholarship



The Arkwright Engineering Scholarship is an engineering award given to engineering students within the United Kingdom and Channel Islands. The scholarships are awarded through rigorous selection to the highest-calibre students from all educational backgrounds to support them through their A Levels. Scholarships consist of an annual financial award to the Scholar and to their school, and a range of enrichment activities that increase a Scholar's understanding of their chosen field of engineering, such as mentoring and industry visits.

To be awarded an Arkwright Engineering Scholarship, student applicants must go through a three-stage selection process. The first stage is an extended online application form, where students have to describe a technical project they have done and explain how engineering is an interest in their lives. This online application must include a reference from a relevant teacher at the applicant's school. Stage two is a two-hour exam, where applicants must set out the practical design and manufacturing methods of their proposed solutions to two stated engineering problems. The final stage is an interview hosted at a university renowned for engineering.

I am pleased to announce that Alex Wilburn (12Otter) has been successful in being awarded an Arkwright Scholarship after successfully passing through the three-stage selection process. Alex has been a key driver behind our school's successful GreenPower team using his natural leadership traits and passion for engineering.

James Bonney, Head of Faculty Design & Technology

Computer Science Success

In a remarkable achievement, Matthew Ritchie (12King) secured the grand prize in the Winter Cyber Choices Challenge 2023, organised by Cyber Security Challenge UK and the National Crime Agency. Matthew's success earned his class an online cyber learning experience by Immersive Labs and for himself a Bose Soundlink Flex. This victory showcases the outstanding talent and dedication within our Computer Science department.



Max Holben (13Andrewes) and Theo Lane (13King) demonstrated exceptional skills in the CyberCenturion Competition. Their team, navigating through three challenging online rounds, excelled in identifying security vulnerabilities within various operating systems. Their remarkable performance earned them a high score in the competition.

Our A Level Computer Science students engaged in an inspiring online conversation with Jaime Sanchez from Digital Sagas, all the way from California. Jaime shared insights into his background, career, and upcoming game launch plans, providing our students with an exclusive glimpse into the world of game development. This experience enriched their understanding and fuelled their passion for their A Level Computer Science projects.

Helen Williams, Team Leader – Computer Science

Year 12 visit Marwell Zoo

After a week of torrential rain, we were lucky enough to have a dry day for our visit to Marwell Zoo. The staff at the zoo reported the lack of animal activity to study earlier in the week, but the animals were active and interesting for us. The students were fantastic and carried out some great studies. One Year 12 student provided the following report:



'On the Marwell trip I learnt a lot about the observational techniques that are part of our psychology course. I bettered my understanding of conducting an observation through actually doing it. I learnt more about fully operationalizing behavioural categories to investigate natural behaviour and the importance of conducting pilot studies. As a group we worked together to not only collect the data, but to analyse, present and evaluate it as well, reflecting how research is carried out in psychology. I think this trip has helped me evaluate experiments in psychology and understand their strengths and limitations. I also really enjoyed learning about how psychological theory helps in how they keep their animals in the zoo. I found it really interesting in how they use operant and classical conditioning to train their tigers for vaccinations.'

Tracey Marchant, Teacher of Psychology

Sixth Form Production of *Kiss, Marry, Push Off the Cliff*

In March Bishop Luffa Sixth Form showcased their contribution to this year's National Theatre Connections Festival with their interpretation of the brand new play *Kiss, Marry, Push Off the Cliff* in their home performance at the Luffa Drama Studio to a live audience of friends and family. This was their first instalment of the piece which is to be followed by a performance at The MAST Studios, Mayflower Theatre Southampton in May. We were honoured to be visited by a drama practitioner from the National Theatre who was most impressed by the piece.



Focusing on a group of friends on a camping trip after their A Levels, the play is a hard-hitting exploration of the cruelty and kindness of adolescence. Directed by Sixth Form drama students Max Holben (13Andrewes) and Tess Langford (13Wilson), the play was imaginatively conceived with a creative and symbolic set, and carefully drawn characters performed by our talented drama students.

Nicky Furnell, Team Leader of Drama

Exciting Times in Politics

They say that Politics touches everything we do. That could not be more true recently in A Level Politics at Bishop Luffa School. In March Year 13 attended the PolEcon conference in London's Methodist Central Hall along with several thousand A'Level politics students. A packed programme of high profile and significant speakers from across the political world each gave a short talk and (very bravely) took questions from the eager budding politicians.

Speakers of particular note included Wes Streeting (LAB), Sir Jacob Rees-Mogg (CON), Sarah Olney (LIB), Lord Dubs who spoke powerfully about the Dubs Amendments to the Rwanda Bill, and Richard Tice (REFORM). Each speaker gave a short account of what mattered to them, and shared their personal reflections on where things are heading, including the Rochdale By-Election, The Middle East and of course election prospects. Students were able to submit questions in advance, ask questions after each speaker and contributed to a survey, ahead of the election this year. In addition, Alastair Campbell and Rory Stewart, of The Rest is Politics podcast took an extended Q&A on a wide range of issues. Overall a great occasion to draw the A Level course to a close, with enjoyable and thought-provoking speakers.

We were also privileged to receive a visit from Ann Coffey, a Labour MP and Whip and then from 2019 Independent MP, who gave her reflections of a life in politics. As Tony Blair's PPS and Shadow Health Secretary and Labour whip, Ann's honest reflections and answers to questions gave



some inspiration and food for thought about the reality of political life and leadership. We were very grateful for her refreshing perspective and passion for continued change to make our democracy as effective as possible. We were also joined by Portsmouth Grammar School, with whom we try to share opportunities like this.

Matt Luff, Teacher of Politics, Business & Economics



GoodWoof 2024

Our Year 12 Product Design students has the opportunity to meet Kevin McCloud and Bill Bailey at GoodWoof 2024. This was a remarkable opportunity for our students to talk about their work with Kevin McCloud, who is deeply involved in the *Barkitecture* Project. It was a testament to the hard work and innovation of our students that they have such recognition and appreciation from the industry. A big well done to our amazing Year 12 design students.

James Bonney, Head of Design & Technology

Fundraising Fun & Frolics in a Fantastic Charity Week

The charitable endeavours of Charity Week proved immensely successful, raising an impressive £3.6k in support of three noble causes: The Sanctuary in Chichester, The Sussex Snowdrop Trust, and Grassroots Tanzania. Together with the proceeds from the Fashion Show, our total contributions soared to £16.1k. It's a remarkable achievement, and heartfelt gratitude is extended to everyone who contributed, supported, or participated in these events. Thanks also goes to the local businesses who generously supported the Charity Week raffle.

The week commenced with Bishop Luffa's rendition of *'The Chase'*, offering students the chance to pie our altruistic Head Teacher, Mr. Hindman, if emerging victorious. Not only did he volunteer for this charitable event but also displayed his comedic talents the following day during *'Teachers Got Talent'*. Joining him were other teachers such as Ms. Rawlinson with her outstanding singing performance, and an amazing band composed of Mr Owen, Mr Saunders, and Mr Allman. Wednesday was *'Human Kahoot'* where students had to compete to see who knew certain teachers the best.

Thursday brought on more competition but now the teachers were versing each other in the *'Masked Singer'*. We had numerous fantastic performances from disguised teachers and students definitely couldn't tell who each act was. The audience went specifically crazy for the *'Barbie Girl'* number by Mr Goldsmith and Ms Ockwell, which led them to victory through student choice.

Friday's *'Battle of the Bands'* was the grand finale. Students showcased their musical gifts, competing for the prestigious title. The enthralling performance by *'The Rude Eyes'* secured them the trophy, leaving the audience in ecstasy and ending the week on a high note of success and generosity.

Friday was also Fancy Dress for both students and staff - we had scarecrows, computers, farmers & chickens, vikings, safari, road signs and many more fantastic costumes, and bowing out as winner in his final year at Bishop Luffa was Eddie Baird who came as a Portable Loo!

Through a week filled with laughter, talent, and friendly competition, students and teachers alike displayed their commitment to supporting our charities. The Charity week sub-committee who ran these events - Oliver Appleby (13Andrewes), Caitlin Waldron (13Otter) and Annabelle Sheridan-Downes (13Ridgeway) - should definitely be patting themselves on the back for a week well executed.

Cerys Holmes (13Otter)



Charlotte wins National Physics Competition



Earlier in the year I spoke to all the Year 12 physics students about entering a national physics competition explaining what 'lights up their love of physics'. Charlotte Hatton (12Wilson) entered the competition and was shortlisted as one of the national finalists.

I took Charlotte, along with two other students, to Oxford University for a residential trip during the Easter holidays for the final and Charlotte was announced as the overall winner, earning herself an all-expenses paid trip to CERN in Switzerland. The final included a question time style Q&A with Charlotte being grilled by three Oxford Physics professors and she did brilliantly. She was knowledgeable, calm and confident and she did herself, and the school, proud.

During the event Charlotte also got to meet the 'famous' Physics YouTuber Lewis Matheson. Charlotte said, "Although it would be cooler to say I was drawn to the competition by the prospect of a free holiday, the truth is I really love reading into physics and engineering concepts and I immediately was drawn to researching clocks. I was particularly interested in John Harrison, a carpenter who changed time keeping forever. We had a wonderful time staying at Merton College in Oxford University, astounded they have lasagne for LUNCH in the formal hall! The professors were impressed by my presentation and I am delighted to be visiting CERN in Switzerland with my classmates as part of winning first prize. In addition, the physics department will receive £1000 for equipment!"

Ross Robinson, Teacher of Physics

Election Time at Bishop Luffa School

Thank you everybody, especially Year 12 politics students, for your contribution to making as much as possible of the General Election. Before the General Election we had election hustings, where all five parties were represented, outlined their policies and took questions from an eager crowd.

All week, Connect assemblies connected good governance with God's common grace.

Then on General Election Thursday, students had the chance to practice voting in our own mock election. Ballot papers, polling stations and voting booths gave everyone the chance to vote for the party of their choice.

After a late surge, I can announce that if Bishop Luffa were a constituency, the Liberal-Democrats would be representing us in parliament. With a 35% turnout, the results were Conservative Party 7.84%, Labour 21.32%, Liberal Democrats 34.31%, Reform 21.81% and Green Party 14.71%. Congratulations to Lib Dems, Isabel, Freya, Maisie and Caitlin and thank you everyone for taking part!



Matt Luff, Teacher of Politics & Economics

Sixth Formers undertake Gold Duke of Edinburgh Expedition



Huge congratulations to all the Gold Duke of Edinburgh students who successfully completed their expedition in the Lake District in July 2024. Both the Scrambled Legs group and the Ying and Yang group experienced the highs and lows of their four-day expedition – with both teams wild camping and climbing several Wainwrights. Despite some difficult weather conditions, both groups navigated their way through mist and fog to pass their expeditions. The groups had to be completely self-sufficient and carry enough resources for the full four days. Everyone showed huge perseverance, self-belief and teamwork – and all gained skills and memories that will last a lifetime. It is a remarkable achievement and fish and chips on the final night were well deserved! Overall, it was a highly enjoyable and formative experience, with several students saying they would do it all over again.

Lydia Willmot-Day (12Wilson)

The Evolution of Computing

Our GCSE and A'Level Computer Science students recently enjoyed a fascinating trip to Bletchley Park and the National Museum of Computing, delving into the rich history and evolution of computing.

At Bletchley Park, students attended a learning session on the Lorenz cipher, used by the German High Command during WWII. They learned about John Tiltman's breakthrough in deciphering Lorenz and engaged in tasks that illustrated the complexity of this cipher, focusing on binary operations and the XOR function. Key activities included:

- Understanding WWII ciphers and the challenges of breaking them
- Exploring the vast settings of the Lorenz machine
- Collaboratively solving problems based on historical events

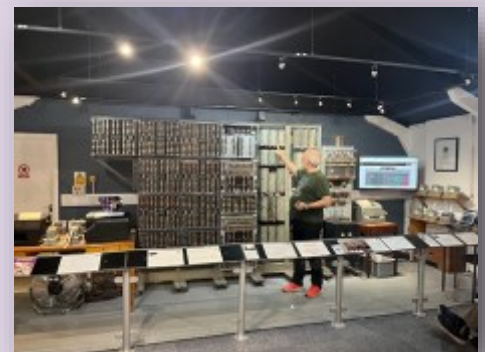
After the learning session, the students enjoyed a guided tour of Bletchley Park, followed by time to explore the historic site on their own, gaining further insight into the lives and work of the wartime codebreakers.

The visit continued at the National Museum of Computing, where students participated in a guided tour showcasing the evolution of computing technology. Highlights included:

- Viewing historic computers in operation, from WWII code-breaking machines to the first digital semi-programmable computer
- Learning about the development of mainframes, supercomputers, and personal computers
- Discovering the impact of modern microprocessors, mobile technology, and the internet

This trip provided our students with a deeper understanding of the history of computing, inspiring them to appreciate the technological advancements that shape our world today.

Helen Williams, Team Leader of Computer Science



Year 13 celebrate their time at Bishop Luffa School

Year 13 had their Leavers event in May, giving out awards and presenting cheques raised by the Sixth Form to Grassroots, Sussex Snowdrop Trust and The Sanctuary, Chichester.

To mark the end of the final year of Sixth Form, the Year 13 Summer Ball took place on a sunny evening in June at Chichester Yacht Club. They had a great time celebrating.



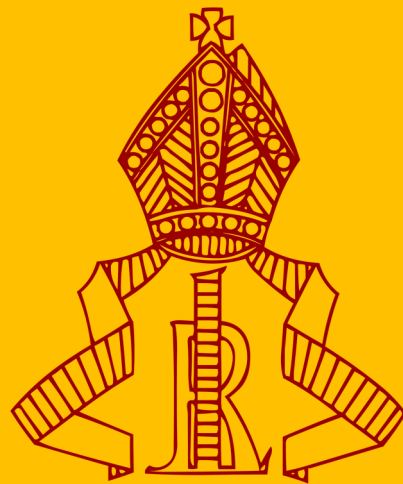
Tanzania 2024

In July 28 Year 12 students and 6 staff travelled to Mbeya in Tanzania to support the work of *Grassroots*— our whole school charity.





*Always our best,
because everyone
matters*



Bishop Luffa School

Westgate

Chichester

West Sussex

PO19 3HP

www.bishopluffa.org.uk